

News

Randy Blackmon had his hip replacement surgery Thursday. It went well and he reports that the pain he had been having was gone. He expects to get out of the hospital soon and he will be receiving rehab therapy at home——**Relda Marshall** reports “My CT scan was good. Tumors were stable and still shrinking. My Dr. was very pleased with my results.” She and Pat went to Houston this past week——**Phil Brown** spent Sunday night until Thursday in the local hospital as a result of a fall and splitting his nose open. And they treated him for low blood pressure——**John Paul Ferguson** was born (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 717-0265

DEACONS:

Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday

Ladies Class 10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

PREACHERS:

Jared Rogers 682-300-3602
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

July 23, 2017

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: Bob Arnold

Luke Arnold **Andrew Arnold**
Bobby Burns **Dayne Stansell**

Sunday Evening

Luke Arnold **Andrew Arnold**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Jerry Wildman (Opening)

—R. Montgomery (Closing)

PM—Thomas Hockaday (Opening)

—William White (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson

P.M.—Kenneth Amerson

(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

Think It Over—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside
Church of Christ
P.O. Box 242
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Number 29

Denominational “Salvation”

By Kyle Pope

“Are you saved?” the lady asked me, as we stood and talked at my front door. “I hope that I am,” I said, “but God will judge.” A man and woman from a denomination came to my door years ago, as they were canvassing our neighborhood. “You can be sure of your salvation,” she continued, “If you will accept Jesus as your personal Savior.” These words were not unique. They could have been spoken by any preacher, or member of a denomination anywhere in the world. They have an element of truth to them, but they stem from some false concepts of salvation that overshadow any truth they might contain.

Man's Need for Salvation.

Jesus said that He came to “**seek and to save that which was lost**” (Luke 19:10). Paul wrote that “**all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God**” (Romans 3:23). When we sin we separate ourselves from God and become lost in sin. To die in this condition means eternal punishment. Man stands in need of salvation from sin. God “**desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth**” (1 Timothy 2:4). Yet, how does this salvation come to us?

The Wrong Method of Salvation.

In Acts 16:30, when the keeper of the prison asked Paul and Silas “**What must I do to be saved,**” he was told, “**Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved**” (Acts 16:31). The text describes him acting upon this belief by washing the stripes of Paul and Silas (an indication of repentance) and being baptized (16:33). In Acts 8:35 when

Philip taught **“Jesus”** to the Ethiopian nobleman, the man asked to be baptized (8:36). When he was he came up out of the water **“rejoicing”** (8:37). In spite of these clear teachings, most denominations teach that if someone desires to be saved, the method by which he or she acts upon this is faith and prayer. “Repeat with me the ‘Sinners Prayer’” they are told, “and you will be saved.” The problem is there is no example of a lost sinner praying to God as the method of accepting salvation! In fact, the Bible teaches that God’s ears are not open to the prayers of sinners (1 Pet. 3:12).

The Wrong Access to Salvation.

When a person comes to recognize his or her need for salvation, the denominational concept teaches that if you “ask Jesus to come into your heart” you will be saved. Paul taught the Galatians **“as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ”** (3:27). Paul taught the Romans that one is **“baptized into Christ Jesus”** which is to be **“baptized into His death”** (6:3). He goes on to explain that this union together in the **“likeness of His death”** (6:5) gives one the hope of resurrection unto life. To teach that someone is *in Christ* and thus has access to salvation that is in Christ, before he or she had done what the Bible teaches is false doctrine!

The Wrong Conditions of Salvation.

Having convinced people of a

false access to salvation, the denominational concept goes further to teach people that this salvation is not conditioned upon their faithfulness to God’s word. John taught that **“if we walk in the light as He is in the light”** it is then that **“the blood of Jesus cleanses us from all sin”** (1 John 1:7). If we should stumble, John goes on to teach that we must confess and turn from sin in order for God to **“cleanse us from all unrighteousness”** (1:9). Jesus taught **“he who endures to the end shall be saved”** (Matthew 24:13). The denominations teach that it is not necessary to be faithful in life, sound in doctrine or consistent in worship to be saved.

False Assurance of Salvation.

The Hebrew writer taught that the Christian can have **“boldness”** to come before God because of the **“blood of Jesus”** (10:19). We can be assured that when we abide in Christ our sins will be forgiven and we have the hope of salvation. The denominations, after telling people that there are no conditions upon which their salvation depends, then tell them that if they really have faith they can “be sure they are saved.” Paul shows the fallacy of this notion. He wrote that, while he knew nothing **“against”** himself (i.e. anything he knew that might condemn him) he was not justified in this (1 Cor. 4:4a). Rather, **“He who judges me is the Lord”** (1 Corinthians 4:4b). In fact, although he was an apostle in the church, he worked every day to bring his body **“into subjection”** lest he **“should become**

disqualified” (1 Corinthians 9:27). Confidence in one’s salvation does not mean having false assurance or imagining that God requires nothing in obedience to Him.

A Different Gospel.

In Paul’s letter to the churches of Galatia he rebuked them for turning **“...from Him who called you in the grace of Christ to a different gospel, which is not another...”** (Galatians 1:6b-7a). He went on to say that some **“pervert the gospel”** (Galatians 1:7b). From what he writes in the epistle, the nature of this “false gospel” had to do with turning back to elements of the Old Law (5:4), binding circumcision (5:6) and Jewish Christians practicing segregation from Gentile believers (2:11,12). Paul doesn’t call these things different “opinions.” He didn’t say, “you see it your way, “I’ll see it mine.” He didn’t say that doing and teaching different doctrines is practicing “Christian Liberty.” On the contrary, he said such falsehood robbed one of the liberty that is in Christ (5:1, 13). That being the case what must we conclude today about a “gospel” that teaches access to and assurance of a “salvation” the Bible never promised? We must conclude that it too is a **“different gospel”** which in fact **“is not another”** but is a false perversion of the gospel of Christ. —*Focus Online 7/11/17*

The Nelsons Here July 30

Drew, Meagan and 1 year old daughter, Daphne Nelson from Bay City TX will be

with us the last Sunday of this month, July 30. Drew will be teaching the auditorium class and preaching both sermons. They will be here in the interest of working with us. Let’s give them a warm welcome

Lectureship at Southside in Sulphur Springs July 16—19

Theme:
Is It Reasonable to Believe in God?

Beginning this afternoon we will have opportunity to attend at 2:00 and 3:00, and on Monday and Tuesday evenings at 7:00 and 8:00. See the bulletin board in the foyer for more information. The speakers will be **Bruce Reeves, Tyler Sams, Shawn Chancellor and Shane Carrington**. I am sure it will be profitable to hear these lessons.

Gospel Meeting

Jared Rogers will be the speaker **July 23 through 28, 7:00 pm, at Cooper, TX.**

NEWS (continued from back page)
to Chris and Starla July 5. Congratulation to them and grandparents, Kenny and Karen——**Judy Hinson** is struggling with the effects of her chemo treatment July 3——**Willie Don Davis** is gaining some strength and doing better——Remember **Phil Brown, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, William White, Catherine Moss, David Chapman, Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**——Remember our **Shut-ins:** *James Johnson, Maurine Lee, Wanda Sikes, Vivian Stroman and Lelda Thompson.*