

# THE BEACON OF TRUTH

July 14, 2019

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

## Faithful Attendance

Paul Sain

God expects (demands) His faithful followers to worship Him. The Scriptures are emphatic in the faithful child of God reflecting their love and loyalty by coming together with the saints, to worship on the first day of the week. While attendance at worship services is NOT the only measuring stick of one's spirituality, it certainly is a spiritual barometer.

In Hebrews 10:25 we read, “Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.” The thought immediately expressed after this admonition is: “For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins” (v. 26). Can there be any doubt what the inspired writer is stating? Don't forsake! If you do, you sin willfully!

In 1 Corinthians 16: 1-2, we note the disciples were to give as they assembled on the first day of the week. Yes, that was every first day - every Sunday. The church of the first century “came together” to break bread (Lord's Supper) (Acts 20:7), the whole church, to worship (1 Cor. 11: 18; 14:23,26). Note also Matthew 18:20: “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” The fact is: Christians have an appointment with the Lord on first day of the week, on every first day of the week.

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## By the Numbers:

Week of 7/7/19

Contribution – \$2419

Attendance:

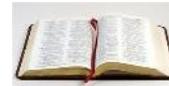
Sunday Bible Classes – 34

Sunday Worship\* – 55

Wednesday Night – 30

\*Total for the day

## Bible Trivia Question



Last Week's Answer: Charge some that they teach no other doctrine (1 Tim. 1:3).

Q: What was Timothy not to give heed to?

Answer to be given next week!

## SERMON SPOTLIGHT:

AM — TBA

1. TBA

PM — The Parable of the Two Sons

1. Who is the immediate audience that prompted the teaching of this parable?
2. Does the common saying “What have you done for me lately?” apply to Christianity?

## 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

Beaconofcfc.com (under construction)

## Preacher

Chase Green  
318-608-7418

## Elders

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

## Missions Supported

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

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).
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, Regina Simmons, Marcia Green, Kevin Green, Jerry Tippen, Wendy Traweek, Harold Myers, Joy Skipper, Ruth Coston, Lindy Brown, Kaitlyn Wilson, Kathy Lawrence, Virginia Wainwright, Melba Tippen Creech, Dewey Young, Andrew Brown (away at internship in College Station, TX), Stetson Ortega, Mike Jones, Kenneth Hendrix, Tim Green, Mildred Allhands, Tim & Tricia Green and family (traveling in Arizona until Wednesday the 17th), Anthony Ortega (hurt his leg recently while bowling), Debbie Grice (suffered a broken hand last Sunday)

### OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Food Pantry: We have been blessed with opportunities to help several families with food recently. Consequently, we are in need of food for restocking (all items currently needed, including canned meats, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned soups/chili, pasta noodles, etc.)
- Youth & Young Adults: Be on the lookout for monthly events! See Chase if you would like to help with food or in other ways.
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.

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By your attendance you show: (1) your love for the Lord (John 14:15), with all your mind, body, soul and strength (Mark 12:30); (2) your desire to become stronger (1 Peter 2:2-3); (3) your faith in God (James 2: 18); (4) a desire to grow spiritually (2 Peter 1:5ff); (5) concern to refrain from falling away (2 Peter 2:20-22); (6) your light shining for the Lord (Matt. 5: 16); (7) the example of first century Christians in your life today; (8) an excellent example for others to follow (1 Cor. 11: 1; Prov. 22:6); (9) the great benefit from treasured fellowship with the followers of God (Acts 2:38-47); (10) your refusal to serve Satan and that you are not his disciple (James 4:7); (11) you are seeking the Lord first (Matt. 6:33); (12) you are pressing toward the mark of the prize (Phil. 3: 13-14).

Question: Under what circumstances would a faithful child of God ever NOT want to assemble with the saints of God?

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### *James 2:1-9* *Chase Green*

**Verse 1:** “My brethren, have not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with respect of persons.” In essence, James is saying that supposed “faith” in the Lord Jesus Christ and respect of persons cannot go hand in hand. The Lord is certainly not a respecter of persons (Acts 10:34), and neither should we be.

When we show partiality, as the example in the following verses indicates, we do not reflect the

love of Christ. When we do not reflect the love of Christ, the only alternative is that we are standing for Satan.

**Verses 2-4:** “For if there come unto your assembly a man with a gold ring, in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment; And ye have respect to him that weareth the gay clothing (or “fine clothes,” NKJV), and say unto him, Sit thou here in a good place; and say to the poor, Stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool: Are ye not then partial in yourselves, and are become judges of evil thoughts?” This is not diminishing the importance of clothing selection. The clothing we select for worship should be modest, clean, respectful, and culturally appropriate. For example, few would argue that there are right things and wrong things to wear to a funeral. Common sense dictates that certain attire is appropriate for a funeral while other attire is not. The same could be said in regard to worship.

With that said, we become guilty of the sin of partiality when we give preferential treatment to people who are dressed a certain way and less favorable treatment to others. James is plainly condemning such as “respect of persons.” Thus, we need to be careful not to give others the impression that their attendance is unwanted because of their attire.

**Verses 5-7:** “Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him? But ye have despised the poor. Do not rich men oppress you, and draw you before the judgment seats? Do not they blaspheme that worthy name by the which ye are called?” The specific kind of partiality that was taking place here was Christians preferring those with wealth over those who were poor. James explains that not only was this contrary to the will of God, but also it was contrary to common sense! The very people who were more likely to persecute Christians (the wealthy) were the ones who these Christians were showing preferential treatment! Also, there was a lack of understanding here of the fundamental truth that the poor in this life who are faithful Christians will be RICHLY BLESSED in the next (See Matt. 5:3ff).

**Verses 8-9:** “If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well: But if ye have respect to persons, ye commit sin, and are convinced of the law as transgressors.” Loving our neighbors as ourselves is included in the two greatest commands (the other being loving GOD with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength, Mark 12:30). James calls this the “royal law,” and indeed royal it is! Can you imagine if everyone treated their neighbor this way? The world would be a much better place!

And yet, Christians cannot love their neighbors as themselves if they are guilty of the sin of partiality. And James does call it sin. “But if ye have respect to persons, **ye commit sin** (emphasis mine, TCG), and are convinced (or “convicted,” NKJV) of the law as transgressors.” Thus, we must ensure that we as Christians are “equal opportunity evangelizers.” We must share the love of Christ without discrimination, and must treat others how we want to be treated. We must look at all souls as potential converts for Christ, and not be prejudiced against the poor or in favor of the rich (or other groups of people). All souls matter!

With love, Chase

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#### **THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE**

“Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.”  
James 2:17

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BE SURE TO TUNE INTO OUR RADIO STATION!  
FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth  
Available 24/7 on FM radio and at Beaconcofc.com