

PANORAMIC VIEW

Michael Pickford

A panoramic view is often much more beautiful to behold. It means to take in the entire scene, get the whole picture.

Some teach salvation by snapshot. They want to go to one passage of scripture that mentions one thing that's said to save and then teach that this one thing ONLY is what saves. They then pit these verses against any verse that mentions anything else that saves. This is what is done with the "Faith Only" doctrine.

But it takes all scripture to get the perfect picture (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

Taking the panoramic view of the New Testament, one finds that faith in Christ is necessary (John 8:24), repentance is necessary (Acts 2:38), confession of faith is necessary (Romans 10:9-10), and baptism is necessary. "He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16; see 1 Peter 3:21). After baptism, one must remain faithful till death (Revelation 2:10).

We must accept that all of these are necessary instead of pitting one verse against the other. When it comes to salvation, get the whole picture!



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

EVERYONE WELCOME!

- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 60 Second daily Radio Spot, "Moment of Truth." WGNS 100.5 FM, 101.9 FM, 1450 AM
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Children's Class, 2nd & 4th Sundays, 5:30 pm
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 3:30 pm, Prayer Service, 6 pm



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

Southside church of Christ, 1167 South Lowry
Smyrna, TN 37167, Phone (615) 459-7854

"They...searched the scriptures daily..." –Acts 17:11

Volume 6, Number 33

August 22, 2010

WISDOM

Michael Pickford

The Proverbs writer has a great deal to say about wisdom as he often personifies it as a woman. Wisdom is applied knowledge. A wise man takes what he has learned and properly applies it to the different circumstances of his life, this is wisdom.

The Value of wisdom. "Happy is the man who finds wisdom..." (Proverbs 3:13). He doesn't say happy is the man who finds wealth, long life, or fame. He places a great value upon wisdom. He goes on in the next two verses to show how the preciousness of wisdom is greater than things like silver, gold, and rubies. Sadly, many miss the value of wisdom. Job said "But where can wisdom be found? And where is the place of understanding? Man does not know its value..." (Job 28:12-13). God commended Solomon for not asking for riches, but for wisdom (1 Kings 3:9-13).

The Virtues of wisdom. "Length of days is in her right hand, in her left hand riches and honor. Her ways are ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace..." (Proverbs 3:16-17). Ironically, it's the person who seeks

wisdom above all who usually ends up with other desirable things: "Length of days, riches, honor." By making wise financial choices, a person ends up with more money and possessions. By making wise choices regarding health and other matters, one has a good chance of gaining length of days. By making wise choices in relationships with friends and family, obeying the laws of the land, etc., one ends up with peace and honor. Solomon asked for wisdom, and God made him the wisest man ever to live, but God blessed him with the other things as well.

The Vanishing of wisdom. Have you ever heard the phrase "Old fool?" Wisdom often comes with age but not necessarily. There are those who are aged but do not possess wisdom. Then there is the "smart" man who decides he knows it all and therefore stops learning from others. He becomes a fool in doing so. "My son, let them (wisdom & understanding) not depart from your eyes-keep sound wisdom and discretion" (Proverbs 3:21).

Remember, the truly wise man is the one who walks in the ways of the Lord (Proverbs 1:7; 1 Kings 3:14)



www.defendthegospel.com

GOD'S WAYS ARE BETTER

Michael Pickford

The Bible speaks about the wisdom of the world as opposed to the wisdom of God (1 Corinthians 1:20-21). As we read the Old Testament, we find God giving instructions and often men who thought they knew a better way.

Take Cain and Abel for example. We are told that "By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain" (Hebrews 11:4). Since faith comes by hearing (Romans 10:17), we must necessarily conclude that God had made known to Cain and Abel what Kind of offering He desired. Abel did as he was told while Cain evidently thought he knew a better way. The result? God rejected his offering (Genesis 4:3-5).

Then we have Aaron's sons Nadab and Abihu. They worshipped God, but they offered "unauthorized" (ESV) fire to Him. They thought they knew a better way, But God killed them for their "ingenuity."

Then there was king Saul. God told him to utterly destroy the Amalekites, animals and all (1 Samuel 15:3). In addition to other

things, Saul spared the best of the animals. When confronted with his sin, he said he wanted to use them to offer to God. Sounds good right? Wrong! It was not what God wanted. God desires obedience rather than sacrifice (1 Samuel 15:22).

Scripture abounds with examples such as these. Do religious people do this today? Sadly, yes. Some add Mechanical instruments of music to worship when God only called for Singing (Ephesians 5:19). Many fail to observe the Lord's supper every Sunday (Acts 20:7). Some have turned the Lord's church into a social club by adding food, fun, and frolic to the work the church was designed to do.

There is no biblical authority for any of the above mentioned things. While some say things like, "Sincerity is what counts," God says obedience is the most important thing! We will be punished for doing anything not approved in Christ's Gospel (Colossians 3:17; 2 John 9). Remember "'For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,' says the Lord" (Isaiah 55:8). 🔍

TIMELESS WISDOM!

Wisdom for all! This is the message of Proverbs 1:1-6. Everyone needs more wisdom, even the wise! (vs. 4-5). Wisdom is "properly applied knowledge;" the ability to live skillfully as a child of God in everyday life. Proverbs teaches us how to live godly in an ungodly world as it teaches us to properly relate to God, parents, children, neighbors, employers, etc. The book of proverbs is practical for all ages.



SERMON NOTES

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

How To Die

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Brad Todd
- Bible Reading by.....Sam Miller
Reading: Proverbs 14:32-35
- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....Kenny Todd
Serve.....Chris Meade
Serve.....Frank Anderson

SUNDAY EVENING

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

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Invitation.....Kenny Johnson

**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!