

# THE OLD PATHS

Volume 24, Issue 1

March 5, 2017

## Time For Our Gospel Meeting!

Jarrod Jacobs

**T**oday is the beginning of our gospel meeting with bro. Wilson Adams. We have made plans for it, prayed for it, and now it begins! We have invited folks to this meeting, and this week, let us remain active inviting folks to hear the gospel preached!

Brother Adams has made his preparations to be here, and we certainly are ready for him. Let us make sure we make every effort to be present (Heb. 10:25), to continue in prayers (Jas. 5:16), and to be active to get folks here who can benefit by hearing the truth of the gospel (Rom. 1:16).

Below we have printed a list of the sermon titles for this coming week. Perhaps having this in hand will be a benefit to encouraging others to come and visit with us this week.

Sunday: (3/5)

Bible Study at 10:00 am – **“The Verse That Will Change Your Life”**

Worship at 10:45 am – **“Lord, Do You Not Care?”**

Worship at 5:00 pm – **“When Is Enough, Enough?”**

Monday (3/6) at 7:00 pm – **“381 Miles To Gilgal”**

Tuesday (3/7) at 7:00 pm – **“Can I Trust ‘The Book’?”**

Wednesday (3/8) at 7:00 pm – **“Does God Care What I Wear?”**

Thursday (3/9) at 7:00 pm – **“Sacred Marriage”**

Friday: (3/10) at 7:00 pm – **“Pray BIG!”**

Thus saith the Lord, stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good way ...” (Jer. 6:16).

Let us not forget what effort folks made to teach us the truth. Let us now “pay it forward” by making the effort to teach others the truth (II Tim. 2:2). This gospel meeting is one way to make it happen. Let’s get busy!

## *A Thought Worth Thinking ...*

**I**srael was told to “Go up and POSSESS the land ...” (Deut. 9:1, 23) which meant they had to be “militant” in their conquest of the Promised Land. We Christians are promised HEAVEN if we are faithful SOLDIERS, fighting the good fight of faith (II Tim. 2:4; I Tim. 6:12). The thought: Do we realize the battles in this fight are NOT inside the comforts of our meeting houses, but within the world which has captivated precious souls?

– Michael Davis, Orleans, IN

## The “Gift” Vs. “Gifts Of The Holy Spirit

Joel Raulerson

**I**n Acts 2:38-39, Peter says, “*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.*” The Holy Spirit is confusing to a lot of people. Some believe we can still receive the gifts of the Holy Spirit and perform miracles. In order to understand who the Holy Spirit is, and what He does, we must study the scriptures.

### The “Gifts” Of The Holy Spirit

One of the duties of the Holy Spirit was to bestow miraculous gifts upon the apostles and first century Christians. 1 Corinthians 12:1-2 says, “*Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led.*” The reason that the first century Christians needed these miraculous gifts was to distinguish between the truth and lies. God’s word was still being revealed at that time. They

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needed a way to be able to distinguish between what was from God and what was from false teachers. These miracles were a way for teachers to prove, by miraculous power, that what they taught was from God. However, these miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit were meant to be temporary. In 1 Corinthians 13:8-10, Paul tells us, “*Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.*” At that time, the Christians did not yet have the completed word. They were told that the complete, “perfect” word of God would come and the gifts of the Holy Spirit would pass away. We know that there are those who claim to have miraculous powers in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. However, we know their claim cannot be true because we now have the completed word of God at our disposal.

## The “Gift” Of The Holy Spirit

Based upon our study, we understand that the gifts of the Holy Spirit were supposed to be temporary. Why then does Acts 2:38 say that we can receive the “*gift of the Holy Spirit*”? If we recognize that the gifts of the Holy Spirit passed away once we received the completed word (1 Cor. 13:8-10), the necessary conclusion we have to draw from Acts 2:38 is that there is a difference between “*the gift of the Holy Spirit*” and the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12-14. We are those who Peter referred to as “*afar off*” that will also have access to the “*gift of the Holy Spirit.*” In studying about this gift, we see that Acts 3:19 is a parallel passage to Acts 2:38. Instead of saying, “*the gift of the Holy Spirit,*” though, Peter said, “*Repent ye therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord.*” Thus, the “*gift of the Holy Spirit*” is not connected with anything miraculous, but of “refreshing” that comes from God. It is connected with our spiritual birth and being new creatures in Christ (Jn. 3:5; Acts 2:38; II Cor. 5:17). The Holy Spirit is blessing Christians just as Peter promised in Acts 2 and 3. The Holy Spirit is the avenue through whom we receive our spiritual blessings (Eph. 1:3). We have been blessed with God’s completed word and we have everything we need (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Sadly, I hear some people wishing that they could perform miracles like the first century Christians did. The truth is, we have no more need for miracles. We have the completed word of God and that should be enough for all of us. Those first century Christians would have much rather have had the completed word of God than have the ability to

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perform miracles (I Cor. 13:11-12). Consider the spiritual gift that the Holy Spirit gives to all those who become Christians and be thankful.



## Spotlight On A Bible Verse: Galatians 1:8

***“But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”*** The apostle Paul wrote to the Galatian Christians, stating how surprised he was that they were *“so soon removed”* from the gospel of Christ to something perverted (Gal. 1:6). He then told them if any man, even an angel from Heaven preaches any other gospel, then let him be *“accursed.”* To be *“accursed”* is to be cut off from God and Christ. *“Accursed”* means to be abhorred, and to essentially be rejected from Christ, wherein He will say, *“depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels”* (Matt. 25:41). Perverting the gospel of Christ is not a joke, or something to be taken lightly! It will result in the souls of those false teachers being lost. It will also result in the souls of those who obey the false doctrine being lost! Teaching and following false doctrine will result in our being out of fellowship with Christ (II Jn. 9-11). Therefore, let us take the teaching and spreading of God’s word very seriously. If we preach or teach anything that is not according to the revealed will of God, we will lose our souls!

– Jarrod Jacobs



**“I want the truth, give me book, chapter, and verse!”**

**Please visit with the Caneyville church of Christ....**

Location: 103 N. Main St. Caneyville, KY

Website: <http://caneyvillechurchofchrist.com>

**Times Of Services...**

**Sunday:** 10:00 am (Bible classes), 10:45 am & 5:00 pm (Worship)

**Wednesday:** 7:00 pm (Bible classes)

**Other opportunities for Bible study:**

***“The Ancient Landmark”*** Radio Program airs Mon-Fri on 99.9 FM, WXMZ (10:30-11:00 AM) & 101.5 FM, WLBQ (5:30-6:00 AM)

***“The Ancient Landmark”*** television program airs on:

[www.youtube.com/theoldpaths1994](http://www.youtube.com/theoldpaths1994)

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