Today's Sermons

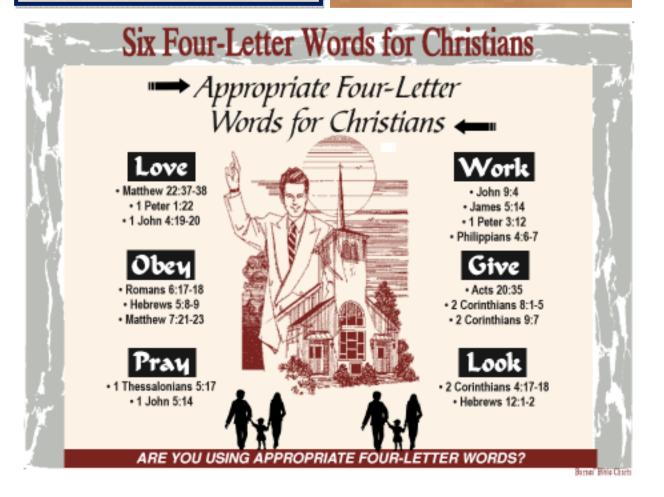
Morning: How Many Baptisms? Evening: TBA

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FOR THE RECORD	
Sunday Bible Study	10
Sunday AM Worship	17
Sunday PM Worship	n/s
Wed. Bible Study	8
Offering	\$1466





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Minister:

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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 WKSK
93.5 FM

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

HOW DOES A PERSON GET INTO THE CHRIST?

Roger Campbell

The reality is that all have sinned and stand in need of the Lord's salvation. However, God's wonderful message is that sinners can be freely justified by His grace "through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Romans 3:24). Where is redemption found? In the Christ. This truth is also stated in Ephesians 1:7, where it is written, "In whom [Jesus, rdc] we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace." By the grace of God, the forgiveness of sins is available somewhere. Where? In the Son of God.

In Ephesians 1:3 it is further stated that God has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in the Christ. It is obvious that "in the Christ" is truly the place to be if we want to be saved and enjoy the spiritual blessings that come from Jehovah. But how does a person get into the Christ?

It is necessary to believe in Jesus as the Son of God (John 3:16-18), but never in the Bible do we read that one can believe "into Christ." How does one become a believer in the Christ? By hearing the word of God (Romans 10:17; John 20:30,31). Yet, never does the Bible state that one can hear "into the Christ."

Continued Inside

What about repentance? God commands it (Acts 17:30). It is necessary in order to obtain the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). But again, never does the Bible say that a person can repent "into the Christ." What about confessing faith in Jesus as the Son of God, like the eunuch from Ethiopia did (Acts 8:36,37)? Yes, confession is also part of the process of being saved (Romans 10:9,10). Yet, just as it is in the case of hearing, believing, and repenting, never in the Bible do we read that one can confess "into the Christ." Make no mistake about it, in order to receive the forgiveness of sins for the first time in life, a sinner must hear the gospel preached, believe in Jesus as the Son of God, repent of sins, and confess his/her faith in the Christ. Having done all of those, however, one is not yet "in the Christ." What is lacking?

"Surely you are not going to tell me that you think being baptized is the way to get into the Christ." You are correct, I am not going to tell you what I think about it, because what I might personally think about the matter has absolutely no bearing on what is right or required by the Lord. But, if we will read what the Bible says, we will find the Lord's teaching about how to get into the Christ, and we cannot go wrong with His answers, right? Two New Testament passages plainly tell us how lost people get into the Christ. They are not a secret. Romans 6:3 says, "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death." Read those four words again: "baptized into Jesus Christ." It is also written, "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ" (Galatians 3:27). How did those people get into God's Son? The Bible says that they were "baptized into Christ."

We have no desire to deny what the above verses say about being baptized into the Christ. We have no desire to remove them or try to explain them away. There they stand, crystal clear. Friend, if you have been teaching falsely about what one must do in order to get into the Christ, for your soul's sake, please immediately denounce what you have been saying in the past. Then, why not humble yourself and be baptized into the Lord Jesus for the remission of your sins?

"Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool" (Isaiah 1:18).

Dying By Degrees

Author Unknown

In an experimental laboratory a frog was placed in a container of water, and the water was heated at the rate of 0.036 of a degree per second. The frog did not notice the change. When the water finally reached 140 degrees, the frog died. But, he had not been aware of any change in temperature. The frog died by degrees. And, like a lot of church members and some churches, the poor frog never did realize he was dying. He could have jumped out at any time if he had known the danger. Church members can, and often do, get far from God, but they never reach this unfaithful state in one night. It takes place by degrees. He begins to miss services occasionally and then a little more often, then soon he is completely out of duty and lost. Even then he sometimes does not realize he is dead while he yet lives. Maybe others still attend services, but their lives lack that inner devotion and fervor they once had. How did they get into such a condition? Little by little they omitted prayer, Bible study, meditation and personal consecration until finally there remains only a shell of a once faithful Christian. "Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you and evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. But exhort one another daily, while it is called 'Today;' lest any of you be hardened though the deceitfulness of sin" (Hebrews 3:12-13).

"Wherein God, willing more abundantly to shew unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec" (Hebrews 6:17-20).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- June 7 Men's Business Meeting & Ladies' Bible Class
- June 14 Preach-N-Eat & 1:30 Service (Song Service)???
- Spring Meeting (6/14-19) moved to July for Lansing Meeting More details to come
- Please give support money for Chinese orphans to Jim Winters