

**DUTY LIST...**

**SUNDAY MORNING**

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

**SUNDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader.... TBA
- Opening Prayer...TBA
- Invitation: N/A
- Lord's Table: TBA
- Closing Prayer: TBA

**WEDNESDAY EVENING**

- Song Leader...TBA
- Invitation: 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!**

We would welcome a visit from you. Our meeting times are:

SUNDAYS: 9 & 10 AM & 6 PM / WEDNESDAYS: 7 PM

Capable Bible teachers would be delighted to study with you at your request and convenience.

This bulletin is designed and produced by our evangelist, Michael Pickford.

Please visit our website at [www.defendthegospel.com](http://www.defendthegospel.com)

**SOUTHSIDE**

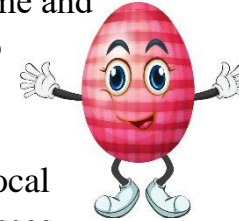
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**Southside Searcher, Volume 19, Number 12**

All Articles written and edited by Michael Pickford unless otherwise noted

**There's A Difference**

There is a difference in what the individual Christian is allowed to do and what the local church is allowed to do (1 Timothy 5:8, 16). If individuals want to celebrate Easter as part of their National Heritage, so be it. That's what me and my family do



(Acts 16:3; Acts 21:20-26). But no local church possesses the authority to observe such as a church. There is no authority for their plays, pageants, decorations, and Easter egg hunts. Individuals may do these at home, but the church is not authorized to finance such. Let's teach, preach, and rejoice in the resurrection of Christ while avoiding the unauthorized traditions of men (Mt. 15:7-9).

**Memory Verse**

“But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.”

—1 Corinthians 15:20

**Every Sunday**

The Lord's supper was instituted by Jesus for the purposes of proclaiming His death until he returns (Luke 22:7-23; 1 Corinthians 11:26). Local churches follow biblical precedent when they observe the Lord's supper every first day of the week (Sunday). “Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread...” (Acts 20:7). The Bible says nothing about the local church observing it on any other day of the week. -

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## Is Easter From God?

Many “churches” will be celebrating Easter today. They will host feasts, pageants, plays, Easter egg hunts, etc., all paid for from their church treasuries. Does this please God? Consider...

**A MANGLED TRANSLATION.** Lent, Palm Sunday, Good Friday, etc. have all come to us by way of man-made traditions (Consider Matthew 15:8-9). Jesus did indeed die on the cross for the sins of man, and He arose from the dead, but we have no record of the early church celebrating an “Easter” holiday. Churches who do so depart from scripture when they practice things not authorized in the Bible, and this is condemned (Colossians 3:17; 2 John 9). The KJV translates the Greek *pasca* as “Easter” in Acts 12:4, but the word means “Passover,” and is translated as such in all other places in the New Testament. The Jewish Passover is what is under consideration in the context, not a Christian religion. Herod was trying to please the Jews by waiting until after “Easter” (Passover), but he would have angered the Jews by observing a Christian religion.

**A MAN-MADE TRADITION.** It is sad when men are deceived by their feelings of safety and security in well established, time-worn human traditions. It is tragic when churches that celebrate Easter think they are pleasing God in doing so. Paul thought he was pleasing God while persecuting the Lord’s church (Acts 26:9-11). Many Jews thought they were pleasing God by serving Him according to their own traditional whims (Romans 10:1-3). Many, expecting to go to heaven for their great spiritual works, will be rejected by the Lord (Matthew 7:21-23). Something may be “spiritual” in nature, produce good results, and be a big part of the “Religious community;” but if God did not authorize it, it is “Lawlessness” (Matthew 7:23).

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**A MANDATED TRADITION.** God commanded that the local church observe the Lord’s supper every first day of the week to proclaim Christ’s death till He comes (1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 20:7). This is a tradition handed down from God (2 Thessalonians 3:6). But this simple observance with its basic emblems cannot compete with the fun and excitement of pageants, parades, parties, egg hunts and plays hosted by most of the “Churches” of our day. Folks’ minds are blinded by the light of these shiny treats and their hearts are distracted from the true spiritual significance of our Lord’s great sacrifice of love at Calvary.-

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### An “Unhappy Translation”

The word “Easter” is found only in the King James Version of the Bible (Acts 12:4). Albert Barnes wrote,

“There never was a more absurd or unhappy translation than this. The original is simply ‘after the Passover’, ‘meta to pasca.’ The word Easter now denotes the festival observed by many Christian churches in honor of the resurrection of the Savior. But the original has no reference to that; nor is there the slightest evidence that any such festival was observed at the time when this book was written.”

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