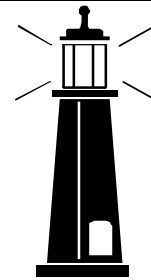


The Berryville church of Christ

# Bible Beacon



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

Volume 2, Issue 20

May 18th, 2003

## Where Is The Term "Christian"?

*Barry Hatcher*

A few days ago an Indonesian man came to my house and asked me questions for the National Census. It was interesting to me, that when the person asked me what my religion was according to the choices on his questionnaire, my religion was not one of the choices listed. He asked me, "Are you Protestant?" And I said, "No". He then asked, "Are you Catholic?" And, I said, "No". I could see some concern come over his face, because he did not understand. He has probably asked that question to many people in Indonesia, who are not Muslim, and received an immediate reply, "I am Protestant or Catholic". It became obvious that he was not prepared to hear my answer. He then asked me, "What religion are you?" And I responded by saying, "I am a Christian." He smiled and said politely, "Then you are a Protestant." I said, "No, I am a Christian." He then smiled and said, "You are a Catholic". I chuckled a little and again stated, "No, I am a Christian." He was so confused that he sat for a silent moment and simply looked at me. He did not know what to say.

I then asked him if the list included the term "Christian", and he told me it did not. I mentioned to him I thought it was very strange that in the New Testament you cannot find the religious groups called "Catholic" and "Protestant" but one can find "Christian", and yet "Catholic" and "Protestant" are the only words on the list and "Christian" was excluded. He smiled and said, "You know, you are right, it is strange that the term "Christian" is excluded.

Some people here have explained the reason "Christian" is not on the list is because there are so many kinds of "Christians" in Indonesia.

This experience brought to my mind a story I

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## Kevin's Korner



Well, the rains kept us out of Roaring River yesterday both for our Cub Scout camp out and for our planned birthday party, but we still had Austin's birthday party at the house anyway. We want to thank all of those who decided to come and celebrate Austin's birthday with us. It is hard to believe that my oldest son is now seven years old and that this coming August, Charlie will be five—unreal.

Last Sunday was a wonderful day. It was mother's day and that made it wonderful. We took up a collection for the tornado victims and that made it wonderful. It was the Sunday after graduation and that made it specially wonderful. Last Sunday's graduation presentation was beautiful and touching. It is a great accomplishment for these young people to complete their work in high school and to move on to the next phase of their life. The words that were spoken were special and moving. We are indeed proud (in a good way) of our graduates.

This past Monday, John Gass and I hopped in the pickup truck at 7:00 AM and drove over to Joplin for a monthly preacher's meeting. We had a good time enjoying the fellowship of preachers, elders, and others who came to Grannie Schaffers to eat lunch with us. We had a wonderful time together. At this meeting, we learned of a few who had been affected by the storms of two weeks ago and who needed assistance.

After the lunch, John and I decided to go over to Pierce City and Monett and see how things were going with the clean up. It was quite a site to see. The church in Monett was handling the situation well. Their fellowship room was filled with food, basic necessities, and different things

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had read years ago, shortly after I started preaching. The story goes like this. A Christian man visits a city he had never visited before. He arrived on a Saturday afternoon. He knew he would be in that city for several days, therefore, he began to ask people he met while walking down the street where the nearest church of Christ building was located. He did this in order that he might worship there on Sunday. But, no one could tell him. He saw a policeman and decided to ask him about the church building. The brother reasoned, certainly a policeman would know where the church of Christ building was located. He approached the policeman and asked him the same question he had asked others. The policeman said, "Let me think about this." The concerned brother could see the policeman was in deep thought. After thinking for a moment, he began to talk out loud to himself. He said, "Let's see, the Baptist church building is over there on that corner of the street; the Methodist church building is down that street; the Pentecostal church building is two blocks behind the Baptist church building; the Presbyterian building is about two kilometers from the center of town; the Episcopalians meet in a new building located over near the new McDonalds; the Catholic church is meeting in a house on 13<sup>th</sup> Street; the Lutherans are new in this city, and they are meeting in someone's house; the Seventh Day Adventist group doesn't meet here anymore, because they moved to the small city about 20 kilometers from here; the Jehovah's Witnesses have a kingdom hall over on Bell street near the only theatre in town; and the Nazarene church meets in the local elementary school." The policeman, after stating all of the things just mentioned, thought for a moment, and then looked with some surprise at this traveling brother in Christ and said, "You know? I don't think Christ has a church in this city!"

It is a sad thing. However, when one reads the New Testament which is the text, the only guide book, the only authority which defines the term "Christian", one will not find various kinds of "Christians". According to the New Testament a "Christian" is a baptized believer, dedicated to following the will of Christ in every area of life. The Lord himself defined what a "Christian" is when he stated, "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" Matthew 7:21. Considering this verse only, might not be enough for some, therefore, one might consider the statement by our Lord, "Why call ye me Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?" Luke 6:46.

