

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

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

SUNDAY EVENING

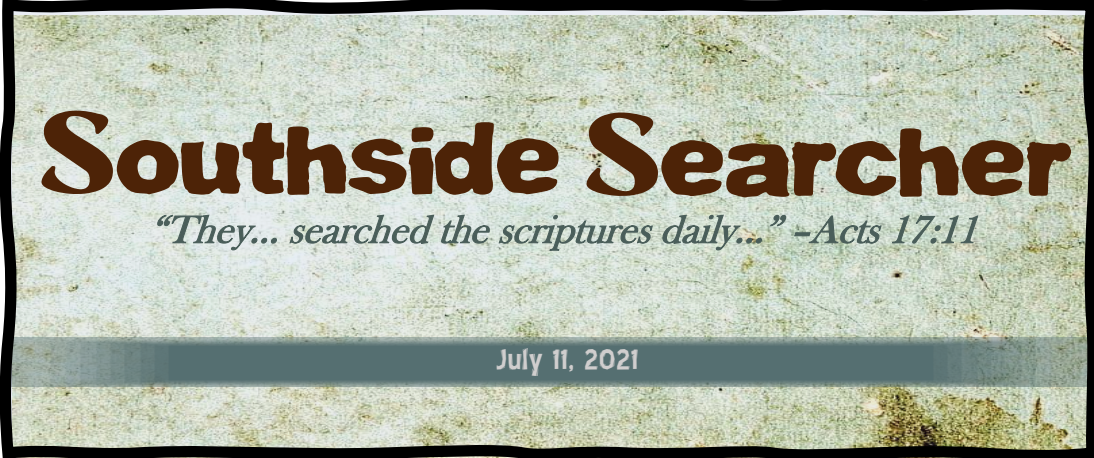
- Song Leader..... Kenny Johnson
- Opening Prayer.... Eli Todd
- Invitation..... Kenny Todd
- Lord's Supper.....Mike P. / Eli T.
- Closing Prayer..... Michael Pickford

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!



Believe And Be Lost

PAUL TOLD THE Philippian Jailer, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household” (Acts 16:31). Many appeal to this verse to support the teaching that one is saved by “Faith alone.” But there are problems with this reasoning.

It is possible to believe and be lost. We read of some in John 12:42 who “Believed in Him.” The Bible clearly says they believed. Were they saved upon that belief? The verse goes on to say, “They did not confess Him.” They feared being put out of the synagogue. Inasmuch as confession is essential for salvation (Romans 10:9-10), we know that these in John 12 were not saved. But they believed! It wasn’t enough.

The second problem is that Acts 16:31 contains a statement made within a context. Paul expected them to believe, but then went on to explain that it must be an obedient belief. Notice that he told them to “Believe” before he even spoke the word of the Lord to them. If you subtract verse 31 from the following verses you’ve got folks believing before they even heard the Gospel! (see Romans 10:17). After he spoke the word to them, they were baptized (Verse 33). One cannot have his sins washed away and be saved without baptism (Acts 22:16).

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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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Bible Be Nots

The Bible can be accurately described as a Book of Warnings. One phrase it utilizes to issue such admonitions is “be not.” Have you reflected upon these Bible “Be-Nots” lately?

1) Be Not As The Hypocrites. Jesus oft used this reference. In Matt. 6:15 he admonished “Moreover when ye fast, be not, as the hypocrites, of a sad countenance: for they disfigure their faces, that they may appear unto men to fast. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.” Jesus defined hypocrites as those who “say, and do not” (Matt. 23:3). The Lord said hypocrites “sound a trumpet” to draw attention to their charitable deeds (Matt. 6:2) and pray to “be seen of men” (Matt. 6:5). Our aim is to be as Jesus who “began both to do and teach” (Acts 1:1).

2) Be Not Afraid Of Them That Kill The Body. In chronicling the life of Jesus, Luke wrote “Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do” (Lk. 12:4). Matthew’s parallel account records “And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell” (Matt. 10:28). David understood this and wrote “The Lord is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me” (Psa. 118:6)?

3) Be Not Faithless. Thomas, after having doubts about the Lord’s resurrection, was told “Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and be not faithless, but believing” (Jn. 20:27). Faith is defined as “the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Heb. 11:1). We must have faith for without it “it is impossible to please him” (Heb. 11:6).

4) Be Not Highminded. The Roman Christians were instructed regarding this in Rom. 11:20. To be highminded is to be “wise in your own conceits” (Rom. 12:16). It carries with it the idea of being puffed up, of being prideful. Possessing a proud look is one of the seven things listed which the Lord hates (Prov. 6:17). God will not tolerate those with a “high look and a proud heart” (Psa. 101:5). Remember very well, “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death” (Prov. 14:12).

5) Be Not Deceived. This phrase appears often in the Bible. When we read this phrase, it must be understood some have already been deceived and it is very possible we, ourselves, can be deceived. Paul warned “be not deceived,” those who practice sin “shall inherit the kingdom of God” (I Cor. 6:9- 10). Later, he cautioned “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” (I Cor. 15:33). Paul also informed the Galatian brethren, “Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever

a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Gal. 6:7). Friends, think not we are beyond being deceived, for we most certainly are.

6) Be Not Children In Understanding. Paul reminded the Corinthian people “Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men” (I Cor. 14:20). To understand as a child is to be “tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive” (Eph. 4:14). We need to be diligent in our daily study of God’s Word (Acts 17:22; II Tim. 2:15) in order to be “grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel” (Col. 1:23). May we be described as generations of yesteryear, “Walking Bibles.” What say ye to this?

7) Be Not Entangled Again With The Yoke Of Bondage. The “yoke of bondage” to which Paul refers is the Law of Moses (Gal. 5:1- 4). Even today, there are those who make their plea to the Law of Moses, though it has been nailed “to his cross” (Col. 2:14) and “abolished” (Eph. 2:15-16). “For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth” (Rom. 10:4).

8) Be Not Weary In Well Doing. This was the apostle’s admonition to the brethren in Thessalonica (II Thess. 3:13). He penned these similar words, “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not” (Gal. 6:9). It may well be we “suffer for well doing” (I Pet. 3:17), but to him who knows “to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin” (Jam. 4:17). Let us never be fatigued in going about “doing good” (Acts 10:38).

9) Be Not Slothful. The Hebrew author warned against slothfulness, but God placed cautions throughout Scripture against laziness. Solomon informed “The way of the slothful man is as an hedge of thorns” (Prov. 15:19). Bible readers are commanded to “Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest” (Prov. 6:6-8).

10) Be Not Forgetful To Entertain Strangers. This command is the essence of hospitality, showing care and concern for those who are strangers or guests. Christians are to be “given to hospitality” (Rom. 12:13), and to be so “without grudging” (I Pet. 4:9). A man desiring the office of a bishop is to be “a lover of hospitality” (Titus 1:8). Let us strive to give attention to those who need our help and support.

Larry R. Ping II

<https://www.firstcitychurchofchrist.com/bible-be-nots>