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because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about seeking whom he may devour." (1 Peter 5:8). Credit: www.moodychurchofchrist.com ♦

Lest Satan come among us and deceive us, let us remember the advice given by Peter, "Be sober, be vigilant;

I Am Your Bulletin

I am not just another piece of paper.
 I am your weekly church information sheet.
 I do not come to you easily, or without expense.
 I cost money, time, thought, and energy.
 I should not be taken for granted.
 I can only be as useful and valuable as you allow me to be.
 I am often abused and overlooked.
 Sometimes all I get is a fleeting glance.
 Sometimes all I get is a critical analysis.
 I want so much for you to read me, study me, appreciate me,
 and make me useful for your spiritual activity and development.
 I want to serve you.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

- Hear and Learn - Rom. 10:17 m. 10:9-10 ; 1 Pet. 3:21 ; John 6:45; 17:3
- Believe - Heb. 11:6; John 6:29; 8:24
- Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 3:19; 17:30
- Confess the Lord - Matt. 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Be Baptized - Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16; Gal. 3:26-27
- Continue in the Apostles' Teaching - Acts 2:42; 2 Tim. 3:14-17

About the Hillcrest church of Christ

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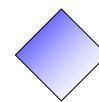


Schedule of Assembly

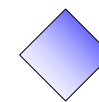
Bible Study: Sunday, 9:00am
 Worship Service: Sunday, 10:00am
 Bible Study: Wednesday, 7:00pm*

*A song service is held on the last Wednesday of every month

www.hillcrestchurchofchrist.com



The Voice of Truth



September 5, 2010

Only One Way! By Jimmy Pettigrew

You go to your church and I'll go to mine. We're going to the same place, only on different roads. This statement is made by many people who mistakenly believe there are many ways to God in heaven. However, the truth of the matter is, there is only one way to God, and Jesus said it is strait and narrow (Matt. 7:13-14). Christ declared, I am the way, the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me (John 14:6). In Acts 4:12, speaking of Christ, Peter said, Neither is there salvation in any other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved. Therefore, it is necessary to conclude that the only way to God is through Christ.

Being saved and brought to God is a spiritual blessing. Paul said, all spiritual blessings are in Christ, (Eph. 1:3). Moreover, Paul wrote of Christ stating that it is in Him whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sin, according to the riches of his grace, (Eph. 1:7). Hence, all spiritual blessings and redemption . . . according to his grace are in Christ. Please notice these passages: Redemption is found in Christ (Rom. 3:24); There is no condemnation to them which are in Christ (Rom. 8:1); the love of God is found in Christ (Rom. 8:39). We are sanctified in Christ (1 Cor. 1:2); in Christ will all be made alive (1 Cor. 15:22); we are new creatures in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17); Gal. 6:15); we are reconciled back to God by being in Christ (Isa. 59:12; 2 Cor. 5:19; Eph. 2:13); we are all children of God by being in Christ (Gal. 3:26-27); all blessings are found in Christ (Eph. 1:3); we are made to sit together in heavenly places in Christ (Eph. 2:6); the grace of God is found in Christ (2 Tim. 2:10); eternal life is found in Christ (Rom. 6:23). It should be obvious to all that one has to be in Christ to gain these wonderful benefits. But, how does one get into Christ?

One should be aware of the difference between unto and into as used in the English. Unto means going in the direction of or toward. Into signifies that the destination has been reached, entered.

**"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me."
 - John 14:6, ASV 1901**

Without faith it is impossible for one to please God (Heb. 11:6) and be saved (Mark 16:16). However, a person must understand that he does not believe into Christ. Belief is unto, going in the direction of Christ. Paul uses the unto with belief in Romans 10:10 saying, For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness. No Scripture says one believes into Christ.

If one will not repent of his sins, he will perish (Luke 13:3-5). Yet, it must be understood that repentance on the part of an individual is another act unto or toward God. As a matter of fact, Paul is recorded as saying that both faith and repentance are acts which are toward rather than into. Paul testified both to the Jews and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ (Acts 20:21). No Scripture says one repents into Christ.

Confession that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Acts 8:37) is absolutely essential for salvation (Matt. 10:32-33). But again, confession is unto salvation. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Rom. 10:10). No Scripture says one confesses into Christ.

Faith, repentance, and confession are unto but do not place one into Christ. Just as there is only one way to God (that is through Christ), there is only one way into Christ, in whom all spiritual blessings are found. Faith, repentance, and confession are essential for one entering into Christ, but one does not enter into Christ by any one of them or by all three of them together.

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The only way revealed in the Bible for one to get into Christ is by being baptized in water (**Acts 8:36**), in the name of Christ for the remission of sins (**Acts 2:38**), washing them away (**Acts 22:16**). **Roman 6:3** finds Paul stating, *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into*

“Some Things Man Cannot Escape”

By Jarrod Jacobs

In our society, we are used to people “getting away” with certain things, aren’t we? It has become almost commonplace to hear about a person hiring a “dream team” of lawyers so as to avoid criminal charges and prosecution. Closer to home, we may notice people “getting away” with theft by eating displayed food at the grocery store without buying it; or someone taking extra time on their breaks at work and getting paid for it. Perhaps someone we know has been dishonest (lying), and yet men tend to ignore this sin. It seems that we have reared a society which thinks that we can escape certain sins by ignoring them and no one is the wiser. Is this really the case? God says there are things we cannot escape in this life no matter how hard we try! Just like Adam and Eve could not escape God (**Gen. 3:7-10**); just like Jonah could not escape God (**Jonah 1:3-17, ch. 2**); neither can we escape God (**Prov. 15:3; Heb. 4:13; Ecc. 12:14; Rom. 2:16**)! Nor can we escape the truth He has revealed.

