

LOOKING UNTO JESUS ...AS OUR SAVIOR

“The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world” (John 1:29).

Jesus fills many roles and many voids in our lives. His attributes are many and all are equal in perfection. His gifts of grace and mercy supply spiritual blessings to all who will accept the offer that extends from heaven itself. Wise are those who can clearly see their present and future condition with and without the Christ (Ephesians 2:5).

God’s love and offer of salvation is extended to every accountable person. He will not force that love or salvation upon anyone. The accomplishments and power of humanity fall woefully short in any endeavor to sooth the sin laden soul (Isaiah 6:5). It is imperative to see that sin is man’s greatest problem and salvation is man’s greatest need (1 Timothy 4:10). Only when we look to Jesus does hope become reality.

To whom can we turn (John 6:68)? From what spring can living water flow (John 4:14)? A thorough search for the answer is of significant value. Such an inquiry will expose that we cannot save ourselves (Romans 3:10). Man has been able to invent and improve but never able to absolve the first sin. Medical technology has made incredible strides in preventing and curing disease. Yet never has sin been cured, prevented or terminated in a laboratory, by a pill, or upon the operating table of a skilled medical surgeon.

No person has ever been able to rid another of a single sin. No person has ever been able to remove one spiritual blot from his own soul apart from the blood of Jesus. Sin is terminal and fatal. It slays every victim (Romans 7:11). We alone are defenseless against the curse and consequences of our own iniquity (Titus 2:14).

It is the pinnacle of wisdom to look unto Jesus as our Savior, friend, and Lord. He is not a choice among many as in a buffet line but is the only hope for all who fall prey to the craftiness of Satan (Ephesians 4:14). Spiritual victory for eternity can only be obtained by the grace and blood of Jesus (1 Corinthians 15:57).

Jesus is capable of being our savior because he has paid the ultimate price. “And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission” (Hebrews 9:22). The sacrifices under the law given by Moses were offered in anticipation of Jesus – the Lamb without spot or blemish. We don’t look to the blood of bulls and goats to rescue us from spiritual tragedy (Hebrews 10:4). We look to Jesus who poured out His blood on Calvary.

Jesus is worthy of our affection. Though the depth of Jesus’ love is beyond comprehension, we are impressed beyond words with the unselfish sacrifices made upon our behalf (Hebrews 9:26). Jesus not only has the ability to mend our broken lives, he has the desire (Matthew 11:28). The humility of Jesus reveals another aspect of his great love (Isaiah 53:7-10). When we look to Jesus we see the need of the same type humility in our own lives (Matthew 18:4).

When we see Jesus we should be inspired by the worth of the sacrifice God’s son made for us. In our state of unworthiness he paved with blood the highway to the Father (Romans 5:8). No greater price has ever been paid or greater love ever shown (John 15:13). How can one ignore or trample under foot such a great expression of passion for those who forever would be unable to repay this debt (Hebrews 10:29)?

Jesus, the savior is also the best model of a servant. When we look to the Messiah as savior, his example prompts us to see the importance of serving. We are saved to serve. Jesus left heaven and was made lower than the angels (Hebrews 2:7). He washed dirty feet (John 13:5). No act of

service was beneath his dignity nor should it be beneath ours.

Looking to Jesus as our savior requires us to focus on the spiritual and not upon the immediate concerns of the day. Our soul will live forever. Without salvation that soul will live in torment (Revelation 14:11). Jesus saves! He wants our abiding place to be in an eternal paradise (Revelation 2:7). Sadly it is very easy to get our eyes and attention focused on things that will be destructive rather than spiritually productive. We must initially look to Jesus as the hope of our salvation and then continue to seek God’s will as it is designed for daily living.

Looking to Jesus for salvation will make our lives the best they possibly can be (John 10:10). Such attention will point us to the best friends (Proverbs 17:17). Such attention will warn us about those things that are harmful to our lives. Looking to Jesus will keep us from succumbing to the danger of neglect and apathy (Hebrews 2:3).

We need to look to Jesus as our savior. To do so is to accept amazing grace through faithful obedience. We must turn from our sins (Acts 17:30), confess Jesus as God’s son (Acts 8:37), and receive salvation from our sins by contacting the blood of Jesus in the waters of baptism (Acts 22:16). Our lives are then characterized by a faithful walk with God with our eyes firmly fixed upon Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Dale Hubbert from Vigil

“Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.”

Hebrews 12:2-3

ANNIVERSARY

Bo and Tammy Marcum, 06-02.

ILL

Sunday: Millie Robertson; Chris Edwards (AM).

Wednesday: Millie Robertson.

John James had tests at Olathe Medical Center last week. Bill Nelson is in a rehabilitation center in Newton, KS.

Those battling cancer: Ledgia Campbell, David Cole, Shauna Heck, Betty James 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. Ralph Franklin is in Room D3 at the Evergreen Center. Barbara James' Aunt, Evelyn Marquardt is at Sharon Lane in Shawnee. Please remember these in your prayers and visitation.

OUT OF TOWN

Debra Gragg is visiting relatives in the Wichita area this weekend. Wilba Hopkins is in Springfield, MO this weekend visiting relatives. The Nemecheks are in Abilene, KS visiting relatives this weekend.

POT LUCK DINNER

Our monthly Pot Luck Dinner will be held next Sunday, June 6 following our AM worship. All are encouraged to come and enjoy the good food and company!

GOSPEL MEETING

Toney Smith will conduct a meeting at Chipman Road in Lee's Summit on June 6-9 on the theme of "*Marriage and the Home.*" See the flyer for details.

ATTENDANCE

Sunday AM, 41; Sunday PM, 28; Wednesday PM, 27.

"And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:" **Hebrews 10:24**

Those To Serve

May 30, 2010

BUILDING AND COMMUNION.....Cole

MORNING WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS..... Joel Nelson
SONG LEADER..... Trent Thrasher
OPENING PRAYER John Cody Carter
PRESIDE..... Stanley Anderson
ASSIST..... John Dodson
ASSIST..... Dave Parish
CLOSING PRAYER..... Chris Edwards

EVENING WORSHIP

OPENING PRAYER George Thomas
CLOSING PRAYER..... Jared Nelson
LORD'S SUPPER..... Stanley Anderson

WEDNESDAY June 2nd

SONG LEADER..... Joel Nelson
INVITATION Jared Nelson

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

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