

Today's Sermons
 Morning: Thanksgiving
 Evening: TBA

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	32
Sunday AM Worship	44
Sunday PM Worship	25
Wed. Bible Study	n/a
Offering	\$1643

Added Souls.com

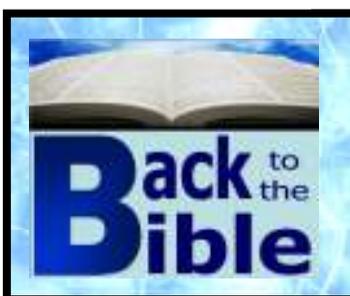
This is my **blood**
 of the new testament,
 WHICH IS SHED FOR many

for the forgiveness of sins. Matthew 26:28

Repent, and be baptized
 EVERY ONE OF YOU
 in the name of Jesus Christ

for the forgiveness of sins. Acts 2:38

"for," Greek: "eis," same word, same phrase
 context: unto, towards, for.



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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 Urgency of Our Work
 David Courington

If you are like me, you tend to procrastinate about many things. Around the house, it is easy to put off painting the bedroom, or replacing a porch rail- these come under the heading of maintenance. Then there is the grass to be mowed and it can be put off for a while, but there comes a point when it must be done or you can't find the walkway. Then there are those household emergencies like a broken water pipe that must be tended to immediately or there will be serious consequences.

In the church, there are things that must be tended to and it is easy to put some of them off. There are other things that can be put off for a while, but if no attention is paid to them, they will call attention to themselves pretty soon. Then there are those emergencies that call for immediate action.

The question I want to raise for your consideration is, "Do we see the real urgency in evangelizing the lost and restoring the erring, or are we often putting these off-- waiting until they become emergencies to deal with them?" There are serious consequences to putting these on the back burner.

Opportunities to convert the lost can quickly go away. Jesus knew the urgency of his work. He said in John_9:4, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work." He knew his life was going to be short and so is ours. James speaks to this in James_4:14, "Whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears

Continued Inside

for a little time and then vanishes away." Not only will our life be short, but the life of others is limited too. Are there those gone on to meet the Lord that you wish you had taught the gospel or urged to be restored?

While we must exercise patience (perseverance) in these matters and not try to force the gospel on those who are not ready to hear, it seems to me the greater caution should be taken in failing to put this as a matter of high priority.

The Lord made the main mission of the church clear to his disciples. They heard him with their own ears say, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned" (Mark_16:15-16). Not only did he tell them to do this work, but he made it clear that souls were at stake. Men will either be saved or condemned based on their response to the gospel message.

The response that men make to the gospel is up to them, but the job of getting the message to them and doing it with a sense of urgency and importance is up to us.

Yes, you and I are busy. There is much to do. But we must not let this most important work be a low priority on our list of things to do. "Let's be about the Father's business."

The Truth About Sin

Paul White

Several years ago, the title of a book that was published asked the question, Whatever Became of Sin? Well, I must confess in a world where evil men and imposters proceed from bad to worse (2 Tim.3:13) it does seem as if the word "sin" has disappeared from the human vocabulary. Even today, this seems to be finding its way into the church.

My responsibility as a Christian, and most certainly as an evangelist, is not to join the majority in a world of evil who would seek to circumvent the issue or attempt to whiten up the blackness of sin. My obligation and yours as a disciple of Christ is "do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. But all things become visible when they are exposed by the light..." (Eph.5:11-13). Just what does sin do?

Sin hurts God. Too often when people sin they begin by morning over the consequences of their sin, such as disgrace, poverty, disease, and emotional discomfort, rather than shedding tears because they realize they've sinned against a holy God. When David had been confronted with his sin, he confessed to God, "Against You, You only, I have sinned and done what is evil in Your sight" (Psa.51:4). David declared later in (verse 17), "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise." David's heart was broken because he realized he had broken the very heart of God. Sin hurts God!

Sin hurts others. In my estimation it's selfishness to the core when people argue that their refusal to submit themselves to God only negatively affects them. What utter

foolishness. Try reasoning this way with parents who shed tears at the funeral of their fourteen year old son whose life was taken due to the drunk driver who thought his drinking wouldn't hurt anyone but himself. Try convincing a broken-hearted woman whose world is devastated by the adultery of her husband, and now she is forced to explain to her three children why daddy left her for another woman. Sin hurts others!

Sin is expensive. How much pain and heartache could be avoided if only people would recognize the high price of sin. Sin is so expensive. Sin will take you farther than you wanted to go, keep you longer than you wanted to stay, and cost you more than you ever intended to pay. Sin is expensive!

Sin will be dealt with by God. Too many ignore sin and its wages (Rom.6:23) and think that somehow their sins will go unnoticed or be overlooked by God. Too many want to sow "wild oats," and then pray for crop failure. God's spiritual law of sowing and reaping doesn't work that way. "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life" (Gal.6:7-8). God will deal with sin and the sinner who refuses to repent. "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad" (2 Cor.5:10). Don't kid yourself, your sins will be brought into judgment; even those things that others don't know about. "For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether good or evil" (Eccl.12:14). Sin will be dealt with by God!

Sin can be forgiven. What good news! Not that we have sinned, but that God in His grace will abundantly pardon any and all sins if we will truly confess them and forsake them. "For You, Lord, are good, and ready to forgive, and abundant in loving kindness to all who call upon You" (Psa.86:5). Is there any message that brings hope like the good news that God forgives?

When all is said and done, the tragedy of sin is best seen in the price God was willing to pay for its removal. If sin is trivial, Christ's death is trivial. "For you know that it was not with perishable things such as silver or gold that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your forefathers, but with the precious blood of Christ..." (1 Pet.1:18-19). Only Jesus is the answer to our sin problem, and that's the truth about sin!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Dec 6 – Men's Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class
- Dec 13 – Preach & Eat – 1:30 Service.
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell
- Wireless Internet Password: 94615548