

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.
Worship11 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 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

BE BAPTIZED

Acts 2:38;
22:16

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

I Chose To Be A Member of the Church of Christ because...

Of Its Divine Origin

With so many churches in existence today, it is quite easy for one to be confused about which is really from God, especially since Paul says that, "there is one body..." **Eph. 4:3** and that the body is the church **Eph. 1:22-23**. It is relatively easy to start a church and give it a name and establish one's own creeds and practices. However, Paul told the Ephesians that **Eph. 1:4** that Christ "...chose us in Him before the foundation of the world..." This means that a body of people were predestined to be saved by God, even before the world was created. This is important because there is the school of thought that Jesus came to set up an earthly kingdom but, because of the opposition and rejection from His fellow Jews, He changed His mind, and set up a spiritual kingdom, the church. This idea is contrary to the clear teachings of God's word.

A remarkable fact about the church, since it was in the mind of God before creation, is that its beginning originates with God. Several prophecies had been made regarding the church. John the Baptist and Jesus both told the people to repent for the kingdom of heaven was at hand. Later, we find Jesus promising to build His church in **Matt. 16:18**. In the Old Testament, Isaiah refers to the church as the "Lord's House", **Isa. 2:2-4** and also tells us when this would be, where it would be, who would be part of it, why it would be established, and how. As to when this would happen, Isaiah says it will be in the "latter days" or "last days" (Old KJV). This is referring to the final age before the judgement, which was confirmed by Peter in **Acts 2:16-17** who quoted Joel's prophecy in **Joel 2:28-32** in explaining the events on the day of Pentecost. As to where, the prophet says, it would take place in "Zion" or "Jerusalem," which is exactly where the disciples were according to **Acts 1:4-5**. As to who would be part of the "Lord's house," Isaiah said, "...all nations shall flow into it" as opposed to just the Jews. Paul says in **Gal. 3:28** that "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." As to how, Isaiah again says, "He will teach us of His ways." No one can become a member of the church today unless he has been taught of God. Jesus tells us in **John 6:45** "It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Therefore everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to Me." As to why? The Lord is not willing that any man should perish (**II Pet. 3:9**), which requires men to "walk in His ways" (**Isa. 2:3**). He, therefore, established the church to which He adds daily those who are being saved (**Acts 2:47**).

Since the Church of Christ can find its origin back in these prophecies and fulfillments, it therefore underscores the point that it is not just another religious body claiming to be of God, but the scriptural and doctrinal evidence prove this to be true. Based on the biblical texts available to us, any church that comes either before or after Acts 2, is either too early or too late!

Bro. R. Webster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to silence your cell phones. 

Members, if you did not receive a text or email regarding the **contribution**, please let Sis. Angela Williams know.

The Fellowship Meal will be on Dec. 1 (after worship), the Sunday following Thanksgiving. This is a great time to invite relatives and friends who are visiting. This will not be a major eating event but more about fellowshiping with each other. Hence finger food only. Please invite as many as possible to come worship and fellowship with us.

We continue to put the Birthday/ Anniversary list at the back so as to give all members an opportunity to confirm/ correct/add your information before you leave today.

Here's a list of items needed for distribution to the poor and homeless in Chicago headed by Sis. Ruthie Gamble: Pull tab canned goods only • Toiletries • Hand warmers • New socks • Gloves • Hats • Scarfs • Blankets.

These items can be brought to church each Sunday until Dec. 1st. Monetary donations will be accepted until Sunday, December 8, 2019. Thank you once again for your support.

No birthdays this week.

For Prayers : **Also**, Ursula Ware, Diane Kensey-Bridges, Erika Dockens, Clarence Harley, Ken Ware III, Nadia Hawks, Robert Davis, Rob Hardy's son, Robert.

Sis. Serena Webster who continues her military training in California.

Bro. D.J. Chaff who is preparing to graduate next month from Illinois State University.

For Our College Students: **Paris Mickles:** SIU, **Darren Jackson:** SIU, **Bria Gamble:** Illinois State


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	28
	Sun. AM Worship	46
	Wed. Bible Class	13