



“BEING A HYPOCRITE”

A hypocrite is a person who is one thing outwardly but another thing inwardly; he appears to others as something other than what he truly is. The Bible has much to say about hypocrisy. Actually there are two kinds of hypocrites. One who is wicked in his heart but wishes to appear righteous in the eyes of other people. According to Jesus, this was the problem that many of the Pharisees had. But another kind of hypocrite is the person who has a basically good heart, but he does not live outwardly the way his conscience tells him he ought to. He knows what is right, but he will not do what is right. It's a terrible thing to be either one of them, and neither one of them can be a very happy person. Jesus indicated that happiness comes from consistently doing what we know is His will: **“If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them”** (Jn. 13:17). And James wrote that **“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. 1:25). One caution is in order, however. Our primary motive for doing right should not be our own happiness. That would be a self-centered reason for our righteousness. Instead, we are to do obey our conscience simply because it's the thing right to do, whether it feels good or not. Whatever good feelings come from obedience are a secondary benefit, although those feeling are quite wonderful. So we need to strive for greater congruency in our lives, the state in which our walk is aligned with our talk. If we are not living what we say we believe, two things are likely to happen: (1) we will be ashamed of our lives, and (2) we will be unsuccessful at having a good influence on other people. This week, let's work on getting our heart and our actions lined up and synchronized. Let's see if we can't bring some harmony and some joy into our lives by being the sort of people we really want to be. When we truly are what we profess to be, our reputation will take care of itself.

STUDY AND REFLECTION

MONDAY: GENESIS 3:1-24 – **Key Idea:** Sin takes away our happiness. **Questions for Growth:** Before they sinned, were Adam and Eve perfectly happy in the Garden of Eden? Was the devil telling the truth when he said that sin would bring better things to them than God had provided? **Wisdom for the Day:** Proverbs 14:5.

TUESDAY: LUKE 22:54-62 – **Key Idea:** We are miserable going against our conscience. **Questions for Growth:** On the night of Jesus' betrayal, what did Peter do that he knew he ought not to do? After he did this the third time, how do you think he felt when Jesus turned and looked at him? What does v.62 say? **Wisdom for the Day:** Proverbs 14:6-8.

THURSDAY: ROMANS 14:13-23 – **Key Idea:** We ought to follow our conscience in everything we do. **Questions for Growth:** What should we do if we question whether something is right but others say we should go ahead and do it anyway? What if we know what we should do but we don't put it into action? What does Jas. 4:17 say? **Wisdom for the Day:** Proverbs 14:10.

FRIDAY: JAMES 1:19-27 – **Key Idea:** It makes us happy to do what we know we ought to do. **Questions for Growth:** Is it ever enough just to know in our hearts what is the right thing to do? What is said in v.25 about the one who is a “doer who acts”? What did Jesus say in Jn. 13:17 about those who do His will? **Wisdom for the Day:** Proverbs 14:11.

The Salisbury Beacon

Salisbury Church of Christ

3322 Old Ocean City Road,
Salisbury, MD 21804

<http://churchofchristosalisbury.org>

Douglas Post, Minister
410-742-4831

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

JULY 10, 2016

WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY

We appreciate your willingness to worship God with us this Lord's Day! If you would like more information about the Church of Christ, or if we may assist you in other ways, please let us know. **BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR FAMILY– *The Salisbury Church of Christ.***

****Please fill out a Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate****

ORDER OF OUR WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPENING PRAYER

SONG # 39 – HOW MAJESTIC IS YOUR NAME

SONG # 536 – HEAVEN CAME DOWN

PRAYER

SCRIPTURE – JAMES 2:1-13

SONG # 576 – MORE HOLINESS GIVE ME

LORD'S SUPPER

CONTRIBUTION

SONG # 480 – VICTORY IN JESUS

SERMON: "LOVE"

SONG # 722 – LET THE LOWER LIGHTS BE BURNING

SONG # 736 – SEND THE LIGHT

CLOSING PRAYER

NEWS, NOTES & PRAYERS

LET US PRAY FOR: Joy LaGates, friend of Ruth Banks (stent) / Ida Laramore, Judy Willey's mother (heart) / Stella Reidy, Wilma Duke's mother (dementia) / Jenn Striecker (cancer) / Jack Callaway / Katie Gray / Flossie Hull / Barbara Kuykendall / John Tillman / Paul Marchesault / Marilyn Artis / Linda Alaban / Florence Tucker / the Jones/Dale family / the Gibson family / Larry Laten / Prince Ituen and all missionaries and military personnel serving overseas.

