

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JUNE 7, 2009

SICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS: Gertrude Hall, Bertharine Burton

HOME: Flora Millwood, Lottie Townley, Ruby Harrison, Johnny & Lizzie Banks, Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Audie Estus, Maudie Jones

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Tommy Hollingsworth, David Ray, Amanda Rutledge, Andrew Elliott, Kimberly Wilcox, Pat Cush, Emmitt Pendley, Fritz Pendley, Jerusha Key, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Irene Palmer, Jim Murrell, Vera Fike, Sue Hinds

AM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - "ARE WE BLOCKING HEAVEN'S GATE?"

PM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - "THE FAITHFUL FOLLOWERS"

THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE VBS SUCH A GREAT SUCCESS!!

GOSPEL MEETING AT MIDWAY, JUNE 7-10

GOSPEL MEETING AT CENTRAL IN WINFIELD, JUNE 7-10

**DAVID RAY & ANDREW ELLIOTT ARE IN NEED OF ENCOURAGEMENT.
THEIR ADDRESSES ARE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD**

SEE GENE OR LINDA FOR BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

PLACE QUESTIONS IN THE QUESTION BOX

SEE DAVID OR GLEN FOR TAPES

BIRTHDAYS:

June 7: Lori Edwards

10: Linda McDonald

13: Robert Cheatwood

ANNIVERSARIES:

June 11: Fred & Romaine Elliott

REMEMBER GBN ON DISH CH 9407 11 AM & DIRECTV CH 225 8 AM DAILY

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Franklin Brown 924-8953
Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213
Jason Windham 384-1184
Randy Wood 221-2508

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 924-2376

Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

Good Morning!
Ben Wright

June 7, 2009
Sermon Advantage

**Are We Blocking Heaven's Gate?
(Matthew 25:13)**

- I. By denying what the Bible teaches about _____.**
- A. Many people deny the _____ of hell.
 - 1. They say a loving God would never _____ people to hell.
 - 2. They do this despite the _____ of the Bible.
 - B. Some don't deny its existence but deny the Bible _____ of it.
 - 1. Some say it is just the _____.
 - 2. Others deny that _____ will take place.
 - 3. Others deny how _____ it will last.
 - 4. Others teach that it is _____ for the devil and his angels.
- II. By being _____ toward soul winning.**
- A. Some do not believe those who don't _____ about the gospel will be lost.
 - B. Some are indifferent towards _____ brethren.
 - C. We have to realize our own _____ depend on getting the message out.
 - D. Many times we don't act because of our _____.
 - E. We need to realize there is a world full of lost people and we have the _____ to help them.
- III. By being a _____ church member.**
- A. "You may be the only _____ some may read."
 - B. What do people _____ when they read us?
 - C. We need to make sure our _____ are in the right place (1 John 2:15-17).
 - D. We can _____ the things in which we profess to believe.
 - 1. The church at _____ was held accountable for having those that held the doctrine of Balaam.
 - 2. The doctrine of Balaam is the doctrine of _____ (Numbers 22).
- IV. By robbing people of needed _____.**
- A. Some people are not sure God _____ them.
 - B. Some are convinced they are too _____.
 - C. We need more _____ in the church.

1. His name means “son of _____.”
 2. What if he had turned his back on _____?
- D. We must never judge anyone _____ of the gospel.

ARE PEOPLE REALLY LOST WITHOUT THE GOSPEL?

Mark Lindley

Is it really true that people are lost who have never believed and obeyed the gospel? Before answering that question with our opinions, we should consider what the scriptures teach. Paul affirmed that gospel is “the power of God unto salvation to every one that **beleiveth**” (Romans 1:16). In addition, he wrote that Jesus will one day take “vengeance on them that know not God, and that **obey not the gospel** of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (2 Thessalonians 1:8-9). If language means anything at all, then it is clear from these two passages that responsible people are lost without the gospel of Christ.

We live in a day, however, when many doubt or even deny such teaching. Consider, for example, the funeral service of one who dies without believing and obeying the gospel. It is not uncommon for the one who speaks at the funeral to “preach the deceased into heaven.” The person who died may never have had any spiritual interest or any desire to serve Jesus, yet, the speaker at the funeral will affirm that “he has gone to heaven to be with the Lord.” Is this not a denial of Bible teaching? Does God’s word teach that one can live lost and die saved? Does the Bible really teach that people who die without the gospel go to heaven?

If people can be saved without coming to Christ, then what is so great about God’s love? Scripture makes it clear that God’s love is so great because His love made salvation possible: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (John 3:16). However, if people can be saved without Jesus and His gospel, then God’s love, which prompted Him to send His Son, loses its greatness. Further, if people can be saved without Jesus and His gospel, then what is so amazing about God’s grace? By His amazing grace, God has provided a way for sinners to be saved: “For by grace are ye saved ...” (Ephesians 2:8). Nevertheless, if sinners can be saved without the gospel that God’s grace has provided,

then His grace is not very amazing. Are we willing to diminish the beauty of His amazing grace or the greatness of His love? That is precisely what we do by saying that sinners can be saved without the gospel that has been provided by God's grace and love.

The sad truth is that people really are lost without the gospel, but the good news is that at can be saved who will believe and obey it. With love in my heart for souls, I ask you, have you allowed God to save you by believing and obeying His gospel?