



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11

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PREVENTATIVE MEDICINE

Michael Pickford

"Do not be wise in your own eyes; Fear the Lord and depart from evil. It will be health to your flesh, And strength to your bones." It can be quite serious to become physically ill. It threatens our well-being and sometimes our very life. Taking preventative measures can stave off many illnesses. Spiritual sickness is far worse, for this affects our eternal life. Proverbs 3:7 lays out for us the best preventive medicine for avoiding spiritual disease...

Realize Your Limitations. *"Do not be wise in your own eyes."* We've all known someone who is a "Know-it-all." Often, the one who thinks he knows it all is in reality the most ignorant among us. But a know-it-all attitude will not strengthen one spiritually; it will only set him up for a fall. If someone feels they already know it all then they are not teachable. A disciple of Christ must be teachable, for there is much to learn. The word disciple itself means "Learner, follower." Leaders were set up in the church to teach us (Ephesians 4:11ff). If we are wise in our own eyes we might think we know a better way than God has revealed. We must trust God's wisdom over what seems to us

to be right (Proverbs 14:12). **Reverence Your Lord.** *"Fear the Lord."* A lack of recognition of and respect for God's awesomeness will endanger our souls. Each moment of every day we must keep ourselves aware of God's existence, and His presence. The Bible is clear that God is watching our every move. *"The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good"* (Proverbs 15:3). Forgetting this fact from time to time gives us confidence in the face of temptation that we can "get away with this one little sin." Not only must we realize God's presence at all times, but we must always have a sense of awareness when it comes to Who He is and what He is capable of. Remembering that *"Our God is a consuming fire"* will give us incentive to keep our paths straight (Hebrews 12:29)..

Repent of Your Lawlessness. *"Depart from Evil."* Lawlessness is sin (1 John 3:4). Repentance is a change of heart that manifests itself in change of action. "Turn or burn" is a solid sentiment. When we sin, a lack of confession and repentance will sicken our soul and endanger our eternal inheritance (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30). 

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"IF"

Michael Pickford

Rudyard Kipling once wrote a now famous poem entitled "If." The poem illustrates the power of this small conditional word. Its power is also shown in God's word.

"If you do these things you will never stumble" (2 Peter 1:10). Peter wrote these words about those things we must add to our faith. The statement clearly demonstrates the possibility of one losing his salvation even after becoming a child of God. While some today believe it's impossible for a christian to so sin as to lose his salvation, Peter teaches that "If" we do not add these things, we will stumble, be barren and unfruitful, and

lose our souls (2 Peter 1:8; John 15:2, 6).

"If he repents, forgive him" (Luke 17:3). Jesus spoke these words regarding a brother who has sinned. It illustrates that we have no right to forgive someone until they repent. We want them to repent, we pray for it, we encourage them to do so, but we are doing no one any favors by offering our forgiveness before they repent. Doing so would encourage them to remain in the sin. God doesn't forgive us until we repent (Acts 2:38). If we forgive before repentance is made, then we make a mockery of church discipline (1 Cor 5:1-1-5). 

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:** Acts2:42; 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



- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.

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!

BECOME A FOOL!

Michael Pickford

Does the Title of this article seem strange to you? Am I actually telling people to become fools? After all, the Bible says a great deal of negative things about fools. A person who denies God is a fool (Psalm 14:1). A prating fool shall fall (Proverbs 10:8). A fool enjoys and mocks at sin (Proverbs 10:23). A fool shall serve the wise (Proverbs 11:29). A fool ignores wise council and follows his own foolish path (Proverbs 12:15). The fool covets (Luke 12:13-21). A fool denies the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:35-36). The list goes on!

So, why would I encourage people to “Become a fool?” Well, because Paul did! *“Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you seems to be wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise”* (1 Corinthians 3:18).

As you can see, Paul is not encouraging folks to become fools in the sense of the passages cited above. But when one is a “Know-it-all,” he needs to come to a realization that he actually does NOT know it all. He needs to realize that he still has much to learn. Because the fact is, until he realizes he doesn’t know it all, it’s not likely that he will learn anything.

This is abundantly true with regard to many so-called religious leaders in our day and age, just as it was with those Paul addressed at Corinth. But sadly, the wisdom of this world (next verse: 1 Corinthians 3:19) has folks blinded to the truths about God and His word.

Consider the Biologists. Most of them are atheists. They spend most of their time studying life. It’s sad. They know the ways OF life, but they ignore the way TO life.

What about the Astronomers? They can tell you a great deal about the stars, the solar systems, the rotation rates of the planets, etc.. Yet, many of them are atheists. It’s a shame. They know the ways OF the heavens, but deny the way TO heaven.

What about the Geologists? Many of them are atheists. They spend much of their time and energy studying the ages of the rocks. They can tell you a great deal about how old they think rocks are. They come across in an impressive way as they impart their “wisdom.” It’s sad. They spend their lives worrying about the age of the rocks, while they ignore the Rock of ages.

Paul gives these folks the remedy in the verse above. They need to recognize that in all of their worldly wisdom, they are fools. They suppose themselves to be wise in this age, yet they are ignorant of the living way. The remedy? *“Let him become a fool that he may be wise.”* 🔍



**OUR GOSPEL MEETING WITH
DAVID MCPHERSON IS
SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER
19-24 (SUNDAY - FRIDAY).**

SERMON NOTES

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

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

Priceless Prudence

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Kenny Todd
Reading: Proverbs 14:12-16
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Ben Green
- Lord’s Table:
Lead.....Kenny Johnson
Serve.....John Nelson
Serve.....Ben Reagh
- Closing Prayer.....Robert Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Robert Johnson
- Lord’s Table.....Kenny Johnson

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

*Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!*

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

Obey Today!