

Good News

From Getwell

Published by
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The Getwell congregation sends monthly
support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN
West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN
Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY
Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:20 a.m.
Worship.....5:00 p.m.

TUESDAY

Ladies Bible Class (Sept. - May) 10:00 a.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

Volume LIX

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Number 27

ON THE HOME FRONT

Gary Colley

The folks meeting at Getwell and Dunn, as well as all faithful churches of Christ, are interested in observing all the Scriptures command, no more and no less (Rev. 22:18-19). No one comes into this world knowing the Lord's Will as revealed in the Scriptures, but study and application are necessary for correct faithfulness, example, and the assurance of Heaven (Mk. 16:15-16; II Tim. 3:16-17; Jn. 5:39-40; Acts 17:11). May we make some suggestions about HOW to study, in order to please God, with one word for each letter in "Scriptures"? (II Tim. 2:15).

S - Systemically (Lk. 24:27; II Tim. 2:14).

C - Carefully (Psa. 1:2).

R - Reverently (Psa. 19:7-11).

I - Intently (Prov. 2:2; Heb. 5:12).

P - Prayerfully (Jas.1:5-7; Psa. 119:18).

T - Trustingly (Jn. 20:30-31; Acts 24:14).

U - Understandingly (Acts 3:18; Eph. 5:17; Heb. 4:12).

R - Retentively (Jer. 20:9; Psa. 119:11).

E - Every day (Acts 17:2; I Pet. 2:2).

S - Seeking saving power (Acts 20:32).

Where in the Bible Will I Find . . .

The True Way to Religious Unity (2)

Gary Colley

This is the second in a series of articles concerning the important study on the Lord's plan for religious unity. We have attempted to clear our minds of the reasons for religious division and appeal to the better judgement of our readers to turn back to Bible unity (Eph. 4:1-6). Of course the Lord's plan is always right, plain, and workable. It brings peace and comfort to those who have the proper faith in Him and His authority (Heb. 11:6; Rom. 10:17). Though men may submit a thousand paths to religious unity, His way only is always right. There was never a doubt in the minds of the early Christians, nor in the minds of true Christians today, that Jesus meant for His disciples to be united in a fellowship of love and Truth. For this unity Jesus prayed (Jn. 17:20-21). He did not pray for something that is "impossible!" He forbids any man to change, twist, or add to His plan for religious unity! (Rev. 22:18-19; Gal. 1:8-9). We have offered several reasons why division in denominationalism is harmful and wrong. We here offer another:

Division Weakens

Some today are speaking of "Unity in Diversity," "You go your way and I will go mine ... but we will agree to disagree and have unity." Unity and Diversity are opposite terms that make folly of any hope for unity! These want all to come together, but without being agreed on the one standard of Truth (Jn. 17:17). Though some are heard to thank God for religious division, it is a known fact that it weakens Christian influence in all areas of life! (Amos 3:3). When those professing to be Christians follow their own ways instead of the Lord's Way, there is no united front against juvenile crime, or any of the other wicked forces attacking the people of our nation and world, moral or otherwise, whether young or old (Isa. 55:8-9). This "crack in the armour" of what we ought to be as followers of the Lord is inexcusable! Division and disunity make it impossible to convince the world of the right Way of the Lord when these we are trying to teach see only strife and alienation. This condition poisons all human relations, especially ones of a spiritual or religious nature.

RON'S REMINDERS



The salvation that Jesus offers to those who obey Him is precious and meaningful. In Matthew 1:20-21, the angel emphatically spoke this truth to Joseph by saying, *"But when he had considered this, behold an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins'"* (emp. added, NASB). The Biblical doctrine of salvation can be studied under many motifs. For instance, the Scriptures teach that we are saved by:

- **Jesus**, Matthew 1:20-21.
- **Jesus' Blood**, Ephesians 1:7.
- **In hope**, Romans 8:24.
- **By faith**, John 3:16; Ephesians 2:8-10.
- **By grace**, Ephesians 2:8-10.
- **By works**, Ephesians 2:10; Philippians 2:12-13.
- **By baptism**, Acts 2:38 Galatians 5:4.

The concept of *synecdoche* (part for whole and vice versa) helps us understand Biblical salvation. Each one of these motifs is just as important as the other. It is not to the exclusion of the other truths but rather their inclusion that makes salvation so very important to those who obey the Word of God.

The New Testament epistles shed great light on the importance of living faithfully until death. Let's examine some of these Scriptures.

II Peter 1:10-11, "Therefore, brethren, be all the more diligent to make certain about His calling and choosing you; **for as long as you practice these things, you will never stumble**; for in this way the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ will be abundantly supplied to you." Peter told the Christians of the Diaspora that they needed to add the seven graces to their walk with God. And as long as they practiced these things, they would never stumble. What if they failed to practice these truths? There was a strong possibility they would stumble/fall.

I Corinthians 10:12, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands **take heed that he does not fall**." This passage is sobering and self-explanatory.

I Corinthians 9:26-27, "Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, **I myself will not be disqualified**." This is one of the most telling verses in the New Testament narratives. Paul the Apostle was straight-forward about danger of his falling from grace. We would take heed to learn from him!

Hebrews 3:12, "Take care, brethren, that there not be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart that **falls away from the living God**." The admonition is crystal clear--Take Care! If it were not possible to fall away, why place this admonition in the Scriptures?

Hebrews 10:26-31, "**For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, but a terrifying expectation of judgment and the fury of a fire which will consume the adversaries**. Anyone who has set aside the Law of Moses dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. **How much severer punishment do you think he will deserve who has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has regarded as unclean the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has insulted the Spirit of grace?** For we know Him who said, 'Vengeance is Mine, I will repay.' And again, 'The Lord will judge His people.' It is a terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Galatians 5:4 "You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; **you have fallen from grace**." Paul stated that those who sought to be justified by the law in Galatia had fallen from grace.

II Peter 2: 20-22, "For if, after they have escaped the defilements of the world by the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, **they are again entangled in them and are overcome, the last state has become worse for them than the first**. For it would be better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, **than having known it, to turn away from the holy commandment handed on to them. It has happened to them according to the true proverb, 'A dog returns to its own vomit,' and, 'A sow, after washing, returns to wallowing in the mire.'**" No explanation necessary!

The preponderance of evidence in the Scriptures clearly teach and show that a child of God can so sin as to be lost. The conversation between Simon the Sorcerer and Peter (Acts 8:9-23) and the admonition from James (James) 5:19-20) clearly add additional support to the Scriptures previously cited.

I am convinced that the evil one will do anything within his power to see us in Hell. And if making people believe that they can "coast into Heaven" without being a good and faithful servant, then he has succeeded! Let us make a concerted effort to enter in by the strait gate!

To God be the glory!

--Bill Davis

**Why Do You Teach That a Person
Can Fall Away from Christ and Be Lost?
THINK, December 2016**