



Today's Sermons
 Morning: Jim Dearman
 Evening: Jim Dearman

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	27
Sunday AM Worship	43
Sunday PM Worship	22
Wed. Bible Study	23
Offering	\$1973



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 130 Robert Street
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Minister:
Tim Canup
tim@wjchurchofchrist.org

Times of Services:
Sunday
 Bible Study:... 10:00am
 AM Worship:...11:00am
 PM Worship:...6:00pm

Wednesday
 Bible Study:.....7:00pm

Radio Program
 Sunday:.....7:30am
 "Back to the Bible"
 AM 580 WSKS
 93.5 FM

**We Extend A
 Warm &
 Cordial
 Welcome
 To All Our
 Visitors!**

“The Power to Become...”
 Tim Canup

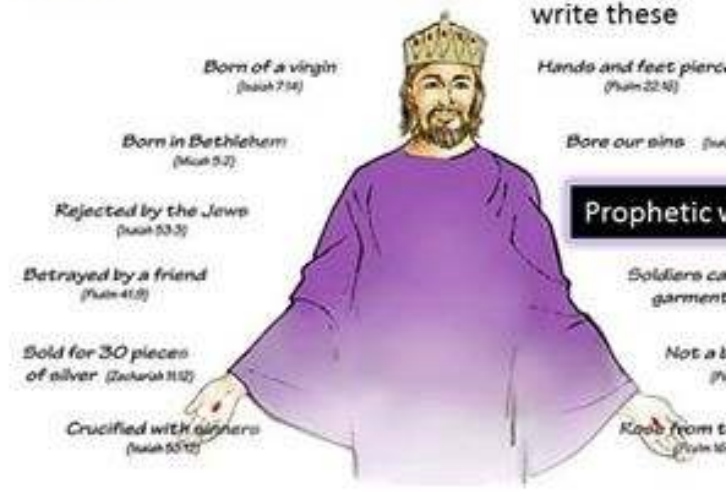
In the opening verses of the Gospel of John, he introduced the Christ as the “Word” who became flesh, then he wrote, “He {Jesus} was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not” (John 1:10-11). In verse 12, John makes a contrast, “But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name.” There are many who rejected Jesus the Christ as Savior in that they do not accept His teaching found in the New Testament. However, for those who are willing to receive Him, they have great spiritual blessings (cf. Ephesians 1:3f).

There is an important concept found in John 1:12 that must be understood. According to this verse, those who receive Jesus are those who believe in Him; believe that He is the Christ (John 8:24). The apostle John wrote that to those who believe (or have faith) would receive the power (or right) to become a child of God, or a Christian, thus indicating that they are not yet one. Question: How can one become something they already are?

Continued Inside

**The Bible is a collection of evidences showing
 divine wisdom**

**Old Testament was written
 from 1500 to 400 years before
 Christ**



Human wisdom alone could not and would not write these

Hands and feet pierced (Psalm 22:16)
 Bore our sins (Isaiah 53:6)

Prophetic word

Soldiers cast lots for His garments (Psalm 22:18)
 Not a bone broken (Psalm 34:20)

Rose from the grave (Psalm 16:10)



New Testament is eyewitness testimony

Acts 1:1-2

So we have the prophetic word strongly confirmed. You will do well to pay attention to it, as to a lamp shining in a dismal place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. 2 Peter 1:19

Many teach that one becomes a child of God (a Christian) at the very moment of faith in Christ. However, according to this verse, our faith alone does not save us; it gives us the power or right to become a Christian. Faith is important, for the writer of the book of Hebrews said, “But without faith it is impossible to please him...” (11:6). James said, “Even so faith, if it hath not works {of obedience}, is dead, being alone...Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only” (James 2:17, 24). Faith is what moves us to obey all the commandments God has given in the New Testament, which saves us.

Although it is very common in our world today to hear men teach salvation by faith only, from John 1:12, we can see that is in direct contradiction to what the Bible teaches. Does the popularity of a doctrine mean that it will be acceptable with God anyway? Certainly not! Jesus Christ “...became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him” (Hebrews 5:9). We have been given the commandments that we are to obey, and we cannot change them (Revelation 22:18-19). Jesus Christ will not change them for He is “the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever” (Hebrews 13:8).

As James said, salvation is “not by faith only” (James 2:24). By one’s faith alone in Jesus Christ, they do not become a child of God, but rather they have the power to become one. It is by our faith that we are to obey the commands Jesus has given, such as to repent of our sins (Luke 13:3), confess Him as the Christ before others (Matthew 10:32-33), and to be baptized (in order to be saved – Mark 16:16).

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“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. <sup>8</sup>We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; <sup>9</sup>Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; <sup>10</sup>Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body. <sup>11</sup>For we which live are always delivered unto death for Jesus' sake, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our mortal flesh” (II Cor. 4:7-11).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sept 20 – Preach & Eat
- Sept 20-25 – Tent Meeting w/ Jim Dearman @ Greenfields
- Oct 3 – Ladies’ Day
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell
- Wireless Internet Password: 94615548

## I SAW HIM STANDING THERE

(or, The Old Gospel Preacher)

I saw him standing there, this man of God,  
Erect and firm, although his hair was gray.  
The passing years had come and they had gone  
To leave the weaker men along the way.

I saw him standing there; his face was fixed,  
And he was unafraid to preach the Word.  
Although the times had changed so many things,  
His message was the same for those who heard.

I saw him standing straight and heard him preach  
That Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.  
He preached against men’s sins with force and might,  
Then called to lost men with a pleading nod.

I heard him preach salvation through the blood,  
The message many need to hear today;  
How sinners must believe, and then repent,  
And turn to be baptized the Bible way.

I heard him preach about the church of Christ,  
The precious bride for which our Savior died.  
He then condemned the sects of men as sin,  
And called on all to give up party pride.

I thank the Lord for this, a stalwart man,  
Whose message had that old familiar ring  
Of the apostles’ doctrine through and through,  
And this, to me, was such a noble thing.

I saw him standing there, this man of God,  
His life as faithful as the day is long.  
It gave me courage that I needed most,  
And I felt inspiration to be strong.

--James E. Gibbons (via Gospel Advocate, sometime in early 1971)