

TIME OF SERVICES

Sunday:
Bible Classes 10:00 a.m.
Worship Service 11:00 a.m.
Worship Service 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:
Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

Preacher & Editor

Dick Blackford
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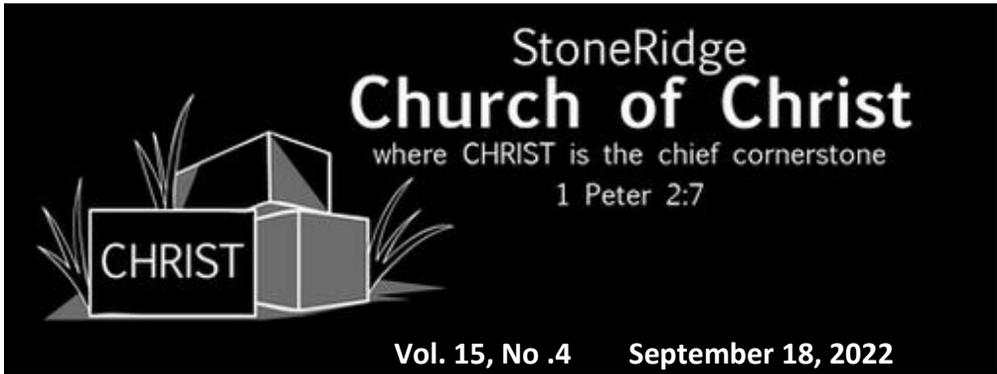
Elders

Kemuel Camp (870) 930-6970
 Scott Stubblefield (870) 934-88tt674

Deacons

Phillip Cassidy (870) 623-2588
 Jeff Ladyman (479) 236-5365
 Steve Lands (870) 974-1976
 Travis Moody (870) 650-1649

THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY, MAKES CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS ONLY. THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS COMPOSED OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT JOINED A DENOMINATION.



GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION

Franklin Graham and others are running TV commercials telling people to be saved by praying to Jesus. But, is a prayer by the repentant believer how Jesus saves sinners? It was not how Jesus saved Saul nor how He saves sinners today (Acts 9:9-11; 22:16). Graham's message is just one of many false salvation plans promoted and practiced worldwide. The Bible reveals the true path to salvation. A plan is a program of action, "a scheme for making, doing, or arranging something" (Webster). Football teams have game plans, architects have building plans, and teachers follow a lesson plan. Before smartphones, many people used day planners to arrange their daily activities.

Having a plan indicates order and definition. Ephesians 1:3-14 shows God has executed His plan of saving the lost through Jesus Christ. Therefore, we refer to God's plan of salvation in Christ as the "scheme of redemption."

When we speak of the plan of salvation, we refer to the arrangement sinners must believe and follow to receive God's salvation from sin. The gospel of Christ reveals God's plan (arrangement) by which He forgives our sins in Christ (Eph. 2:1-9). Here is a brief outline of the plan of salvation God has revealed in the Scriptures that results in saving every sinner who obeys it.

First, one must hear the gospel to be drawn to Christ and believe in Him (John 6:44-45; Acts 2:22; Rom. 10:17).



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Next, one must believe in God and Christ (Heb. 11:6; John 8:24). Without faith, nobody will be saved. Sinners are brought to faith in Christ by hearing the word of God (Rom. 10:17; John 20:30-31). The gospel that causes faith also commands sinners to confess their faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 8:37). Confession of faith is unto (in the direction of) salvation (Rom. 10:10).

Faith in Jesus **also** compels sinners to repent (another commandment of Christ for salvation, Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38; 17:30; 20:21).

Having changed one's mind toward God and sin, what remains is for Christ to wash away one's past sins, which happens when the sinner is **baptized into Christ** (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom. 6:3-4; Gal. 3:27).

Saved in Christ, the Christian is **added** by the Lord to His church and taught to live an obedient life of service to Jesus (Acts 2:47; Rom. 6:17-18; 12:1-2; Titus 2:11-12).

Yes, God has a plan of salvation, but not the one Mr. Graham advocates. So the question is, have you obeyed God's plan of salvation? Why not do so now (2 Cor. 6:2; Acts 22:16)? -*Joe Price*



It is not enough to own a Bible – we must read it. It is not enough to read it – we must let it speak to us. It is not enough to let it speak to us – we must believe it. It is not enough to believe it – we must obey and live it.

News/Notes/Quotes.

THE SICK. **Jerry Spencer's** mother has been diagnosed with stage 4 liver cancer. Pray for this family... **Taylor Harbin's** cousin had surgery on Thursday. She has pre-cancerous cells. She is married with a young baby... Continue to pray for **Billie Johnson** and **Rhea Vines** who have been fighting Covid... **Donald Crisler** continues his treatment for cancer... Remember our shutins: **Madonna Vines** is confined at home. **Gail Brooks** and **Rita Kieffer** are both at St. Bernard Village... **Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** is at St. Elizabeth's Place... **Charles Bradsher** at Craighead County Nursing Home... Continue to remember all of these in your prayers.

GOSPEL MEETINGS

October 2-7 – STONERIDGE – John Mundy!!!

Oct. 21-23 – Raymore, MO – Dick Blackford

GROUP MEETING. Group 2 will meet at the Christenberrys' on Sept 24, at 5:30 p.m. Don't forget!

GREAT SINGING! I've heard several good comments about our annual singing last week. It was very edifying.

***Vice is a monster of so frightful mien,
As to be hated needs but to be seen;
Yet seen too oft, familiar with her face,
We first endure, then pity, then embrace.***
-Alexander Pope

The truth can never suffer by the most thorough and sifting discussion; it must always gain by it. Error alone is afraid of objections or becomes irritated when they are presented. Truth smiles at the opportunity of more thoroughly vindicating itself and enters every conflict with calm and hopeful confidence. Let us, then, have all the objections which any man can offer against anything we teach, and let us consider them candidly." -J.W. McGarvey, LARD'S QUARTERLY, Vol. 1, p. 442



If every member were just like you, would we need to build more seats or close the doors?

