

CHOKED!

Michael Pickford

I once heard a story about a medical man sitting at lunch with several of his colleagues. Some food got caught in his throat and he excused himself to the restroom. After several minutes, his friends became concerned. When they entered the restroom, there was their friend lying dead on the floor. He choked to death! Everyone sitting at his table knew the procedure that could have easily saved his life, but he excused himself, and choked to death alone in the restroom. How tragic! I'm certain he thought it would be alright. He probably didn't realize he was actually choking to death and in need of assistance.

“Now the ones that fell among thorns are those who, when they have heard, go out and are choked with cares, riches, and pleasures of life, and bring no fruit to maturity”

-Luke 8:14

It's so easy for us to be choking to death (Spiritually) and not know it. We get so distracted by social media, work, games, smartphone apps, and the list goes on. These things sap so much of our time we neglect bible study, prayer, and sometimes even the assemblies of the saints. Careful, don't get choked! 🔍

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

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



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry

Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854

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

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JESUS IN HEBREWS

Michael Pickford

The book of Hebrews reveals a great deal about our Lord. He is God's avenue of communication to us, he is fully deity, and was fully man on earth. His covenant is superior to that of Moses, His priesthood is superior to that of Aaron, and His sacrifice on the cross is superior to the animal sacrifices under the Old law. In teaching us all of this, the writer of Hebrews shows us that...

Jesus Is The Antidote For My Sins. What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. So says the writer of Hebrews. “When he had by Himself purged our sins” (Hebrews 1:3). “How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God” (Hebrews 9:14). What else could remove our sins? Not the blood of bulls and goats (Hebrews 10:11), not silver or Gold (1 Peter 1:18). Only the precious blood of Christ can redeem us (1 Peter 1:19). Have you contacted his blood through baptism? (Acts 22:16).

Jesus Is The Anchor Of My Soul. How can we stay faithful in a faithless world? How can we cling to our faith in a world that is determined to separate us from our Lord? By looking to Jesus through His eternal word, and by focusing on the living hope we have of eternal life in heaven. “This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast...” (Hebrews 6:19). This hope is found only through the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ (1 Peter 1:3)..

Jesus Is The Author Of My Salvation “Though he was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which he suffered. And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him” (Hebrews 5:8-19). Jesus died to make salvation available to all men (1 Timothy 4:10). He died to be the propitiation for the sins of the whole world (1 John 2:2). But though he has made His salvation available to all, only those who come to Him through obedience to his Gospel will receive salvation. “To all who obey Him” (Hebrews 5:9). What will become of those who do not “Obey the Gospel?” “These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power” (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9). Unfortunately, most will choose not to obey the gospel, following instead the way that leads to destruction (Matthew 7:13-14). Have you obeyed Jesus? 🔍

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-785-0646, mpickford3@comcast.net

www.defendthegospel.com

ANSWERING BIBLE QUESTIONS

Michael Pickford

Question: “Jesus told the apostles that they would “Sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel” (Lk. 22:30). In what way would the apostles judge the twelve tribes of Israel?”

First, we need to realize that Jesus was speaking here metaphorically. The twelve tribes of Israel are not to be taken literally in this passage. Jesus was not referring to the literal twelve tribes. His reference was to the church, God’s spiritual Israel (Gal. 6:16). James also used the twelve tribes figuratively to refer to Christians (Jms. 1:1). Paul used it this way in Romans 9:6 (See also Rom. 2:29).

Now that we’ve determined that the apostles were to judge the church, in what way was this judging to be done? Paul taught in Ephesians 2:20 that the apostles were in a sense the foundation upon which the house of God had been built, with Christ as the Chief cornerstone. When we answer the question as to how the apostles were the foundation, we will answer the question as to how they judge the church.

The apostles were the foundation of the church in the sense that it was through their preaching and teaching that the church was established (Acts 2). They taught only the gospel of Christ as revealed to them by Jesus Himself through the Holy Spirit (John 16:13; 1 Corinthians 14:37). Jesus told them that after he departed, the Holy Spirit would come to “teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you” (Jn. 12:26).

If you will remember, just before the church was established on Pentecost, the apostles were told to wait until the Holy Spirit came upon them and directed their teaching. This is exactly what happened! “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:4). It was because of this preaching that many believed and obeyed, resulting in the establishing of the church (Acts 2:40,41,47).

The apostles judge the twelve tribes of Israel (the Church) by preaching and teaching the Gospel truths of Jesus Christ as revealed to them by the Holy Spirit. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 14:37, “the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord.” Paul’s teaching, as well as the teaching of the other apostles, were the commandments of the Lord. This teaching always judged the lives of others. It either judged them to be faithful Christians, unfaithful Christians, or alien sinners. When they heard the teachings of the apostles, their minds were brought to the point of acknowledging what spiritual state they were in. This is the sense in which the apostles judged the twelve tribes of Israel.

By the way, if you are a Christian, you are part of the Israel of God. And the apostles doctrine, the New Testament, is your judge. It is this doctrine that will judge you in the last day (Jn. 12:48).

How are you measuring up to the standard? 🔍

SERMON NOTES

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

Title: _____

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Sam Miller
Reading: Romans 8:12-17
- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Opening Prayer.....Michael Pickford
- Lord’s Table:
 - Lead.....Lynn Buttrey
 - Serve.....Kenny Todd
 - Serve.....Frank Anderson
- Closing Prayer.....Ben Reagh

SUNDAY EVENING

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- 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; 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!

Thank You For Serving!

*Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!*