

Eisenhower Church of Christ

“Salvation Has a Location”

From the time God called Abraham to go to a country that He would show him, with a promised blessing when this command was obeyed, God has always required certain people to go to certain places for safety or blessing. None whom God called could reach His blessing without doing what God told him to do.

We call to memory that when God brought a flood upon the earth, He placed salvation from the flood for Noah and his family in the ark and all had to go into the ark to be saved from death. Many good people in our time would argue that God has as much power out of the ark as in the ark. They would argue that going into the ark was unnecessary, and they would have been preaching salvation out of the ark.

Coming now to the New Testament, I call to your attention that Jesus purchased His church with His blood (Acts 20:28). Being purchased by the blood of Christ, it became a divine institution in which Jesus is said to be the head and that church is His body (Eph. 1:22-23). This church is built upon a divine foundation of which Jesus is the chief corner stone (2:20-22). All people who are reconciled to God must be reconciled in this one body or church. (2:16). The God of Heaven has located salvation from all past sins in, not out of, His church. There is no promise of any man being saved outside the church of Christ and here is where the great battle comes between Truth and error-between the human churches and the church of Christ.

(1) Some people argue that there are people who are just as good in one church as there are in another. That is true, but God does not save us on account of our goodness, but on account of our spirituality. Jesus teaches that we must be born again (John 3:3-5).

(2) Some say we are saved outside the church then join the church because we are saved. Paul said Christ purchased the church with His own blood (Acts 20:28). So if you are saved outside of the church you are saved outside of the purchased possession and you must claim salvation apart from the blood of Christ.

(3) Some argue that it is God-not the church- who saves. That is true. But where does God save? Paul says we are reconciled in one body (Eph. 2:16) and that this one body is the church (Col, 1:18-24). Now, since God reconciles us in the church, if you were reconciled outside the church it was not God who did the reconciling.

(4) Some will ask, “Won’t God save me out of the church?” Let Jesus answer. In Matthew 7, He argues that there are only two classes of builders- those who build on the rock and those who build on the sand. The structures of those who build on the sand will fall, but those on the rock will stand. When Peter confessed the Son of God, Jesus answered and said, “Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hell shall not prevail against it” (Mt. 16:18). Since the church is built upon the rock, if you are building outside it, you are building upon the sand and Jesus said your building will fall.

(5) We are reconciled to God in the church or one body (Eph. 2:16). Then if you are saved outside the church, you are saved outside of reconciliation to God. No one would want that kind of salvation for that is an impossibility.

Having now learned where I am reconciled to God, the next question to settle is this: “What must I do to come into the place of reconciliation? Jesus answers by saying we must “hear” His sayings and “do” them to be like the wise builder (Mt. 7:24). In doing the sayings of Jesus, I must “believe” that He is the Son of God (Jn. 20:31). After believing, I must “repent” of my sins (Luke 13:5). After repenting, I must “confess” Him before men (Mt. 10:32), and in the great commission Jesus not only taught that I should believe, but that I must be baptized to reach salvation (Mk. 16:16). This agrees with Paul’s statement that “as many of you as have been

baptized into Christ have put on Christ” (Gal. 3:27). So these five commands taught at different places in the New Testament teach me what I must do to be saved.

If our entrance into the city of God depends upon our doing His commandments, no one can have a hope of salvation short of complying with the same. I should be willing to not only obey for my own salvation, but for those with whom I may associate along life’s pathway. As salvation is located in the only church Christ purchased with His own blood, and the way into that church is made so plain, the only reason one can offer for not being saved is that he simply does not want to do God’s will.

—J. D. Tant

Concerns Update

Bill Bayless is still at Medical Center Hospital. He underwent a second surgery on his intestines Friday, February 13th. They found additional blockage. Bill is in room #652.

Kathy Marshall was taken to the Medical Center Hospital Tuesday, February 17th due to being unable to think clearly with some confusion as to her surroundings. Kathy is undergoing tests.

Bré elle Watts, the four year old granddaughter of Ralph & Laura Watts, who has been undergoing chemo treatment for Leukemia, is not responding as well as the doctors had hoped. Her treatments have been increased to daily instead of once a week. The Watts family lives in Artesia, NM. Keep them in your prayers.

