

SAVING CINDERS

Michael Pickford

I like the story about the little girl who said that Jesus came into the world to save “Cinders.”

She wasn’t all wrong. Many people feel like their lives are “burned out.” They are at their wits end; life just doesn’t seem to have meaning to them anymore. Every day is the same as the last; the same routine, the same sin, the same guilt.

Jesus came to save us from our sins, but by doing so, He also rescues us from useless, meaningless lives. I have seen lives totally transformed by obedience to the Gospel. Folks who were generally grim have become some of the happiest people I know. Folks

with no aim or purpose are now delighting in studying the Bible, praying, and sharing the Gospel with others (Acts 17:11; 1 Thessalonians 5:17; Acts 8:4).

What a wonderful blessing to know that Jesus not only gives us eternal life, but He also makes life more abundant and enjoyable while we’re on this earth.

Jesus did come to save sinners, and cinders! When He saves us from our sins, He gives us a new purpose, new goals, a new direction. In Him, we are a new creation! (2 Corinthians 5:17). *“I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly”* (Jn. 10:10) 🔍

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

EVERYONE WELCOME!

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children’s Class, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5th Sunday Men’s Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men’s Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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

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IN THE WORKPLACE

Michael Pickford

The Bible gives us wise instruction regarding any type of relationship we may experience in life. The principles given in the New Testament to guide the Master/Slave apply appropriately to the Employer/Employee relationships of our day. In the workplace, a Christian must be...

Devoted. Any employer will tell you that loyalty and dependability is difficult to find in employees. If I am an employee, God calls upon me to be devoted. *“Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters, to be well pleasing in all things, not answering back, not pilfering, but showing all good fidelity, that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things”* (Titus 2:9-10). By always calling in late, or calling in “Sick” often, or pilfering some of the product, or back-talking and lounging around, many employees are regarded by their boss and co-workers as anything but devoted. Honesty, dependability and obedience in the work place will adorn the Gospel of God and bring a good name on the church we attend (Titus 2:10).

Diligent. In the workplace, there’s nothing more frustrating than a lazy employee. A Christian should be

diligent while on the job lest he blaspheme the name of God (1 Timothy 6:1). Some employees stay busy while the boss is in the room, but when the boss is away they play, stand around idle, disrupt the other workers, “Goof off,” etc. Paul said our work should be *“Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers, but in sincerity of heart, fearing God”* (Colossians 3:22). Even though the boss isn’t in the room, the Lord is; we should work as if He is our boss. Diligence is a shining characteristic in every relationship. Not only should an employee be dependable and trustworthy, he needs to be a hard worker. *“Whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men”* (Colossians 3:23).

Delighted. If we’re blessed with a job, we should not be grumbling complainers. From the hours, to the working conditions, to the rate of pay, some employees are known to complain about almost everything. We should be delighted to have employment. Our work should be accomplished *“With goodwill doing service, as to the Lord, and not to men”* (Ephesians 6:7); *“Knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance;”* (Colossians 3:24).

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WHAT IS "LENT"?

Michael Pickford

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, Lent is a 40 day period of fasting (Sundays not included) proceeding "Easter." It is common for an officiant in the church to place a cross-shaped mixture of ashes and oil (sometimes Holy Water is used) on the forehead of church members where it often remains throughout the entirety of Ash Wednesday.

The Lenten season began around 1000 AD in the Catholic Church but many protestant denominations have also taken up the practice (Consider Matthew 15:8-9). The Bible says nothing about "Ash Wednesday" or the "Lenten season." *"Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God..."* (2 John 9). We are only to practice those things which are authorized in Christ's doctrine (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 4:11, etc). Churches practicing Ash Wednesday and the Lenten season are in violation of the doctrine of Christ.

It is common for those who observe the Lenten season to "give up" something for the 40 days (40 days taken from Jesus' 40 day fast in the wilderness). Things known to be given up by folks during this time include cigarettes, drinking, foul language, gambling, fornication, and

dance clubbing. Remember, this is a commitment to give these things up only during the forty days of Lent. But the Bible calls upon Christians to give up sinful things forever! Many of these things are works of the flesh which will bar one from the kingdom of heaven (Galatians 5:19-21). Do they really think God is pleased if they only commit to giving them up for 40 days in a year?

Lent is associated with "Fat Tuesday" and the Mardi Gras celebration; which is nothing more than a drunken lascivious festival in which people freely "Let themselves go" to practice any immoral activity they can think of. The idea is basically to get it out of one's system in order to prepare for Ash Wednesday and the beginning of the 40 days of spiritual discipline (Lent). But they do so only to repeat the process the next year. Shameful! The command to *"Abhor what is evil"* (Romans 12:9) is to be observed every minute of every day in the life of a true saint. The grace of God teaches us that we should deny ungodliness and worldly lust (Titus 2:12) at all times, not just 40 days a year. The entirety of our lives should be devoted to living *"soberly, righteously, and godly in this present age"* (Titus 2:12). 🔍

HARD WORK PAYS!

"He who rolls up his sleeves seldom loses his shirt." God commands us to do honest work (Ephesians 4:28; 2 Thessalonians 3:12). Some have a job but are not regarded by their superiors as hard workers. This can damage our influence as Christians (1 Timothy 6:1; Titus 2:9-10). *"The soul of a lazy man desires and has nothing..."* -Proverbs 13:4 -MP



SERMON NOTES

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

The Birth of Isaac

STUDY DAILY! Acts 17:11

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Jason Hubbard
- Bible Reading by.....Chris Meade
Reading: Genesis 21:1-7
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....John Nelson
Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
Serve.....Frank Anderson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Lord's Table.....John Nelson

Wednesday Evening

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Invitation.....Ben Green

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!

Home Bible Studies Available Upon Request!