

Rom. 14:19 So then let us follow after things which make for peace, and things whereby we may edify one another.



THE LENEXA EDIFIER



John 8:32

"And ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"

May 12, 2019

A GOSPEL MEETING FOR ALL

OUR SPRING GOSPEL MEETING
MAY 17-19

ROGER SHOUSE IS OUR SPEAKER

THE SUBJECTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Friday 7 PM

Flight of Arrows

Saturday 10 AM

Parenting 101

Saturday 7 PM

Parenting 201

Sunday 9:30 AM

Renovations

Sunday 10:20 AM

Life The Way It Was Meant To Be

Sunday 5 PM

Generations

*We truly hope you will set aside time to visit with us
and hear God's plan for us as His children*

Jesus, The Author of Eternal Salvation

"Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered. And having been made perfect, He became to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation," (Hebrews 5:8-9)

The scripture tells us Jesus was made perfect or complete by His sufferings and because of that became the source of the salvation of mankind. Isa. 53:4,5 tells us of His suffering and the reason for it. Simply put He suffered on our behalf (2 Cor. 5:21), died for our sins (2 Cor. 5:14,15), to pave the way for our salvation.

We have all sinned and fallen short of God's glory and as a result of that sin will be lost if we remain in it (Rom. 3:23; John 8:24).

When Jesus died for our sins, He further enabled us

by rising from the grave on the third day as the first fruits of the grave (1 Cor. 15:20) setting a precedent for our own resurrection in the judgment. He then ascended into heaven where He sits on the right hand of God (Acts 1:9-11; 2:33). There, He resides according to the writer of Hebrews as He has *made purification of sins* (Heb. 1:2).

Sitting at the Father's right hand is where He then sent the Comforter to reveal the mind of God to men who then recorded it for us to believe and obey in order to one day be with Him in heaven (John 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:10-13).

Jesus has then demonstrated by His willingness to die for our sins, the kind of obedience necessary to please God and receive this salvation Christ authored.

He has taught us in many ways the necessity of doing His will. James 1:22, *But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.*

He tells the story of two brothers whose father asked to go into the vineyard and work. The first said, no and then changed his mind and went. The second said he would but did not go. Jesus asks a rhetorical question. Which of the two did the will of his father? The obvious answer given was, the first. Doing exceeds saying. Have you done the will of your Father in heaven?

Jim Stauffer

The Gospel Plan of Salvation

Steven J. Wallace

Have you obeyed the gospel? Is the gospel to be obeyed and if so, what is required? We know the gospel is to be obeyed because Paul said of our Lord's second coming, *"in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who*

do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thess. 1:8).

Further, the apostle Peter asks, *"For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?" (1 Pet. 4:17).*

With such doom facing those who do not obey the gospel, it must be clear what man must do to be saved. The New Testament teaches five things which must be done to be saved. Sometimes Christians are ridiculed as "five-steppers." But which step shall we eliminate? Shall we delete the need to:

1. Hear? Jesus condemned some for not understanding because they were not listening. *"Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word" (Jn. 8:43).* If people are not willing to genuinely hear, then they cannot understand. At the same time, faith is subject to hearing (**Rom. 10:17**).
2. Believe? The truth is something that is worthy of and requires belief. Jesus asked in **John 8:46**, *"Which of you convicts Me of sin? And if I tell the truth, why do you not believe Me?"* John stated, *"And he who has seen has testified, and his testimony is true; and he knows that he is telling the truth, so that you may believe" (Jn. 19:35).* It is imperative to accept the truth when we are given it. We are not entitled to have another chance to receive it. Paul said of the Ephesians, *"In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise" (Eph. 1:13).* Rejecting the truth about Jesus is dangerous to the soul and will cause one to die in their sins (**Jn. 8:24**).
3. Repentance? Repentance toward God is having a change of mind that leads to a change of action to please Him. Repentance is seen in our actions. For example, Paul describes such when he taught that the thief was to steal no more and work with his hands what is good while having a willingness to share with one in need (**see Eph. 4:28**). The one who repents will stop speaking corrupt words and replace those with words that edify (**Eph. 4:29**). How essential is it for sinners to repent? Paul explained to some in Athens *"Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent, because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead" (Acts 17:30, 31).* Men everywhere have been urged to repent from the Jews who heard the apostles to the Gentiles (**Acts 2:38; Acts 20:21; Rev. 9:20, 21**).
4. Confession? Must Christ be confessed? Paul taught the Romans in **Romans 10:9,10**: *"that if you confess*

