



The Berryville Church of Christ

Bible Beacon

"Thy word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path." (Psalm 119:105)



Volume 1, Issue 2

February 3rd, 2002

The Simple Gospel

Kevin Cauley

To the church in Corinth, Paul wrote these words, "For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God. For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and will bring to nothing the understanding of the prudent" (1 Corinthians 1: 18,19).

The basic message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is not hard to understand. There are portions of the Bible that are difficult to understand (2 Peter 3:16), but the vast majority of the Bible is very easy to understand. God gave this message to Moses to give to the children of Israel, "For this commandment which I command thee this day, it is not hidden from thee, neither is it far off. It is not in heaven, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go up for us to heaven, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? Neither is it beyond the sea, that thou shouldest say, Who shall go over the sea for us, and bring it unto us, that we may hear it, and do it? But the word is very nigh unto thee, in thy mouth, and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it" (Deuteronomy 30:11-14). God did not make his communication to the Jews difficult to understand. He gave his word in a simple way so that they could do it.

Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus, "How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words, Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)" (Ephesians 3:3,4). Paul is saying that if we read what he wrote, we can understand exactly what he understood when it was revealed to him by the Holy Spirit. God communicates in a way that is easy to understand and simple to do.

Why do not more people understand and obey the gospel if it is so simple? Because we must remove our pride to receive it. "That no flesh should glory in his presence" (1 Corinthians 1:29).

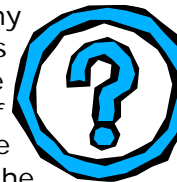
Kevin's Korner

Let me first offer a note of thanks to everyone who has asked about our progress in moving into the house. We are getting settled. We still have pictures to hang and "stuff" to put into its permanent resting place. It is funny how many "things" we accumulate. It becomes OBVIOUS when moving from a larger house to a smaller. We remain grateful that the congregation has furnished us with such a lovely place.



Thanks to the efforts of Bill and Lucille Fort, the congregation has obtained a model (1 foot = 1 inch) of the tabernacle of the wilderness in the Old Testament. It is complete with all of the parts. It has the altar of burnt offerings, the laver, the table of showbread, the candlestick, the altar of incense and the ark of the covenant replicas as well. All of these things were types and shadows of things to come in the Christian religion (Hebrews 10:1). The model is downstairs in the cradle roll classroom. When you get a chance, stop by and see it.

I believe that it is important for the preacher to address subjects in which the listeners are interested. Sometimes people have Bible questions that come up in their studies that they would like to have answered. Some people prefer to submit these questions anonymously. In order to accommodate everyone, I am going to be putting a question box in my office. Those who have questions may slip the question into the box and the first Sunday night of each month, I will answer some of the questions that come into the box. Tonight, is the first Sunday of the month and so instead of a regular sermon, I will answer some questions that I have recently received. I will also answer any questions that anyone might submit before **noon** on Sunday. Since this will be part of the worship



service Sunday night, we must do things decently and in order (1 Corinthians 14:40), so no questions from the floor, please.

Tuesday night our President spoke to us in the annual "State of the Union" address. He spoke about the war on terrorism and the economy. But this president did something that we have not heard a president do in a while. He asked the citizens of the United States to make some sacrifices. He asked that each citizen take two years or 4000 hours and dedicate that time to community service. It is unfortunate that the events of September 11th had to happen in order for a President to make such a request, but it is a request that is in order.

As Christians, we are enjoined to be in subjection to the higher powers (Romans 13:1). With this in mind, we should think of ways that we can volunteer to help our community. This may include visiting

those in the nursing homes or at the hospitals, picking up trash along side of the road, participating in volunteer sporting events in the community, volunteering at the school or the local community center. There are many things we can do to honor this request made by our president.

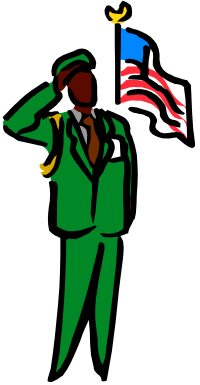
More importantly, however, Jesus said, "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me" (Matthew 25:40). It should not be strange to us to be involved in ministering unto the needs of the community. Let's not use the request of the president as an excuse to do what we should already be doing, but rather, let's do what we need to do to be faithful Christians.

Go Team, Go!

