# Missions Supported Ronnie Gootam - India Marlon Retana - Panama Brad Harrub - Focus Press (Watt. 26: 16-20; M Acts 2:38; 22:16). 6. Continue faithful unto (Rev. 2:10).

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

PLACE STAMP HERE

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

Mailing Address

1:16; Acts 18:8;

(Matt. 10:32, 33).

# By the Numbers:

Week of 3/24/19

Contribution - \$2903

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Classes — 28 Sunday Worship\* — 55 Wednesday Night — 33

\*Total for the day

# Bible Trivia Question



Last Week's Answer: The death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 15:1-4).

Q: Why did Paul call himself the least of the apostles?

Answer to be given next week!

# **SERMON SPOTLIGHT:**

AM — Our Attitude toward Evangelism

- 1. He who fails to plan plans to .
- 2. How can we plan to do more evangelism?

PM — True Compassion

- 1. Who was the most compassionate Man to have ever lived?
- 2. Are we truly being compassionate if we fail to tell people what they need to hear?

# THE BEACON OF TRUTH

March 31, 2019

"Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." John 17:17

# There Once Was a Man ... Chase Green

There once was a man who endured substantial difficulties for the Lord, both from the outside-in, and the inside-out. Do you know who he was?

This man:

- 1. Played the referee with contentious brethren,
- 2. Fed the brethren milk when he had hoped they would be ready for meat,
- 3. Endured labor and revile and persecution and defamation of character,
- 4. Desired to visit those who were puffed up and obstinate,
- 5. Rebuked an egregious sinner who was puffed up and influencing others to sin as well,
- 6. Begged his brethren not to go to court with one another,
- 7. Answered difficult questions about marriage and food sacrificed to idols,
- 8. Defended his apostleship to those who challenged his authority,
- 9. Defended his rights to basic sustenance, marriage, forbearing secular work, and being paid a living wage,
- 10. Took great care to take an interest in people of all kinds of backgrounds so that he could save as many as possible,
- 11. Taught the Truth regarding women's roles in the church and the Lord's Supper,
- 12. Rebuked an entire congregation for abusing spiritual (miraculous) gifts,
- 13. Defended the resurrection of Jesus Christ,
- 14. Had to deal with such terrible things as beatings (both stripes of whips as well as rods), prisons, deaths (of people he undoubtedly dearly loved), stonings, shipwreck, exhausting missionary journeys, all kinds of perils (including from his own countrymen and even brethren, albeit FALSE ones), weariness and painfulness of the flesh, the need to be (cntd. pg. 2)

# <u>NEWS AND NOTES</u> 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 PRAYER**

Margie Tippen — Regina Simmons — Marcia Green — Jerry Tippen — Wendy Traweek — Tim Green — Harold Myers — Joy Skipper — John & Ruth Coston — Stetson Ortega — Lindy Brown — Kaitlyn Wilson — Kathy Lawrence — Debbie Grice — Virginia Wainwright — Jessica Hancock — Andrew Brown (Traveling this weekend) — Tim Green & family (traveling this weekend)

## **OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- Youth & Young Adults Mark your calendars for a game night, Friday April 5, at the annex. More details Wednesday night!
- Monthly Fellowship Meal 4th Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted.

# (Continued from page 1)

ever-vigilant for the Truth, hunger and thirst, frequent fasting, cold weather and with that nakedness, and the continuous weight of caring for probably hundreds or more congregations of the church.

And I'm sure that doesn't even touch the hem of the garment! This person, of course, was the apostle Paul. See the following references: 1) 1 Cor. 1:10ff; 2) 3:2; 3) 4:13; 4) 4:18-19; 5) 5:1ff; 6) 6:1ff; 7) Chapters 7-8; 8) 9:1ff; 9) 9:4-14; 10) 9:19-23; 11) Chapter 11; 12) Chapters 12-14; 13) Chapter 15; 14) 2 Cor. 11:23-28.

Just how bad did Paul have it? We may never know. BUT ... Just how GOOD did Paul have it, too? Again, we may never know! The Bible is clear that the difficult things that Christians go through make us stronger, and ought to make us joyful, to suffer for the cause of Christ (See James 1:2-4).

What if, with every flaw that he had to correct, Paul gave up on the church a little more, and a little more? What if, after having to deal with everything at Corinth, Paul said, "Enough! I'm done with the church of our Lord!" or what if the afflictions and the turmoil and the hatred that Paul received from the outside had caused Paul to just plain give up?

I hate to even consider the very thought! What a shame it would be! But may it be the case that sometimes we let things (perhaps even trivial things) cause us to give up on the Lord and His church? May it never be so!

With love, Chase

# Be Content

Chase Green

I am convinced that we could avoid many of the problems associated with sin if we would simply be content (i.e. — If we would be content with our money, our house, our cars, our spouse, our "this," our "that," New Testament worship, the New Testament church, etc.).

"Let your conversation (lifestyle, TCG) be <u>without covetousness</u>; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb. 13:5, emphasis mine throughout, TCG).

"Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, <u>in whatsoever state I am</u>, therewith to be content" (Php. 4:11).

"And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and <u>be content with your wages</u>" (Luke 3:14).

"But godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Tim. 6:11).

Lack of contentment often leads to one's love of money, which is the root of all kinds of evil (1 Tim. 6:10, ASV). And with that, a lack of contentment may lead to material obsessions such as bigger and fancier and finer houses, cars, boats, etc. (1 Tim. 6:7-8). (We need to understand that there is nothing wrong with having money and houses and cars and boats and such like, but it is wrong to be OBSSESSED with these things, that is, make an idol out of these things, or make them our primary focus).

Lack of contentment may cause one to seek sexual fulfillment from one other than his or her spouse. Isn't it interesting that the verse immediately prior to the aforementioned Heb. 13:5 is the oft -quoted Heb. 13:4: "MARRIAGE is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." There is a connection between marital faithfulness and contentment!

Lack of contentment may cause one to seek things outside of the New Testament pattern for worship. Likewise, it may cause one to seek something outside of the pure and simple New Testament church. (See John 4:24; 1 Cor. 14:15; Matt. 16:18; Eph. 4:4).

As you examine your life, your giving, your material possessions in relation to your focus and priorities, your relationship with your spouse, your appreciation and desire to serve God acceptably as pertaining to worship in His church, do your find yourself lacking? If so, it may be the case that you have a problem with contentment. Examine your life. Rethink your priorities. Keep the "main thing" the "main thing;" that is, make sure that you seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and in turn the Lord will bless you with the things that you need (Mat. 6:33).

With love, Chase

### THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Php. 4:13

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