

EVIL TIDINGS

Michael Pickford

The man who fears the Lord and delights in His commandments (Psalm 112:1) should possess a peace of mind. None of us like to hear the phone ring at 2 in the morning because it's often because something bad has happened with someone close to us (Evil Tidings). But do we, each night as we're lying in bed trying to go to sleep, lie there and worry ourselves sick that the phone might ring during the night?

The Psalmist said of the one who trusts in God, "He will not be afraid of evil tidings; His heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord" (Psalm 112:7). Let us replace fear with trust, and worry with strength. Yes, that phone call may

come, but it will not be prevented by our anxiety. We must keep our hearts ready to trust in the Lord, to know that our faith in him will give us the strength needed to face any adverse circumstance. All the more reason to pray before going to sleep at night.

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus" (Philippians 4:6-7). Remember that God gives His faithful children light in times of darkness. 🔍

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



- www.defendthegospel.com
- Weekly Article: Rutherford Reader
- 3rd Sunday Singing Practice: 5 pm
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- Radio program on wgns. 15 minute sermon every Sunday morning from 10:45 - 11:00.
- 5th Sunday Men's Training Class, 4:30 pm. Prayer Service, 6 pm
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.

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!



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 10, Number 36

September 14, 2014

THE TRUE VINE

Michael Pickford

Jesus is the true vine (John 15:1). He tells us about Himself as the true vine in relation to the branches – Christians. Let's learn from lessons from His teaching in John 15:1-8...

Diligence In Our Work. We were created in Christ Jesus for good works, and we are to be zealous for them (Ephesians 2:8-10; Titus 2:14). Jesus is clear that every branch in Him must bear fruit. There are many ways to bear fruit in the Lord, and every individual is different in relation to what he excels at. We can produce fruit from our lips through prayer. We can be fruitful in teaching the lost, in exhorting our brethren, in helping the less fortunate. Peter gives an excellent recipe as to how to be fruitful in 2 Peter 1:5-7. Virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness, and brotherly love all must added to our faith in order to prevent us from becoming barren. Peter even said "Giving all diligence," we must add these things to our faith (2 Peter 1:5). "By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit" (John 15:8).

Denominationalism in the World. Some have gone to John 15:1-8 in order to justify denominationalism.

They argue that Jesus is the True Vine and the branches constitute the various denominations. Jesus' use of personal pronouns throughout the context makes it clear that He has in mind individual disciples when He speaks of the branches. Those at Corinth sought to divide up into different sects, even to the point of naming themselves after certain men (1 Corinthians 1:12). Paul made it clear that such actions would divide the followers of Christ. He commanded them that they should all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among them (1 Corinthians 1:10).

Departing From The Way. Many religious leaders of our day argue that once one becomes a Christian he can never so sin as to lose his salvation. But Jesus makes it clear in this text that if one does not bear fruit, the Father will cut him off and cast him into the fire (John 15:2, 6). Peter emphasized that if one fails to add the virtues he listed, then that one would be "Barren" and "Unfruitful." He taught that if we wanted to make our calling and election sure, and have an entrance into heaven, then we must not become barren (2 Peter 1:8-11). One can certainly fall from grace (Galatians 5:4). 🔍

Evangelist & Editor: Michael Pickford, 615-471-1612, mpickford3@comcast.net

www.defendthegospel.com

LOVING Michael Pickford

Love would not exist at all if it weren't for God, for God is love (1 John 4:8). We are not speaking in this short article of a mere emotion, but of true biblical love, active good will. We're speaking of action! If we are confused about who or what to love, let us be reminded of the following passages of scripture.

1. We are to love God (Matthew 22:37).
2. We are to love our brethren (1 Peter 4:8; 1 John 4:7; John 13:34-35).
3. We are to love the truth (2 Thessalonians 2:10)
4. We are to love our neighbor (Matthew 22:39)
5. We are to love the Lord (1 John 5:1)
6. We are to love the Lord's appearing (2 Timothy 4:8)
7. We are to love our enemies (Matthew 5:43-44)
8. Men must love their wives (Ephesians 5:25)
9. Wives must love their husbands (Titus 2:4)
10. We must love our children (Titus 2:4)

Of course this is not an exhaustive list of what we are to love, but if everyone who claims to follow Christ would merely apply these, think of the positive changes that would take place in religion today! "Let all that you do be done with love" (1 Corinthians 16:14). 🔍

"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

-1 Corinthians 15:58



**OUR GOSPEL MEETING WITH
DAVID MCPHERSON IS
SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER
19-24 (SUNDAY - FRIDAY).**

SERMON NOTES

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

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

May We Judge?

Introduction:

I. _____

II. _____

III. _____

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Sam Miller
Reading: Romans 2:1-6
- Song Leader.....Kenny Todd
- Opening Prayer.....Ben Reagh
- Lord's Table:
Lead.....John Nelson
Serve.....Michael Pickford
Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Johnson

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Ben Green
- 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!