Benny B. Bristow

As one thinks of all the ball teams across the land that are desiring to win, he can be reminded of the greatest one of all — the Lord's team! To win on His team is the greatest reward, but to lose is the severest defeat. Would you consider the following questions seriously to determine if you are faithfully on the Lord's team?

1. Are you on the team? The question is not, are you going to sit in on worship, nor are you going to have your name in the church directory, but rather, are you on the team? The Bible teaches that the work of the



church is a team effort. In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul compared workers to members of the human body — all doing their part to aid the great spiritual body. Therefore, if you consider yourself a ONE, TWO, or FIVE talent person, give what you have and BE ON THE TEAM! Don't be a bench warmer for the Lord! His team has room for you to be on the first string, if you will give your all.



2. Are you willing to win? Deadwood on a team hinders, but those that get in the game and fight to win truly help! The victory to seek in the church is to save your own soul, and the souls of others. This happened in the first century: "Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word" (Acts 8:4).
3. Are you helping team spirit? Not only do we have a responsibility to be working faithfully on the team, but also need to encourage team spirit. Be an optimist in your outlook for Christ. It won't break your arm to pat others on the back for their success! We break our arm when we try to pat ourselves on the back. Help yourself and oth-

"To win on His team is the greatest reward, but to lose is the severest defeat!"

ers by having the "Go Team, Go" spirit.

4. Are you abiding by the rules? Down through the years, many

have been active in the spiritual game, but all efforts were futile because they played by their own rules and not God's! Paul wrote: "And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competed according to the rules" (2 Timothy 2:5).

Don't ever forget that God has only one rule book. It is rather easy to obtain a creed book written by man which lays down laws and rules for various religions of the land, but only one book will please God — the Bible! Only one has been based on what "holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21).

Brother Bristow resides in Longview, Texas

The New Testament

Foy G. Forehand

One of the most difficult things for religious people to deal with is the written word of God. There are some people who insist that there are mistakes, problems and contradictions in the Bible. When faced with one who says this, the simplest thing to do is request, "Show me one." The fact is that there are no contradictions in the Bible. Unlike other religious documents, which claim "one man" as their prophet, God used about 40 different men over a time frame approaching 1600 years to write His word. The Eternal God has also, in His providence, protected it from change. We have, today, essentially, what God caused to be written and completed nearly 2000 years ago.

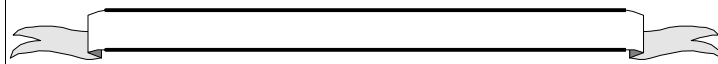
God gave two testaments. Why? This is a question involving the entire Scheme of Redemption and as such would require much more space than this simple bulletin article. It is, however, simply answered. God made many UNWRITTEN covenants with many different individuals. When God called the descendants of Abraham (through Isaac and Jacob or Israel) out of Egypt and made a covenant with the group, THEN He gave it in written form, the first or Old Testament. This was given to physical, national, religious Israel — alone! Old Testament passages emphasize this fact. Exodus 34:27-28, "And Jehovah said unto Moses, Write thou these words: for after the tenor of these words I have made a covenant with thee and with Israel. And he was there with Jehovah forty days and forty nights; he did neither eat bread, nor drink water. And he wrote upon the tables the words of the covenant, the ten commandments." Deuteronomy 5:1-3, "And Moses called unto all Israel, and said unto them, Hear, O Israel, the statutes and the ordinances which I speak in your ears this day, that ye may learn them, and observe to do them. Jehovah our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. Jehovah made not this covenant with our fathers, but with us, even us, who are all of us here alive this day." Nothing in the Old Testament (The Mosaic Law) was for Gentiles — nothing.

God made a second testament, which is for all peoples for all time. In Genesis 12:1-3 God promised Abraham that in his seed would all families of the earth be blessed. Eternal truth demanded that the entire Old Testament be fulfilled (Luke 24:25-27, 44-46) and its authority over all life be ended (Colossians 2:14-17; Hebrews 9:15-17; 10:9-10). The New Testament is the last will

and testament of Jesus Christ. Jesus died for and empowered the New Testament and it alone. As is true with any will (cf. Galatians 3:15), the New Testament is a LEGAL instrument of inheritance. It is absolute law (James 1:25; 2:12; 1 Corinthians 9:21)!

