

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Kenny Todd
Reading: TBA
- Song Leader.....Lynn Buttrey
- Opening Prayer.....Robert Johnson
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Eli Todd
Serve.....
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

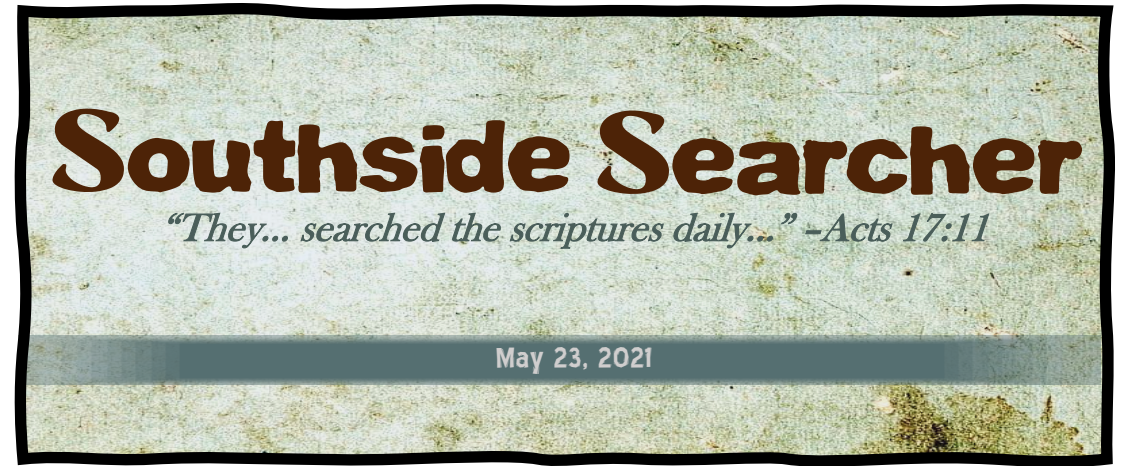
- Song Leader..... Jeff Isbell
- Opening Prayer.... Kenny Johnson
- Invitation..... Eli Todd
- Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T.
- Closing Prayer..... Kenny Todd
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God's Plan of Salvation

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!



Today Is Sunday

TODAY IS SUNDAY - The Lord's Day. True Christians will assemble to Worship God (Hebrews 10:25). But God requires more than our presence in the assemblies. Ask yourself these questions about your worship this morning:

Will Your Worship Be Scriptural? God specified exactly how He wants to be worshiped. Devising our own ways to worship God brings condemnation (Matthew 15:7-9; Colossians 2:23). The following must be present in corporate worship, nothing more and nothing less (2 John 9): Singing (Ephesians 5:18-19; Colossians 3:16), Praying (Acts 2:42; 12:5; 1 Timothy 2:8); Preaching/Teaching (Acts 2:42; Acts 20:7; Ephesians 4:11), Observance of the Lord's Supper (Acts 2:42; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26), and Giving (1 Corinthians 16:1-2).

Will Your Worship Be Spiritual? Our worship is to be spiritual, not fleshly entertainment (mechanical instruments, games, food etc.) "*If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, lest you come together for judgment*" (1 Corinthians 11:34). "*For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking...*" (Romans 14:17).

Will Your Worship Be Sincere? Will you be sincerely focused on the singing, the prayers, the preaching, the Lord's death, and the giving? (Ephesians 5:19; Acts 17:11; 1 Corinthians 11:26-29; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, 15). Or will your mind wander off to other things? Will you be worshiping this morning to please God or to please man? (Matthew 6:1, 5; Matthew 23:5; Galatians 1:10). Let's worship God this morning in spirit and in truth!

-Michael Pickford
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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

Bible Correspondance Courses Available At Your Request.

**SOUTHSIDE
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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The Merciful

“BLESSED ARE THE MERCIFUL, *for they shall obtain mercy*” (Matthew 5:7). This Beatitude is reminiscent of the words of David in Psalm 41:1, “*Blessed is he who considers the poor; The LORD will deliver him in time of trouble.*” And the later words of James, “*For judgment is without mercy to the one who has shown no mercy. Mercy triumphs over judgment*” (James 2:13). The Lord Jesus, the One Who said, “*Blessed are the merciful,*” became the epitome of mercy when He gave His life for us on the cruel cross of Calvary.

When God gives us grace, He gives us what we don’t deserve - salvation; when He shows us mercy, He withholds from us what we do deserve – punishment. When the Tax Collector pleaded with God to “*Be merciful to me a sinner*” (Luke 18:13), he was begging God to withhold the punishment he deserved for His sins. On the cross, Jesus extended both grace and mercy (Titus 3:4-7). We were deserving of death.

Mercy is the opposite of revenge. We often want to exact revenge on our enemies, or on those who have wronged us. Remember, Jesus died on the cross for His enemies (Romans 5:6-9). Not only did we do nothing to be deserving of Christ’s sacrifice, but we did everything to be undeserving of it! This should prompt us to be merciful to our enemies. In fact, Jesus later said “*...Love your enemies, bless those who curse you, do good to those who hate you, and pray for those who spitefully use you and persecute you*” (Matthew 5:44). Those who wrong us may not deserve our mercy, but we must extend it anyway – just like Jesus (1 John 2:6).

Paul later wrote, “*Repay no one evil for evil...do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,*” says the Lord” (Romans 12:17-19). Don’t misunderstand Paul to be encouraging an attitude of vengeance. That is, don’t say to yourself, “He’ll get his one day.” Don’t relish the thought of his future eternal punishment. This is a vengeful spirit! Instead, pray that he will repent, and try to do what you can to effect that repentance.

Blessed are the merciful!

-Michael Pickford
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Where Baptism Stands

When one collects all the passages that speak of baptism, one learns that water baptism:

- Stands between the sinner and salvation (Mark 16:16).
- Stands between the sinner and remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
- Stands between the sinner and washing (Acts 22:16).
- Stands between the sinner and calling (Acts 22:16).
- Stands between the sinner and the death of Christ (Romans 6:3)
- Stands between the sinner and the new creature (2 Cor. 5:17).
- Stands between the sinner and putting on Christ (Galatians 3:26-27).
- Stands between the sinner and cleansing (Ephesians 5:26).
- Stands between the sinner and sanctification (Ephesians 5:26).
- Stands between the sinner and putting away sins (Colossians 2:11f).
- Stands between the sinner and new life in Christ (Ephesians 2:6).
- Stands between the sinner and quickened with Christ (Ephesians 2:5).
- Stands between the sinner and forgiveness (Colossians 1:13).
- Stands between the sinner and the kingdom (John 3:5).
- Stands between the sinner and blood of Christ (John 19:34).
- Stands between the sinner and a good conscience (1 Peter 3:21).
- Stands between the sinner and promise thru Christ (Acts 2:39).
- Stands between the sinner and the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12).
- Stands between the sinner and salvation (1 Peter 3:21).
- Stands between the sinner and sonship (Galatians 3:26-27).

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