

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Mark Davis

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Joseph Barry Rodney Ellis
Pete Rowland

Prayers

Jerry Schnelle Clay Morris

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Scripture Reading

Song Leader

Lord's Supper

Prayers

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Announcements

Song Leader

Prayers

things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Clay Morris

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

- Hear** the word of truth Romans 10:13-17
- Believe** the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent** from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38
- Confess** the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10
- Be Baptized** in His name Mark 16:16; 1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12
- Walk** in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10



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Issue 44

God Took The Initiative

Ryan Goodwin

What has God done for us? That is the question that many ask when confronted with the Gospel. Some choose to never obey because they do not believe God has done anything – others see God as an inactive being who, though He is the apparent impetus behind creation, remains aloof of His creation. But the very first words of Genesis 1:1 speak of an entirely different God. “In the beginning God...” These words tell us of a god who acts, who takes initiative, who creates, speaks, and intimately involves Himself in the affairs of the world beneath Him. The Bible is, in fact, the religion of an initiating god. “Before man existed, God acted. Before man stirs himself to seek God, God has sought man. In the Bible, we do not see man groping after God; we see God reaching after man. Many people visualize a god who sits comfortably on a distant throne, remote, aloof, uninterested, and

indifferent to the needs of mortals, until, it may be, they can badger Him into taking action on their behalf. Such a view is wholly false” (Basic Christianity, Stott, p. 11). Long before man thinks to seek God, before it even occurs to him, the Father is actively seeking him. God takes the initiative, leaves His throne, and stoops to our level so that He might lift us up (Romans 5:6-8). “Even when we were dead in our transgressions, [God] made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places” (Ephesians 2:5-6).

But what has God done for you lately?

God Has Created You – We seem to forget how very much we need God, even in the most basic way. Without His creative force, we would not exist. We owe our lives to Him. Every time we breathe, every glass of water we drink,

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Bonnie Allgor, Maxine Burnham, Ann Thomas and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

Please remember **Maxine Burnham** and **Jean Cronce** in your prayers.

Here is the current schedule of services:

Bible Study: 9:30 AM

Services: 10:15 AM

Kids Only: 5:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

Sunday and Wednesday Bible Studies are in **Galatians**.

Additionally, we are having studies.

Monday: 7:00 PM

Thursday: 7:00 PM

Ladies Bible Class:

Next Class is Nov. 10th

every night of sleep, every sunset, every meal – our lives are in His hands. We owe it to Him to seek after Him. For as much as He does for us, is it really that much to worship, love, and obey the Heavenly Father? We could not have created ourselves, and we cannot create anything new now (Ecclesiastes 1:10).

God Has Spoken To You – God will never leave us in the dark without answers. He longs to reveal to us what we need – and it is only our stubborn, unrelenting, dull hearts that prevent us from hearing every word of life (Hebrews

5:11-14). Friends, we need His words. No words will guide us as His do. In them we have everything we need (2 Timothy 3:16-17). We have insights into the mystery of Christ (Ephesians 3:3-5).

God Has Acted On Your Behalf – “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). “It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost” (1 Timothy 1:15).

Jesus Christ is our propitiation, which means that He is our intercessor before the throne of God (1 John 2:1-2). If that is not enough, then what more would you ask of your Savior?

He died on a cross on our behalf.

He left His place of power and glory to be a human and endure all things we do (Philippians 2:6-7, Hebrews 4:15-16).

Those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord will have the blessing of His confession before the Father (Matthew 10:32-33). This means, essentially, that Jesus will vouch for us before God.

God has spoken to us – have we listened? God has acted for us – have we responded?

Trust: God or DIY?

1 Sam. 17:47 and that all this assembly may know that Jehovah saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is Jehovah's, and he will give you into our hand.

Isa. 36:6 “Behold, you rely on the staff of this crushed reed, even on Egypt, on which if a man leans, it will go into his hand and

pierce it. So is Pharaoh king of Egypt to all who rely on him.

Psalm 9:10 And those who know Your name will put their trust in You, For You, O LORD, have not forsaken those who seek You.

Psalm 25:2 O my God, in You I trust, Do not let me be ashamed; Do not let my enemies exult over me.

Psalm 31:14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD, I say, "You are my God."

Psalm 33:21 For our heart rejoices in Him, Because we trust in His holy name.

Psalm 44:6 For I will not trust in my bow, Nor will my sword save me.

Psalm 49:6 Even those who trust in their wealth And boast in the abundance of their riches?

Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You.

Psalm 56:4 In God, whose word I praise, In God I have put my trust; I shall not be afraid. What can mere man do to me?

Psalm 115:9 O Israel, trust in the LORD; He is their help and their shield.

Psalm 118:8-9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD Than to trust in man. It is better to take refuge in the LORD Than to trust in princes.

Psalm 146:3 Do not trust in princes, In mortal man, in whom there is no salvation.

Prov. 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And do not lean on your own understanding.

Isa. 12:2 “Behold, God is my salvation, I will trust and not be afraid; For the LORD

GOD is my strength and song, And He has become my salvation.”

Isa. 26:4 “Trust in the LORD forever, For in GOD the LORD, *we have* an everlasting Rock.

2 Cor. 1:9 indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;

Heb. 13:5-6 Make sure that your character is free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, "I WILL NEVER DESERT YOU, NOR WILL I EVER FORSAKE YOU," so that we confidently say, "THE LORD IS MY HELPER, I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. WHAT WILL MAN DO TO ME?"

Rom. 8:31-39 What then shall we say to these things? If God *is* for us, who *is* against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Who will bring a charge against God's elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE BEING PUT TO DEATH ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE CONSIDERED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED." But in all these