

THE BEACON OF TRUTH

April 1, 2018

“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17

The Best Rest

David Stafford

Often, we are busy with our careers, families, and hobbies, and there comes a point when we need to rest. A hard-working man longs for rest after a day at work. A runner longs for rest upon finishing the race. A musician longs for rest after practicing for two hours straight. A person experiences rest after his labors. Each of us have our own way of resting, but what is the best rest? Is it eight to ten hours of sleep at night? Is it relaxing in the recliner? Is it lying down on the porch swing? These are great ways of relaxing and obtaining physical rest, but what about spiritual rest?

Spiritually speaking, we as Christians long for eternal rest in heaven. We are commanded to labor while we yet live, longing for the eternal rest. The Hebrew writer said, “Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief” (Heb. 4:11).

The Hebrew writer alluded to the rest known as heaven. Faithful Christians have the hope of entering the eternal rest known as heaven. Heaven will be a place where there will be no tears, no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain (Rev. 21:4). What better rest is there than heaven? James Rowe penned beautiful words describing the rest known as heaven:

“Home of the soul, beautiful home, there we shall **rest**, never to roam; free from all care, happy and bright, Jesus is there, He is the light! Oft, in the storm, lonely are we, sighing for home, longing for Thee, beautiful home of the ransomed beside the crystal sea.”

Who provides this spiritual rest? Interestingly, when Jacob pronounced blessings and cursings upon his sons, he said to Judah, “The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be” (Gen. 49:10). The word Shiloh means “peace,” and rest is often associated with peace. This divine prophecy pertains to none other than Jesus Christ. During Jesus’ ministry He said, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and **I will give you rest**. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find **rest unto your souls**. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light” (Mat. 11:28-30) (emphasis his). Jesus is the way we obtain this spiritual rest (John 14:6). There are two types of rest. One type of rest is being free from sin (Rom. 6:17-18). The second rest is heaven (Heb. 4:11). One must (Continued on page 2)

By the Numbers:

Week of 3/25/18

Contribution – \$2591

Attendance:

Sunday School – 29

Sunday Worship – 57*

Wednesday Night – N/A

*Total for the day

Bible Trivia Question



Last Week’s Answer: Aaron (Exo. 28:1ff)

Q: To whom is the book of Acts written?

Answer to be given next week!

Sermon Spotlight

AM: SEVEN SAYINGS ON THE CROSS

- 1) What can we gather about Christ’s humanity from these seven sayings?
- 2) What can we gather about His divinity?

PM: DON’T BE A FOOL!

- 1) What book more than any other shows us how to not be a fool?

Schedule Of Services

Sunday
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. & 2:00 P.M.
Wednesday Bible study 7:00 P.M.

Website

Beaconcoc.com (Coming Soon)

Preacher

Chase Green
318-608-7418

Elders

Bill Schooley 318-396-7296
Tim Green 318-547-4026

Missions Supported

Ronnie Gootam - India
Marlon Relana - Panama
Brad Harrub - Focus Press

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WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31; Rom. 10:17).
2. Believe (Rom. 1:16; Acts 18:8; Heb. 11:6).
3. Repent (Lk. 13:3; 24:47; Acts 3:19; 17:30).
4. Confess Christ (Matt. 10:32, 33).
5. Be baptized (immersed) (Matt. 28:18-20; Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16).
6. Continue faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Mailing Address

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

NEWS AND NOTES
TO OUR GUESTS—A WARM WELCOME

Thank you for coming today and please come back soon and often. If you have questions about the church of Christ, what is taught here, or the way we do anything please feel free to ask. Please fill out the Guest Register on the table in the foyer so we may have a record of your visit.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Margie Tippen — Pete Varner — Buster Keeton — Ruth Coston — L. C. Lewis — Regina Simmons — Wendy Traweek — Lisa Morris — Mildred Allhands — Marcia Green — Judy May

OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Spring Work Day — Apr 14th — Please let Chase know if you plan to help!
- Door Knocking — Apr 20-21 — Please let Chase know if you plan to help, and which days you are available!
- Gospel Meeting with Tommy Hicks — Apr 22-25 — Flyers in the foyer!
- Youth & Young Adults — April 6th @ 7:00pm at the annex — Be on the lookout for more get-togethers for our young people — (If you would like to host or help with an event, please let Chase know)

(Continued from page 1)

have the first type of rest (freedom from sin) before he can have the second type of rest (heaven). Eternal life is an integral part of this spiritual rest, for John said, “And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son” (1 John 5:11).

Though the type of rest we experience in this life is beneficial to us, the best rest pertains to things beyond this life. Spiritual rest is the best rest. Eternal life, which is in Christ (1 John 5:11), is the spiritual rest we have in promise (1 John 2:25). Spending eternity in heaven is the best rest, the one that we as Christians should be laboring to enter (Heb. 4:11). First, one must become a Christian to have the promise of this rest. Second, one must remain faithful to maintain this promise of eternal rest. Let us examine ourselves and ask ourselves the question: “Do I have the promise of the best rest?”

David Stafford is a 2017 graduate of the Memphis School of Preaching and one of Chase’s classmates. He preaches for the North Arkansas Street congregation in Springhill, Louisiana.

The Greatest Transaction

Chase Green

In many ways, our lives are all about transactions. Need to buy groceries? Transaction. Buying or selling real estate? Transaction. Your children planning on going to college? Expensive transactions! Want to buy a car? Another expensive transaction. Want that special gift for your birthday or anniversary? You guessed it: transaction!

Notice a couple of definitions. First, the word “transact.” According to merriam-webster.com, this word means “to carry to completion.” Now, the word “transaction.” Merriam-webster.com defines this word as “something transacted; especially an exchange or transfer of goods, services, or funds.” We are certainly familiar with this concept in our day to day lives. But what about our spiritual lives?

Brethren, Jesus Christ offered the greatest transaction that this world has ever known! How so? Jesus Christ paid the price in full for our sins! Think about it:

God created man. Man rebelled against God. God punished man with death. Man completely deserved this punishment and found himself hopelessly lost, if not for God’s intervention on behalf of man. God sent His Son. His Son lived a completely sinless life. Because of the Son’s sinless perfection, He qualified as the perfect atoning sacrifice to redeem man of His sin. Man killed the Son of God, thus, the Son received the punishment deserved by man. The Son paid the price of redemption to buy man back. Man now has a way to be right with God again!

Brethren, this is an overview of the entire message of the Bible! This is the message of Genesis 3:15! This is the message of John 14:6! This is the message of John 3:16! Jesus paid a debt that we could not pay. He bought back a people deserving of death. He saved the very people who caused Him to be our sin offering (2 Cor. 5:21). May we all never cease to remember the magnitude of such a sacrifice !

With love, Chase

THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE

“The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God. They are corrupt, they have done abominable works, there is none that doeth good.”

Psalm 14:1

BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!

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