Too many people want the best of two worlds.

They want to be considered a follower of Christ and be called a "Christian", but, at the same time, they wish to practice certain things in the world not authorized by Christ. So, man has invented his own brand of "Christianity". We might call this the religion of the "hyphenated-Christian". That means a person might be a "Protestant-Christian" or a "Catholic-Christian". And under Protestantism there are "hyphenated-Christians" like "Baptist-Christians", "Methodist-Christians", "Presbyterian-Christians" etc., etc. When did the Lord plant these religions? Where in the scriptures does one read about denominationalism in any positive and acceptable manner? Where in the New Testament can one find the authority to accept parts of God's will and reject other parts? Jesus, speaking about the religious leaders of his day, said, "These people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoreth, me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men" Matthew 15:8-9. Jesus was not popular for teaching the above truth. The disciples came to him and informed him in (Matthew 15:12) that the religious leaders he had condemned were offended. Jesus responded in a very interesting manner. He did not apologize for his condemnation of the religious leaders, but, instead, he made some interesting comments about them. He revealed His Father's attitude about their type of religion by stating, "Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up. Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch" Matthew 15:13-14. Each of us must be careful not to allow someone to influence us away from the pure word of God. The religious leaders of Jesus' time were in fact "religious" but not in the way God wanted, and He rejected them. Today people can do the same. People can be "religious", they can follow a "religious group" but fail to please God. We know the ways of men are not the ways of God.

Does the true church of Christ exist in Indonesia? This question needs to be answered. It is obvious the government of Indonesia does not know that the Lord's church exists in this country. If they do, they do not understand it.

## **Times of Worship and Study**

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....9:30 AM  
Sunday Morning Worship: ..... 10:30 AM  
Sunday Evening Worship: .....6:00 PM  
Ladies Bible Class:..... 10:30 AM  
Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

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to help those who needed it. The church in Aurora was also on top of things. I called them after I got home and spoke with the preacher regarding their situation. He said that they were in control of things there. They had several families that were affected, but they were well provided. I also spoke with the preacher in Stockton who said that they had some damage, but that most of it was covered by insurance and that they were doing well there also. It is a blessing to hear that all were well and that many had what they needed at this time. There were some, however, who were not so fortunate and our contribution will be going to help them. Please continue to pray for these as they recover from this terrible situation.

This past Tuesday, we celebrated National Hamburger Month at the Berryville Community Center. What, you say? You did not know it was National Hamburger Month? It indeed is. So, I hauled the grill over to the community center and grilled up a few pieces of dead cow from which we fashioned some of the thickest and juiciest hamburgers that you have ever seen this side of the Mississippi. We did have a good time cooking and volunteering that day.

If you have not attended ladies Bible class in a while, you might want to start coming again. We are studying some of the books of the New Testament. We just finished up the book of second John and are starting on third John. After that, we are going to try to complete a study of the New Testament epistles. Eventually we hope to finish a complete study of the New Testament. It is wonderfully enriching to be in these Wednesday morning Bible studies. I hope that you will make time out of your busy schedules to come and join us.

**Elders:** Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley  
**Deacons:** Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.  
**Preacher:** Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

## Sunday's Sermons

For May 18th

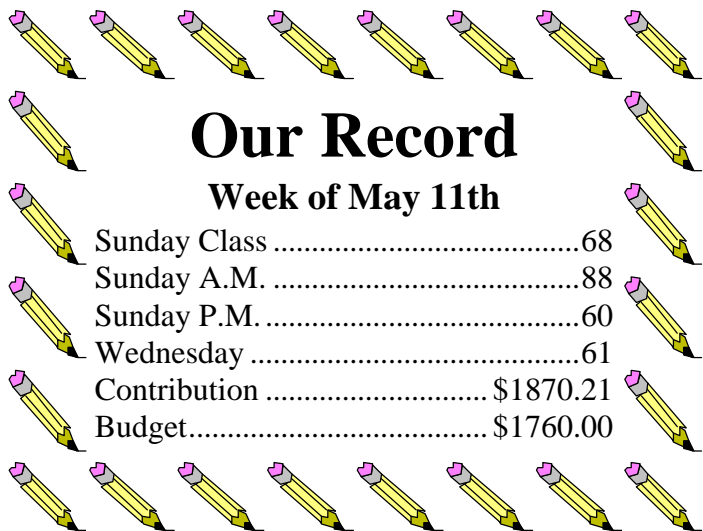
**Morning**..... **Seek Ye First (1)**  
Scripture ..... Matthew 6:33  
**Evening**..... **Seek Ye First (2)**  
Scripture ..... Matthew 6:33

# A PLAN FOR LIFE

A.J. Hendrix

It is said, "a good plan is to have the work half done." If that is even half true, we need to have a GREAT PLAN FOR LIFE. Here is the assistance I offer. If you can add to this or give me a better plan, let's have it! I believe, after you LOOK this one over, you will admit, it has some very good points.

