

WE NEED TO KNOW RIGHT AND DO RIGHT

As important as it is to have the truth, it's even more important to obey the truth that we have. Failure to follow our conscience is not only a sin, but it is a worse sin than those we commit out of ignorance (Lk. 12:41-48). When what we do goes against what our conscience tells us we should be doing, that is a serious problem indeed. The important principle of knowing and doing is emphasized in James: **"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing"** (Jas. 1:22-25). And it is also in James that we read, **"So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin"** (Jas. 4:17).

There is an expression that says "talk is cheap." In a certain sense, that's true. It takes very little integrity to say the right things about what people should do. What is of more consequence is the determination of a person to go ahead and do what he should. When we fail to do God's will, we may plead that our sin is only that of neglect, but God looks upon neglect as a serious matter. Sins of "omission" may not seem to us as terrible as those of "commission," but if we end up being lost, it will be little comfort to know that the sins for which we lost our souls were "only" those of neglect.

We live in a society where the Bible and its contents are much discussed. Many people know many things about what God has said. But too few are doing anything about that, even among those who are members of the Lord's church. It's sobering to realize that those who know more are expected to do more. Jesus said, "Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required" (Lk. 12:48). This week let's meditate on the importance of obedience and determine that we're going to accept the responsibility that goes along with knowing what we know. *God wants us not only to know the right thing but to do the right thing.* If we seek God's blessings, let's remember: it's not the forgetful hearer but the doer of the work who'll be blessed in what he does! DP

SERMON PREVIEW FOR FEBRUARY

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|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (7) "We Ought to Remember" | (21) "What if God Failed?" |
| (14) "It May be Time" | (28) "Worship to God" |

The Salisbury Beacon

Salisbury Church of Christ

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Salisbury, MD 21804

<http://churchofchrist Salisbury.org>

Doug Post, Minister

Office Hours: Tues-Thurs. 10AM-2PM

410-742-4831

JANUARY 31, 2016

WELCOME! Thank you for visiting. We appreciate your willingness to worship God this Lord's Day with us. If we can assist you in any way, please let us know. We would love to be a part of our family here in Salisbury. Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate.

ORDER OF OUR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SONG #57 & #58 *Holy Ground*

SONG # 669 *Did You Think to Pray*

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE **1 PETER 5:6-11**

SONG #557 *The Wonderful Cross*

LORD'S SUPPER

CONTRIBUTION

SONG # 416 *Sunlight*

SERMON **"THE DEVIL IS NOT YOUR FRIEND"**

SONG #922 *Bring Christ Your Broken Life*

SONG #952 *Take the Name of Jesus*

CLOSING PRAYER

FAMILY ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER CONCERNS

- Please continue to remember: Stella Reidy, Mary & Jack Callaway, Sharon Travi, Lavinda Mason, Delores Price, Katie Gray, Flossie Hull, Barbara Kuykendall, John Tillman, Paul Marchesault, Marilyn Artis, Linda Alaban, Florence Tucker, George & Lynette Bell, the Jones/Dale family, the Gibson family, Larry Laten, Prince Ituen and all missionaries and military personnel serving overseas.
- **Church Growth:** Pray for both spiritual and numerical growth of our church.
- **Roger & Andrea** will be traveling to be with their grandchildren from 1/25 - 2/8. They will then leave on 2/12 for Clarksville, VA for a function involving Firefighters and First Responders. His knee is recovering nicely. Pray for Andrea as she cares for Roger.
- **Elaine Bradley** has asked that we keep her son, Bruce Lauder, in our prayers as he deals with his substance addiction. Please pray he will find help, accept help, and find, peace, freedom, and victory over addiction.
- **Ruth Bank's** granddaughter, Nicole Thorn, has an undetermined health problem. Please pray for Nicole.
- **Debbie Post** began to feel better Sunday and was more energetic. She returned to CT, as she has several "follow up" doctor visits. She will be back following her next chemo treatment.
- **Eva Post**, Doug's mother, is planning to visit during the week of our gospel meeting in April.
- **Ruth Bank's** granddaughter, Nicole Thorn, has an undetermined health problem. Please keep Nicole in your prayers.

TRAVELING: Roger & Andrea

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

January 24 (Sunday) Evangelism Committee meeting after service.

January 31 – February 3 (Sunday – Wednesday) Gospel Meeting, Laurel COC.

February 7 (Sunday) Pot Luck.

February 16 (Sunday) Pulpit Swap – Marc Lee/Seaford and myself.

April 17 (Sunday - Wednesday) Gospel Meeting with Jerry Brewer & Song Service.

April 23, 2016 (Saturday) – Ladies Day, Laurel church of Christ.

BELIEVE THE GOSPEL

Foy E Wallace Jr. (Deceased)

Jesus Christ said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved." He that believeth—what? The Gospel. The idea that all one must believe in order to be baptized is the mere fact that Jesus is Christ did not originate with the Gospel. One may believe the fact that Jesus is Christ, and not believe the Gospel. "He that believeth (the gospel) and is baptized, shall be saved." When a man believes that he is saved before he is baptized, he does not believe the Gospel, and he cannot be baptized, in any Scriptural, valid sense. When one is baptized into a denomination, knows that he is being baptized into one, no matter what he believes about baptism, it becomes an institutional act, a denominational baptism.

RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD

Gus Nichols (Deceased).

Some time ago, a denominational preacher in our town started a religious broadcast on Saturday evenings. Within a few weeks he made a false accusation against the churches of Christ. He said, 'They deny the Old Testament scriptures and do not believe that the Old Testament is the word of God and inspired like the New Testament. They deny that the Old Testament is for us and that we are under the Old Testament law.' Friends, I want to say to you with all of my heart that we do believe the Old Testament, and that it is the word of God, and that it is inspired the same as the New Testament. And while we do not believe that we are under the laws which governed the people of the Old Testament, we believe that Testament is a part of God's word.

No one has the entire word of God if he has nothing but a New Testament. There are many Judaizers today. Some of them would have us burn incense and use instrumental music in our worship because it was used in Old Testament times. Other would have us practice circumcision, wear priestly robes, etc. Some would have us go back there for a plurality of wives, others for Saturday or Sabbath keeping, etc. But we are not under the old covenant, although it is true, and inspired of God. Every principle found back there which we practice as Christians is practiced now because it is a principle of the New Testament as well as of the Old Testament. God has changed his law, and we are not under that old law today. Paul says, "The priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. (Heb. 7:12)."

When the Saints Meet Here in Salisbury

Sunday Bible Study – 9:30 AM Sunday Worship – 10:30 AM

Wednesday Bible Study – 6pm