

THE SURE WORD OF THE LORD

David Eldridge

David had sinned in numbering Israel and Judah. As a result of his sin, “The Lord sent a plague upon Israel from the morning till the appointed time. From Dan to Beersheba seventy thousand men of the people died” (2 Sam. 24:15). After the Lord relented from the destruction, He sent the prophet Gad to David. Gad said to David, “Go up, erect an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Araunah the Jebusite” (2 Sam. 24:18). When David offered to buy the threshing floor from him, Araunah told David that he could simply have whatever he needed. “Then the king said to Araunah, ‘No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price; nor will I offer burnt offerings to the Lord my God with that which costs me nothing.’ So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver” (2 Sam. 24:24). David was unwilling to offer to the Lord that which cost him nothing.

What about us? Many today seem to only be willing to offer God that which costs them nothing. However, God calls us to “present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service” (Rom. 12:1). When you think of your service to God, what are you offering Him? Are you offering him that which has no personal cost? Or, like David, are you unwilling to offer to God that which costs you nothing? -

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

- www.defendthegospel.com
- 4th Sunday Singing Night: 6 pm
- 5th Sunday Night: Guest Speaker
- Men's Business Meeting. 1st Sunday evenings following services.



SOUTHSIDE SEARCHER

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“They...searched the scriptures daily...” –Acts 17:11

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HEARING

Michael Pickford

The most important thing we will ever hear in this life is the word of God. The Bible places a great deal of emphasis and importance upon hearing the Gospel. Let's consider some of these concepts briefly...

Faith Comes by Hearing. Jesus taught that if one does not believe in Him as being the Son of God, he will die in his sins (John 8:24). How does one come to believe in Him? Lightning bolt? Tragic happenstance? Direct operation of the Holy Spirit upon the heart? No, let's let the Bible answer the question, “So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God” (Romans 10:17). This is why the Lord sent His disciples into the world to preach to every creature. They must hear it in order to have faith!

Hearing Must Be Followed By Doing. It's not enough to just hear and learn the Gospel, one must do it. He must obey it. “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (James 1:22).

One Must Hear Respectfully. What are you doing during the sermon? Sleeping? Clipping nails? Texting? Whispering? Passing Notes? School homework? When God's word is being read and preached, listeners need to be respectful. In Nehemiah's day, when God's word was read and preached, “The ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law” (Nehemiah 8:3). Those in Berea were commended by God because they “Received the word with all readiness” (Acts 17:11).

One Must Hear With Investigation. When we listen to someone preaching, we should not simply assume that they are teaching the truth, for many false prophets have gone out into the world (1 John 4:1). Those in Berea were listening to Paul preach, yet God commended them for searching the scriptures to find out whether the things they were hearing were so (Acts 17:11).

Be Willing To Hear More. “We will hear you again on this matter” (Acts 17:32). Some close their ears to the truth when they disagree, without being willing to study more on the matter. Then there are some Christians who are not willing to hear all the teaching their local church offers through preaching and teaching in the Bible classes, choosing rather to be absent. What a shame! (Ephesians 4:11-16; Hebrews 10:24-25). 🔍

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www.defendthegospel.com

THE ONLY ONES GOING TO HEAVEN

Greg Gwinn

"I've heard that you 'Church of Christ' people think that you are the only ones going to heaven. Is that true?"

We are often asked this question, and we appreciate the opportunity to explain what we believe. Would you please give careful consideration to these simple points from the Bible?

1) It important to remember that God is the judge of eternal things. Our personal opinions do not matter. What you think, what we think, what some religious denomination teaches -- none of this matters. In fact, Jesus said that many who think they are saved will be lost in the last day (Matthew 7:13-14, 21-23). The Scriptures will be the standard of judgment (John 12:48).

2) The New Testament clearly teaches who will be saved. It describes a simple 'plan of salvation' that any accountable person can understand and obey. We must hear the truth (Rom 10:17), believe the truth (Hebrews 11:6), repent of our sins (Luke 13:3), confess our faith in Jesus (Romans 10:10), and be baptized for remission of sins (Acts 2:38). If we remain faithful, we are promised a reward in heaven (Revelation 2:10). This is not a human dogma or creed. It is the plain and simple teaching of God's Word. If a person obeys these commands they will be saved. If they do not, they will be lost. It is just that simple. The only ones going to heaven are the ones who submit to God's will and obey His commands.

3) Now, where does the church of Christ figure into all of this? Acts 2:47 tells us that those who are saved are added to the church by the Lord. When you do what you must do to be saved (see point #2) then you are automatically added to that church which you read about in the Bible. This is not some man-made denomination. It is the church that belongs to Jesus -- it is the "church of Christ" (Romans 16:16). Therefore, the answer is yes -- you must be a member of that church to go to heaven. Do you see it? -

Why We Observe The Lord's Supper On Sunday Only

In the religious world, we find different religious groups observing the Lord's Supper on days other than Sunday. We are often asked why we observe it only on Sunday and on no other day of the week. It's a good question, and any Bible question deserves a Bible answer. There is great danger in believing, teaching, and practicing anything that is not recorded and authorized in scripture (1 Peter 4:11; Colossians 3:17; 2 John 9). We observe the Lord's Supper on Sunday exclusively because that is when the church observed it in the New Testament. In Acts 20:7 we read, "Now on the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread..." This is the only day of the week that we find the church observing the Lord's Supper -- the first day of the week. There is no command, example, or necessary inference found in scripture that indicates that disciples observed the Lord's Supper on any other day than the first day of the week. One must go beyond the doctrine of Christ in order to observe it on any other day, and this causes one to lose fellowship with God (2 John 9). This is why we observe the Lord's Supper on Sunday only. MP

SERMON NOTES

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

Title: _____

**STUDY
DAILY!
Acts
17:11**

DUTY LIST...

SUNDAY MORNING

- Announcements.....Michael Pickford
- Scripture Reading...Eli Todd
Reading: James 3:1-12
- Song Leader.....Michael Pickford
- Opening Prayer.....Tony Jenkins
- Lord's Table:
 - Lead.....John Nelson
 - Serve.....Kenny Johnson
 - Serve.....Lynn Buttrey
- Closing Prayer.....Kenny Todd

SUNDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Tony Jenkins
- Invitation.....N/A

WEDNESDAY EVENING

- Song Leader.....Kenny Johnson
- Invitation.....Michael Pickford

Thank You For Serving!

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; 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!

***Home Bible Studies
Available Upon Request!***