

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AUG 9, 2009

SICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS: Gertrude Hall, Bertharine Burton

HOME: Flora Millwood, Lottie Townley, Ruby Harrison, Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Audie Estus, Maudie Jones, Paul Mays

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Tommy Hollingsworth, David Ray, Amanda Rutledge, Kimberly Wilcox, Pat Cush, Emmitt Pendley, Fritz Pendley, Jerusha Key, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Irene Palmer, Vera Fike, Sue Hinds, Virginia Nicholas, Harold Walton, H.C. Brown

AM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - "WHAT AM I REJECTING?"

PM SERMON - BEN WRIGHT - "WALK IN PURITY"

ELDERS AND DEACONS MEETING TONIGHT AFTER SERVICES

THERE WILL BE A BABY POUNDING FOR ERIN WINDHAM THIS MORNING AFTER SERVICES

SEE GENE OR LINDA FOR BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES

SEE DAVID FOR TAPES

BIRTHDAY:

Aug 13: Flora Millwood

15: Michael Griggs

ANNIVERSARY:

Aug 10: Rick & Cynthia Pope

15: Danny & Brenda Rushing

REMEMBER GBN ON DISH CH 9407 11 AM

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

Neil Myers 924-9289

Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

Jason Windham 384-1184

Randy Wood 221-2508

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 924-2376

WHAT AM I REJECTING?

(Luke 9:22)

- I. You reject the Bible teaching that there is only _____ church.**
- A. _____ 16:16-18.
 - B. Paul tells us that there is one _____ and one _____ (Colossians 1:18 & Ephesians 4:4).
 - C. Notice Ephesians 5:23-32.
 - 1. In this text, there are _____ pronouns and nouns used to identify the church.
 - 2. Each of them is _____.
 - D. Denominationalism, as we know it, did not come into existence until _____ years after the words of Jesus.
 - E. Paul told the Corinthians that he taught the _____ thing in every church (1 Corinthians 4:17).
- II. You reject the Bible teaching regarding a _____ for worship.**
- A. Acts 2:42.
 - B. Nadab and Abihu _____ God's pattern for worship (Leviticus 10:1-3).
 - C. Moses was shown a pattern that he was to _____ (Hebrews 8:5).
 - D. There is a pattern for every _____ of worship.
- III. You reject that God's truth can be _____, _____ and _____ upon.**
- A. Paul told the Ephesians they could _____ the gospel (Ephesians 3:4).
 - B. 1 _____ 1:10.
 - C. Jesus said we can _____ the truth if we want to (John 8:31-32).
 - D. John said there were people who knew the _____ (1 John 2:21).
- IV. You reject the idea that doctrine is _____.**
- A. There is such a thing as _____, or healthy, doctrine (Titus 2:1).
 - B. It strengthens us and we should take heed to it and _____ in it (1 Timothy 4:6).
 - C. Doctrine has a definite _____ (Romans 6:17).
- V. You reject that the church of the New Testament can be _____.**
- A. Acts 9:2 ("the _____").
 - B. Acts 28:22 - it was everywhere spoken _____ - people knew it.
- VI. You fail to make Jesus' prayer for unity a _____.**
- A. Denominationalism cannot be _____ with this prayer of Jesus in any way.

B. 1 _____ 1:10.

C. _____ 16:17.

VII. You _____ the Lord.

A. Romans 7:1-4 - in the church we are _____ to Christ.

B. It is impossible to _____ Christ from His church.

POLITARCH PRECISION

Eric Lyons

When writing about the Christians in Thessalonica who were accused of turning “the world upside down,” Luke noted that some of the brethren were dragged before the “rulers of the city” (Acts 17:5-6). The phrase “rulers of the city” (NKJV, ASV; “city authorities” - NASV) is translated from the Greek word *politarchas* and occurs only in Acts 17 verses 6 and 8. For many years, critics of the Bible’s claim of divine inspiration accused Luke of gross inaccuracy because he used the title *politarchas* to denote the city officials of Thessalonica, rather than the more common terms *strateegoi* (magistrates) and *exousias* (authorities). To support their accusations, they simply pointed out that the term *politarch* is found nowhere else in all of Greek literature as an official title. Thus, they reasoned that Luke made a mistake. How could someone refer to such an office if it did not exist? Whoever heard or read of *politarchas* in the Greek language? No one. That is, no one had heard of it until it was found recorded in the various cities of Macedonia - the province in which Thessalonica was located.

According to F.F. Bruce, the term *politarchas* has now been found in 32 inscriptions from the second century B.C. to the third century A.D. (The Book of Acts, p. 324). At least five of these inscriptions are from Thessalonica - the very city about which Luke wrote in Acts 17 (A.T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament*). One of these five inscriptions was found on an ancient marble arch, and reads “In the time of Politarchas...” The names of seven *politarchas*, including Sospiter, Secundus and Gaius, also appear on the stone (J. W. McGarvey, *New Commentary on Acts of the Apostles*, p. 113). According to J.A. Thompson in his book *The Bible and Archaeology*, these words were etched into the stone sometime between 30 B.C. and A.D. 143 (p. 15). Thus, most likely the arch was standing when Luke wrote his historical narrative known as Acts of the Apostles.

There should be no doubt that the use of the title “*politarchas*,” which once was thought to be an indication of the Bible’s inaccuracy, reveals Luke’s inspired precision. Contrary to the hopes of skeptics, archaeology **once again** has verified Luke’s writings! Surprised?

You shouldn't be. It has happened countless times. And every time archaeology, biology, or any other discipline of study confirms the Bible's accuracy, statements like the one Isaiah made 2,700 years ago come to mind: "The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever" (Isaiah 40:8). Let us hope and pray that the unbelieving recognize this fact before it is everlastingly too late.

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