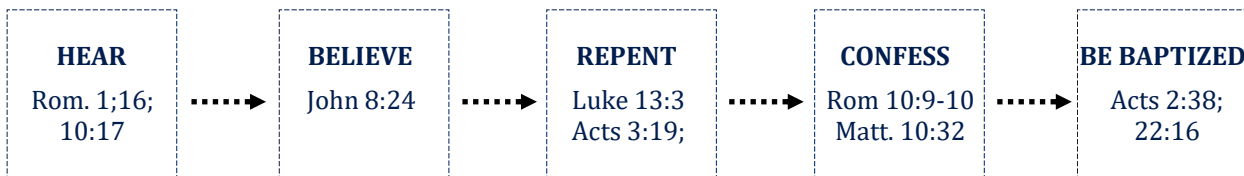


Sermon Notes

Topic:
Text:



WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?





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 located at the front on the communion table.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday
Sun. School (suspended until further notice)
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.
Worship Service11 a.m.

Wednesday
Bible Study (on Zoom)...7:00 p.m.

*I rejoiced with those who said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."
Psalm 122:1*

CONTENDING FOR THE FAITH

Can Man Forgive Sins?

Forgiveness of sins is one of the major benefits of Christ's death on the cross and is made available to us through His new covenant (**Matt. 26:28; Jere. 31:31-34**). In fact, one cannot preach the gospel of Christ without mentioning forgiveness of sins, since coming to Christ to be saved is as a result of this blessing. To a man that was paralytic, Jesus said to him, *"Man, your sins are forgiven you"* (**Luke 5:20**). This angered the Pharisees who, refusing to believe that Jesus was God manifested in the flesh, said, *"Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"* (**Luke 5:21**). This was indeed a fact that Jesus did not deny. However, He went on to say, "know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins." He is agreeing that no one but God alone has the power to forgive sins. However, we find that after His resurrection, Jesus, in recommissioning His disciples, said to them, *"If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven"* (**John 20:23**). Was he saying that not only God, but they the apostles could forgive sins? Yes and No!

Was Jesus saying that not only God, but they the apostles could forgive sins? Yes and No!

Yes, in that Christ was giving them authority to forgive people sins (**Luke 24:47-49; Acts 2:38**). No, in that forgiveness of sins can only be done by God. This means, no man can forgive people's sins with the false notion that it originates with him. We have all sinned and fallen short of God's glory (**Rom. 3:23**) must constantly seek God's forgiveness for our own sins. Jesus wanted His disciples to have a disposition of forgiveness (**Eph. 4:32**). This was not a choice if they want to be forgiven.

We, today, do not have the power to forgive sins. However, must always have a forgiving attitude. If someone has wronged us, Jesus, in using a form of exaggeration says, *"Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him. And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him"* (**Luke 17:3-4**). In doing so, we are not only doing what we have been authorized to do but to also secure our own forgiveness since Jesus says in **Matt. 6:14** that *"...if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you."*

Robert Webster



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to silence your cell phones.

Everyone please be diligent in observing CDC guidelines regarding the virus. Masking up, sanitizing, and social distancing are critical to us being able to have in-person worship. Additionally, we encourage everyone to get vaccinated.

Those 65 and over & those who are immunocompromised are eligible for a booster dose of the vaccine.

Please be reminded that no eating is allowed in the auditorium.



For Prayers :

Our military personnel.

Sis. Lydia Chaff's cousin, Beverly Jonson, passed away last Wednesday.

Sis. Debra Woodard's brother, Bro. Woodard who is an elder has had a medical setback.

Sis. Webster will be out of town for this weekend.

We thank everyone who has supported the annual Homeless mission effort, spearheaded by Sis. Ruthie Gamble. They will be heading to Chicago this afternoon to begin the distribution and you are welcome to assist them in this noble effort.

We are very grateful to Bro. Norman for taking time out to conduct a series of classes on what to do in the case of fire emergency. In life we oftentimes get blindsided by unfortunate events. If others are interested, please contact Bro. Webster.



Birthdays and Anniversaries this Week:



Anniversary
The Webster (29 yrs.)

Skills Bank

Remember to submit your information, and do your own verification for licensing.

Sis. Webster.....Real Estate Agent

Gambles Property Preservation & Home Decor

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

Sunday AM Worship & Zoom	86
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	53
Last Sunday offering:	\$6775.73