

The McLish Avenue Messenger

This is the message we have heard from Him... God is Light (1 John 1:5).

March 7, 2010

MCLISH AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST • 607 McLish SW • Ardmore, OK 73401



This New Testament passage quotes an Old Testament passage. Where is the Old Testament passage found?

“... that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke: ‘Lord, who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?’ ”

John 12:38 (NKJV)

Evangelist

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Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:30 am

Worship 10:30 am

Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Bible Questions & Answers

Ben Bailey

While writing a weekly article for the local paper, I was asked the following question. “If baptism is essential for salvation, why were such men as David, Moses, Abraham, and Solomon not baptized? And, why was Jesus baptized?”

To answer this question, we must have an understanding of what law these men lived under.

Abraham, Moses, David, and Solomon all lived and died under the Old Law. Under the Old Law there is no command to be baptized. To live faithful to the Law of Moses, men had to keep its statutes and ordinances as found in the Books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy. These men did not even know what baptism was and therefore they would not have needed to be baptized. However, when Jesus died the Old Law was nailed to the cross and the law of Christ (including His command to be baptized) went into effect (Col 2:14-15; Eph 2:14-15).

Concerning the baptism of Jesus, the Bible tells us Jesus was baptized to fulfill all righteousness (Matt 13:15). The Bible teaches that baptism is performed as both a command of God and for the washing away of sins (Acts 10:48; Acts 2:38). Since Jesus had no sin (Heb 4:15) He was baptized to obey the commands of God. Simply put, Jesus was baptized because God commanded it.

However, one cannot read the Bible and say that baptism is only an outward sign that you are already saved. The Bible never says such. In fact, the Bible says the exact opposite. Notice these passages that teach baptism is essential to salvation. “He who believes and is baptized will be saved...” (Mk 16:16). “Repent and be baptized every one of you for the remission of your sins...” (Acts 2:38). “And now why

Continued inside ...

Answer

Continued from front page

are you waiting? Arise and be baptized and wash away your sins calling on the Lord's name" (Acts 22:16). Of all the passages in the New Testament that teach baptism is essential, 1 Peter 3:21 is one of the clearest. Notice Peter's words, "...baptism does now also save us...". If God wanted to make it any plainer that baptism is essential to salvation, how could He?

Dear friend, the problem is not with the Bible's teaching on the subject of baptism. The Bible clearly teaches baptism is essential to one's salvation. This does not mean we earn or merit our salvation. It is still by God's grace we are saved (Eph 2:8). However, it is a prerequisite God has given to us just like belief and repentance (Jn 8:24; Lk 13:3). The problem with baptism may be our own bias and prejudice to what the Bible teaches. May God help each of us to put aside our bias and obey His will.

Assistance It would be greatly appreciated if everyone could check the pew around where they sit after each service to see if there are items that need to be thrown away. Your time spent in tidying your area is greatly appreciated.

Outreach Groups

Group 1

Chock & Mary Aldridge
Ron & Peggy Jones
Ray & Tomi Harness
James & Tammy Gravelle
Ronnie Byrd
Steve Mann
Scott & Tina Saner
Jaccie Pirtle

Group 2

James & Dana Meece
David & Linda Johnson
Ben & Christie Bailey
Betty Higgins
Harold & Martha Dillard
Pat Ballard & Vickie Fletcher
Bill & Gail Stewart
Earl & Sue Mann

Group 3

Vernon & Arlene Castleman
Sharon Ryan & Christy Murray
Cecil Hargrove
Lovell & Mary Hughes
Lonnie Harris
Rick & Suzanne Tidwell
Tom Matlock
Sharlene Wallis & Rebecca



Today at noon we will gather for a fellowship meal. If you are visiting with us, we would love to have you as our guest. There is always an abundance of food and we'd like to get you know you better!

Pantry Teachers, please encourage your Bible students to bring one pantry item each week. This will help each student develop a giving spirit.

Tax forms Please check with Melba to pick up a tax form.



Cookout Ben brought back wood from his recent trip home and is itching to do some major cooking. He will cook hamburgers after evening services on Sunday, March 14th. Please bring sides, desserts and drinks.

The Gospel of Christ The website continues to be a source of information for many who are searching on the internet. If you have a friend or relative in another congregation, please jot down their name and phone number and give it to Kevin. He'd like to use these contacts to help open doors for him to speak about *The Gospel of Christ*.



*Remember
Our Sick*

Ben Tomlinson was admitted to Mercy Memorial room 212 with congestive heart failure. **Ester Godwin** has been home sick for the last few weeks. **Brenda Anderson** has sprained her ankle.

Christy Bailey is doing well after her treatment last Thursday. Please continue to remember: **Cecil**

Hargrove's sister • Olga Stinson • Gracie Smith • Martha McClanahan, Robert's mother • Mona Blanton • Jean Parker • Jamie Feroi • Mary Ann Ashley • Ruth Parker's great-grandson Emory Raney • Bessie Childress • Jean Cary's nephew, Kent Barker • Ruth Minyard • Mildred Pennington's sister, Geneva Long and her sister-in-law Billie Gilliam • Patti Culpepper • Betty Higgins • Jerry & Glenda Vinson • Murray Goforth • Deborah Thomas' mother • Pat Morrison, Olga Sue Stinson's sister • Bill & Virgie Burchfield • Dortha Phillips • Pat Ballard's mother • Madeline Minyard • and those shut in/nursing home members.



Our sympathy is extended to **Olga Stinson** and family in the death of **Marty Stinson** on Friday. We also want to remember **Ron Jones** and family in the recent death of **Ron's uncle**. Please keep these families in your actions and prayers during their time of loss.

Over 39ers The over 39ers will meet Thursday, March 18th at 6:00 pm at BG's Catch in Kingston. If you have questions, see **Lovel Hughes**.

Baby shower Everyone is encouraged to stay after services on Wednesday, March 17 for a baby shower for the Bugbees. Nancy states that she has all the "big" items, but after two boys, she is looking forward to some girl clothes! She is registered at both Kiddie Land and Wal-Mart. Please bring some sandwiches to share.



Need a ride to services? If you need the van to pick you up for services, please see **Steve Mann, Scott Saner,** or one of the elders.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March

- 10 Christy Murray
- 11 Madeline Minyard
Justin Mann
W.O. Clark
- 13 Pat Ballard
- 14 James Gravelle
- 15 Toni Mann
Fred & Maxine Bellomy '49
- 16 Lexie Wallace
Jeff & Vickie Willingham
- 17 Lara Austin
- 20 Laci Sandefur
- 21 Martin Dotson
Robert & Pam Schumacher
- 23 Anthony Tipton
- 26 Steve Mann
- 27 Liz Aldridge
- 28 Ronnie & Geri Byrd '75
Jacob Johnson
- 30 Caleb Willis
Harold & Martha Dillard '74

April

- 8 Glenda Vinson
- 9 Martha Dillard
Jerry & Lois Beavers
- 10 Brent Castleman
Michael Tipton
Brent & Gypsy Castleman '92
- 12 Robert Schumacher
- 13 Dorothea Phillips
Norma Perkins
- 15 Savanna Mann
- 16 Bessie Childress

