

## SIMPLE-MINDED

Michael Pickford

“Lacking in mental acuteness, or sense.” This is one definition of the simple-minded, and the one we usually associate the phrase with. Many are simple-minded by choice - the choice to be lazy and not put forth the effort to learn.

“The simple believes every word, but the prudent considers well his steps” (Proverbs 14:15). The simple here speaks of those who are foolish, or literally, “Seducible.” They are easily swayed by deception. When buying a used car, they just believe everything the salesman says without getting the vehicle checked out by a third party. The prudent (Wise) man will consider

his steps carefully. It is wise to consider the consequences of every action. It is wiser still to consider the deadly consequences of sin when the devil is trying to seduce us with temptations.

But there is a sense in which we should be simple. Paul wrote, “...Be wise in what is good, and simple concerning evil” (Romans 16:19). He doesn't mean we shouldn't learn to discern between good and evil. “Simple” here means “Harmless,” or “Unmixed.” He wants them to carefully discern between the good and the evil, and to diligently cling to the former while avoiding and abhorring the latter (Romans 12:9). 

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

- [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday evenings following services.



## SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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

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## WHAT'S YOUR POISON?

Michael Pickford

It's my understanding that this question, “What's your poison?” is often asked by bartenders in regards to what kind of drink the customer wants. In my estimation, alcohol is poison to drink, but let's consider this question from a spiritual standpoint. Sin is certainly the deadliest poison of all. ...

**Some people's Poison Involves Social Sins.** Drinking, fornication, immodesty, foul language, gossip, slander, lying, lewdness from dances, etc. All of these are sins which will condemn the soul, and interestingly, I've heard arguments over the years from various Christians striving to justify each of these respectively. Do not be deceived, those who practice these things are poisoning their souls, and they will not inherit the kingdom of heaven (Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Revelation 21:8; Romans 1:28-32; 1 Timothy 2:9-10).

**Some people's Poison Involves Secret Sins.** Some are deceiving themselves into thinking they can sin and no one will ever find out. Many times their sins are more evident than they realize. But even if they are successful in keeping those skeletons in the closet until they die, the Lord knows. He sees all. Nothing escapes

His eyes. “The eyes of the Lord are in every place, Keeping watch on the evil and the good” (Proverbs 15:3). “There is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account” (Hebrews 4:13). Paul wrote of “The day when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ...” (Romans 2:16). Yes, resurrection day will be a time when the bodies come out of the graves and the skeletons come out of the closets. “You have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out” (Numbers 32:23).

**Some people's Poison Involves Slothful Sins.** The problem with these folks is that they are just lazy. They have no intention of working for the Lord. They are repeatedly guilty of the sin of neglect (James 4:17). God has not called us to find a pew and sit, soak, and sour. Do-nothing Christianity did not originate in the mind of God. We have been created in Christ for good works (Ephesians 2:8-10), and we are to be zealous for good works (Titus 2:14), super-abounding in them (1 Corinthians 15:58). Those whose lives are full of good works are the ones who will inherit eternal life (Matthew 25:34-40, 46). Beware of spiritual poison! 

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# THE LORD HAS NEED OF HIM

Larry R Ping II

Do you recall Jesus entering Jerusalem for the last time? Do you also recollect His mode of transportation into the city of David? He entered the city upon a donkey. This animal was secured by two disciples who were instructed to say "The Lord has need of it" when asked why they were taking it (**Luke 19:31**).

I say with full assurance today that the Lord does not "need" you to fetch a donkey for Him — but the Lord does need you! As He is not physically here today, He relies on His people to fill the "needs" of the day.

**The Lord needs you to be a good influence.** Paul mentioned that no man "lives" to himself, and no man "dies" to himself (**Romans 14:7**). That is, you and I cannot possibly live in this world without being some sort of an influence (good or bad) on others. Even when we die, we continue to be an example to those who are still living, as evidenced by Abel (**Hebrews 11:4**). If the world cannot see Christ in you, where will they see Him?

**The Lord needs you to teach His law.** Yes, Christ has a law to which all the world owes its allegiance and obedience (**I Corinthians 9:21, Galatians 6:2**). Jesus the Christ needs His people to spread His message — a message of love, a message of hope, a message of warning. After all, teaching the lost was one of His final pleas (**Matthew 28:18-20**). If you do not teach the lost about Jesus, who will? The Lord needs you today — not tomorrow, not next week, not next year. The Lord needs you now — not when it is most convenient for you or when you finish "sowing" oats of the wild variety.

The Lord needs you...now! The question is: will we answer His call? —

via [thedailybiblemessage.com](http://thedailybiblemessage.com)

"Remember now your  
Creator in the days  
of your youth."  
"Remember now your  
Creator in the days  
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Ecclesiastes 12:1

## SERMON NOTES

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

**STUDY  
DAILY!  
Acts  
17:11**

### Understanding

I. \_\_\_\_\_

II. \_\_\_\_\_

III. \_\_\_\_\_

#### DUTY LIST...

##### SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Sam Miller  
Reading: Psalm 47:5-9
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Ben Reagh
- Lord's Table:
  - Lead.....John Nelson
  - Serve.....Michael Pickford
  - Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

##### SUNDAY EVENING

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

##### WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- 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; 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!***

**Thank You For Serving!**

***Home Bible Studies  
Available Upon Request!***