Prayer List

Jerry Anderson; Elaine Armentrout; Cody & Kala Ausbrook; Bill Bayless; Velma Betts; Susan Bosse; Elsie Bradford; Beth Carrell; Neva Carrigan; Don & Hazel Cavanaugh; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettles-Dennard; Doug Dowell; James Drake; Jake & Summer Finley; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Burt & Anna Groves; Winford & Jean Hambright; Linda Horton; Lon Howard; Susan Lee; Kathy Marshall; Shannon McAfee; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Caleista Millican; Loy Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Allison & Nathan Moyers; Judy Phillips; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Carmen Settle; Charles Simmons; Nancy Slife; Marilyn Upshaw; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells; Wilene Wright

Shut-Ins

Mildred Bell; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Events

Branyon May will present a “Documentary Report” on **Noah’s Ark** Saturday March 21st. Since this will be an (all day) session, we will have a potluck luncheon around noon. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors.

The **New Mexico Children’s Home** will be in Odessa March 3rd for a food drive. They are requesting Nestle’s Quik and Kool Aid. Also, there are coin cans on the table in the east foyer if you would like to save your change for them. Monetary donations accepted.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Of which land was the Genesis record referring when it said, “The gold of that land is good; there is bedellium and the onyx stone.” Was it (1) Ephraim (2) Havilah, (3) or Uz?

Last Week’s Bible Quiz answer...

Demetrius was a silversmith.

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called **“Take Aim”** at 6:30 each Tuesday night. Tune your radio program to the gospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch *“In Search of the Lord’s Way”* every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the *“Speaking the Truth in Love”* program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Wednesday Night

Devotional Speakers

February 25th—Doug Guynn

March 4th—Dex Dennard

March 11th—Allen Weakland

March 18th—Trinidad Wood

Song Leader

Denny Wilson

Rudy Ochoa

Dex Dennard

John Wood

Thank You

Eisenhower Church of Christ Friends,

Happy New Year! And thank you for helping 2014 end so happy for our children here at New Mexico Christian Children’s Home! We really appreciate you sponsoring 3 cottages with Christmas gifts!. It brought so much happiness to the children. Thank you for your generosity and also for the continued prayers for the children and workers here.

With Gratitude,

Diane Cox,

NMCCCH

Office News

Odessa Christian School has a fifth grade teaching position open. Interested applicants should contact the school at 362-6311.

Odessa Christian School’s **“Eighteenth West Texas Christian Track Meet”** is right around the corner, April 18th, at Ratliffe Stadium. They are taking requests for ad space at this time for the program. The deadline for sponsorship and ad sales is March 3rd.

Remember to **“Save the Date”** May 16th, 2015. This is the day that Craig Wesson and Kallie Culp will be united in Holy Matrimony. An invitation will follow.

“Strengthening the Family” Group #4 will meet in the Annex for a potluck luncheon following this morning’s service. All the visitors are invited to join them.

Food for Thought ...

The best way to get ahead is to have one.

Live spelled backwards is evil.

February 22, 2015

Announcements
 Song Leader
 Sermon
 Opening Prayer
 Scripture
 Second Prayer
 Closing Prayer
 Lord's Supper

A.M.

Jeff Wesson
 John Wood
 Allen Weakland
 Jeff Wesson
 Don Easlon
 Bill Tolbert
 Bill Ryan

P.M.

Jeff Wesson
 Jacob Carson
 Allen Weakland
 Jeff Wesson
 Dex Dennard
 Clint Titlow
 John Wood

West...

Rudy Ochoa
 George Warren
 Josh Weakland
 John Carroll
 Trinidad Wood
 Josh Wells

Jacob Carson
 Communion
 (In Library)

East...

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon:* Josh Wells 770-6753 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486
Table: Jacob Carson 940-3775 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Tom Sorenson 631-2518
Contributions: Tom Sorenson 631-2518

Sunday AM"

"The Necessity of Brotherly Love"
 (1 John 3:10-15)

Sunday PM

"Hard Hearts & Thoughts"
 (Mark 3:1-6)

Our Records

*Bible Class...*66
*Morning Worship...*129
*Evening Worship...*79
*Wednesday...*88
Contribution...\$3,833.00