The "inheritance" connected with this last will and testament is valuable beyond human imagination. The Scripture describes it as "...an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you," 1 Peter 1:4. This side of eternity, no mere mortal can fully grasp the awesome, glorious, majestic value of this inheritance! This eternal inheritance can be had only and exclusively on an individual's complying with the "sum" (Psalm 119:160), "every word" (Matthew 4:4), that is, all the conditions in this last will and testament. This absolute, legal, law —last will and testament may not be perverted in any way (Galatians 1:6-9). No man may add to it, void any part of it or make substitutions in it (Galatians 3:15; Revelation 22:18-19).

This last will and testament of Jesus the Christ is our judge now, while time continues (Hebrews 4:12). This testament will be each person's judge in eternity (John 12:48). Learn, believe, love and obey this Will and then face it in judgment with joy and delighted anticipation!

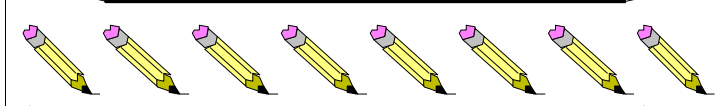
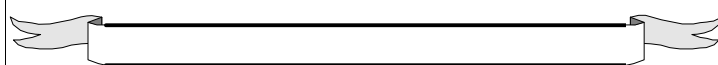


Sunday's Sermons

For February 3rd

Morning.....Our Standard of Authority

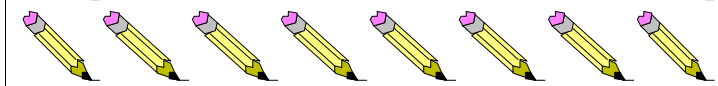
Evening.....Questions and Answers



Our Record

Week of 1/27

Sunday Class	72
Sunday A.M.....	88
Sunday P.M.	56
Wednesday	59
Contribution.....	\$1728.25



News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: George Bonner, Edith Missler, Charlie Cauley, Kendra Smith, Bill Fort.

- Regina Horton (sister of Dena Williams) is awaiting a lung transplant. She is a member of the church in Jonesboro, AR. Please remember her in your prayers.
- Daisy Farmer has been moved to Springdale Memorial room 1299P. Please remember her in your prayers.
- Lucille Wright was moved to the nursing home two weeks ago. She is in room 504.
- Jessica Lovelady is also in the nursing home in room 307.
- We are glad to report that Ken's dad is doing better and now at home.
- We are sad to report that the Nimmos will be leaving us to move further North. However, they will be with us on the 17th during our pot luck. Let's all plan on attending to give them a good send off.
- New Commentaries have arrived and are in the foyer. If you would like to have one they are \$28.53 each. I am going to place an order this week, so please let me know if you want one.
- Brent Stevens is putting together our pictorial directory and needs your help in making sure that all of the pictures are taken. Please get with him if he has not taken your picture.
- There will be a Valentines day party February 16th at Brent and Shawna Steven's house at 6:00 PM.
- The youth devotional will be on February 10th at Bill and Lucille Fort's house in Eureka Springs.
- The worship coordinator for the month of February will be Leon Duncan.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Canned Spinach.



Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:		
Song Leader:	Bill Fort	Brent Stevens
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Leon Duncan	George Eddings
Scripture:	Bob Moore	Ken Smith
Lord's Table:	Clay Bozarth	Bill Fort
	David Nimmo	Leon Duncan
(assist)	Brent Moore	Raymond Kimes
	Rusty Windle	Brandon Foster
Closing Prayer	Glenn Williams	David Nimmo
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Bruce Foster
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Clyde Atchley	Clay Bozarth
Scripture:	George Eddings	Glenn Williams
Lord's Table:	Dale Pinkley	Leon Duncan
	Brandon Foster	Rusty Windle
Closing Prayer	Ken Smith	Dale Pinkley
Wednesday		
Songs:	Glenn Quigley	Hugh Atchley
Opening Prayer:	Clay Bozarth	Bill Fort
Invitation:	Dale Pinkley	Ken Smith
Closing Prayer:	Bruce Foster	Dale Pinkley

Elders: Clay Bozarth, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley

Deacons: Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Dale Pinkley, Ken Smith, Rusty Windle

Preacher: Kevin Cauley870-423-6707

Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:9:30 AM

Sunday Morning Worship:10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00 PM

Wed. Evening Bible Class: 7:00 PM

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail bvcoc@alltell.net to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:
Berryville Church of Christ
909 West Trimble Street, Berryville, AR 72616