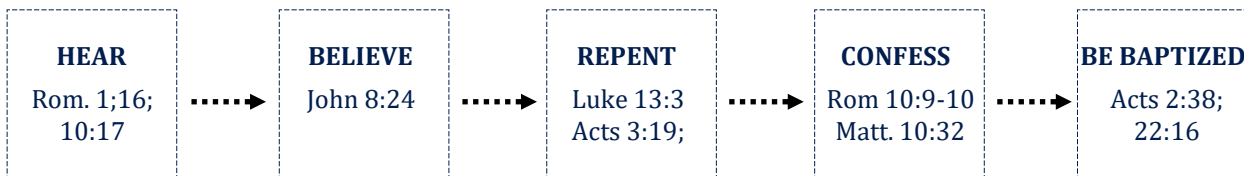


**Sermon Notes**

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**

Young Christians' Class .....10 a.m.  
Sun. Adult Bible Class.....10 a.m.  
Worship Service .....11 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

## What's In It For God?

Ever wonder why God wants us to obey Him? What exactly does God receive from our faithfulness and obedience? We say that we want to please God and do so by avoiding sin or making a sacrifice in our service to others but how does our improved morality or increased service advantage God? He doesn't need anything nor does our goodness add any advantage to Him—He's above it all anyways.

I believe the answer to this question lies in His character of love. John says that the defining element of His nature is love, “And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him.” (I John 4:16) This is the first clue that reveals the reason He is pleased when we obey. The second clue is found in Genesis where Moses writes that humans have been created in the image of God, “Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (Genesis 1:26). The final insight is the fact that disobedience is the cause that now separates man from God and alters his original God-like nature, “Then the Lord God took the man and put him into the garden of Eden to cultivate it and keep it. 16 The Lord God commanded the man, saying, “From any tree of the garden you may eat freely; 17 but from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not [a]eat, for in the day that you eat from it you will surely die.” (Genesis 2:15-17).

When we put these together, we realize that when man obeys God it means that He is seeking to become like God as he was first created to be before sinful disobedience marred his likeness of the Divine. This, in turn, pleases God because it means that man is positioning himself (through faithful obedience) for blessings which God, in His love, is eager to provide for those who believe and obey Him. (Ephesians 1:1-14).

So, what's in it for God when we obey Him? The short answer is that our obedience gives Him the opportunity to bless us in love, and blessing us pleases Him.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember to silence your cell phones.



## Birthdays and Anniversaries this Week:



### **BIRTHDAYS**

Bria Gamble Today- Jan. 30th  
Kris Anderson Monday-Jan. 31st

### **NO ANNIVERSARIES-**

Everyone please be diligent in observing CDC guidelines. Masking up, sanitizing, and social distancing are critical to us being able to have in-person worship. Everyone is encouraged to get vaccinated and boosted. It is most effective way to stay safe.

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

Please review the website for any updates. Please email or text Sis. Ruthie Gamble any corrections.

### **For Prayers :**

Our military personnel, first responder, new members and educators.

Prayers are being requested for Sis. Glenda Carter, Ruthie Gamble, Costola Thigpen & the Jones family, Selma Raglin, and the Nunn family. Sis. Carter request prayers for Jackie Hamb, who has a successful surgery on the January 27th. and her mother, Sis. Caffey.

Please continue to pray for Bro. JW Kinds, Bro. Mickles, Bro. Conner's cousin, Laronda Conner, Sis. Brenda Sims, Sis. LaDonna Carter and the Shields family. Sis. Davis and her extended family member, Pat "Gram" Nathan. Kristopher Strickland, Sis. Pamela Lennon, and Laura Simpson and Laurene Cunningham.

Our Young Adult Bible class is now being taught Bro. EJ Taylor every Sunday morning at 10 o'clock. Please encourage young people within your family and your friends to take advantage of this class as they come to worship service.

To avoid a fee with PayPal, please select "sending to a friend" under your donation amount. Please contact Ruthie Gamble with questions.

### **Skills Bank**

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

Sis. Webster.....Real Estate Agent

Gambles ..... Property Preservation & Custom Home Décor

Sis. Debra Woodard .....Financial Advisor

### **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	101
Wednesday Bible Class (Zoom)	47
Last Sunday offering:	\$3,340.61
Weekly Budget	\$2625.00