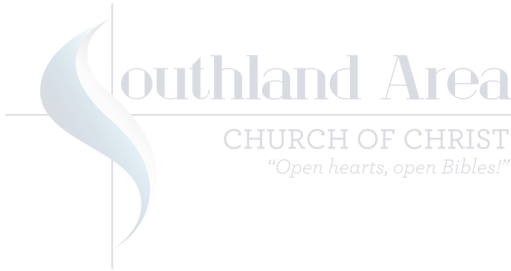


Topic:  
Text:

**Sermon Notes**



# THE MESSENGER

*"This is the message which we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all." **1John 1:5***

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**WELCOME VISITING FRIENDS**

If you are one of our visitors today, please know that we are indeed honored to have you. If you are a member of the Lord's body, thanks for choosing to worship with us today. If you are not a member of the Lord's church, we would be happy to meet with you and discuss how one becomes a member of the church which we read about in the New Testament. We aim to speak as they spoke and do as they did. We also offer a free Bible correspondence course which can be mailed to you. Or, someone would be glad to meet with you for a one-on-one Bible Study. You can indicate your desire on a visitor's card and place it in the collection tray.

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES**

**Sunday**

Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
Worship .....11 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Study .....7:00 p.m.

**Prayer Meeting**  
(Last Wed. each month @ 7 pm)

**WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

**HEAR**

Rom. 1;16;  
10:17

**BELIEVE**

John 8:24

**REPENT**

Luke 13:3  
Acts 3:19;

**CONFESS**

Rom 10:9-10  
Matt. 10:32

**BAPTISM**

Acts 2:38;  
22:16

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## Is Baptism The Work Of Man?

Many in the religious world today do not believe that baptism is necessary for one to be saved. One popular reason that is given is that it is "a work." Since the Bible says, "for by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not of works..." (Ephesians 2:8-9), and also in Titus 3:5 "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us..." they conclude, that baptism, which is a work, is not necessary for salvation. While space does not allow me to deal with this extensively, let me address a serious flaw in this position.

The Bible mentions three different kinds of works that man can be engaged in:

1. There are **works of the law of Moses** which are of no avail now that Christ has come. Paul wrote, "...that a man is not justified by the works of the law..." (Galatians 2:16). Therefore, "we are justified by faith apart from the works of the law (of Moses)" (Romans 3:28).

2. There are **works of man's own righteousness**. "not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us..." (Titus 3:5). Such works of man's righteousness are cited in I Corinthians 13:3, "If I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and if I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing." No matter how good or how many, such things cannot save us from sin. Only the blood of Christ washes away sins (I John 1:7-9).


3. Then finally, there are **works of God that we must do**. Jesus said, "I must work the works of him that sent me..." (John 9:4). "Then they said to Him, "What shall we do, that we may work the works of God? Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He sent." (John 6:28-29). Peter said, "But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him." (Acts 10:35). Paul wrote in Galatians 5:6 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but faith working through love." (Galatians 5:6).

Remember, while works of the law of Moses and works of our own righteousness are of no value for salvation, the works that God has commanded us to do in order to be saved are! The Scriptures say clearly, "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only." (James 2:24). Baptism was ordained by God as the appointed time and place where He would save us from our sins. We do not believe in water salvation. We believe we are saved by the blood of Jesus when, in faith, we obey his command to be baptized (Acts 10:48).

**" We do not believe in water salvation. We believe we are saved by the blood of Jesus when we obey his command to be baptized."**

R. Webster

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to silence your cell phones. 



Bro. Julian Rice and Sis. Kristen Coleman will be getting married on March 12 at 5 pm at the Lansing Church of Christ building.

Sis. Laurene Cunningham has been hospitalized in the Little Company of Mary with thyroid issues.



Our new directories are here and it will be one per family. See Sis. Ann-Marie Webster to sign for your copy.

Bro. Rob Hardy has contracted the flu and had a relapse this past week. He's at home on medication.

Sis. Mutlab continues treatment on ongoing health issues.

Sis. Doris Davis continues to experience severe discomfort in her legs. She tries to make every Sunday nevertheless.

Bible class resumes this week, weather permitting.

Sis. Glenda Carter is now back home from the hospital and is recovering.

Brother Robert Davis is now worshipping at South Holland.

## For Prayers:

Our military personnel.

Our plans this year to move into another facility.

Also, Ursula Ware, Nadia Hawks, Robert Davis, Rob Hardy's son Paul.

## Our College Students:

Paris Mickles: Southern Illinois University

Bria Gamble: Illinois State University

Angelice Gibson: Loyola University



## Birthdays This Week:

Darren Jackson - Feb. 16



Please submit **your announcements** to Bro. Webster by Thursday evening each week.

## Order of Service

Song

Announcement

Song

Opening Prayer

Song

Scripture Reading

Song

Sermon

Song

## Lord's Supper

### Offering

Song

Closing Prayer

## Last Week's Record



Sun. AM Class	27
Sun. AM Worship	44
Wed. Bible Class	cancelled