DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

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

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer...Michael Pic
- kford
- Invitation: Michael Pickford
- Lord's Table...K. Todd, M. Pickford
- Closing Prayer....Kenny Johnson

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.

- > Hear the Gospel: Romans 10:17
- ➤ Believe: Mark 16:16; John 8:24
- > Repent of Sin: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30

www.defendthegospel.com

- > Confess Faith: Romans 10:9, 10
- Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter

Be Baptized: Mark 16:16; 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.

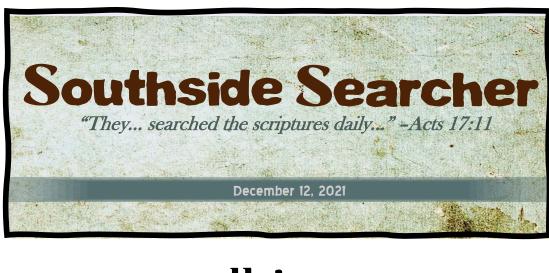
Our evangelist, Michael Pickford is the editor of this publication.

Please visit our website at www.defendthegospel.com

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.



1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN 37167 | 615-459-7854 Southside Searcher, Volume 17, Number 46



Unique

"WHO GAVE HIMSELF for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works" -Titus 2:14

We try to emulate the latest style, partake in the latest fad, and then try to pass ourselves off as unique. If one is in Christ, his mission is not to try to be different just for the sake of being different; he is just simply different!

Through His sacrifice, Christ has purified us from the defilement of the world and made us His own special possession. The word "Peculiar" is normally used in today's vernacular with a negative connotation. But in our text above, it speaks of the highest honor bestowed upon man. As a result of being different, we are to strive to be, well, different! "And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God" (Romans 12:2). The idea is that we are not to pattern ourselves after the sinful things in this world.

There's nothing wrong with the latest style if it doesn't violate the biblical principles of modesty. There's nothing wrong with the latest fad unless that fad clashes with God's strict standard of morality. We need to think less about being "Cool" in the eyes of our peers and more about being holy in the eyes of our Creator! It takes moral courage to be unique. You can do it!

> -Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

Becoming God's Child

"BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him" (1 John 3:1). What an amazing thing that a worm such as I could be known as a child of the Creator. In thinking about becoming God's child, consider the...

RIGHT. "But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name" (John 1:12). Notice that "Those who believe in His name" do not automatically become children of God. They have "The right" to become such. This verse clearly distinguishes between faith and obedience. We become "Sons of God" when we are "Baptized into Christ" (Galatians 3:26-27). This is why baptism saves (Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21). One is not saved by "Faith only" (James 2:24). He must act on that faith and do God's will (Hebrews 5:8-9; Matthew 7:21).

ROUTE. God has provided the path of obedience, and unless one follows this path, he cannot be saved. First, one must hear the Gospel, for faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17). He must then believe what he's heard—that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24; Mark 16:16). He must then repent of his sins (Acts 2:38), confess his faith in Christ (Romans 10:9-10), and be baptized to have his sins washed away (Acts 22:16), "*Put on Christ*," (Galatians 3:26-27), and be saved (1 Peter 3:21). This is the only God-given route to becoming a child of God.

REWARDS. There are great rewards in becoming a child of God— many spiritual blessings in Christ (Ephesians 1:3). These include confidence in prayer (1 John 5:14), the love of God's family, our brethren, the church (1 John 3:18; 4:11), and ultimately, eternal life if we remain faithful to the Lord (Revelation 2:10). If you have not become a child of God the way the Bible describes, your soul is in jeopardy. We implore you to be baptized into Christ today before it's too late, for we do not know when we will die, nor do we know when the Lord will return. If you have died with Christ in baptism and have fallen back into sin, please repent, confess, and pray so that you might have the forgiveness of God and the brethren (Acts 8:22; 1 John 1:9). Tomorrow is just a day found in a fool's calendar, obey today! (2 Corinthians 6:2).

-Michael Pickford Mpickford3@comcast.net

God Cannot Lie

"Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us."

-Hebrews 6:17-18

"Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth."

-John 17:17

"God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?" -Numbers 23:19

"Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written:

"That You may be justified in Your words,
And may overcome when You are judged."

-Romans 3:4

"in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,"
-Titus 1:2

"The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever." -Psalm 119:60

"For the word of the Lord is right, And all His work is done in truth."
-Psalm 33:4

"And now, O Lord God, You are God, and Your words are true, and You have promised this goodness to Your servant."

-2 Samuel 7:28

"And also the Strength of Israel will not lie nor relent. For He is not a man, that He should relent."

-1 Samuel 15:29

"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."

-John 16:13

"Trust in Him at all times, you people!"
-Psalm 62:8