

BELIEVE AND BE LOST!

Michael Pickford

Paul told the Philippian Jailer, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household” (Acts 16:31). Many appeal to this verse in an effort to support the teaching that one is saved by “Faith alone.” But there are problems with this reasoning.

It is possible to believe and be lost. We read of some in John 12:42 who “Believed in Him.” The Bible clearly says they believed. Were they saved upon that belief? The verse goes on to say “They did not confess Him.” They feared being put out of the synagogue. Inasmuch as confession is essential for salvation (Romans 10:9-10), we know

that these in John 12 were not saved. But they believed! It wasn’t enough.

The second problem is that Acts 16:31 contains a statement made within a context. Paul expected them to believe, but then went on to explain that it must be an obedient belief. Notice that he told them to “Believe” before he even spoke the word of the Lord to them. If you subtract verse 31 from the following verses you’ve got folks believing before they even heard the Gospel! (see Romans 10:17). After he spoke the word to them they were baptized (Verse 33). One cannot have his sins washed away and be saved without baptism (Acts 22:16).

Welcome to our services and thank you for visiting. If you have any questions about our beliefs or practices, please don’t hesitate to ask.

God has not only commanded us to worship Him, but has also told us how, in His word. **The elements of our services, as prescribed by God’s word, are as follows:**

- **SINGING:** Ephesians 5:18,19; Colossians 3:16
- **PREACHING/TEACHING:** Acts 2:42; Eph. 4:11,12
- **PRAYING:** Acts 2:42; Acts 12:5
- **LORD’S SUPPER:** 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7
- **GIVING:** 1 Corinthians 16:1,2; 2 Corinthians 9:6,7



COME WORSHIP WITH US!

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY...9:00
SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP.....10:00
SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP.....6:00
WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES....7:00

EVERYONE WELCOME!

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children’s Class, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5th Sunday Men’s Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men’s Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

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ARE YOU ABEL?

Michael Pickford

Genesis chapter four introduces us to Cain and Abel, sons of Adam and Eve. Their story is one of tragedy and triumph. Note how Abel...

SERVED. Genesis 4:1-5. Abel offered his sacrifice by faith (Hebrews 11:4). Faith comes by hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17). God had communicated to Cain and Abel details as to how they were to serve and worship Him. Cain didn’t offer God the kind of sacrifice He stipulated. Abel, on the other hand, offered an “Acceptable” sacrifice (Hebrews 11:4). There’s no reason to think Cain wasn’t insincere in his worship. He just didn’t do it the way God said! (see Matthew 7:21-23). There is such a thing as unacceptable worship! (Matthew 15:7-9). From the beginning of time God has not only commanded man to worship him, but He has told us exactly how He wants to be worshipped. It is not acceptable for us to worship Him any way we see fit! Whatever we do must be authorized by Christ (Colossians 3:17). We must not go outside (transgress) the doctrine of Christ in how we worship him (2 John 1:9).

SUFFERED. Genesis 4:8. Ultimately, Abel suffered death for his

service to God, for his “Righteous” works (1 John 3:12). Men often suffer because of their righteousness. Those “Televangelists” who preach the “Health and wealth” Gospel have it all wrong. Sometimes folks suffer things that they would never have suffered if they were not Christians. Jesus spoke of “tribulation” and “persecution” coming “Because of the word” (Matthew 13:21). He placed a blessing on those “who are persecuted for righteousness sake” (Matthew 5:10). Those who choose to live godly in Christ Jesus “Will suffer persecution” (1 Timothy 3:12). When, because of your holy life, your friends, family, peers, and co-workers make fun of you, ridicule you, and even cause you harm, take heart and keep your eye on the prize (Matthew 5:10-12; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18).

SPEAKS. Abel’s faithfulness still speaks to us today (Hebrews 11:4). It tells us that we should always serve God the way He has directed rather than trying to concoct our own devices of worship (Romans 10:1-3). It tells us that God rewards worship that is according to faith (God’s word – Romans 10:17). It tells us that we should serve the Lord faithfully, even if it leads to death (Revelation 2:10). So, are you Abel? 🔍

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www.defendthegospel.com

**Our Gospel Meeting is just
around the corner.
Mark your calendars!
Invite others!**

Gospel Meeting

June 08-13

Southside church of Christ

1167 S. Lowry Street, **Smyrna, TN** 37167

(Located on Murfreesboro Rd. Right next to the Nissan Fitness Center)

For Directions Call (615) 785-0646

Preaching

Edward O.

Bragwell Sr.

Everyone Welcome!

Meeting Times

Sunday: 9 & 10 am

Sunday: 6:00 pm

Mon–Fri: 7:00 pm

Bring A Bible! Bring A Friend!

VISIT OUR
WEBSITE

www.defendthegospel.com



SERMON NOTES

Search the scriptures daily to see if these things are so.

You Have Heard It Said

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Robert Johnson
Reading: Matthew 5:38-44
- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- Opening Prayer.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Ben Reagh
Serve.....Frank Anderson
Serve.....Kenny Johnson
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Lord's Table.....Ben Reagh

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Kenny Todd

GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

There is only one true saving plan of Salvation outlined in Scripture. No substitutes will do. Have you really been saved? Get out your Bible and study the plan below.

- Hear The Gospel: Romans 10:17
- Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30
- Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

*Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!*

Obey Today!