

Washington church of Christ

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The Washington Messenger

Volume 3 – Number 14

April 20, 2014

Order of Services Sunday April 20, 2014

Song Leader	Dan Wydro
Prayer	Bob Celentano
Preaching	Phil Robertson
Lord's Supper	
Prayer for the Bread	Ralph Ruggiero
Prayer for the Cup	Scott Thomas
Prayer for the Collection	Bill Duryea
Assisting at the Table	David Osinski
Scripture Reading	Patrick Wydro
Morning Closing Prayer	Bob Wydro
Evening Opening Prayer	Derald Sanchez
Announcements	Matt Grimaldi

Schedule of Weekly Services

Sunday Morning Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Classes	7:30 pm
Thursday Morning Bible Study	11:00 am

Salvation in Christ...

Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12 NKJV)

These words of the Apostle Peter have to rank among the most declarative statements in the New Testament. They are spoken with a driving boldness of conviction that Jesus saves ... and only Jesus saves.

We must admire the boldness of Peter, and John, as they stood in the midst of the Sanhedrin and declared that even the members of the Sanhedrin could be saved only by accepting Jesus of Nazareth whom they had condemned and crucified. This Jesus is the author of all salvation ... the miraculous cure of the lame man, which precipitated this discourse, and all others is only a part of His salvation, for He has power to save not only the body, but more importantly the soul.

The key word in this verse is "*salvation*," which W. E. Vine defines as "the spiritual and eternal deliverance granted immediately by God to those who accept His conditions of repentance and faith in the Lord Jesus, in whom alone it is to be obtained."

This magnificent word embodies all that Jesus Christ came to be and to do for us. Through His life, death and Resurrection, we are reconciled to God.

The Cross was a one-time, never-to-be-repeated sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. When we accept Jesus' atoning death for our sins, we are forgiven and set free of guilt and self-condemnation. We are born again, beginning life anew as a new creature ... the past is forgiven and healed, and the future is open to amazing possibilities of freedom and joy in Christ.

This verse was spoken to the religious leaders of Israel. Religious pride and self-justifying defensiveness had become a substitute for God and obedience to His Word. The same is true today. One great challenge of our evangelism is to introduce religious people to Christ and the saving experience of His love. I am reminded of the Apostles Paul's writings in the book of Titus...

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself

for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. (Titus 2:11-14 NKJV)

It's interesting that the scope of these verses cover the manifestation of Jesus in the flesh, ("For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men") ... to His death and resurrection, ("who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.")

And in between these two events Paul spoke of the teachings of Christ...

"...denying ungodliness..." - Ungodliness is to live as if there were no God. To affirm godliness is to recognize God in all of life. This raises that interesting question to those of us who readily and regularly profess faith in God ... In what specific ways are our lives being lived differently now than they would be if we did not believe in God? Or, as has been asked, "If you were on trial for believing in God, would there be enough evidence to convict you?"

"...and worldly lusts..." – The lusts for the fleshly, worldly things ... lust of the flesh, lust of the pride of life, lust for power, for riches, and for honor. Jesus teaches us to deny ourselves these and to turn from them.

"...we should live soberly, righteously, and godly..." – In his commentary on the book of Titus bro. David Lipscomb writes ... "To live soberly is to discharge the duty one owes himself. He is not to give way to appetites, passions and lusts, but to so live that by a moderate use of his faculties he will develop them to the highest point of strength and activity. He must do his duty to himself before he can do his duty to others. He who does not live soberly cannot live righteously. He cannot do his duty to his fellow man until he discharges those he owes to himself. A drunken man cannot do his duty to his wife, to his children, to his neighbors, or to God; but the man who properly controls himself can discharge his duty to all others. To live righteously is to faithfully discharge our duty to our fellowman in all relations of life. To live godly is to discharge our duties to God. The obligation and duties we owe in these several relationships interweave into and overlap each other. They depend upon each other, yet they are distinct and cover man's whole duty."

We must adhere to the words of Peter and Paul, such that we preach and teach, and then model with our living, the truth that Salvation is in Jesus ... and Jesus only.

But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. (Ephesians 2:4-7 NKJV)

Our Prayer List...

For Spiritual Responsiveness – All of our wayward members

For Physical Healing – Abigail Jeffries ... Jordan Thomas ... Brian Jeffries ... Barbara Rhinehart (Bill Duryea's sister) ... Matt Grimaldi ... Kathleen Wydro's Mom ... Everett Guyton

For Wisdom and Good Judgment – The Leaders of our congregation ... the leaders of our nation

For God's Care and Good Providence – Bertie Baxter ... Our young people away at college ... Our young people here at Washington ... our members who are traveling ... the men and women in military service ... our congregation.

The Evangelist and Teachers We Help Support – Jon Focht – Tim Bunting – Scott Smelser – Dan Wydro

EVENTS AND NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS THAT WE ARE AWARE OF ARE ...

- ▲ AREA GOSPEL MEETINGS ...
- ▲ ALBANY, NY, ON APRIL 23RD – 27TH, WITH TIM REEVES.
- ▲ BETHLEHEM, PA, ON MAY 2ND – 4TH, WITH DAVID BREWER.
- ▲ WALLINGFORD, CT, ON MAY 2ND – 7TH, WITH BRIAN MESSERLI.
- ▲ CANASTOTA, NY, ON MAY 9TH – 11TH, WITH JOE WORKS.
- ▲ PERTH AMBOY WILL HOST A BILINGUAL EVANGELISTIC EFFORT ON APRIL 26TH. CALEB CHURCHILL WILL BE PREACHING.
- ▲ THE NEXT MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING AND LADIES BIBLE STUDY IS SCHEDULED FOR SUNDAY, MAY 4TH.
- ▲ MONTHLY UPDATES FROM THE EVANGELISTS THAT WE ASSIST ARE POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD.
- ▲ CHECK OUT SCOTT SMELSER'S WEBSITE "3MINUTEBIBLESTUDY.COM".