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DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

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

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.... Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer...Michael Pickford
- Invitation: Michael Pickford
- Closing Prayer: Jeff Isbell

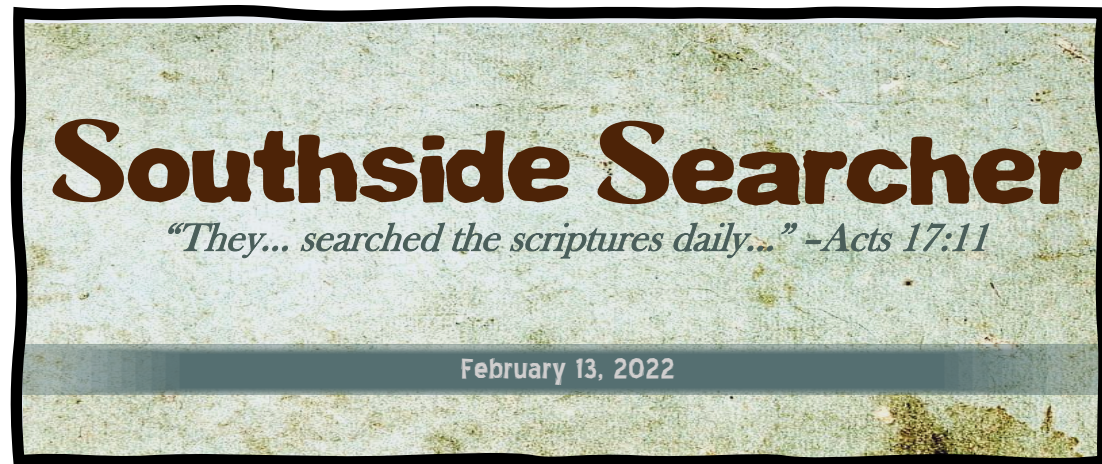
WEDNESDAY EVENING

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!



“I Will” Worship Sincerely

IT HASN'T BEEN LONG since the first of the year. Many have seen their resolutions come and go without success. Others are sticking to their commitments. We find many “I will” statements in the Bible. “I will” speaks to resolve. Let’s consider some of these “I will” statements over the next several weeks.

First, I will worship sincerely. *“I will praise The Lord with my whole heart, In the assembly of the upright and in the congregation”* (Psalm 111:1).

The story is told of a child entering a church building during the assembly. She could see people singing. Their lips were moving, but there was no sound to be heard. She saw a man lead a prayer, but no words were heard. The preacher’s lips were moving during the sermon, yet the place was saturated with silence. Then an angel appeared with an explanation. “You see,” the angel said, “You are hearing this worship as God hears it.”

The people were there in body, but their hearts weren’t in it. Their minds were on other things. While they sang, they wondered what would be for lunch. Others thought about how they would pay the bills. Some wondered who would win today’s football game. Nobody was worshipping with the “whole heart.” These silent services likely occur every Sunday across the world.

It is possible to forsake the assemblies even though our bodies are present. When we assemble with the saints, let’s resolve to pay attention as we praise the Lord and exhort our brethren.

-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**

1167 South Lowry Street, Smyrna, TN 37167 | 615-459-7854

Southside Searcher, Volume 18, Number 07

Religious Profanity

Profanity is more than only the bad language one may hear. Whatever profanes the truth may be considered religious profanity. Religious profanity is uttered when it is said:

“THE CHURCH IS NONESSENTIAL.” If the church of Christ is not essential, then the blood of Jesus is not necessary! The church was purchased with the Savior’s blood (Acts 20:28). To degrade the church of our Lord is to defame His blood! The Bible teaches, *“...the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved”* (Acts 2:47). Christ *“...is the saviour of the church”* (Eph. 5:23).

“THERE’S NOTHING IN A NAME.” If you think there is nothing in a name, have your employer put my name on your paycheck rather than your name! Spirit-filled Peter said, *“Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”* (Acts 4:12). That is, *“...the name of Jesus Christ...”* (v. 11). To say there’s nothing in a name is to speak religious profanity!

“ONE CHURCH IS AS GOOD AS ANOTHER.” This is contrary to the truth. The Ephesian letter points out: *“There is one body...”* (4:4) and *“the church...is his body”* (1:22-23). It is also revealed: *“One Lord”* and *“One God”* (4:5-6). If one church is as good as another, is another god as good as *“God our Father”* or another lord as good as *“the Lord Jesus Christ”* (1:2)?

“IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE WHAT ONE BELIEVES.” Does the one who so states so believe? If so, why should we care if it makes no difference? Tell the young prophet of 1 Kings 13, who was slain by a lion, that it makes no difference what one believes! Jesus must have thought it makes a difference. He taught: *“...that whosoever believeth in him should not perish...”* (Jn. 3:16) and *“...if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins”* (Jn. 8:24). Ephesians 4:5 says, *“...one faith...”*. It is written, *“That they all might be damned who believed not the truth...”* (2 Th. 2:12).

“WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND ALIKE.” The Ephesians were instructed: *“Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ”* (Eph. 3:4). *“Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is”* (Eph. 5:17). Where do you read of the Ephesians understanding differently? If they understood, they understood alike! There is no such thing as understanding the truth differently! Either we understand it or we do not. Either it is the truth or it is not. It takes *“the knowledge of the truth”* (1 Tim. 2:4), *“belief of the truth”* (2 Th. 2:13), *“the love of the truth”* (2 Th. 2:10), and *“obeying the truth”* (1 Pet. 1:22) for us to be saved. When you and I do that, we will be together! Religious profanity would come to a halt, if every man would simply *“speak as the oracles of God”* (1 Pet. 4:11).

-John Edwards

Satan/The Devil

“Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.”

-Matthew 4:1

“Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded.”

-James 4:7-8

“Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’”

-Matthew 25:41

“Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.”

-2 Corinthians 2:10-11

“And no wonder! For Satan himself transforms himself into an angel of light. ¹⁵ Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also transform themselves into ministers of righteousness, whose end will be according to their works.”

-2 Corinthians 11:14-15

“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Resist him, steadfast in the faith,”

-1 Peter 5:8-9

“The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.”

-2 Thessalonians 2:9-10

“Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully. For some have already turned aside after Satan.”

-1 Timothy 5:14-15

“He who sins is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that He might destroy the works of the devil.”

-1 John 3:8

“You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.”

-John 8:44

“And the God of peace will crush Satan under your feet shortly.”

-Romans 16:20