

BODIES OF CLAY

Michael Pickford

Eliphaz reminds us that we “*Dwell in houses of clay, whose foundation is in the dust*” (Job 4:19). I’m inclined to believe him to be speaking, not of the house our bodies dwell in, but of the bodies our souls reside in.

As a man, I am made up of body and spirit (Soul). There will come a time when my spirit will depart from my body; this time is referred to as “Death” (James 2:26). If the Lord doesn’t return first, we all have an appointment with death (Hebrews 9:27). Depending on how I live while in this body, my spirit will finally end up in either heaven or hell (Matthew 25:46; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9). Either way,

while on this earth I reside in a body of clay that has dust as its very foundation. This should certainly remind me of how fragile and perishable I am.

Paul spoke of this body as a “Tent” and how we who dwell in it long to be clothed with a body suitable for heaven (2 Corinthians 5:1-4). Peter tells us that heaven is a place where nothing perishes (“incorruptible”) (1 Peter 1:3-5).

When we enter heaven, there’ll be no more pain, no more debilitating diseases, no more shattered dreams, no more tragic accidents. While in these bodies of clay, we are subject to many ill effects that will vanish in eternity! ☞

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



- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 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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AS CHRISTIANS. . .

Michael Pickford

A christian is a disciple of Christ (Acts 11:26). It’s a name given by the “*Mouth of the Lord*” (Isaiah 62:2). Its root word is “Christ” denoting that the christian is one who belongs to Christ and follows Him. As christians, consider...

Our Allegiance. Our allegiance is to Christ! Our loyalty and devotion to Him should trump all other loyalties. How sad that many have made the Lord a Lord of convenience. They’ll read His word daily (Acts 17:11) if they’re not too busy doing other “Important” things. They’ll do the right thing if it doesn’t embarrass them in front of their peers. They’ll come to worship services (Hebrews 10:25) if there’s not some other event going on that they “must attend.” It has been well said that in my life Christ is either Lord of all or he isn’t Lord at all (Matthew 10:37-39).

Our Adherence. We are to adhere, not to the doctrines and traditions of men, but to the Gospel of Christ. If we are truly Christ’s disciples we will refuse to transgress His doctrine even when it doesn’t make sense (2 John 9). Often, man’s ideas seem better than God’s way. But remember “*There is a way that seems right to a man, but its*

end is the way of death” (Proverbs 14:12). God’s thoughts and ways are far superior to ours (Isaiah 55:8-9). If it were possible for God to have a foolish thought, even that foolish thought would be far wiser than the wisest thought of the most brilliant man (1 Corinthians 1:25).

Many religious folks today are not satisfied with the words of Christ; they want to do things not found on the pages of inspiration. As a result, church services have become concerts and play time. Sermons have been reduced to entertaining Toastmasters productions, and “churches” have become nothing more than a social outlet for the young. Folks today need to be reminded of Paul’s words: “*Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus*” (Colossians 3:17). That is, only do those things the Lord has authorized in His Gospel.

Our Ardor. Before Christ, as individuals we worked at leading sinful lives. In Christ, we must labor for the Lord. Visit the sick, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, share the Gospel, etc (Matthew 25:31-46; Acts 8:4). We were created in Christ for these things (Ephesians 2:10) and our lives must abound in them (1 Corinthians 15:58). ☞

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www.defendthegospel.com

**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!

SIGN ME UP!

Michael Pickford

The phrase "Sign me up" has become fairly popular in our society. Folks will often be heard using it when a "Good deal" is proposed to them. A wireless phone plan with unlimited minutes? Sign me up! An insurance policy with low rates and great benefits? Sign me up! Sadly, people are not nearly as anxious as they should be to "Sign up" for spiritual security. It seems strange, really, when one considers the eternal benefits.

You see, for those who decide to follow Jesus on His terms, heaven is promised. Peter wrote, "Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead..." (1 Peter 1:3). He goes on in the next verse to explain how this eternal existence will be in a place where there will be no corruption. Imagine, these frail bodies of clay we reside in now, the ones that are subjected to disease, pain and the ravages of age, will be replaced with

eternal spiritual bodies that will never again know sickness, pain, or death (2 Corinthians 5:1-8). Sign me up! He then says that this place will be undefiled. Imagine never again having to face Satan's schemes and devices which are designed to give earthly pleasure and eternal misery. Imagine never having to mourn again over the weakness of a brother who has gotten himself into some serious trouble because he did something very wrong. Sign me up!

Well, how do I sign up? The Bible is clear. Hear the Gospel (Rom 10:17), believe in Jesus as the Son of God (Rom 10:9-10), repent of your sins (Acts 2:38), confess your faith in Christ (Rom 10:9-10), and be baptized to have your sins washed away (Acts 22:16; Mark 16:16). After you've done these things, the living hope is yours! But you must continue in faithfulness to the Lord till death to finally receive the prize (Rev 2:10). How about you, have you signed up yet? ☞

BIBLE AUTHORITY SERMON SERIES!

The reason so many churches stray to the wayside is because of a lack of knowledge and understanding of Bible authority. Many in recent times have called for a "New Hermeneutic." In other words, they wish to understand the Bible in a different way than it was intended to be understood. Lord willing, every 3rd Sunday (pm service) throughout 2012 we'll be talking about Bible authority. What is it? How do we understand it? How important is it? Do we have God's authority to do everything we're doing? Invite your friends and family!



SERMON NOTES

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

STUDY DAILY!
Acts 17:11

"The Faith"

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Bible Reading by.....Ben Green
Reading: Hebrews 3:12-15
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Sam Miller
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....John Nelson
Serve.....Chris Meade
Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Robert Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Lord's Table.....John Nelson

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Reagh
- Invitation.....Ben Green

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!