

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

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

SUNDAY EVENING

WEDNESDAY EVENING

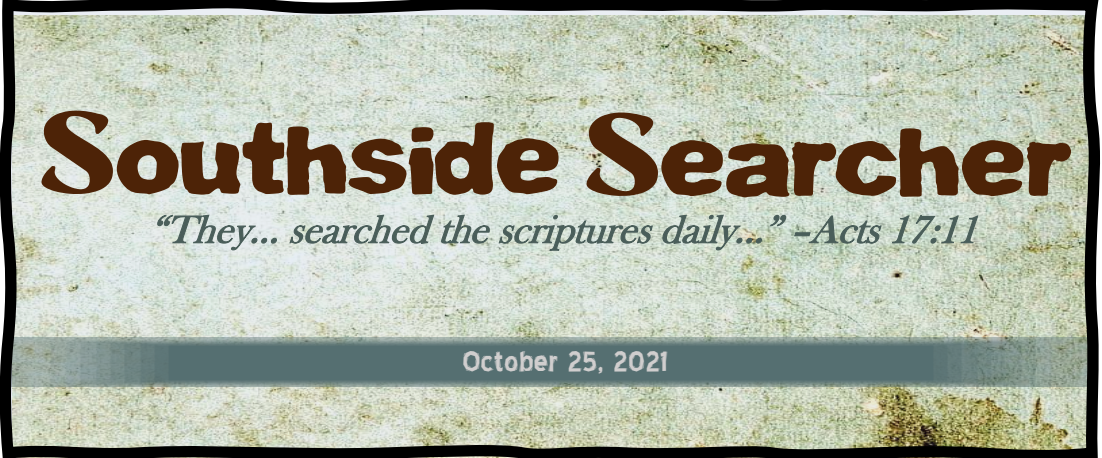
God's Plan of Salvation

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!

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Where Are You Going?

ONE SURVEY REVEALED that many Americans (76%) believe heaven exists, while nearly the same proportion said they believe hell is real (71%).

Most Americans don't expect to experience hell first-hand. Just one-half of one percent expect to go to hell upon their death. Nearly two-thirds of Americans (64%) believe they will go to heaven.

One in every four adults (24%) admitted they have "no idea" what will happen after they die. Jesus gave us a pretty good idea when He said, *"Enter by the narrow gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and there are many who go in by it. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it"* (Matthew 7:13-14).

It's sad that so many have "no idea" where they are going in eternity. The Bible assures us that we can know our eternal destiny. Those who obey the Gospel are promised eternal life (Acts 2:38; Titus 1:1-2), while 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 Thess 1:7-9). Have you obeyed the Gospel (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16)?

Where are you going?

-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.

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CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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Employment

GETTING A JOB IS something we begin preparing for early in life. An education teaches us to function properly and adequately in society. Higher education usually focuses on what we will do for a living. The Bible places a high premium on employment and work while condemning laziness. *“Laziness casts one into a deep sleep, and an idle person will suffer hunger”* (Proverbs 14:15). Some people try to avoid work. This causes problems in their lives and the lives of those close to them. God’s children should develop a good work ethic.

God emphasizes the necessity of work. *“If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat”* (2 Thessalonians 3:10). Why work? First, we should work to supply for ours and our family’s needs (2 Thessalonians 3:12; 1 Timothy 5:8). Second, we should work so we can have something to give those who are in need (Ephesians 4:28). Third, we should work to have something to give back to the Lord (1 Corinthians 16:1-3).

We must avoid laziness, but we must also avoid jobs that are dishonest or dishonorable. We must work with our hands what is *“good”* (Ephesians 4:28). *“Good”* as opposed to evil or bad. *Agathos* (good) is translated *“honest”* in the RSV and other reliable translations. Virtuous, fair, and worthy would also be acceptable translations. We should avoid jobs that would cause us to compromise our moral values. Jobs that require us to sell and/or serve alcohol, for example, should be avoided. Other jobs may require deceitfulness, immodest attire, or even lewd dancing. With diligence and patience, and perhaps some sacrifice in wages, Christians can find jobs that won’t compromise their moral values.

God is also concerned about what kind of employees we are. Some workers are lazy, unreliable, dishonest, and often absent. Must the boss constantly remind us to *“Get to work?”* In New Testament times, there were servants and bond servants. Some were servants against their will (Slaves) while others sold themselves into slavery. Within certain limits, comparisons can be made to the present-day employer/employee relationship. Biblical principles should guide us in these relationships. We should be obedient to our superiors, even if they are harsh or unfair. We have the responsibility to do as we’re told without complaining (We should not *“answer back”* -Titus 2:9). We should work as if Jesus Himself were our boss (Ephesians 6:5-6; 1 Peter 2:18). We must not pilfer (steal). To pilfer is to skim from the products we are producing or selling. The fast-food worker who munches on the fries while working is guilty of pilfering (Titus 2:10). We must show all good fidelity (Titus 2:10)—be honest and loyal employees. When our work schedule doesn’t suit us, it is dishonest and disloyal to *“Call in sick”* when we’re not sick. It is also disloyal to constantly arrive late for work. Employers need dependable workers. Does your boss wish all his employees were like you? It would speak well of your faith, of the Lord, and of the church. You would be adorning the doctrine of God (Titus 2:10) instead of blaspheming his name and doctrine (1 Timothy 6:1).

-Michael Pickford
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“Eternal Life”

“Now behold, one came and said to Him, “Good Teacher, what good thing shall I do that I may have eternal life?... And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.”

-Matthew 19:16-29

“that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”

-John 3:15

“But Simon Peter answered Him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

-John 6:68

“He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.”

-John 12:25

“eternal life to those who by patient continuance in doing good seek for glory, honor, and immortality;.”

-Romans 2:7

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

-Romans 6:23

“Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. ¹⁸ Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.”

-1 Timothy 6:17-19

“in hope of eternal life which God, who cannot lie, promised before time began,”

-Titus 1:2

“Whoever hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him”

-1 John 3:15

“These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.”

-1 John 5:13

“And this is the testimony: that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son.”

“For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

-1 John 5:11; Galatians 3:26-27