

ASSEMBLY TIMES

Sunday

Bible Class 9:30
Morning Assembly 10:30
Evening Assembly 5:00

Wednesday

Evening Bible Class 6:30

RADIO PROGRAM

The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.
KURM 790AM

Downtown Church of Christ

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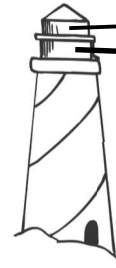
Join us on your way
to eternity!

ELDERS:

Otis Hardin
Perry Johnson
Ken Parker
Alan Revier
GW Walsh

DEACONS:

TJ Burleson
Scott Hale
Joel Heiligenthal
Jason Hill
Chris Johnson
Brock McKeel
Randy Potter
Tim Roberts
Randy Shell



DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

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ROGERS, ARKANSAS

June 27, 2021

FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER LIST –

Preachers we support: Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

Sick: Gary Fletcher, James Swim, Rai Starr, Diane Willis, & Etta Frazelle.

Shut-ins: Betty Jo Young, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey, Billie Pennington, Shirley Cole, & Mary Lou Lewis *Military:* Logan Dickey, Kyler Sullins, Sean Potter

SUMMER DATES – Our **VBS** is set for July 18-22 with Chris Reeves and our **Youth Lectures** are set for July 30-31 with Paul Sheehan. Plan ahead!

IN THE MILITARY – Sean Potter recently left for Air Force basic training in San Antonio. Let's remember Sean, Kyler, and Logan in our prayers.

The Serious Subject of Salvation

You and I will be dead one day soon – and while it may not be the most pleasant thing to think about it, it is certainly the most important.

Thinking about where we will be, not just ten years from now but ten thousand years from now, helps to put our lives in perspective. It reminds us to make the important thing the important thing.

And what is the 'important thing'? Jesus clarifies, "What will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul?" (Mt 16:26).

Your soul is your most valuable possession. That's the reason salva-

tion is a serious subject. Your doctor can save you from serious illness – for a while. Your financial advisor can save your portfolio so that you can enjoy the fruits of your labor – for a while.

But only Jesus can save your soul – your most valuable possession.

Why then do so many ignore Him? That's easy – they simply don't believe. They don't believe that death is an imminent concern. Or they don't believe that eternity is that demanding – after all, they are a 'good person' and all 'good people' go to heaven. Or they may not even



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believe they have a soul. They believe they are nothing more than a highly evolved creature who will cease to exist when they draw their last breath.

But the Bible puts the lie to all such popular delusions. For example, we simply do not know how imminent our death is (Lu 12:20). And eternity is more demanding than many realize (Mt 7:13-14). And yes, you are the product of an Intelligent Designer, created in His image (Ge 1:27). To believe otherwise is to be a fool (Ps 14:1, lifeless matter created intelligent life? We are supposed to believe **that?**).

The approach which makes the most sense – the one advocated by Jesus – is to take our soul, and its salvation, seriously. This does not mean that we must become a cloistered ascetic, or a theologian, or a ‘holier-than-thou’ religious zealot (thank goodness!).

But what it does mean is that we must realize our moral obligation to a good and benevolent Creator – a God so perfect that He will not

condone or fellowship our sinful behavior; a God so loving that He gave Himself to die for our sins; and a God so powerful that He holds our fate in His own hands.

Our obligation to this God is that we come to Him on His terms, seeking forgiveness through the blood of Jesus, and then to walk humbly with Him for the remainder of our days – until our time on this earth is done.

That walk is characterized by the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control (Ga 5:22-23). It is not always easy; but it is easier than dying unprepared to meet our God.

So, if you have not taken the subject of your soul’s salvation seriously to this point in your life, please think seriously about taking it seriously **now**. Whether have never been a Christian, or whether you have been just been ‘playing church’, now is the time to make the important thing the important thing!

- *WKing*

Another Perspective

Preach the Gospel and Leave People Alone

In many places I go to hold meetings, I find a self-appointed committee to come and tell me what the people want and what they will not have. They tell me that Brother A preached a meeting there a long time ago and condemned sprinkling for baptism, and many good people got mad and would not hear him, so they thought best to get him no more...

They leave me to understand that if I don’t please the sects I will not please the church, and if I don’t please the church I will not be well-supported. As I have refused three other meetings that I might get to this place to help them in a meeting, as I had to borrow money to come on, as I owe some small debts, and have a wife and children to protect, I began to study how I can preach the gospel and leave people alone...

I turn to the Bible for consolation and find that Paul tells me as a soldier I must fight, and the very thought of fight presupposes an enemy on the other side. But then I remember my brethren don’t want me to fight, and I know they will only pay me nine dollars instead of seventeen dollars for the two weeks meetings I am to hold.

So, I go to the Old Bible to find how they fought. I find David, a young shepherd boy, going out with a sling to fight a giant ten feet tall, and killing him. I then turn and watch Samson with the jawbone of an ass fighting and killing a thousand men on the other side...

If I should pass your home late at night and saw fire breaking through the roof of your house, would I be your friend if I should let you alone?...

- *J.D. Tant, from his book, The Gospel X-Ray*