



Today's Sermons

Morning: Shipwrecked Faith
Evening: That Man of God from Judah

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FOR THE RECORD

Sunday Bible Study	34
Sunday AM Worship	48
Sunday PM Worship	28
Wed. Bible Study	n/a
Offering	\$1854



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Times of Services:
Sunday
Bible Study:... 10:00am
AM Worship:...11:00am
PM Worship:...6:00pm
2nd Sunday:.....1:30pm

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

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

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

SALVATION
Jacob B. Campbell

Sin, transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4), condemns every man and woman to spiritual death (Romans 3:23; 6:23; Isaiah 59:1,2). The grace of our loving God, however, has provided a remedy whereby we might be spared from death and be given life. The life of God's Son was offered as a propitiation or sacrificial substitute for the sins of the world (Romans 3:23-25; Hebrews 2:9; 1 John 2:2). His blood only benefits those who respond to this grace in faith, however, Romans 5:1-2,9). This has been the message revealed from God to man from the beginning: man is justified (released from the penalty of the guilt of sin) by God's grace through obedient faith (see Ephesians 2:8,9). God has dealt with man through different laws and in different dispensations, but, while particular requirements of law might have changed, that principle has not--that man is justified by grace through obedient faith.

Some have concluded that mere belief in God and his word (including that Jesus is the Son of God) is sufficient to justify a person before God. When the Bible speaks of saving faith, however, it is always a complete belief and trust in God that results in obedience to His will.

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The Bible equates true faith with obedience. Consider one illustration from the life of Moses. No one doubts that Moses was a believer in the God of heaven and in His will. When he once disobeyed God, however, the Lord equated his disobedience with unbelief, or lack of faith. Notice, "*ye rebelled against my commandment...*" (Numbers 27:14) is parallel to "*ye believed me not...*" (Numbers 20:12). Moses did not stop being a 'believer' in the broadest sense, but in God's eyes his disobedience was unbelief. It is nonsense to suggest that the faith that justifies man is mere assent to the gospel message without an application of its teaching and demands to life.

Faith required that Moses speak to the rock, as that was the command of God. Faith required that Abraham wander in Canaan, as that was what God's law required of him. Faith demanded that Joshua and Israel march around Jericho's walls, as that is what God had commanded. But, what does God command or require of us who live under the law of Christ, the New Testament?

In order to be justified by God's grace, the following conditions are necessary on our part. First, there must be knowledge of and belief in the gospel message (Mark 16:15,16; John 8:24). Second, there must be a turning from sin to God--repentance (Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19). This determination takes place in the mind and results in a change in life (2 Corinthians 7:10; Matthew 3:8). Third, the response of faith requires a confession by mouth in the presence of witnesses (Romans 10:9,10; cf. 1 Timothy 6:12). Finally, the law of God requires immersion in water (baptism) for forgiveness of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:15,16). The spiritual blessing of justification, which is found in Christ, is obtained at the point when a sinner is motivated by faith to obey these demands of grace (Ephesians 1:3; Galatians 3:26-27).

Enjoying the benefits of God's grace means continuing to live by obedient faith. According to Titus 2:11,12, God's saving grace teaches us to continue to deny ungodliness and live righteously in this world. Christ's blood continues to cleanse us as we walk in the light of God's word (1 John 1:7). Some of God's children in the past have fallen from faith, so, "*Let us labor therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief*" (Hebrews 4:11). There is no such thing as a disobedient, yet saving, faith. "*Faith without works is dead*" (James 2:14-26). "*Faith which works by love*" is the only faith worth anything (Galatians 5:6). It is possible to have some measure of belief without having true, justifying faith (cf. James 2:19; John 12:42,43). The faith which justifies man, allowing him to have access to God's saving grace (Romans 5:1,2), is faith which obeys. Paul's great letter to the Roman church captures the heart of the gospel's saving message -- and begins and concludes with "*obedience to the faith*" and "*obedience of faith*" (Romans 1:5; 16:26). The faith which justified those of old was always characterized by trusting obedience (Hebrews 11:1-40; James 2:21-25).

THE SIN OF DOING NOTHING

Frank L. Cox

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). The meaning of this passage is clarified and enforced by some of Jesus' wonderful lessons.

The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37). The sin of the priest and Levite was that of passing by on the other side. The Samaritan commends himself to us because of his compassion and kindness – love in action.

The Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31). The fault of the rich man consisted not in cruelty, but in neglect to minister to the man who had been "laid at his gate." He did not do the good that was in his power to do (Proverbs 3:27).

The Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13). Though listed among the friends of the bridegroom, the five foolish virgins were barred because they had not prepared themselves for the occasion. The person who does not prepare his heart and life, in harmony with divine direction, will be confined to the darkness of the outside.

The Talents (Matthew 25:14-30). The third servant was not a criminal. He had not been wasteful. He had buried (preserved) that which had been given to him. His sin was the failure to put into circulation the sum that had been entrusted to him.

The Sheep and the Goats (Matthew 25:31-46). The people on the right side of the throne were blessed because of the deeds of love they had done; the people on the left were lost because they had not rendered service. No man should entertain the idea that the Lord will bless him merely because he does no evil. Positive goodness, as well as negative, is divinely required.

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"I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway" (1 Corinthians 9:26-27).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 24 – Song Service
- July 1 – Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Class
- July 15 – Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Service
- July 15-20 – Tent Meeting w/ Wesley Simons at Greenfield Campground
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Minnie Kennell