

Wisdom for Perilous Times

The Promised Accomplished.

1) The Hour has Come - God's _____ is about to be Accomplished

- Glorify - The verb, glorify is to show the _____ and the _____ of God.

2) Fulfill your promise – This is a facet of the nature of God: _____ and _____ -

- The proof of God's faithfulness is the _____, yet to come.

I. Disciples have a friendship with God based on _____ and understanding, not sin and death.

- Know – Intimate knowledge of _____ with an _____ of the significance of that knowledge.
- John 15:15 – I have called you _____ -

II. Disciples will engage in genuine worship based on _____ -

- This worship will no longer be impeded by _____ -
- John 4:23-24 - In Spirit and In Truth - _____ and based on _____ -

III. Disciples will not live only in _____ of Eternal life but _____ it.

- Living in the _____ -
- Freedom when you _____ and _____.
- Living in _____ . 1 Peter 2:21-25
- _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ , _____ -

2 Timothy 4:6-8 – Accomplished in Paul's Life

- _____ the Good Fight, _____ the Race, _____ the Faith.



Messenger

Welcome! We are glad you chose to worship with us.

Some Things Going on at Mt. Vernon church of Christ

Today! We are having a Fellowship meal for all our Members and Guests. As a congregation, we are grateful to be getting past the challenges that accompanied Covis-19 and being able to meet face to face. Hopefully, you have remembered to bring something to share, but if you haven't, there are lots of tables set up and always plenty of food. We will get started as soon as we can following AM Worship Assembly. We will be in the Fellowship Hall.

Every Sunday Morning – We have two excellent Bible Studies to offer. In the Auditorium, Gordon Gower is teaching the Book of Colossians. In the Fellowship Hall, Dennis Baker is teaching the Book of Revelation. Both of these classes are informative and essential for those who strive to faithfully follow Christ. Sunday Morning Bible Classes begin at 9:30 AM.

Wednesday Night Bible Study – At 7:00 PM, we meet at the building (in the Fellowship Hall) to study and seek insight from the Book of Mark. This is an especially important time to meet because the patients from Recovery in the Pines join us in our time of study (they are a part of Sunday Evening Worship, too). The patients are all at different stages of their spiritual journeys and their journeys in recovery. They love being a part of our fellowship. They feel accepted and supported in what they accomplishing with their lives.

Praise and Harmony Sunday Night – Every last Sunday night of each month, our meetings are devoted to developing our ability to blend our voices in 4-Part Harmony and learn new songs that express the faith in our hearts. In the church of Christ, the only instrument we use in worship is the human voice. With our voices we praise the God of heaven and we encourage one another. "Praise and Harmony" is a method of song learning that emphasizes the blending of our voices in 4-part harmony, congregational singing (Harmony), and worshiping the God of Heaven (Praise). We are meeting for singing tonight. Join us tonight as we sing the songs we love. If you want to know more about the Praise and Harmony method or listen to some of the beautiful songs of faith that are being written today, visit praiseandharmony.com or acappella.org.

~ Dennis

Schedule of Services

Bible Class	9:30 am
Morning Worship	10:30 am
Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wed. Evening Study	7:00 pm

Minister Dennis Baker

Shepherds

Dale Cureton Morris Guest
Larry Miller

<u>Deacons</u>	<u>Responsibility</u>
Don Dillahunt	Membership & Attendance Fellowship
Spencer Guest	Youth Work Education Information & Technology
Rick Pinney	Worship

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ATTENDANCE

Bible Class
AM Worship
PM Worship

FINANCES
Weekly Budget \$4077
Weekly Contribution \$3551

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him.

1 John 4:9

Listen to Jesus, not Theologians

Centuries ago, theologians decided that little children are sinners, and therefore they must be baptized so their sins can be forgiven. When one believes this false idea, the obvious conclusion is that an infant who dies in his infancy and has not been baptized (usually by having water sprinkled on him) cannot go to heaven. This is not what the Bible teaches but is what theologians convinced many Christians to believe. Are children who die in infancy doomed to go to an eternal hell?

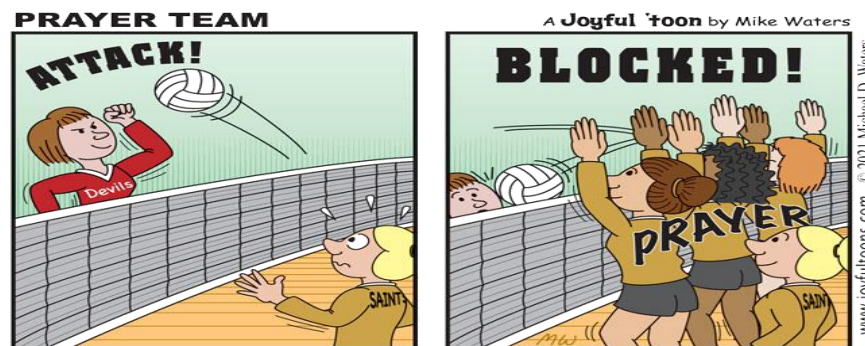
To see that this doctrine is not found in the Bible, consider the Bible definition of sin which separates one from God (Isa. 59:1-2). How does the Bible define sin? Listen to the words of God. "Sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4, KJV). Using this definition, the obvious question to be asked is what sin had a newborn baby committed? Has he put some other God ahead of Jehovah God? Has he created a graven image to worship? Has he taken the name of the Lord in vain? Has he dishonored his parents? Is he guilty of being a thief? Has he committed adultery? Has that newborn told a lie or coveted anything? The answer is obvious. What law of God has a newborn broken?

