

VICTORY!

Michael Pickford

Ask any baseball team who's ever won the World Series; any football team who's ever won the Super Bowl; any group of soldiers who's ever won a battle; any politician who's ever won the office; or any runner who's ever won a Marathon. All will tell you there's nothing like victory - Sweet Victory!

There has been no battle more fierce than a battle with Satan; no games more deadly than the games the devil plays with us to get us to veer off course; no race which requires more discipline and stamina than the one the Christian is in for his soul. And, There will never be any victory so sweet as

the one the faithful child of God will claim on the last day!

Yes, temptations can be strong; the glamour and glitter of the world allures; the sacrifices can be daunting. But we are Christians! Born of God! And "whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world - our faith" (1 Jn 5:4). Through daily bible study, ceaseless prayer and diligent good works, we can, through faith in Christ, claim victory. Paul proclaimed victory as he was nearing death (2 Tim 4:6-8). You can too! Just "keep on keepin on." "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil 4:13). 

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

Volume 7, Number 24

July 03, 2011

ACCESS DENIED

Michael Pickford

It's very frustrating when you visit a web-site you're a member of but hadn't been there in a while. "What was that password?" Access denied! Sadly, the majority of the human race will be denied entrance into heaven on the last day (Matthew 7:13-14). Those who will be denied access into eternal joy include...

The Disobedient. Paul pictured the Lord Jesus returning from heaven "In flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 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). Despite what much of the religious world believes, salvation is not by "Faith only" (James 2:24; Hebrews 5:8-9). Jesus stressed that those who would enter heaven would be those who "Do" the will of His father (Matthew 7:21).

The Dissident. This is the person who disagrees with or opposes the authority of Christ. There are many in religion today practicing things not authorized in the Gospel of our Lord. Those who transgress the doctrine of

Christ do not have God, in spite of their belief that they do (2 John 9). A church must not practice anything that doesn't have the Lord's "Stamp of approval" (Colossians 3:17). There will be religious people on judgment who had done many works that were good from man's standpoint, yet they will be denied entrance because they practiced "Lawlessness" (Matthew 7:21-23). A work is not "Good" just because man thinks it is; a work is good when it is authorized by the Lord.

The Disregarding. There are those who disregard many of the worship services, something the Lord clearly condemned (Hebrews 10:25). Others come to all the services and live basically good moral lives, but they disregard daily Bible study (Acts 17:11), regular prayer (1 Thessalonians 5:17), and many other works enjoined upon the child of God; such as visiting the sick, feeding the hungry, showing hospitality, working an honest job, and sharing the Gospel with friends, neighbors, and co-workers (Matthew 25:41-45; Romans 12:13; Ephesians 4:28; Acts 8:1-4). "These will go away into everlasting punishment" (Matthew 25:46). Access denied! 

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www.defendthegospel.com

THE THIEF ON THE CROSS

Michael Pickford

When hearing us teach the necessity of baptism, many religious people want to say, "What about the thief on the cross, he wasn't baptized, yet was saved, so I don't have to be baptized in order to be saved."

There is a basic fact that those holding the above view overlook – The thief lived under the Old Covenant! We do not live under the same covenant he lived under. So the rules have changed (so to speak). The Old Covenant was a covenant between God and Israel (Deut. 5:2-3). It governed and ruled people like Moses, David, Isaiah, Daniel, the Pharisees, the Sadducees, the thief on the cross and even Jesus Himself. So please understand this clear point – The thief on the cross lived under the Old Covenant, not the New one! The New Covenant did not take effect until AFTER Jesus' death. "For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of a testator" (Hebrews 9:16). But the thief was saved BEFORE Jesus died, therefore he was saved while still living under the Old Covenant.

As we have said, the New Covenant came into effect after Jesus died, not

before. The New Covenant is the doctrine of Christ in which we today must abide (2 John 9). Jesus completely fulfilled the Old Covenant, so it passed away at His death when His teaching came into effect (Matthew 5:17-20; Hebrews 8:13; Col 2:14; etc.). Listen to some of His teaching which is in effect today: "He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16). "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins..." (Acts 2:38). "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). This is just a sampling of many passages which teach that baptism into Christ's death is what saves us today. The thief was never subject to this baptism because he lived and died before this teaching came into effect. Paul taught that this baptism is a baptism into the death of Jesus. "Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?" (Romans 6:3). How could the thief be baptized into Christ's death when Christ had not even died yet? 

Joy

Happiness depends on what happens; Joy depends on obedience to the Lord. The joy of the Lord isn't there to remove the pain the world inflicts; but its presence does help me bear it. Joy is important in winning souls. We shouldn't go around looking like an advance agent for the undertaker. Paul said "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice!" (Philippians 4:4). Joy is not just a blessing to enjoy; it's also a command to keep. In view of our living hope, how can we not be joyful?



SERMON NOTES

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

STUDY DAILY!
Acts 17:11

Prepared

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Kenny Todd
- Bible Reading by.....Tony Jenkins
Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10
- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- Opening Prayer.....Kenny Johnson
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Lynn Buttrey
Serve.....Frank Anderson
Serve.....Kenny Todd
- Closing Prayer.....Cory Klinebriel

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table.....Lynn Buttrey

WEDNESDAY EVENING

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

Home Bible Studies Available Upon Request!

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!