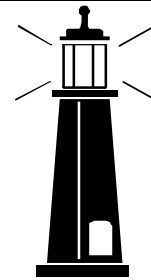


The Berryville church of Christ

Bible Beacon



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

Volume 2, Issue 27

July 13th, 2003

Who Will Be Saved?

Kevin Cauley

The question of who will be saved has occupied the thoughts of many throughout the ages. There are some people today who believe that everyone who has ever lived will be saved. There are some today who believe that a majority of people who have lived on the earth will be saved. There is, however, in contrast to these teachings, what Jesus said about the subject. In Matthew 7:13, 14 we read, "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide *is* the gate, and broad *is* the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait *is* the gate, and narrow *is* the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." Jesus clearly states that the majority of people who live upon the earth will be lost. He said that there would be "few" that find the way that leads to life. Who will be saved? Who will be lost? The Bible gives us the answer to both questions.

First, the Bible teaches that no one who is separated from God by sin will be saved. Every single person conceived by man who has ever lived upon the face of the earth has sinned. In Romans 3:23 we read, "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." Sin is doing things in our life that are against God and are against His will. In essence when we are sinning, we are saying to God, "I don't want to be like you." So God in His infinite justice allows us to make that choice. He allows us to choose not to be like Him, but he also warns us concerning the consequences of not being like Him. He says in Isaiah 59:2 "But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid *his* face from you, that he will not hear." It is not God's fault that we are lost; it is our fault. It is because we have chosen for sin to be in our life. When we sin against God, we separate ourselves from God and when we allow that separa-

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Kevin's Korner



Last week's fourth of July celebration at the Williams' house was wonderful. Several people mentioned that the fireworks were the best ever. While I agree, my opinion doesn't count for very much as I have only sat through two of them. The ice cream was great and the fellowship wonderful. We certainly owe a big "thank you" to the Williams for hosting this annual event. Be sure you let them know how much you appreciate them this week.

Sandy Nieves and I got together this past Wednesday and we made some evangelistic video tapes for anyone interested in doing a little personal evangelism. These subject matter of these video tapes is: "What is the church of Christ?" and "What must I do to be saved?" In these videos I speak about the organization, worship, and mission of the church, and the plan of salvation. I made these video tapes because someone in the community wanted to know more about the church of Christ, but did not have time to sit down and have a Bible study. With the tape, anyone at their convenience can go through the material. If you know of someone who is interested in having a personal Bible study, but just does not have the time to go through the material personally with you, pick up one of these tapes and pass it along. We have already given out about four altogether and I can easily make additional copies. My appreciation and thanks to Sandy for being my director in this endeavor.

The kids are still down in Austin, TX, but Mary Lynn and I will be going to get them at the end of this week. Mary Lynn and I have enjoyed our "free" time while they have been gone. We have been to several movies, out to dinner, stayed up

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tion to exist throughout our whole life, we earn eternal separation from God. This is also known as spiritual death. Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death." And death is where we will be eternally if we do not do something about the sin that is in our life. Those who choose to harbor sin in their lives, for their whole lives, will not be saved.

No one who fails to know God will be saved. In 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 we read of God's vengeance. The text says, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power." Notice that there are two categories of people who will not be saved. The first are those who "know not God." In order for one to know God, one must come to a knowledge of Jesus. In John 1:18 we read, "No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared *him*." Jesus has declared who God is to us today. Today, no one can come to a knowledge of God except through Jesus. Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:6) This means that no one will be able to enter heaven except those who believe that Jesus is the Son of God. Those who choose to remain ignorant about God will not be saved.

No one who fails to obey the gospel will be saved. The same passage that we looked at in 2 Thessalonians 1:8, 9 shows another category of people who will not be saved. These are those who fail to "obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ." In Hebrews 5:9 we read, "And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him." Jesus saves those who render their allegiance and their obedience to Him. This means that we have to know what the gospel says and that we must obey it without reservation. To start walking in a right relationship with God, one must hear the word of God (Romans 10:17), believe it (John 3:16), repent of sins (Acts 17:30), confess Jesus as the Christ (Romans 10:10) and be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). This is God's plan for man's salvation. We must be obedient to it if we want to be saved. Moreover, we have no right to alter or change in any way God's plan for man's salvation. Paul wrote in Galatians 1:8, 9 "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. 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." Those who choose not to obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, whether they choose not to become a Christian or whether they choose not to remain a faithful Christian, will not be saved.

Notice from these three things who WILL be saved. The saved are those who have turned away from their sins, come to know about God and His Son Jesus, and have obeyed the gospel in becoming a Christian and in remaining faithful to God. These are the ones who will be saved. If you, dear reader, need to become a Christian today, contact someone within the church of Christ who can help you do that. If you are saved but haven't been living faithfully, then get yourself back in a right relationship with God. The message of salvation is the same for all men. It does not change from year to year, from country to country, or from person to person. If anyone is going to be saved they must obey the same gospel that was preached and taught by Jesus and His apostles some 2000 years ago. When that message is taught, God is glorified and souls are saved. There is no other way for anyone to be saved.

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late watching videos, etc. It has been almost like life before we had children, but we miss them dearly and are looking forward to having them back with us. So, Lord willing, they will be back next Sunday.

This past Thursday, the Quigley's and I went over to the Berryville nursing home to visit. We were able to sit with Iola Trost, whom some of you know for a few minutes. Iola is a member of the church in Green Forest. She is a wonderful lady and a fine Christian woman. If you get a chance this week, she would love to see you.

