DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- > Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Michael Pickford Reading: TBA
- > Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- ➤ Opening Prayer......Jeff Isbell
- ➤ Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....Michael Pickford Serve......Eli Todd
- Closing Prayer.....Lynn Buttrey

SUNDAY EVENING

WEDNESDAY EVENING

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
- Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
- ➤ Remain Faithful: Rev. 2:10

Obey Today!

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.

Please visit our website at www.defendthegospel.com

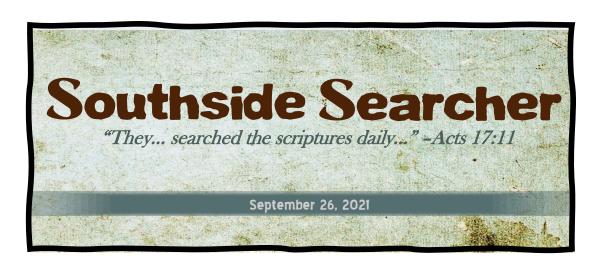
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Abhor Lying!

"I hate and abhor lying..." (Psalm 119:163).

ALTHOUGH PSALM 119 IS AN "Orphan Psalm" (No author is specified), there are several good arguments to suggest that the traditional view that it was penned by King David is correct. If David penned it, we could certainly understand his hatred for lying, for it was his lying and deception that led him to the murder of Bathsheba's husband.

But what about us? How do we feel about lying? We should certainly hate religious lies. False doctrine leads to the deception and destruction of precious souls. We should do all we can to limit the damage (Jude 3, 23-24). We must also abhor telling lies ourselves. Lies, even "Small ones," can separate the most intimate of relationships. They steal away that precious trust that is so difficult to reestablish. We certainly despise being lied about. Not many things can anger us more than to learn that someone has lied about us to defame and disparage our character.

Finally, God hates a lying tongue (Proverbs 6:16-17). He punishes "all liars" with eternity in the lake of fire (Revelation 21:8). Our prayer should be, "Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips And from a deceitful tongue" (Psalm 120:2).

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

I Know

"O Lord, <u>I know</u> the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps" (Jeremiah 10:23). Many do not know what Jeremiah knew. Millions claim to trust in Jesus, yet they do not accept all His words. Jesus stated, "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). I know Jesus meant what He said. I know salvation is only in Christ (2 Timothy 2:10) and that it is baptism that puts one into Christ (Galatians 3:26-27). I know one cannot be saved until his sins are gone (Romans 6:23) and that it is baptism that connects our sins with Christ's blood for removal (Acts 22:16). I know baptism saves. The Bible says so! (1 Peter 3:21). But many cannot say "I know" when it comes to baptism being necessary for salvation. Men try to direct their own steps regarding the plan of salvation and other matters is evident by the existence of church manuals, catechisms, synods, conventions, disciplines, etc. These man-made books of doctrine fluently contradict the word of God. We should know that it is not in man to direct his own steps. Those who truly know Jesus will forsake man-made doctrines and trust fully in Him by keeping His commandments. "He who says, "I know Him," and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in Him" (1 John 2:4).

"For <u>I know</u> that my Redeemer lives" (Job 19:25). We sing this song, but do we really believe it? Is it evidenced in our lives? If so, our speech will be sanctified and filled with salt, while being absent of harsh words and filthy language (Colossians 4:6; Colossians 3:8). If we live like "I know my Redeemer lives," we will be thankful for every opportunity to worship the Lord with His people (Hebrews 10:25). If we live like "I know that my Redeemer lives," people will see our good works and be more inclined to respect the true God of heaven (Matthew 5:13-16). Let's not just sing the words, let's truly KNOW that our Redeemer lives.

"Nevertheless, I am not ashamed, for <u>I know</u> Whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day" (2 Timothy 1:12). Paul knew Who he believed. It was Jesus! Some hinge their faith to a preacher, and when that preacher falls or goes into error, they leave the Lord. Some hinge their faith in a church, and when that church strays away from the Gospel they stop being a part of a church. Some hinge their faith to a family member, and when that family member leaves the Lord, they do too! We should learn from, follow the example of, and be influenced by those who are faithful to the Lord (1 Corinthians 11:1); but it is not in these where we ultimately put our faith. When all forsook Paul, he continued to be faithful to the Lord because it was in the Lord that Paul believed, and he knew Whom he had believed (2 Timothy 4:16-17).

If we will "Know" these things, we can know that we will be in heaven in eternity. "These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may KNOW that you HAVE eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God" (1 John 5:13).

-Michael Pickford

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Health

"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

-1 Corinthians 6:19-20

"Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."

-3 John 1:2

"For bodily exercise profits a little, but godliness is profitable for all things, having promise of the life that now is and of that which is to come."

-1 Timothy 4:8

"A merry heart does good, like medicine, But a broken spirit dries the bones."
-Proverbs 17:22

"Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones."
-Proverbs 16:24

"My son, give attention to my words;
Incline your ear to my sayings.
Do not let them depart from your eyes;
Keep them in the midst of your heart;
For they are life to those who find them,
And health to all their flesh."
-Proverbs 4:20-22

"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."

-Proverbs 3:7-8

"And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."

-James 5:15-16

"When Jesus heard that, He said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick."

-Matthew 9:12

"He heals the brokenhearted And binds up their wounds."
-Psalm 147:3