

## PRECIOUS, POWERFUL, AND ALWAYS RIGHT – THE GOSPEL

The apostle Paul was “*set for the defence of the gospel*” (Phil. 1:16, ASV; v. 17, KJV). If necessary, he was willing to die for “**the gospel.**” A Roman prison could not chill Paul’s affection for God’s glorious truth. Paul does not represent the wisdom of men, but is an apostle – a spokesman for God! To the Galatians he wrote, “*Paul, an apostle not from men, neither through man, but through Jesus Christ, and God the Father, who raised him from the dead*” (Gal. 1:1).

Paul did not intend to stand by and see the soul-saving gospel of Christ perverted. Thus, he was quick to say to the Galatians, “*I marvel that ye are so quickly removing from him that called you in the grace of Christ unto a different gospel; which is not another gospel only there are some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, should preach unto you any gospel other than that which we preached unto you, let him be anathema. As we have said before, so say I now again, if any man preacheth unto you any gospel other than that which ye received, let him be anathema*” (Gal. 1:6-9). Notice that Paul clearly states that some were following a **different** gospel which is **not** another gospel. There is only **one** gospel, and it is precious.

As a faithful follower of Christ, Paul was dedicated to the one and only gospel. Such being the case, he did not “tone down” the gospel while seeking the favor of men (Gal. 1:10). Paul knew that he could not have a divided allegiance. Thus, he chose to be a faithful servant of the Savior. We must also decide whose servant we will be. The courage of Joshua is sorely needed today: “*And if it seem evil unto you to serve Jehovah, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve Jehovah*” (Josh. 24:15). Jesus never left the impression that one can be loyal to two opposing causes. In fact, the Master said, “*No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon*” (Matt. 6:24). May our love for God be such that we will gladly make the same decisions that Paul and Joshua made.

The gospel is powerful! The writer of Hebrews declares, “*For the word of God is living, and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart*” (Heb. 4:12). The gospel is not a **dead** letter as false teachers would have one to believe, but is **alive** and capable of piercing the soul and convicting the conscience. So many today offer people the thoughts of men when what is needed is the Word of God. To the Philippians Paul said that he was “*holding forth the word of life*” (Phil. 2:16). The apostle Peter wrote: “*But the word of the Lord abideth for ever. And this is the word of good tidings which was preached unto you*” (1 Pet. 1:25). We should be impressed with the fact that God’s Word is not dead, will never die, and will never pass away!

Paul said, “*For I am not ashamed of the gospel: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek*” (Rom. 1:16). This is but another reason that **the** gospel is so very precious. There is no other power to save man from sin! So many have trodden under foot or cast aside **the** gospel. Others have **added** to the gospel, or **subtracted** from the gospel, and it is no longer **the** gospel. When will people learn that **a** gospel or **some** gospel is not **the** gospel? The Word of God (the gospel) is powerful and fully capable of saving one’s soul from the bondage of sin. God’s Word is **always** right! The Psalmist said, “*The sum of thy word is truth; And every one of thy righteous ordinances endureth for ever*” (Psa. 119:160). Paul told the Galatians that he had presented them with “*the truth of the gospel*” (Gal. 2:5). Every person deserves the opportunity to hear the soul-saving truth of the gospel! They may reject it and be lost, but believing a watered down version of the gospel surely will not save them. Jesus emphasized the fact that God’s Word was truth (John 17:17). Paul said to the Thessalonians, “*And for this cause we also thank God without ceasing, that, when ye received from us the word of the message, even the word of God, ye accepted it not as the word of men, but, as it is in truth, the word of God, which also worketh in you that believe*” (1 Thess. 2:13).

Yes, **the** glorious gospel is precious, powerful, and true. May we be inclined to proclaim it at every opportunity! May those who have not done so hear it and obey it. All must keep in mind that it

is **not** the word of men but the **Word of God** that will judge them in that Day!

