THE BULLETIN—VOL 43, NUMBER 6 February 5, 2017 SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Harvey Allen PM: Harvey Allen

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

GOD IS FAITHFUL!

"Wherefore let them that suffer according to the will of God commit the keeping of their souls to him in well doing, as unto a faithful Creator." - 1 Peter 4:19

ARE WE? (Hint: the "well doing" part)

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called!

West Columbia Church of Christ 1701 Augusta Road West Columbia SC 29169 www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org JOIN US IN PRACTICING NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY TODAY, COME SEE! Sunday 10 AM Bible Study Sunday 11 AM , 6 PM Assembly Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study Office Phone (803) 794-5320 Nursery provided

<u>INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY</u> Saturdays 3 pm *Everyone Welcome!* Bring your friends & Bible questions

> **EVANGELIST** Other than the members none at present time Full time position open

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WEST COLUMBIA CHURCH OF CHRIST

"every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master." Luke 6:40b

DEATH OFFERS HOPE

To some that statement is a shock. Most people feel there is no hope in death, but notice what the apostle Paul said in First Thessalonians 4:13, **"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope."** Unlike the world which has no hope, the Christian has a lively hope — a hope built upon the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead:

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead" - 1 Peter 1:3

In First Corinthians 15:55-57, the apostle Paul again enlightens us as to death. In this passage, Paul teaches us that there is victory over death of which the faithful will be a part. He said, "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

It is through death that we gain the victory! Heaven is not ours until we pass from life unto death. We cannot be with the Lord until we are raised, and we cannot be raised until we die. Therefore, death offers hope because through death we gain life eternal. It is with these thoughts Paul said, "Wherefore comfort one another with these words." (1 Thess. 4:18).

Death sometimes catches us off guard and shocks us back to reality as to what is really important. We can all be thankful that certain incidents happen in life that help us to keep a proper perspective on life and on death. These incidents help us deal with the cold reality of death. Yes, they come as a shock, but with God's help and instruction, we are able to deal with them trusting in Him to carry us through.

- Chuck Northrop, minister Mayflower church of Christ, Arkansas

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called!

"PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER" - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: Merrie Christmus, Dorothy Gray & family, Margaret Herring, Richard Ramkinson, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Anna Porter, Stephanie Rigney.

- **Dorothy Gray** requests the prayers of the church that she be strengthened to deal well with the many needs of her family.
- Remember also: Tommy White and leg problems; Laurin fighting migraines and more exams; The Mancuso family, all fighting/recovering from various ills; Pat Joyner and vertigo; Karen Harding off hospice care, but is having blood clots; Laura Nichols friend and co-worker Tammy with spread of cancer, not much time and not much hope, pray that she desire to hear the word of God and a door be opened to her heart; Ed Kelleher with severe back pain; Jan Kelleher in a painful fight with metastatic disease.
- Visit Anna Porter at National Health Care on US 378. Pray for all these and the work of the Lord here at West Columbia. Give thanks to God for his goodness and love for us.

"There is none holy as the Lord: for there is none beside thee: neither is there any rock like our God." - 1 Samuel 2:2

"AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY" - Acts 2:42

- **FIRST SUNDAY!** All are invited to stay after the morning assembly to share a meal learn more of one another. **Men's meeting to follow!**
- **INVITE SOMEONE TO VISIT US!** Give them one of the **church cards** that are on the table in the foyer. If you take some, please use them.
- See the thank you and visitor cards on bulletin board in foyer.
- Invite people to come to the informal Q&A **Bible study**, Saturdays 3pm.

"What doth the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God." - Micah 6:8

Walk worthy of the calling with which you are called! (Ephesians 4:1)

"WEEP WITH THEM THAT WEEP" - Romans 12:15 "REJOICE WITH THEM THAT DO REJOICE!" - Romans 12:15 "AND AGAIN I SAY REJOICE! - Philippians 4:4 "REBUKE A WISE MAN AND HE WILL LOVE THEE" Pr 9:8 "STUDY TO SHOW THYSELF APPROVED" - 2 Tim 2:15 "PROVOKE TO LOVE AND GOOD WORKS" - Hebrews 10:24

The Claims Of The Bible

The Bible claims to be the word of God. And not that only; it claims to be the inerrant word of God, the infallibly and verbally inspired word of God. "All Scripture is given by inspiration" — Theopneustia, God-breathed words. "Unto us God revealed" these things "through the Spirit... Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth; combining spiritual things with spiritual words" (1 Cor. 2:10-13 ASV). Divine thoughts and divine words to convey them is Paul's statement, with emphasis, of the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

Who says it is not the inerrant word of God? The devil (Gen. 3:3-4) and worldlywise men of today (Rom. 1:22); but we are warned against such and should shun them, for they cannot be converted (2 Thess. 2:10-11) and may destroy faith in you "through philosophy and vain deceit" (Col. 2:8).

- Foy E. Wallace, Jr., 1896-1979, Gospel preacher

"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." - 2 Timothy 3:16,17

CAROLINA MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Saturday March 9, 2013, 9:00am-3:00pm, at Rock Hill. It's an encouraging thing for young and old. Just ask **Tommy White**! Men, let's especially try and encourage our young men to go - with us. **Ed Kelleher** plans on going and has room in his van for 7.

DEATH MUST BE PREPARED FOR

Life is actually a preparation for death. Jesus said, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal" (Matt. 6:19-20).

The things of this world will be consumed in a fervent heat (2 Pet. 3:10), but we will live on — "they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation" (John 5:29). Since we will live on, we must prepare for death. We prepare for death by obeying God in becoming a Christian and by obeying Him in faithful living. We become a Christian by obedience to the plan of salvation. God has made the way for us by sending forth His Son to pay the price of sin. We live faithfully by worshiping and serving the Creator according to God's word with the motivation of love and faith. When we come to the realization that life is a preparation for death, we will have the proper outlook on life and on death.

- Chuck Northrop, minister Mayflower church of Christ, Arkansas