with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." We see that we are to confess the "Lord Jesus" and that such is for salvation. What does it mean to confess the lordship of Jesus? We must first recognize that He rose from the dead—such an act shows that He is the Son of God (**Rom. 1:4**). When Thomas realized that Jesus had in fact risen from the grave, he confessed that Jesus was his Lord and God (**Jn. 20:28**). Therefore, confessing *"the Lord Jesus"* is to confess that Jesus is the Son of God and that He is our Lord and Master. The Ethiopian Treasurer made the confession in **Acts 8:37**, *"I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."*

5. Baptism? The gospel plan of salvation requires a person to be baptized (immersed) in water for salvation. This is what God requires despite the fact that many have tried to cut this step off. As the other things mentioned above are spoken as being needed for salvation, so baptism is. After talking about Noah's salvation through water, Peter observed, *"There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ" (1 Pet. 3:21).* That this is not Holy Spirit baptism is self-evident. What would a spiritual baptism have to do with Noah's flood waters or with the parenthetical explanation, not the removal of the filth of the flesh? No one would confuse Spirit baptism and the washing away dirt from the body as such a baptism never had a drop of water in it (**cf. Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-48**). Further, Holy Spirit baptism was never commanded or performed by any apostle. Water baptism was commanded and administered by man (**Acts 8:36, 38, 39; 10:47**). Such would warrant the clarification that Peter gave in **1 Peter 3:21**.

Paul, like Peter in **1 Peter 3:21**, places baptism as the link to connect with grace. *"Buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead" (Col. 2:12; cf. Rom. 6:3-6).* To bury something shows that something died and every burial is significant because every death is. For the Christian, the old man of sin had been crucified and buried. That is a major component of Christianity!

"Knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For he who has died has been freed from sin" (Rom. 6:6, 7).

Equally important is that a new man rises with Christ from the watery grave to walk in newness of life. Baptism is therefore shown from the Scriptures to be the meeting place of grace and faith. This is no doubt why the Lord

stated that belief and baptism were both needed to be saved (**Mk. 16:16**).

Have you obeyed the gospel? If not, you need to otherwise your future outlook is filled with a fiery vengeance from heaven. If you have obeyed the gospel, are you faithful to Christ and working as a member of His church which He purchased with His own blood (**Acts 20:28**)?

THE JUDGMENT

The Apostle Paul spoke of the *"day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel"* (**Romans 2:16**). The number of people who no longer believe in a place called *hell* is increasing. Some who deny the existence of a place called hell do so because they believe hell's existence is contrary to the love and goodness of God. After all, if God is a good God and loves all people, then how could he send anyone to hell for all eternity?

While it is true that God loves all people, the question is: Does He love all people in the same way or in the same equal way? That is, what about people who do not love God and have no interest in serving Him? **Isaiah 48:11** says: *"For My own sake, for My own sake, I will do it; For how should My name be profaned? And I will not give My glory to another."* What of those who refuse to give God the glory? The life God has given to all is not an end in itself; the life God has given to each of us is for a higher purpose than simply living for self. **Psalms 97:6** says: *"The heavens declare His righteousness, And all the peoples see His glory."* But when we pervert our life by defying God and His word, how can it be said that we do not deserve to be punished in hell? The glory of God is upheld when sinners are punished. To refuse the just desserts of sin is to deny God His glory.

