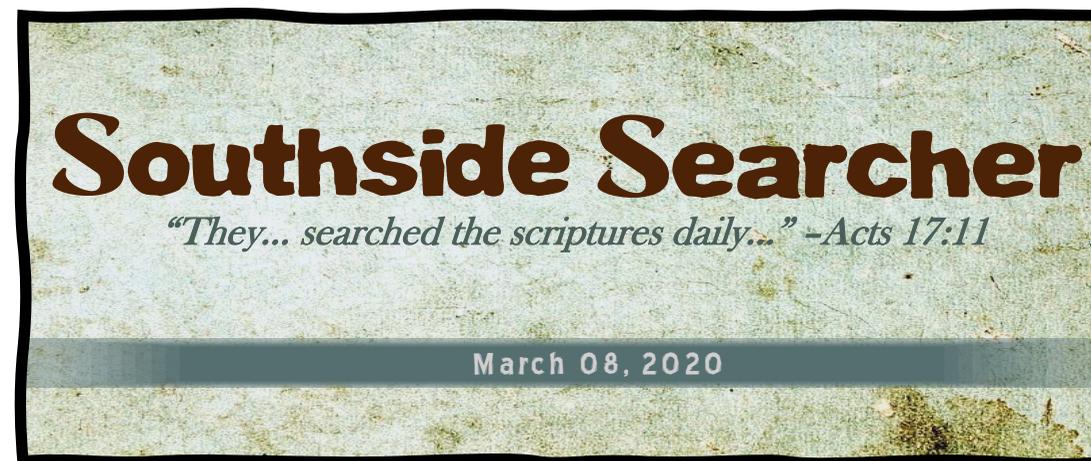


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| <p>DUTY LIST...</p> <p>SUNDAY MORNING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Announcements.....TBA ➤ Scripture Reading...Kenny Johnson Reading: 1 John 5:6-13 ➤ Song Leader.....Kenny Todd ➤ Opening Prayer.....Eli Todd ➤ Lord's Table: Lead.....Kenny Todd Serve.....Jeff Isbell Serve.....Rusty Barnes ➤ Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson <p>SUNDAY EVENING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Scripture Reading...Kenny Johnson Reading: Revelation 2:8-11 ➤ Song Leader..... Kenny Johnson ➤ Lord's Supper..... Kenny Johnson <p>WEDNESDAY EVENING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Song Leader..... Eli Todd ➤ Invitation.....Kenny Johnson | <p style="text-align: center;">God's Plan of Salvation</p> <p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <u>Hear The Gospel</u>: Romans 10:17 ➤ <u>Believe</u>: Mark 16:16; John 8:24 ➤ <u>Repent of Sin</u>: Acts 2:38; Acts 17:30 ➤ <u>Confess Faith</u>: Romans 10:9, 10 ➤ <u>Be Baptized</u>: Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21 ➤ <u>Remain Faithful</u>: Rev. 2:10 <p style="text-align: center;">Obey Today!</p> |
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Are You Sure?

ARE YOU SURE? THIS IS a question we may ask more than we realize. Sometimes the answer isn't that important. Other times, the answer could mean life or death. An electrician's assistant may tell him the breaker is off before he begins working on a piece of equipment. He asks his assistant, "Are you sure?" The answer is crucial. You may ask a passenger in your vehicle if anything is coming before you drive onto the highway. Your passenger says, "No." You say, "Are you sure?" The answer is critical.

The answer to this question is even more critical when it comes to spiritual matters. Let's consider some critical answers to the question in relation to a few spiritual subjects.

"I am in a scriptural marriage." Are you sure? If you or your spouse has been married before your marriage may not be pleasing to God. If you did not put your first spouse away for fornication, or if your first marriage did not end with the death of your spouse, you do not have the right to be married to anyone else. The same is true of your second spouse (Matthew 19:9; Romans 7:1-3).

"I was saved without being baptized." Are you sure? Jesus said, "He who believes and is baptized shall be saved" (Mark 16:16). This statement requires both faith and baptism. Can you agree that you can't be saved until your sins are gone? (Isaiah 59:1-2). Ananias told Saul, "And now why are you waiting?"

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

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Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16). Baptism was required to wash away Saul’s sins. Baptism is the point at which the blood of Christ contacts our sins and washes them away (1 Peter 1:18-19; Revelation 1:5).

“I don’t think hell is a real place. I don’t believe in everlasting punishment.” Are you sure? According to a poll administered by Pew Research in 2014, “58% of U.S. adults believe in hell — a place ‘where people who have led bad lives and die without being sorry are eternally punished.’” But what really matters is what the Bible says rather than what Americans believe. Jesus taught that those who do not live as active Christians in feeding the hungry, being hospitable to strangers, clothing the naked, and visiting those who are sick and in prison will hear Him say to them on the last day, “*Depart from me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels*” (Matthew 25:41). He went on to say that “*These will go away into everlasting punishment*” (Matthew 25:46). Paul taught that those who do not “*Obey the gospel*” will be “*punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power*” (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9).

“I don’t believe it matters how I worship and serve God as long as I am sincere.” Are you sure? Nadab and Abihu worshipped God, but they changed one small detail in the way God had instructed them to make the offering. They were struck dead for their error (Leviticus 10:1-4). Jesus related a scenario of the last day in which religiously active people would hear Him say to them, “*I never knew you; depart from Me*” (Matthew 7:23). Read verses 21 and 22 and you will see that these people did many “Good” works. They cast out demons in Jesus name. They prophesied in His name. They did many wonders in His name. What was the problem? They acted without biblical authority. They served God the way they thought was best rather than how God had instructed them. Jesus said they “*Practice lawlessness.*” This means they engaged in religious activities that the Gospel didn’t authorize. God only wants us to serve and worship Him in the ways that he has specified. Anything more or less will cost us our souls (Colossians 3:17; 2 John 1:9).

-Michael Pickford
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Good News

I LIKE TO HEAR GOOD news. Who doesn’t? Whether it comes by phone, in the mail, email, or in person; good news is always nice.

The word “Gospel” comes from the Greek word *euaggelion* which literally means “A good message; good news.” The Greek word for “Evangelist” is *euaggelistes*. Look familiar? Yes, the word literally means “A preacher of good news!”

Now, let me ask you a question: Do you like to hear good news? Would you make the effort to walk to the mailbox in the rain if you knew good news was waiting for you? Sadly, many, while claiming to love good news, make no special effort to go down to where the church assembles and hear the best good news of all! Many allow small things to hinder them from going to hear the world’s greatest message.

The Bible says, “*Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching*” (Hebrews 10:25). Isn’t it a shame that God must actually command this of us? This should come naturally! We should anticipate with great pleasure the next meeting of the church so that we might give and receive exhortation from our brethren, worship God, and yes, feed regularly from the Gospel!

If one truly “Seeks first the kingdom of God” (Matthew 6:33), will he not be joyously anticipating the next meeting of the saints, rather than trying to come up with a good reason not to attend?

If there’s anything I like better than hearing good news, it’s delivering good news. I love being an evangelist and regularly delivering to folks the best “good news” they will ever hear in their lifetime.

Don’t forsake the assemblies. The Gospel is good news you need to hear often!

-Michael Pickford
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