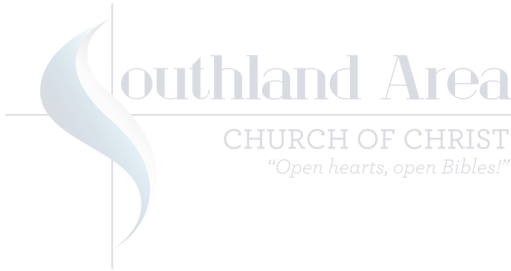


Topic:  
Text:

**Sermon Notes**



**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



# 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." I John 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 am  
Worship .....11 am

**Wednesday**  
Bible Study .....7 pm

**Prayer Meeting**  
(Last Wednesday each month @ 7 pm)

# CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

## Giving is an Act of Worship!

When a Christian gives his/her offering on the first day of the week, is it an act of worship or just an act that is done based on convenience? It is important to note that worship to God means giving Him the reverence, praise, and love. In doing so, we offer Him our offering! This does not mean that God needs our offering (contribution) since He is not *“served by men’s hands, as though he needed anything”* (Acts 17:25; cf. Psalm 50:10-12; Romans 11:35). However, from a sense of appreciation and obedience, we give our contribution as an expression of thankfulness to Him.

The scriptures are filled with giving of gifts to God as an expression of worship. In the book of Numbers 18:11, the offering of sacrifices to God was called gifts. How about the wise who sought the baby Jesus, didn’t they offer Him gifts as an expression of worship to Him? (Matthew 2:11). When the Philippian saints gave their money for the support of Paul, God viewed it as *“an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well-pleasing to God”* (Philippians 4:18). Oftentimes when the New Testament writers mentioned the *“fellowship”* of the saints, it includes the act of giving (Acts 2:42; Romans 15:26; II Corinthians 9:13).

Since it is an act of worship, it logically follows why God is concerned about the involvement of the heart. We cannot worship God unless our heart is in the right place. To the Samaritan woman at the well, Jesus said, *“God is a Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”* *“In spirit”* refers to the heart. In Matthew 15:8, in reference to the hypocrisy of the Jewish leaders, Jesus says, *“These people draw near to Me with their mouth And honor Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me.”* Likewise, our giving or contribution must have its foundation in a grateful heart as Paul encouraged the Corinthian Christians *“So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver”* (II Corinthians 9:7).

R. Webster

**Giving is an act of worship, not convenience, therefore it must have its foundation in a grateful heart!**

# 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.

The Wednesday Bible Class topic on Giving (Offering) continues this week, weather permitting. **How Much & When Should I Give? Is It A Sin Not To Give?**

The brothers will be meeting this afternoon at the Simmons’ residence to discuss plans for a new facility this year.



If anyone is interested in purchasing a *Defending the Faith Study Bible*, please see Bro. Webster.

### For Prayers :

Our military personnel.

Our plans this year to move into a worship facility of our own.

Sis. Laurene Cunningham and her daughter Glenda Carter still recovering from recent hospitalization. Keep them in your prayers.

Sis. Muthleb continues treatment on ongoing health issues.

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

**Also,** Ursula Ware, Nadia Hawks, Rob Hardy’s son Paul, Angelice Gibson, Debra Ellis, Aaron Stewart

### Our College Students:


**Paris Mickles:** Southern Illinois University  
**Bria Gamble:** Illinois State University  
**Angelice Gibson:** Loyola University



### Birthdays This Week:

Malachi Payne - March 1  
Calvin Goldman - March 3  
Kenya Strickland - March 7



If you’d like to give your contribution online, log into PayPal , click “send”, and type in the church’s email “slacoc2018@gmail.com.” 

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 Bible Class | 31 |
| Sun. AM Worship     | 56 |
| Wed. PM Bible Class | 19 |