God gives life and blessings to all; material blessings (food and rain, etc.) are common to all, good and bad alike. **Romans 9:15** says: *"For He says to Moses, 'I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.'" God can save those whom He chooses. And He chooses not to save all, because not all will give Him the glory. When this refusal is made, man becomes subject to the judgment in the sense that the judgment will bring to him condemnation (**John 5:28-29**).*

The fact of the judgment is tied inextricably to the resurrection of Jesus Christ. *"Because He has appointed a day on which He will judge the world in righteousness by the Man whom He has ordained. He has given assurance of this to all by raising Him from the dead"* (**Acts 17:31**). While many will deny the fact of hell, those same people will cling tenaciously to the hope the resurrection of Jesus brings. You can't have one

without the other. The reality is: We have both. And both can help us in our service to the Lord. *"Knowing, therefore, the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are well known to God, and I also trust are well known in your consciences"* (**2 Corinthians 5:11**). The fact of judgment is a good motivator for righteous living. *"But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep"* (**1 Corinthians 15:20**). The resurrection of Jesus from the grave gives us confidence and hope. Rather than denying plain Bible teaching about hell or the resurrection, let us live our lives in consideration of God's will. Let us be content to live within the confines of His word.

Randy Harshbarger

The Final Judgment by David Padfield

- All of the nations of the earth who have ever lived will be present (**Matt. 25:32**)
- The Word of God will be the standard of judgment — not the creed books written by men (**John 12:48**)
- We will be judged on the basis of our deeds and not just our attitude (**Rom. 2:6**)
- No "warning signs" will be given prior to the return of Christ (**Matt. 24:36**)
- Christ will return at an unexpected time, during normal circumstances upon the earth (**2 Pet. 3:10**)
- When Christ returns "every eye shall see Him," not just the redeemed (**Rev. 1:7**)
- For some, it will be a day of unspeakable joy (**Rev. 21:1-4**)
- For others, it will be a day of horror (**2 Thes. 1:6-8**)
- When Christ returns He will deliver the kingdom back to His Father (**1 Cor. 15:24**)
- There is no passage in the Bible which states Christ will ever set foot on this earth again—the Bible teaches that we will "meet the Lord in the air" (**1 Thes. 4:17**)
- Once Christ receives His own they will "always" be with Him, not just for a 1,000 years as some teach (**1 Thes. 4:17**)
- While we wait for the Lord to return we have the opportunity to repent (**2 Pet. 3:10**)
- There is no second chance for men to repent after death (**Heb. 9:27**)
- Take comfort in the thought of His return (**1 Thes. 4:18**)

Let us be reminded to pray for those we support who are preaching in other areas of this country and also of the world. Remember to pray for Kyle Bennett in Boston Ma., Matt Hodge in Marshfield, Mo. and Cleveland Reddinger in El Dorado, Ks. Overseas we need to remember, Wilfredo Pelino and Jonathan Sapitula in the Philippines as well as Moses Tivane in Mozambique.

HOURS OF WORSHIP

Sunday A.M. 9:30 Bible Study

Sunday A.M. 10:20 Assembled Worship

Sunday P.M. 5:00 Assembled Worship

Wednesday P.M. 7:00 Bible Study and Worship

Visitors welcome

We conduct in home Bible Studies

We offer Correspondence Courses

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NEED OF PRAYERS: JAN PATRICK,
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DALE RICHARDSON, LINDIA
JACKSON AND TRUDY MULLEN.

**BIBLE CLASSES - SUNDAY - THE
PSALMS - RON PECK - TEACHER
WEDNESDAY - 1&2 TIMOTHY -
JIM STAUFFER - TEACHER**

**SUNDAY MORNING SERMON:
THE EPITOME OF MOTHERHOOD**



What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the gospel - Romans 10:17

Believe in Jesus Christ - Hebrews 11:6

Repent of sins - Acts 17:30

Confess Christ as Lord - Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for remission of sins - Acts 2:38

Be Faithful unto death - Revelation 2:10