

# THE BEACON OF TRUTH

April 8, 2018

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

# *Why Read Books?*

## *Chase Green*

You may remember a few months ago (around New Year's) that I challenged each member of the congregation to set some goals for himself for this year. While I (as usual) have not succeeded in *every* goal that I set for myself this year, so far I *have* succeeded in my goal to read more books. Why is it a good idea to read books which were written by our brethren? Well, let me tell you.

Many of our faithful brethren have spent countless hours in study and have passed down their insights into the Scriptures in books. Imagine the number of lifetimes of knowledge contained in the average church library or preacher's library! The average library contains literally hundreds of years of information brought about by faithful study of the Lord's Word!

Now I know what you may be thinking: The Bible has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness (paraphrasing 2 Pet. 1:3). True! Furthermore, all Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for everything we need to be complete Christians (paraphrasing 2 Tim. 3:16). That's true as well! We certainly have everything that we need, and if I pick up a faithful translation of the Bible, I can know everything I need to know to be saved! But at the same time, there is so much commentary and helpful understanding to be gained from reading from the works of our brethren: men like J. W. McGarvey, Foy Wallace, Jr., Robert Taylor, Jr., Garland Elkins, Leroy Brownlow, etc. You can take a copy of a book and have an abundant supply of Gospel sermons, devotional studies, encyclopedic information, geographical information, insights into ancient cultures, insights into Bible geography, etc. There is a *wealth* of information that, sadly, all too often sits on book shelves and never gets used. This is why I am very excited to announce that I am currently working on putting all of my personal library into a library checkout system so that you can check them out for yourselves, if you so desire. It would be great for all of us to read more and have a greater understanding of God's Word.

Now, with all of that said, let me warn you of the pitfalls of reading books. **EVERY BOOK** in my library (with the exception of the Word of God) is **NOT INSPIRED** by God. All of these books are written by men. Consequentially, they are subject to mistakes! Thus, when reading books written by men, you must read such books with “Biblical glasses on.” What do I mean by this? I mean you always have to read books with this in mind: (Continued on pg. 2)

### By the Numbers:

*Week of 4/1/18*

*Contribution – \$2260*

**Attendance:**

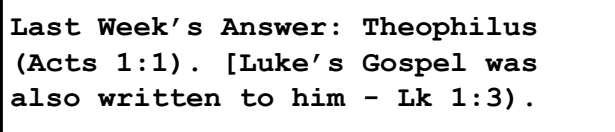
*Sunday School – 25*

*Sunday Worship*\* – 49

*Wednesday Night – 33*

\*Total for the day

## Bible Trivia Question



Q: Where did Solomon get lumber to build the temple?

Answer to be given next week!

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## Sermon Spotlight

AM: UNSUNG HEROES

- 1) Who are some unsung heroes in the Bible?
- 2) Who are some unsung heroes of our congregation?

PM: I WANT TO BE A WORKER  
FOR THE LORD

1) How can you support the work here at Beacon Church of Christ?

**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)

BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2326 JONESBORO ROAD  
MAIL: P.O. BOX 3057  
WEST MONROE, LA 71294

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED**

1. Hear the Gospel (Jn. 20:30-31;  
Rom 10:17)

PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

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**Preacher**  
Chase Green  
318-608-7418

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

**Missions Supported**  
Ronnie Gootam - India  
Marlon Retana - Panama  
Brad Harub - Focus Press

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).

**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**

Dewey Young (In ICU at Glenwood with heart problems) — Margie Tippen — Pete Varner — Buster Keeton — Ruth Coston — L. C. Lewis — Regina Simmons — Wendy Traweek — Lisa Morris — Mildred Allhands — Marcia Green — Judy May — Tim Green (kidney problems)

**OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- Starting this month, be looking forward to monthly fellowship meals each 4th Sunday, in between services (unless otherwise noted)!
- 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 — Be on the lookout for get-togethers for our young people — (If you would like to host or help with an event, please let Chase know)

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***(Continued from page 1)***

The human authors of our brotherhood books (because they are uninspired) are capable of forgetting details about the overall context of the Bible. Therefore, it is possible (and very likely) that they will make mistakes from time to time. While some simple errors may cause us to chuckle at the obvious oversight (perhaps a name misspelled, or someone mistaking Aquila and Priscilla for Ananias and Sapphira), some errors would cause us to have great reservations in recommending a book. Still others would make us cringe at how far off base they were.

Sadly, some men who have written many wonderful books on many biblical subjects have erred from the faith on other subjects. Thus, we have to be very careful about endorsing certain authors. There may be some authors who I would read on one subject, but would throw away their books on another! We have to practice wisdom in understanding which authors are readable and which ones are better left alone. (If you ever have questions about the reliability of a particular brotherhood author, come ask me, or come ask the elders. We would be glad to point you in the right direction).

One final thing regarding this subject: I always remember what one of my preaching school instructors would say to us students. When some graduate of the school, or some other brother, would go about the brotherhood teaching some strange doctrine, teaching “damnable heresies” (2 Pet. 2:1), this instructor would ask them, “What have you been reading lately?” Sadly, when we begin reading questionable authors, it often leads us down the long, winding

road of apostasy! We have to be ever vigilant, always watching for the false teachers who would come into our congregations and misrepresent the Truth — and books is one medium of communication that they use to subvert us! Thus, may we always take heed to “earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 3). I am very thankful for the many capable authors who have done just that in their brotherhood publications! With love, Chase

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***What’s in a Name?***

***Royce Pendergrass***

We’ve all heard the old question, “What’s in a name?” Does it make any difference anyway? Of course, it does! How do you think a husband who married the wife that he loves would feel if she took another man’s name rather than his? Some might say they wouldn’t care, but don’t you believe it! If he truly loves his wife, he wouldn’t want her to wear another man’s name.

So it is with our Lord. In speaking of Christ being in God’s presence, Paul told the Ephesian brethren that God “set him at his own right hand in the heavenly places, Far above all principality, and power, and might, and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come: And hath put all things under his feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the church, Which is his body...” (Ephesians 1:20-23). God gave His Son the name of Jesus, which means Messiah or Savior. It is a name that is blessed above all others. Did you notice that it says in this Scripture that God made Jesus the Head of the church because the church is the body of Christ? This thought is reiterated in Colossians 1:18. God gave the designation of “the head of the church” to Christ, not to someone else.

Paul told the Roman brethren that “we, being many, are one body in Christ” (Romans 12:5). Though a congregation may be made up of many members or only a few, they are still the one body of Christ if they are practicing His teachings. Without a doubt, God has made it plain and clear in His Word that Christ is the Head of the church. God made Jesus head over all things and especially head over the church. So, there can be no doubt that the church should wear His name, not some made-up name that humans have created—to their shame.

The definition of “church” is “a body of Christians.” The word “Christian” means “belonging to Christ.” So, if Christians belong to Christ, why would they even want to wear another name? Paul made it really easy for us to understand in Ephesians 5:23, “For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.” How can anyone misunderstand that?

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**THIS WEEK’S MEMORY VERSE**

“In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.”  
Genesis 1:1

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**BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!**  
FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth  
Available 24/7