The theologians realized that a helpless newborn could not actively violate God's teaching, so as they developed their theology, they came to the conclusion that babies inherit the sins of Adam and Eve. They created a new concept—one not found in the Bible—that a baby's sin is not an action but an inheritance.

What does the Bible say about this? God so clearly gives us the answer. The Jews in Ezekiel used a proverb about how a father ate sour grapes and his children had that bitter taste in their mouth. God rebuked them saying, "As I live you shall no longer use this proverb in Israel" (Ezek. 18:3). The father's actions do not determine the destiny of the child. The theologians were wrong! "The soul who sins shall die...The son shall not bear the guilt of the father, nor the father bear the guilt of the son" (Ezek. 18:4, 20). Ancient Jewish theologians were wrong as are more modern "Christian" theologians. The very basis of infant baptism is destroyed. Babies have no sin, and therefore do not need to be baptized for the remission of sins.

How does Jesus describe the spiritual nature of little children? "Of such is the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 19:14). To enter the kingdom of heaven we must "...become as little children" (Matt. 18:3). The greatest in the kingdom is the one "...who humbles himself as this little child" (Matt. 18:4). Oh, how our world would be drastically changed if religious people quit listening to theologians, priests, bishops and pastors as they tell their thoughts and just listen to Jesus!

By Dan Jenkins



And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. - EPHESIANS 6:18 NIV

Things to Know

POTLUCK

TODAY after morning worship. JOIN US!!

PHOTOS

ALL MEMBERS need to have their photos updated. We will be taking pictures in the adult bible lab after worship. If you have questions, please see Heidi.

Ladies Service Teams

GET INVOLVED! The ladies service teams are reorganizing. Please sign-up if you are still interested in being a part of a team, the sheet is on the back table. A team leader will contact you.

Sunday Bible Classes

Dennis Baker is teaching the Book of Revelation in the fellowship hall. Gordon Gower is teaching the Book of Colossians in the auditorium.

Summer Camp Registration

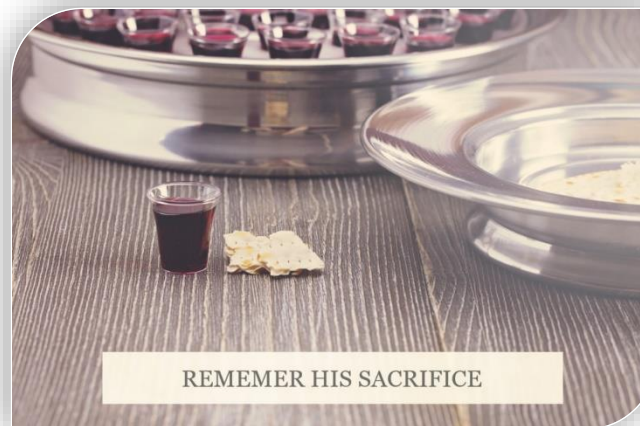
Registration for summer camp at Copper Basin Bible Camp is now open. Pick up a flyer from the back table for instructions.

Memorial Work Weekend

Copper Basin Bible Camp work weekend May 28th thru 30th; see Kevin Hurrell or Joe Bridges with questions.

Communion

Beginning next Sunday March 6th, we will be serving the Lord's Supper again. There will be individual cups available in the basket if you would prefer that method.



Prayer Requests

Kathy Franz's granddaughter Ashley is improving. Tests came back clear and her blood clots are being treated. She is not out of the woods yet; she will be kept in the hospital for observation and treatment. Please continue to keep Ashley and the family in your prayers.

Vickie Mouland (Betty Hanna's daughter-in-law) heart transplant recovery.

Continual Prayers Health Reasons/Treatment

~ **Rusty & Bonnie Parker**, many difficulties with Rusty's dementia

~ **Lucy Cottabarren** at the Granite Creek Rehab facility.

~ **Kim Cureton** is recovering at home with physical therapy

~ **Richard Erno** received his bone marrow transplant. Pray that he will not reject this transplant.

~ **Abby Parra** immune compromised after chemo treatment.

~ **Suzanne Lacey (friend of Gowers)** cancer treatment

Our Shut-ins

Marjorie Trammell

God in the Center

Christ must be our focus and our center. The focus is not on the church. The focus is not on ourselves. Jesus must always be our center. We come together to sing, pray, remember, and learn so that we turn our eyes toward Jesus again, not toward each other and not toward the world. This is what worship is for: to turn our hearts back to God. Worship is reestablishing Jesus as our center. Before we can go to the promised land, we need God in the center. God must be the focus and center of our lives. I must say how sad it is that worship has become so focused on us. I do not simply mean in the denominational world but among our brethren. Worship becomes self-centered. Worship becomes about how we feel. Did you feel good after worship? Do you feel encouraged? Do you feel happy? We turn worship into what we get out of it. This is why we see services shorted, services cancelled, and sermons shortened. We have lost our purpose in our gathering of putting Jesus back in the center. Our camp needs to be facing the presence of the Lord. When we come out of our homes and begin our day, we need to see the presence and the glory of the Lord in the life of Jesus so that we have him centered in our hearts as we work and live. We need to see him all day every day leading us, guiding us, caring for us, and providing for us. God is in our midst.

Brent Kercheville -- westpalmbeachchurchofchrist.com