

THE BULLETIN—VOL 45, NUMBER 9, March 3, 2019

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Wallace Beasley

PM: Harvey Allen

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

WHO SPEAKS TO US?

“God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, ... “ - Hebrews 1:1,2

ARE YOU LISTENING?

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!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM , 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

On Request
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

Original Application

The Bible is far too often read with a desire to make application without putting in the proper study. One of the most common mistakes in approaching scripture is to neglect the intended purpose for the original audience. Before applying the word in modern times it must be understood in its original setting. Truth has not and will not change, but to understand it we need to do our best to put ourselves in the place of the first recipient(s). God had the books written for specific reasons and for specific people. Consider 1 Timothy 3:14-15, the apostle Paul wrote “These things I write to you, though I hope to come to you shortly; but if delayed, I write so that you may know how you ought to conduct yourself in the house of the living God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.” You can see the timeless truths very plainly: The church is still and always has been the house of the living God; the church is and always has been the pillar and ground of the truth. Additionally in these verses Paul told Timothy why he was writing the letter. Knowing why the letter was written helps us understand the book from Timothy’s perspective. Everything in 1 Timothy pertains to how Timothy, the preacher at the church in Ephesus (1:3), needed to go about his work. The text in 3:1-7 of this letter is one of the places we must go to when discussing “qualifications of elders ” But this is almost always done without consideration for the text outside of those seven verses. The elder is one who oversees the church. What is it that he is to oversee? He oversees the pillar and support of the truth, the house belonging to the living God. That’s why a man meeting every last one of those qualifications/qualities is of the utmost importance. To lack in even one is enough to keep him from being one of the overseers of this group. Does this not add some weight to the meaning of what an elder does, and who he must be? That’s not understood when we don’t go beyond 3:7? The truth and application of scripture is right there in the pages you read every time. Let’s do our diligence in our Bible study, let’s approach scripture as God gave it and intended it and not how it suits us.

T.J. Bolen Gospel preacher, West Columbia church of Christ, South Carolina, 2015

“Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” - Jude 3

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merrie Christmus, Dorothy Gray & family, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Stephanie Rigney.*

- Several in the church are looking for answers to ills, but are not getting much help from worldly physicians. **Pray Margaret, Pat, Stephanie, Amy and Lauren** find relief and comfort, faith to cope.

“A certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of that plague.

...And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole.” Mark 5:26

- **Margaret Herring** suffering from multiple debilitating conditions is now fighting pneumonia. Send her a card or give her a call to go visit.
- **Janet Boyd** has sprained her ankle and is getting around, but with difficulty.
- **Laura Nichols** continues to wrestle with many difficulties with people in her business.
- **Judy Cornelius** will be getting a lighter brace and start therapy.
- **Paula Kennedy** is to have rotator cuff surgery 3/28, she’s not looking forward to it.
- **Pat Joyner’s** back is worse and it’s hard for her to get around, even in her house.
- **Ed and Jan Kelleher** will be leaving Monday on a train trip to the Grand Canyon.
- Keep ALL these in your prayers, and pray also that we all grow in **faith, hope, love, humility, zeal, mercy, knowledge.**

“For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.” - Psalms 22:24

“AND THEY CONTINUED STEADFASTLY” - Acts 2:42

- **First Sunday Luncheon!** All are invited to stay afterwards to share a meal with us. Men’s meeting following.
- **ALL! INVITE SOMEONE TO VISIT US!** Give them one of the **church cards** that are on the table in the foyer. If you take some, **be faithful** to use them.

“If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, ...” - James 3:2

WHY WAS JESUS A MAN OF SORROWS AND GRIEF?

“He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief:” - Is. 53:3a

Here’s one reason:

“O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and ye would not!” - Matthew 23:37

Don’t YOU add to His sorrow. Be involved in the Lord’s work. Do more! He knows.

OVERCOMING HUMAN TRADITION

Many times a person will have difficulty accepting the truth taught in God's Word because it goes against what was formerly believed by the individual, and perhaps contradicts what he was always taught. This very thing happened to Alexander Campbell, who set out to restore New Testament Christianity in the 19th century. Campbell's family had always practiced infant baptism, and Campbell himself had been sprinkled. But when a child was born to Campbell and his wife in March of 1812, he determined to study the subject in light of the Bible alone.

Throwing aside the Presbyterian tradition in which he had been raised, Campbell was convinced through a study of the Bible that only penitent believers were appropriate subjects for baptism. He studied further and looked at the original language, and discovered that baptism was actually immersion.

Alexander related these conclusions to his father, Thomas Campbell, who agreed with his study. They realized that they had never been baptized into Christ. On June 12, 1812, Alexander Campbell and six others — his wife, sister, father, mother, and James Halen and his wife — were all baptized into Christ for the remission of sins.

The gospel is the power of God to save (Romans 1:16), but when men pervert the gospel it loses its power. This is the reason there are such stern warnings against changing what is revealed. "As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed" (Galatians 1:9). Adding to and taking away from the message is strictly forbidden (Revelation 22:18-19).

The Campbells recognized and respected the Lord's authority on the question of baptism by immersion by penitent believers, as well as other points. While Alexander Campbell is not the founder of the church of Christ, nor is he our authority in religious matters, he serves as a good example on this point that we would all do well to imitate. Search the Scriptures for the answers to religious questions, and submit to the ordinances of God.

- **Jason T. Carter**, evangelist, Mt. Vernon Church of Christ, Park City, Kentucky

“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) ...” - 1 Peter 3:21

ARE YOU READY?

**“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts:
and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you
a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:” - 1 Peter 3:15**

Bible study will help you get ready!