

Heaven

January 31, 2010

"In my Father's house are many dwelling places... I go to prepare a place for

Volume 2, No. 48

Charlestown Road Church of Christ

4601 Charlestown Rd.
New Albany, IN 47150
812-945-0664

Web site:

www.Charlestownroadchurchof-christ.com

Our Services

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 am
Worship: 10:20 am
Evening: 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Our Preacher:

Roger Shouse 816-260-1257

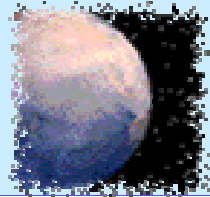
Our Elders:

Larry Beckham 502-777-7720
Bill Densford 812-944-8446
Lee Quinn 812-207-5178



Our motto for 2010:

**"Do you
know my
Jesus?"**



Hard Truths the World Needs to Hear

Nearly two-thirds of Americans in a recent national survey said that they believe they will go to heaven. Only one half of 1 percent thought they were in danger of being lost.

The Gospel is good news of salvation. The hope of salvation presupposes the fear of damnation. Grace is balanced by wrath. Forgiveness refused leads to condemnation. There are some hard truths people need to hear. You can speak them kindly and gently, but you need to speak them. Sugar-coating God's message helps no one.

1. Not everyone will be saved. Jesus said that many would be lost (Mt. 7:13). Salvation is offered to everyone (Jn 3:16). Some don't want it. Others think they don't need it. The world desperately needs to hear the gospel of Christ. God will not force us to be saved against our will. We must choose Christ. We must decide to walk away from the world and journey with the Lord. The call to be holy is something that many do not want. They want to live like sinners and die like saints. That won't happen.

2. Many will be lost who expect to be saved. The Lord's words of Mt 7:21-22 describe people who were shocked that they were not included with Christ. These were good people. They were religious people. They were busy people. Some of the things that they did were quite impressive. They did not recognize their plight. They did not take God's word seriously. They failed to follow the Will of God. Salvation is not based upon how good we are nor how much we accomplish for the Lord. We must not only believe in Christ but be obedient to Christ. We must do the will of our Father.

3. It is not necessary for anyone to be lost. The Gospel is the good news of hope, forgiveness and grace. It is offered and available to all people. Jesus made it possible for you to be saved. Jesus not only paid the price for your salvation, but He invites you and longs for you to come to Him.

When men and women on the day of Pentecost wanted to know what to do to be saved, Peter responded, *"Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit"* (Acts 2:38). It is a truth we still need to hear today!

Praying **BIG** Prayers

Paul said, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ASK or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto him be the glory..." (Eph 3:20-21).

God is able to do far more than you and I can even think to ask! I wonder sometimes why God hasn't done more with the church in this generation? I think it is because we don't let Him. We do not think big enough thoughts. We do not ask big enough things. I'm not talking about selfish and vain things, such as a million dollars or a PhD.

What **GREAT** things do we pray for? For God to heal the sick...to provide our daily needs...to accept our worship...to forgive our sins...to bring us back at the next appointed time. These things are all necessary and important but what about the **GREAT** things? Praying for Jesus to open some doors to us that we might not have even imagined...to give us the wisdom and courage to match the sacrificial commitment of the first Christians...to help us wade into opportunities that others are too faithless to try...to spiritually stretch us to the limit of usefulness...to teach 10 people this year...100 people...1000 people...THIS YEAR.

Think Big.
Pray Big.
Believe
Big.



Family Connections

News for You

- This morning the elders will present the "**State of the church**" address. Roger will begin the lesson and all three elders will then speak.
- This evening we continue our series on NT Shepherds. Come join us for this.
- Our **2010 calendar magnets** are in. One is being mailed to each family. If you need extras let us know. Display this on your frig where everyone can see! Work your schedules/vacations so you can attend these special events.

For your Prayers:

- Remember in your prayers: **Cathy Lee, Rex Hauger, Gene Fleming, Gail Stein, Paul Smith, Louis Morris, Dick Dewhirst.**
- **Kevin Lee, Shirley Roberts** have been ill recently
- **Camile Corley's mother, Greg Powell's mother** are ill
- **Donna Cook's sister** passed away. Her funeral was last week. Our hearts are with Donna and her family.

Personal Work Group # 8 meets this evening @ building

God loves you and wants you to spend forever with Him in Heaven. Today, Praise Him. Honor Him. Let God know how much you love Him. God is good!