DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- > Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Robert Johnson Reading: TBA
- ➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- ➤ Opening Prayer......Kenny Johnson
- ➤ Lord's Table:
 - Lead......Kenny Todd Serve.....Mike Pickford Serve......Eli Todd
- Closing Prayer......Eli Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- > Song Leader..... Eli Todd
- > Opening Prayer.... Michael Pickford
- > Preaching.... Michael Pickford
- ➤ Lord's Supper.....Eli Todd
- Closing Prayer..... Kenny Todd

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- > Song Leader... Michael Pickford
- > Invitation......Eli 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.

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

Obey Today!

www.defendthegospel.com

We would love to have you visit with us. Our meeting times are:

SUNDAYS: 9 & 10 AM & 6 PM / WEDNESDAYS: 7 PM

We have capable Bible teachers who would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

Our evangelist, Michael Pickford is the editor of this publication.

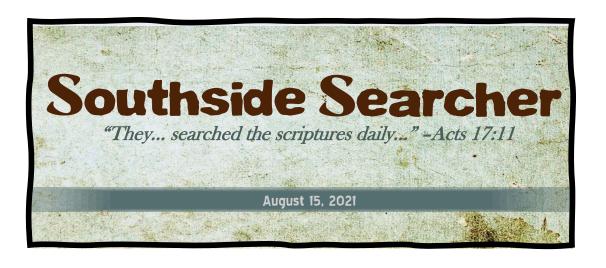
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Winning Souls Is Wise

"The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life, And he who wins souls is wise" (Proverbs 11:30). It is wise to convert the lost, or turn one back who has gone astray, because of...

Commands. The Lord commanded His disciples to teach the Gospel "*To all the nations*," to "*Every creature*," to "*The end of the earth*" (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:15; Acts 1:8). We are foolish when we disobey the commands of the Lord.

Compassion. Coupled with His desire to do His Father's will, the Lords' great compassion led Him to die on the cross for sinful man. When Jesus was moved with compassion by the multitudes, He was prompted to speak these words, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray the Lord of harvest to send out laborers into His harvest" (Matthew 9:36-38). Our compassion for the lost souls around us should move us to share the Gospel with them.

Conformity. We are instructed to strive to be like God the Father, and like God the Son (Ephesians 5:1; 1 John 2:6). If we are striving to conform ourselves to be like God, we must remember that God is not willing that any perish, but that all know the truth, repent, and be saved (1 Timothy 4; 2 Peter 3:9). Spread the word!

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

Why Do You Not Believe Me?

IT'S FRUSTRATING WHEN WE can't convince someone of something we know to be true. Jesus said, "And if I tell you the truth, why do you not believe Me?" (John 8:46). Many claim to believe on the Lord, yet they refuse to believe the Lord. They disbelieve Jesus regarding...

SALVATION. Jesus said, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark 16:16). Sin separates from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). Salvation comes when that which separates is removed. The Blood of Christ alone removes sin (Ephesians 1:7; 1 Peter 1:18-19). But at what point does the blood of Christ cleanse sin? It must be at the point of baptism because of Acts 22:16 among other passages, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord" (Acts 22:16). If Jesus said it (Mark 16:16), why do folks disbelieve it? Some place their trust in their preacher/pastor who has said baptism isn't necessary. Our faith should be in the power of God rather than man's wisdom (1 Corinthians 2:5). Some disbelieve it because they think they know a better way – faith only. But faith only cannot save (James 2:24). Obedience is required (Hebrews 5:8-9). Faith-only salvation seems right to many, but it's the way to destruction (Proverbs 14:12). Jesus said, "He who believes and is baptized will be saved," and He also said, "But because I tell you the truth, you do not believe Me" (John 8:45). How tragically sad!

SACRIFICE. Jesus said, "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple" (Luke 14:33). Many herald their devotion to the Lord, but when difficulties arise, they quickly abandon Him. What did they expect? Did they buy into the health and wealth Gospel? Were they deceived into thinking that following Jesus would eliminate all their problems? Were they duped into believing that Christianity was all roses and no thorns? Believe Jesus when He taught us to count the cost (Luke 14:28). Believe Him when He says we might have to part with friends, family, money, and other things dear to us (Luke 14:26-27). But also believe Him when He promises that the reward will be worth the sacrifice (Revelation 2:10).

SERVICE. Many accept the *just-enough-to-get-by* lie when Jesus clearly taught that we must diligently work to gain eternal life (Matthew 25:31-46). Do-nothing Christianity did not originate in the mind of God. We must not be "*Lagging in diligence*," but rather, "*fervent in spirit, serving the Lord*" (Rom. 12:11).

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

Patience/Perseverance

"But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love."

-2 Peter 1:5-7

"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law."
-Galatians 5:22-23

"that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; strengthened with all might, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy;"

-Colossians 1:10-11

"Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not [a] puffed up:"

-1 Corinthians 13:4

"with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love," -Ephesians 4:2

"A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel."

-Proverbs 15:18

"The end of a thing is better than its beginning; The patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit."
-Ecclesiastes 7:8

"You also be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand."
-James 5:8

"And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope."

-Romans 5:3-4

"Whoever is patient has great understanding, but one who is quick-tempered displays folly." -Proverbs 14:29

"But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for it with perseverance."
-Romans 8:25

"Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do."

-Colossians 3:12-13