

# The Messenger



“... How beautiful are the feet of those who bring glad tidings of good things!” Romans 10:15

A Weekly Publication of the Christians Meeting at  
2291 Highway Z, Wentzville, Missouri  
Website: westlakechurchofchrist.org  
Dedicated to the Proclamation of the Truth in the Spirit of Love (Ephesians 4:15)

Evangelist and Editor:

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Dempsey Collins

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Listen to PROVE ALL THINGS on 730 AM WKRE, Sunday mornings from 8:15 to 8:30

## SUMMER BIBLE STUDIES 2010

# THE SCHEME OF REDEMPTION

*June 13 - August 29, Sunday evenings at 3:00 PM*  
*At the Westlake meeting place (2291 Hwy Z; Wentzville) Map on back*

- June 6 (Sun. AM)    **Intro- God's Eternal Plan** *Dempsey Collins*
- June 13            **In the Beginning, God Created the Heavens and the Earth**  
AM Class: Contradictions between evolutionary theory and Gen. 1    *Randy Schindler*  
AM Assembly: Genesis 1:1-13    *Gary Brown*  
PM Assembly: Genesis 1:14-25    *Chris DeNovi*
- June 20            **The Creation of Man, His Honorable Position, His Fall**    *L.A. Stauffer*
- June 27            **The Great Flood**    *Ron Weaver*
- July 4             **Promises to Abraham**    *Chris Huntley*
- July 11            **Israel, a Set Apart Nation** *Pat Kendall*
- July 18            **The Judges**    *Nick Soyars*
- July 25            **The Kings** *Mark Robinson*
- August 1           **The Prophets**    *Alan Hitchen*
- August 8           **The Fullness of Time**    *Mark Stinnett*
- August 15        **John, Herald for the King** *Greg Bell*
- August 22        **Jesus, the Fulfillment of Prophecy**    *L.A. Stauffer*
- August 29        **Jesus and the Throne of David** *Pat Kendall*

**\*\*\*September and October dates below resume to 5:00 meeting time\*\*\***

<u>September 5</u>	<b>The Witness of Jesus' Miracles</b>	<i>Greg Kreis</i>
<u>September 12</u>	<b>The Significance of Blood in the Scheme of Redemption</b>	<i>Bob Kruse</i>
<u>September 19</u>	<b>The Resurrection of Jesus</b>	<i>Ryan Collins</i>
<u>September 26</u>	<b>What Must I Do to be Saved?</b>	<i>Bill Brown</i>
<u>October 3</u>	<b>The Second Coming of Jesus</b>	<i>Dempsey Collins</i>
<u>October 10</u>	<b>Heaven or Hell, the Choice is Yours</b>	<i>Pat Kendall</i>



## **Theological Bias**

*By L.A. Stauffer*

“And when they come from the market place, except they bathe (*baptizo*) themselves, they eat not and many other things there are, which they have received to hold, washings (*baptismos*) of cups, and pots, and brazen vessels” (Mark 7:4).

I sat in class and heard a theologian at a local seminary comment on this verse and define the Greek words for baptism – “cleansing.” He then argued that the mode is not inherent in the word and could be “sprinkling” or “pouring” as well as “immersion.”

This is absolute “theological bias.” The professor preaches for a denomination that comes out of the Reformation Age and is devoted to “sprinkling” as acceptable baptism. He side-steps the fundamental meaning of *baptizo* and *baptismos* to rationalize his religious practice, and in so doing perverts what Mark writes. The word “baptism” means “to dip,” “submerge,” “plunge,” or “immerse” and specifically reveals what the Pharisees were doing.

The Pharisees considered themselves ceremonially unclean when they returned from the public market and ritually submerged and bathed in water to purify themselves. They did the same thing to household utensils each time they ate. What they did to the pots and pans they did to themselves. It was no mere ceremonial “sprinkling” or “pouring” of water on their head, some part of the body, or on the vessels. It was immersion – the meaning and Biblical definition of *baptizo* (see Romans 6:4).

People often asked why the religious world is so hopelessly divided. And this is one reason: Bible students refuse to let the meaning of words define what a text says and what they believe and practice; instead they distort the meaning of words by what they already believe. Theological bias prevents the gospel and causes division.

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### **News and Notes:**

Remember to check the prayer list for those with ongoing spiritual weaknesses and physical illnesses.

“...Pray for one another...The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16