

# THE BEACON OF TRUTH

February 9, 2020

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

## He Missed One Service

*Author Unknown*

Several years ago, it was reported that a 73-year-old man who was pinned beneath his farm tractor for four days and nights in driving rain and freezing temperatures. Concerned friends finally went to see about him, apparently just in time. He survived the ordeal, but would lose a leg below the knee.

Although the report was centered upon the amazing fact that this 73-year-old man could live after being pinned beneath a tractor for four days and nights, a more amazing fact is what caused his friends to go see about him. What caused these people to go see about him? He missed “prayer meeting.” That’s all. He missed one service. I believe there are two possible suppositions we can make about this incident.

On the one hand we could suppose that this man was so faithful and regular in his church attendance that everyone knew if he was not there, something had to be seriously wrong. A question. What if you had been the one pinned under the tractor? Would your absence have been noticed? Or, are you so irregular in attendance that everyone would assume you decided to sleep in, or go to the lake? How many services have you missed in the last three months? Could you honestly classify yourself as a faithful, regular worshiper?

On the other hand, we could assume that the people in this man’s congregation has such a concern for the souls of men that when anyone, no matter how regular or irregular, missed a service they went to see about them.

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## By the Numbers:

*Week of 2/2/20*

*Contribution – \$2255*

*Attendance:*

*Sunday Bible Classes – 34*

*Sunday Worship\* – 52*

*Wednesday Night – 34*

*\*Total for the day*

### WORKS SUPPORTED:

Marlon Retana - Panama  
Brad Harrub - Focus Press

The Gospel of Christ TV Program  
Sundays:  
6:30am - Ch. 8.3 (CW) 7:00am - Ch. 39.1

**Listen to our radio station!**  
FM 102.5 KCXB-LP - The Beacon of Truth  
Available online 24/7  
at beaconcofc.com

## Sermon Spotlight:

AM — The Strait Gate

1. What does the word “strait” mean?
2. Why is the gate strait?
3. What is the only other option?

PM — Hebrews Chapter 6

1. Is the Hebrews’ writer belittling the importance of the things mentioned in verses 1 and 2?
2. If not, why does he mention these things?

### 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

Beaconcofc.com

### Preacher

Chase Green  
318-608-7418

### Elders

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

BEACON CHURCH OF CHRIST  
2326 JONESBORO ROAD  
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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, Regina Simmons, Joy Skipper, Kaitlyn Wilson, Tim Green, Debbie Grice, Virginia Wainwright, Stetson Ortega, Bettie Young, Wendy Traweek, Scarlet Schooley, Judy May, Martin Hattaway, Marcia Green, Dewey Young (has fallen several times recently and has not been doing well), Kenzie May

**OTHER THINGS & UPCOMING ACTIVITIES**

- Youth & Young Adults: Be on the lookout for monthly get-togethers. If you would like to help host an event in the future, please let Chase know!
- Valentine's Banquet: Saturday, February 15th at 5:00 PM in the annex.
- Monthly Ladies' Luncheon: Wednesday, February 19th at 11:45 at El Paso (Hwy 165 North in Monroe).
- Monthly Fellowship Meal: 4th Sunday each month unless otherwise noted.
- VBS & Gospel Meeting with Dr. Brad Harrub: July 19th to 22nd. Will be here before we know it! Be planning to attend and help support this great event!

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“How think ye? if a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?” (Matt. 18:12).

**Added by TCG:**

“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” (Heb. 10:25).

If YOU had been the one pinned under the tractor, would your brethren have checked on you? Something to think about!

**Blessed are the Pure in Heart**

Chase Green

**Matthew 5:8** - “Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.”

Purity — it's a word that means “freedom from adulteration or contamination” (Oxford Dictionary Online). From a moral perspective, it is in regards to “freedom from immorality, especially of a sexual nature” (Ibid). Thus, when Jesus talks about the pure in HEART, He is referring to those who have unadulterated, uncontaminated, morally pure hearts. It is only the pure in heart who will be allowed to see God in heaven.

What are some of the characteristics of a pure heart? Let me list several for your consideration here:

**AN OBEDIENT, LOVING HEART** — “Seeing ye have purified your souls in OBEYING THE TRUTH through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently” (1 Pet. 1:22, emphasis mine TCG). Those who have obeyed the truth (through obedience to the Gospel) have obtained a pure heart, and must continue to keep it that way through, among other things, showing proper love for their brethren.

**A SINGLE-MINDED HEART** — “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded” (Jms. 4:8). Those who have obeyed the truth had to draw nigh unto God in repentance and obedience to the Gospel. They had to cease being doubleminded, and instead accept a “singleness of heart” (Acts 2:46) in renewed sense of purpose in living their lives in service to Christ (See Rom. 6:12ff).

**A CLEAN HEART** — “Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me” (Psa. 51:10). David uttered those words after his sin with Bathsheba. He understood his need to repent. Even though Christians' heart's have been purified when they obey the Gospel, Christian's must repent and have their hearts cleansed again when sin creeps back in (e.g. Acts 8:12-24).

**A DILIGENTLY-KEPT HEART** — “Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life” (Prov. 4:23). “With the heart man believeth unto righteousness” (Rom. 10:10). If one is not diligent to keep his heart pure, then various sins will proceed forth out of his heart (Mat. 15:19). Christians must ensure that they hide the Word of God in their hearts, that they might not sin against God (Psalm 119:11). Thus, it takes much effort to maintain a right relationship with God.

**A HEART IN PURSUIT OF RIGHTEOUSNESS, FAITH, LOVE, PEACE, ETC.** — “Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart” (2 Tim. 2:22, NKJV). Those who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved (Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21; Rom. 10:13). Acts 22:16 tells us that we call upon the name of the Lord in baptism, washing away our sins. Those who have done so must flee youthful, sinful passions and must replace those passions with being passionate about SPIRITUAL things. These new-found spiritual pursuits can be found in places like 2 Tim. 2:22, Gal. 5:22-23, 2 Pet. 1:5-8, and Php. 4:8. If the new Christian can successfully replace his sinful desires with the spiritual desires mentioned herein, then he can stand pure and holy before Almighty God.

With love, Chase

**THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE**

“Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.”  
Matt. 5:8