

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## “Refutation of the False Doctrine of the Sinner Prayer”

According to the Baptist view, the order of and conditions essential to, salvation are: (1) repentance; (2) faith. Repentance is a change of mind, produced by sorrow for sin and leading to a reformation of life. Essentially, repentance is simply a change of mind (for so the word *metanoia*, translated “repentance,” signifies) sorrow for sin merely being a condition precedent to it and reformation of life, the result thereof. What produces a change of mind (i.e., attitude of heart) in the sinner? In a word, all the factors involved in the scheme of redemption.

The sinner, through contemplation of his lost condition is led from feelings of gratitude for the provisions made for him to decide to turn from rebellion against God to humble and complete obedience to him. From what source does he derive information touching his lost condition and where does he learn of the provisions thus made in his behalf? From the Scriptures, of course. What prompts him to act upon the impressions obtained in this manner? His confidence in the reliability of the facts and principles presented! But is not this confidence he now enjoys in the sacred writings nothing more nor less than faith? It is indeed and without it there can be no repentance. Furthermore, it is the acceptance of the facts presented that leads him to desire to repent! Faith, then, must precede repentance. Faith enables the sinner to repent—in fact, prompts the desire. Without faith the sinner cannot repent; without faith he would not if he could. As irresistible and conclusive as these facts are, they are, nevertheless, in hopeless conflict with Baptist doctrine. Why? The basic assumption of their doctrine is the dogma of salvation by faith only. They insist that the sinner is saved at the very instant of belief, before and without additional acts of obedience. With such a position it becomes clear that they cannot place repentance after faith in their scheme; to do so they would have the sinner “saved” before and without repentance! Thus, to get repentance in their “plan of salvation” at all, they must place it before faith! Such an arrangement is illogical, unscriptural, and psychologically impossible. It is, however, but the inevitable consequence of their false theory regarding the plan of salvation. An absurdity growing out of their basic error in this matter, it is the fruit of an effort to be consistent in error while clinging tenaciously to a false premise—viz, that salvation is conditioned upon faith only in the Scriptures.

They face a similar difficulty in their position regarding an alien sinner’s prayer. While it is a tenet of their doctrine that God will hear and answer the prayer of an alien sinner, their position thereon makes such psychologically impossible. In their view, faith and salvation are concurrent—i.e., the moment the sinner believes, he ceases to be an alien—is saved. Manifestly, then, he cannot pray as an alien after faith, for he is, according to their conception, no longer an alien. If, therefore, he prays as an alien sinner, it must be before he believes. It is, however, psychologically impossible to pray without faith; moreover, such is displeasing to God (Hebrews 11:6). Thus, since an alien cannot pray before he believes, and since Baptist doctrine has it that he is no longer an alien after believing, their doctrine makes it logically

and psychologically impossible for an alien sinner to pray any time! Yet, it is of the very essence of their doctrine that an alien sinner must pray in order to receive salvation. Why is the folly of such doctrinal error not obvious to those who hold it?

—Guy N. Woods

### ***Prayer Request***

**Joe Kelley** (a Philippine missionary) underwent spinal surgery on Thursday, December 10th. Please keep him in your prayers that he has a full & speedy recovery. He and Allen did some mission work together.

**Fred Dominguez** (former preacher of the church of Christ in Pecos, TX) is in a hospital in Abilene with Covid 19 virus and is not doing well at all. Prayers are requested for him.

**Eddie Stegall** (Patsy Mitchell's cousin) is in ICU in a hospital in Oklahoma City with Covid 19 and pneumonia. Eddie is on a vent, but when the oxygen is reduced, he seems to have a hard time. He was running a fever last Tuesday. Keep him in your prayers.

**Gary Schwulst**, Lindsey Wells' step-dad, is in the hospital struggling with Covid 19 virus.

**Lindsey and Nolan Wells**, all have tested positive with the Covid virus too. We need to keep them both and also her step-dad in our prayers that they have a speedy recovery.

**Hattie Gilmore** has mouth ulcers that is not responding to any treatment. She has requested prayers.

**Ora McAfee** is also having a rough time recovering from her hand surgery done on November 4<sup>th</sup>.

Amanda Zuniga has requested prayers for her **cousin** who has cancer and is under Hospice Care.

Keep in prayer all of our members who are self-quarantined because of exposure to the virus or because they have the virus.

### ***Concerns Update***

**Doug Dowell** (Janis May's brother-in-law) was able to go home after being treated for bleeding ulcers in the hospital. Doug lives in Jones, OK.

### ***Prayer List***

Maria Anaya; Wayne Anderson; Raul & Elizabeth Armendarez; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; Abessa Chavez; Jon Cooper; Kim Drake; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Jr. & Julie Munoz; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Tom Siler; Sheila Stanton; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Janet Wesson; Jeff Wesson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

### ***Eisenhower's Shut-ins***

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

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

### ***Youth***

#### **Bible Quiz Question ... (Fill in Blank)**

When the apostles were forbidden to speak anymore in the name of Jesus, Peter and the other apostles answered, "We ought to obey \_\_\_ rather than \_\_\_".

## Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

Paul's ship was run aground at Malta.

**Events** Watch *"In Search of the Lord's Way"* Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

## **Food for thought...**

Middle age is when you can still do everything you used to do but had rather not.

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the thing I can and the wisdom to know the difference.

## God Bless America

*I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.*

What if one political party and its leading candidate gives more than a million dollars to a law firm to investigate an opposing political candidate? And they hire a foreign spy who makes up a 35page dossier of lies against the targeted candidate? And the head of the FBI and other high level FBI agents use that dossier to justify more investigations? And the media hypes these investigations for the next three plus years?

Does God care about this? God sees everyone, "who plots evil with deceit in his heart; he always stirs up dissension. Therefore, disaster will overtake him in an instant, he will suddenly be destroyed—without remedy. There are six things the Lord hates; seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked scenes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies, and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers" (Proverbs 6:14-19).

God will deal with such people in due time, rest assured. God hates such sins. So, what can we do during this time of unrest in our nation? I'm going to pray to God for our country and continue to pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. God bless America.

—Rick Cunningham

## **December 13, 2020**

### **A.M.**

### **P.M.**

Announcements	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Oliver Hernandez	Jr. Munoz
Second Prayer	Larry May	Scot Straw
Closing Prayer	Bill Ryan	Jackie Perkins

Lords Supper

Scripture Reading: Craig Wesson

Tom Sorenson

Communion

(In Library)

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder:* Allen Weakland 254-8209— *Deacon:* John Wood 413-7444 — *Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444 — *Table:* Tom Sorenson 638-9447 — *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990— *Recording Sermons:* Richard Siler 556-2151 — *Collections:* Richard Siler

## **Sunday AM**

“Treatment of False Teachers”

(I John 2:18-23)

## **Sunday PM**

“Change in Morality”

(I Thessalonians 4:1-8)

## **Our Records**

Bible Class... ~

Morning Worship...NC

Evening Worship...NC

Wednesday...—

Contribution... \$4,202.00