- Janet Jones, the Kings are traveling. Please pray for their safe travels.
- Julie Parsons and the children left for South Carolina Friday morning due to the death of her aunt. They will be returning on Wednesday. Please keep the family in your prayers and for safe travel home.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

JULY 22 (Friday Night) ... Family Game Night & Chili & Cornbread – 6pm

AUGUST 7 (Sunday) Pot Luck

RECORDS YOU HELPED MAKE LAST WEEK

Sunday Bible Classes: 23 Sunday AM Worship: 33 Wednesday Bible Class: 15

Contribution: \$1,922 Weekly Budget: \$1,948

SERMON PREVIEW

For the month of July, we will have a series of lessons from the book of James on being an "authentic Christian." We need to verbs to our faith. Of course, verbs are words of actions.

JULY 10: "LOVE"

JULY 31: "WAIT"

JULY 17: "CHRISTMAS IN JULY"

AUGUST 7: "PRAY"

JULY 24: "SUBMIT"

"REMEMBER ME, O MY GOD!"

Roelf L. Ruffner, Nashville, TN

"Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof" (Neh. 13:14).

As I walked across the street to speak to a neighbor recently I spotted three men sitting at the entrance of the apartment building. I had to go by them to reach my neighbor's apartment.

Approaching, I noticed one man had a large bottle of beer in his hand; another had a smaller pint size bottle of amber colored liquid of what I assumed was whiskey.

They spoke to me as I entered. One man said, "How are you doing today, preacher?" and I cordially responded, "O, better than I deserve, I reckon." After I visited with my neighbor I had to pass through them again on my way out. The man with the bottle spoke and said, "Preacher, please pray for me and give this to the church," as he handed me two dollars. I politely refuse but he insisted. I thanked him, shook his hand and asked his name. He answered and I again noticed the bottle he was now trying to conceal between his legs. The next Sunday I placed his contribution in the basket, along with my own. I also prayed, "Father, bless _____ and help him to come to a knowledge of the Truth. Help him and all others to be unshackled from sin and Satan's poison. Humble me that I might be an instrument of your grace in this man's life."

It is sin that separates us from God whether it is consumption of alcohol, drugs, porn, gossiping, false doctrine or just neglecting to do what we know is good (James 4:17). **"For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God"** (Rom. 3:23). **"But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away"** (Isa. 64:6). **"But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear"** (Isa. 59:2).

The greatest good I can do this lost soul, and myself, is to kindly warn him of his sin and show him the way out. **"Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed"** (John 8:34-36).

The other day I inquired of the manager as to where this man lived. She told me and I went and knocked on his door. He responded and I walked into a darkened room with the stench of old tobacco smoke in the air. He and a male friend were sitting eating a sandwich. He was holding a large bottle of beer. Before them on the coffee table was an ashtray filled with cigarette butts. I spoke to him and said, "_____, I did what you asked me to do." I then handed him a flyer for our Gospel Meeting and invited him to come. On the flyer I had written "Please come! You neighbor and friend, Roelf," followed by my phone number. He thanked me and then I left not wishing to intrude on his meal.

My friends we must do what we can to further the Gospel. For some it may be some deed that requires Herculean effort and faith. For others, like me, it may be a simple act of concern and trust in God's promises. But above all we must do something! I believe the small deeds, done for the right reasons, often accomplish as much as the mighty ones. **"For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also"** (James 2:24). **"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord"** (1 Cor. 15:58).