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

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

An Abuse of 1 Timothy 5:19-21

Kevin Cauley

As some of you have already received, a letter arrived in the mailbox yesterday (Saturday) from a former member of the congregation. In this letter, this person brought an accusation of sin against the eldership. He cited the above scripture as his justification. I would like to point out a few things in regard to this particular scripture.

The first thing that we should note is that this scripture was originally written to the evangelist Timothy. The purpose for which it was written was that so Timothy could instruct others how men ought to behave in the church (1 Timothy 3:15). The context of 1 Timothy 5:19-21 is set in the midst of personal instruction given to Timothy. Notice in verse 22 that Paul tells Timothy to keep himself pure. In verse 23 Paul tells Timothy how to deal with his stomach problems. Within this context, Paul is telling Timothy, as an evangelist, not to accept an accusation against an elder except at the mouth of two or three witnesses. When the matter has been established, then Timothy, as an evangelist, is to rebuke the elder who has sinned and to do this without partiality. To interpret this passage in such a way so that every single member of the church has the obligation to rebuke the eldership is to rip it out of its context and abuse the scripture against how it was originally intended to apply.

The second thing that we should note is that this scripture specifically states that Timothy was NOT to receive an accusation except at the mouth of two or three witnesses. An accusation has been made, but where are the witnesses? The one who is making the accusation against the eldership has no witnesses and thus the accusation must be rejected. The very same scripture

which this individual would use to bring an accusation against the eldership condemns him who would make such an accusation.

The passage then states that those elders who sin rebuke before all. Evidently, this is exactly what the letter writer thinks he is doing, but he has failed to bring forth the witnesses and he has failed to bring forth the sin of which the elders are guilty. In contrast to this individual and his accusations I stand firmly WITH the eldership and state unequivocally that they committed NO SIN in regard to this particular matter. The person making these accusations brings Matthew 18:15-17 as the scripture which the elders violated but he fails to specify which part of this scripture the elders violated. The fact of the matter is that this scripture has only been violated by the one writing the letter.

The Bible teaches that God hates men who sow discord among brethren (Proverbs 6:16-19). The eldership placed this man's name before the congregation and the congregation disfellowshipped him. He has been judged. He is now trying to continue to sow his discord in order to bring division and strife within the church and trying to use the scriptures to back up his efforts, but the scriptures stand against him. Titus 1:10-16 applies to this man, "For there are many unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, specially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake.... Wherefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith; Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth. Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. They profess that they know God; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate."

Sunday's Sermons

For July 13th

Morning..... Our Christian Influence
Scripture Matthew 5:13-16
Evening..... Q&A
Scripture NA

Our Record

Week of Date

Sunday Class.....	61
Sunday A.M.	91
Sunday P.M.....	71
Wednesday	51
Contribution	\$1831.37
Budget	\$1760.00

News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Summer Benedict, Bill Fort, Ruth Hill.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Art Roberts and Mary Patterson are confined to their homes.
- There is a new list for Art Robert's lunch in the back. If you wish to sign up to fix Art's lunch every once in a while, please put your name on the list.
- As was mentioned, Porfirio and Carla (who live in Costa Rica) have had their baby, Abigail. There is a picture of the baby in the back foyer.
- There will be a baby shower for Lanna Fletcher, Saturday, July 19th, 2:00 at Lanna's house.
- There will be another baby shower for Tiffany Gentry, Saturday, July 26th, from 2-4 PM at Tiffany Windle's house.
- The monthly elders and deacons meeting will be held next Sunday night. If you have any items to bring before this meeting, please let one of the elders or deacons know about it.
- Our monthly question and answer session is tonight! Please make your plans to attend.
- Our monthly potluck is scheduled for next Sunday after morning services. Bring your favorite food for this wonderful time of fellowship.
- As mentioned in Kevin's Korner, there are personal evangelism video tapes for those who would like to use this method to further the evangelism efforts of the church here in Berryville. See Kevin to obtain a video tape.
- There is a report from A.J. Hendrix on the back bulletin board.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Poptarts.



Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:	July 13th, 2003	July 20th, 2003
Song Leader:	Ken Smith	Larry Elliott
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Clyde Atchley
Scripture:	Leon Duncan	Perry Foster
Lord's Table:	Bruce Foster	Clay Bozarth
	Hugh Atchley	Matt Bassing
(assist)	Perry Foster	Brent Moore
	Ray Duncan	Brent Stevens
Closing Prayer	George Eddings	Rusty Windle
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Larry Elliott	Rusty Windle
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dale Pinkley	Leon Duncan
Scripture:	Sandy Nieves	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table:	Hugh Atchley	Bruce Foster
	Brandon Foster	Dale Pinkley
Closing Prayer	Bob Moore	Jack Gentry
Wednesday		
Songs:	Clay Bozarth	Glenn Quigley
Opening Prayer:	Brent Stevens	Larry Elliott
Invitation:	Dale Pinkley	Bruce Foster
Closing Prayer:	Leon Duncan	Dale Pinkley
Monthly Assignments		
Announcements	Bill Fort	
Worship Coordinator	Glenn Quigley	
Communion Prep	Wanda Bozarth	Joann Bragg
Communion Carry	Hugh Atchley	Kevin Cauley

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 to contribute information.

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