**Marvin L. Weir from Bonham St. Beacon**

---

## CHRISTIANITY – THE BETTER WAY

In life, you can choose to serve Satan as a sinner or serve Christ as a Christian. You can live either way, but Christianity is the better way.

**Christianity is the better way because it means salvation.** Jesus said, “I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved” (John 10:9).

**Christianity is the better way because it rids us of our old sinful life.** “Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new” (2 Corinthians 5:17).

**Christianity is the better way because God can work through the life of a Christian.** “Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us” (Ephesians 3:20).

**Christianity is the better way because Christians enjoy the peace of God.** Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (John 14:27).

You will not be sorry for becoming a Christian or for living the Christian life. It is better for now and for eternity. A Christian is a believer in Christ who has repented and been baptized for the remission of sins. “Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:38). You must obey the gospel to be saved (Mark 16:15-16). The Lord adds the saved to the church (Acts 2:47). The saved person must remain faithful till death (Revelation 2:10; 2 Timothy 4:6-8). Obey the gospel and live for Christ now, so that you may live eternally with Him.

**Charles Box from House to House**

---

## **BIRTHDAY**

Joel Nelson, 03-24.

## **ILL**

**Sunday:** Jennifer Carter (AM); Millie Robertson (PM).

**Wednesday:** Janice Carter; Jennifer Carter; Millie Robertson.

Ralph Franklin is in rehabilitation treatment at Evergreen Nursing Center. He is residing in Room D9.

**Those battling cancer:** Ledgia Campbell, David Cole, Shauna Heck, Betty James, Tom Parish and Cleo Stone. Please remember these in your prayers.

## **HOME BOUND**

Kathleen Camp is in Room 101 at the Royal Terrace Nursing Home in Olathe. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at Sharon Lane in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

## **SYMPATHY**

Our sympathy is extended to Judith Anderson and her family in the passing of her brother, Keith Smothers on Monday, March 15, 2010. Funeral services were held in California on Friday, March 19.

## **OUT OF TOWN**

Debra Gragg is in Iowa this weekend. Chris Edwards was out of town last week on business. Chelsea Nelson was visiting relatives in Newton, KS last Sunday. Erin Stillwell was visiting in Higginsville, MO last Sunday.

## **GOSPEL MEETING**

The Blue Springs congregation will hold their "Home Grown Gospel Meeting" on March 21-24 with members of the church there speaking. Check the flyer in the foyer for full details.

## **ATTENDANCE**

Sunday AM, 34; Sunday PM, 33; Wednesday PM, 28.

# **Those To Serve**

March 21, 2010

**BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Thomas**

### **MORNING WORSHIP**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.....Trent Thrasher**

**SONG LEADER.....Joel Nelson**

**OPENING PRAYER.....Chris Edwards**

**PRESIDE.....Stanley Anderson**

**ASSIST.....Jared Nelson**

**ASSIST.....Dave Parish**

**CLOSING PRAYER.....Jeff Nemechek**

### **EVENING WORSHIP**

**OPENING PRAYER.....John Cody Carter**

**CLOSING PRAYER.....George Thomas**

**LORD'S SUPPER.....Stanley Anderson**

### **WEDNESDAY 24th**

**SONG LEADER.....Trent Thrasher**

**INVITATION.....Ted Thrasher**

## **WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

### **Sunday**

Bible Study..... 9:30 AM

Morning Worship..... 10:30 AM

Evening Worship..... 6:00 PM

### **Wednesday**

Ladies Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

**Preacher: Ted J. Thrasher**

**Phone: (913) 764-2325**

**E-mail: [olathecocf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olathecocf@sbcglobal.net)**

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**515 WEST PARK**

**P.O. BOX 482**

**OLATHE, KANSAS 66051**

**[www.kc-cocf.org/olathe.htm](http://www.kc-cocf.org/olathe.htm)**

**[www.oabs.org/olathe.asp](http://www.oabs.org/olathe.asp)**