We Cannot Escape The Consequences Of Sin.

We have reared a society of people who are under the impression that they can “bury” their sins deep enough that no one will find out about them. Sometimes, folks have the idea that they can somehow escape the consequences of sin if they pay enough money, run far enough away, deny it, or whatever. In truth, this is not possible! *“Be sure your sin will find you out”* (**Num. 32:23**)! We need to understand that independently of Christ and His shed blood (**Rom. 6:3-6**), we cannot escape sin (**Acts 2:38, 22:16**)! Whether we are looking at this from the aspect of the physical or the spiritual consequences of sin, we cannot escape this without Christ! Lest we forget, go back and read **Romans 6:23**, which tells us, *“the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.”* In addition to this, God compares physical sowing and reaping with spiritual sowing and reaping in **Galatians 6:7-8**. Be sure, there will be a “bitter harvest” awaiting us if we have sown a life of sin and have not repented nor have been forgiven!

Jesus Christ were baptized into his death. In **Galatians 3:27** Paul wrote, *for as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.* When one believes that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, repents of his sins, and has confessed Christ with his mouth, he is only then ready to be **baptized into Christ!** ♦

We Cannot Escape Death.

As hard as men try through medicines, vitamins, exercise, food choices, etc., we cannot escape death! *“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment”* (**Heb. 9:27**). Death was something God promised as a physical consequence of Adam and Eve’s sin (**Gen. 3:19**) and it continues to this day. Solomon put it this way: *“The living know that they shall die”* (**Ecc. 9:5a**)! How true this is! In fact, *“The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death”* (**I Cor. 15:26**). Therefore, be assured we will not escape death because it will be with us until the Lord returns!

We Cannot Escape The Judgment.

Friends, there is a Judgment Day coming in which all mankind will be judged by The Judge, Christ (**Acts 17:30-31; Jn. 5:22**). Just like death, no one will escape this event! How do I know this? I know this because the Bible reveals this truth in passages like the following:

Ecclesiastes 12:13-14 - *“Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil.”*

Matthew 25:31-33, 46 - *“When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.”*

II Corinthians 5:10 - *“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the*

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things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”

Can there be any question as to the coming Judgment? Can there be any question as to who is going to be there? We will all be present before Christ in Judgment. The ques-

tion is: “Are you ready?” If not, why not?

Conclusion

Yes, some things we cannot escape! Yet, we can come through anything successfully when we are in Christ. Are you in Him? (**Eph. 1:7-13; Gal. 3:26-27**)

Credit: www.southside-churchofchrist.com ♦

And Satan Also Came Among Them

By Johnie Edwards

“Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the Lord, and Satan also among them” (**Job 1:6**). Satan never passes up an opportunity to do his work. He came among the twelve apostles. *“Then entered Satan into Judas surnamed Iscariot, being of the number of the twelve”* (**Luke 22:3**). Satan can do his work more effectively when he comes among people. I would like for us to notice some instances when Satan came among people and to notice some applications.

He came among Adam and Eve in the garden. After God had placed man in the garden of Eden with the responsibility of dressing and keeping the garden and with the restriction of not eating of the tree of knowledge of good and evil lest death come, Satan came among them and said, *“Ye shall not surely die”* (**Gen. 3:4**). Anytime God makes His will known to man, Satan is there to tell man the very opposite.

Satan came when Christ was baptized. The baptism of Jesus is recorded in **Matthew 3:13-16**. *“Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil”* (**Matthew 4:1**). Surely the devil does not pass up the opportunity of coming among those who have just been baptized. He tries to make them concerned with the cares of this life. He sets them to criticizing instead of hearing to profit. He tries to cool down their ardor, abate their love, chill their praise, freeze their prayers and kill their zeal. Satan likes a “sleeping church.” It’s his business to rock the cradle, hush all noise and drive away even a fly which might light upon the sleeper’s face.

Satan comes when the Gospel of Christ is preached. In the parable of the sower, Satan is pictured as coming among the wayside hearers. *“Those by the wayside are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved”* (**Luke 8:12**). Satan comes among people whenever the gospel is being preached and tries to steal the word away. He tries to get folks to question the way of

God. For he knows that, *“They that gladly received his word were baptized...”* (**Acts 2:41**).

Satan came among Ananias and Sapphira. Ananias and Sapphira sold a possession. Then Satan came among them. *“But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price of the land?”* (**Acts 5:3**). When Christians get ready to give to the Lord’s work, what better time for Satan to come among them? If he can get us to think the Lord’s work is not very important and that we can get by without giving very much, then Satan has us going his way.

Satan comes about when the truth is preached about the name we must wear. When it is pointed out that we must wear the name Christian, (**Acts 11:26, 26:28; 1 Peter 4:16**), Satan comes among people and tells them, “There is nothing in a name.” Many believe him.

Satan comes when the truth is preached about the church. When people are taught that they must be a member of the Lord’s church to be saved, (**Acts 2:47; Ephesians 5:23**), Satan comes among them and says, “One church is just as good as another.” Many are deceived.

Satan comes when the truth is preached about the plan of salvation. When men are taught to hear the word, have faith, repent of their sins, confess their faith, be baptized and live a faithful life, (**Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38**), Satan comes among them and says, *“You don’t have to be to be baptized to be saved.”* Many take his advice.

We need to constantly be on guard against Satan. *“...for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as ministers of righteousness...”* (**2 Corinthians 11:14-15**).

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