- #1 - **BE OBEDIENT LIKE NOAH** - GEN 6:7, 22; 1 PET 3:20-21, HEB 11:7 - THE IMPORTANCE: HEB 5:9
- #2 - **BE FAITHFUL LIKE ABRAHAM** - GEN 11:31, 32; GEN 12:1; HEB 11:8-19 GREAT FAITH!!!!
- #3 - **BE PURE LIKE JOSEPH** - GEN:39:4-6; 39:7-13 39:9 HAS 4 COMMITMENTS TO KEEP ONE PURE.
- #4 - **BE HUMBLE LIKE MOSES** - NUM 12:1-15; MT 18:3-4
- #5 - **BE COURAGEOUS LIFE DEBORAH AND JOSHUA** - NUM 14:8-9; DEUT. 31:23; JOSH 1:5-9; JUDGES 4
- #6 - **BE GENEROUS LIKE THE POOR WIDOW** - 1 SAM 1:1ff; MARK 12:41-44
- #7 - **BE THANKFUL LIKE DAVID** - PSA 100:1ff; PSA 103:2; LK 17:11-19
- #8 - **BE WISE LIKE SOLOMON** - 1 KINGS 3:3-12; 28; 11:4, JAMES 1:5, JAMES 3:17;
- #9 - **BE FORGIVING LIKE STEPHEN** - ACTS 6:5-8; 7:1-60, (V.60)
- #10 - **BE LOVING LIKE JOHN REVEALS, AND LIVED HIMSELF** - JN 3:16; JN 13:34-35; JN 21:20; I JUN 4:7-10
- #11 - **BE MISSION MINDED LIKE PAUL** - ACTS CHAPTERS 13: - 28; 1 COR 9:22, 2 COR 12:15
- #12 - **BE KIND LIKE BARNABAS** - ACTS 4:36-37; 9:27; 15:36-41; EPH 4:32
- #13 - **BE LIKE JESUS** - 1 PET 2:22-25



## Our Record

Week of May 11th

Sunday Class .....	68
Sunday A.M. ....	88
Sunday P.M. ....	60
Wednesday .....	61
Contribution .....	\$1870.21
Budget.....	\$1760.00

## News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Glenn Quigley
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs. Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- Today is our monthly potluck. Please be sure to stay after our services today and enjoy a fellowship meal with us. If you are a visitor, then we would like to get to know you better. If you are a member and haven't been attending, then we miss you! Come on and eat with us today after our morning worship.
- Our Friends and Family day (Sunday, June 8th) is rapidly approaching. We have less than a month to get ready for this event. Remember to invite all our friends and family to this special time when we can share with them the gospel. Our goal for this day is 125.
- Vacation Bible school (June 16th-19th) is also nipping at our heels. If you have not started getting ready for this event, then start this week! We have much work ahead and we hope that you will be planning on attending. Our goal for VBS is an average of 100 each evening. Our youth rally is only a few months away as well. Please be praying for all of these events.
- The monthly elders and deacons meeting is tonight. If you have something that needs to be brought up, please see one of them.
- House to House arrived last week. Please listen to our announcements for the time to put this together.
- There is a letter from Jake King posted in the back.
- Voice of Truth International arrived this week and is in the back.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Deodorant.



## Those to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
<b>Sunday Morning:</b>	<b>May 18th, 2003</b>	<b>May 25th, 2003</b>
<b>Song Leader:</b>	Bill Fort	Larry Elliott
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Rusty Windle	Clay Bozarth
<b>Scripture:</b>	Brent Stevens	Brent Moore
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	John Gass	Leon Duncan
	Bruce Foster	Bill Fort
<b>(assist)</b>	Ray Duncan	Sandy Nieves
	George Eddings	Brandon Foster
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Bob Moore	Matt Bassing
<b>Sunday Night:</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
<b>Preacher:</b>	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bill Fort	Larry Elliott
<b>Scripture:</b>	Perry Foster	Ken Smith
<b>Lord's Table:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Ray Duncan
	Matt Bassing	George Eddings
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Gass	Bob Moore
<b>Wednesday</b>		
<b>Songs:</b>	Clay Bozarth	Glenn Williams
<b>Opening Prayer:</b>	Bruce Foster	Rusty Windle
<b>Invitation:</b>	Dale Pinkley	Brent Stevens
<b>Closing Prayer:</b>	Larry Elliott	Dale Pinkley
<b>Monthly Assignments</b>		
<b>Announcements</b>	Rusty Windle	
<b>Worship Coordinator</b>	Bruce Foster	
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Mary Lynn Cauley	Katie Williams
<b>Communion Carry</b>	John Gass	Glenn Williams

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 [bvcc@alltel.net](mailto:bvcc@alltel.net) to contribute information.

For questions or comments, please call (870) 423-3068 or write us at:  
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