

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

Bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



## THE HOLY SPIRIT'S GUIDANCE

We noted last week how we may identify the Lord's Church, and have mentioned the prophecy of **Isaiah 2:2-3** on several occasions, the promise of the establishment of the church. Jesus was well aware of the prophecy and the fulfillment thereof. He was also completely aware of the next significant event to come about in continuation of the plan of God; the coming of the Holy Spirit. In **Luke 24:46-49** we find the instructions given to the apostles, and turning to **Acts 1:3-5** we see a reiteration of these instructions. Jesus showed Himself to them and commanded that they "should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father....ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days hence (from now)."

If we look back to **John 14:15-17**, we can see a clarification from Jesus "if ye love me keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of Truth..." In **verse 26** Jesus provides additional information concerning this comforter, "the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, He shall teach you all things, and bring things to remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you." This is what Jesus told Peter and the other apostles in **Matthew 16:18-19** "upon this rock I will build my church...And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." This is how we can know the plan of God concerning the church, the Word, and how it came to be. Jesus had fulfilled His portion and delegated the next portion of God's plan to His chosen apostles for the very purpose of bringing the written Word...The Word of Truth.

Turn back to **John 16:7**: "I tell you the truth; it is expedient for you (important, timely) that I go away: for if I go not away, The Comforter will not come unto you: but if I depart, I will send him unto you." And then **v. 13**, "when He, the Spirit of truth is come, He will guide you into all truth...and show you all things to come." In **Acts 1:1-5** we look toward the fulfillment of the things that were 'to come'. "Jesus spent forty days speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God" after which, He ascended into heaven. It is a wonderful thing that these were written by the hands of the inspired writers that we can examine and clearly see the Plan of God and its execution.

Doug Jones

## The Rock Hill church of Christ

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### Worship Times:

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

### Elders:

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley
- Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace

### Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

### Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett
- Fernando Zapata

*"We're Here  
and We Care"*

# Family News

*"For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:18,19*

If you are visiting our congregation, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

## N . E . W . S .

### A SPRING SINGING WORKSHOP

STARTS TODAY and runs through

Wednesday.

Ken Dawdy will teach on worship in song on Sunday and then will hold workshops

each evening Monday through Wednesday.

### Here's the schedule...

- **Sunday**, April 16
  - 9:00AM Bible class — "Why is Music Important in Worship?"
  - 10:00AM Worship — "Why is A cappella Music Important in Worship?"
  - **LUNCH — Pot luck!**
  - 6:00PM Worship — "Sing and Make Melody in Your Heart, or Make a Joyful Noise, Whichever it is You Do!"
- **Monday**, April 17:
  - 7:00PM — "Song Leading Class" Everybody is invited
- **Tuesday**, April 18:
  - 7:00PM — "Singing Class" Everybody is invited
- **Wednesday**, April 19:



Ken & Shelley Dawdy

- 7:00PM — "So You're the Ones Who Don't Have Music!"

Leadership meetings

- Elders at 3PM
- All leadership at 4PM

**YOUTH ACTIVITIES** — A Youth Sleepover on May 5th in the Fellowship Building. All ages are invited.

**LADIES' SPRING FLING** — Saturday April 22nd at 11:00am in the Fellowship Hall.

### Updates on the sick

**DIANNA C's** doctor is giving her a break from Chemo until May 3rd. She is still dealing with nausea, achiness and exhaustion but is grateful for this break.

**ELOISE** is finally at home again, but still needing a little recovery time. Drop her a card or pay her a visit; she'll love it!

**JOHN B.** is at home recovering

**RALPH L** is at home recuperating from his heart event, much better, but weak

### PRAYER LISTS...

- Bonnie D suffered a broken shoulder placing Easter eggs last weekend. She's at home currently and doing better
- Lori C had some minor skin cancer surgery on her hair-line. Pray for a quick recovery
- Nancy J relative Tom Kissinger: Parkinson's
- Julia's friend Wendy with breast cancer
- Dianna Conkling
- Hugh R.'s sister Andrea

- Sue Carter
- Isela H.'s friend Jeff, cancer.
- Ora Holt, kidney
- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our congregational leaders

### Long Term Requests

- Bonnie B.
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- The Zapata's friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Dianna C.
- Ken C.
- Mary H. and daughter Sharon

*Trust in the Lord  
with all your  
heart.  
(Proverbs 3:5)*

### READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Apr 16, 1 Kgs 1
- Apr 17, 1 Kgs 2-3
- Apr 18, 1 Kgs 4-6
- Apr 19, 1 Kgs 7
- Apr 20, 1 Kgs 8
- Apr 21, 1 Kgs 9-10
- Apr 22, 1 Kgs 11-12
- Apr 23, 1 Kgs 13-14

# A Word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

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## ARE YOU DISPOSED TO ETERNAL LIFE?

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In Acts 13:14-52 there is the account of Paul and Barnabas preaching the Gospel in the city of Pisidian Antioch. As was Paul's custom they initially went to the local synagogue to preach, where they offered an account of the Gospel from the Exodus through the promises to David to John the Baptist's ministry to Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection, and ending with the offer of salvation in Christ. The message was exciting to everyone who heard it, the Jews and the Gentile "God fearers". Everyone went home abuzz and the next Sabbath a huge crowd (composed of "too many" Gentiles) gathered to hear more of what Paul and Barnabas would say about the coming of the Messiah and the salvation offered in Jesus. The Jews, looking at this motley crowd, recoiled at the idea of God's word being shared with "just anyone", and motivated by jealousy they began to contradict Paul and blaspheme. Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and told the Jews of Pisidian that since they repudiated God's word that they had judged themselves unworthy of eternal life and they would now be turning to the Gentiles. The listening Gentiles cheered and glorified God's word, and Acts 13:48 tells us, "and as many as **had been appointed** to eternal life believed (NASB and others)." A more accurate translation would be, "and as many as **were disposed** to eternal life believed."<sup>\*</sup>

So, what does "disposed to eternal life" mean? As it applies to this story, it means that the Gentiles were more open to hearing, considering, examining, and accepting the things Paul preached to them, than the Jews, who were apparently satisfied that they were "chosen" and were more focused on making sure the proper boundaries were set. And it has application to people today, doesn't it?

How concerned you about your soul? Competing cares often threaten to demote our souls, our salvation, to a side note. In the case of the Jews in this story, their pride in being the chosen people of God and jealous prejudice against Gentiles trumped their interest in the truth and salvation. But of course, pride and jealousy are the only things that we can value above our souls; there's materialism, pleasure, entertainment, fun, and the concern for what others think just to name a few. Confused and mis-valued priorities do not

dispose anyone to eternal life. The Gentiles in this story, however, ironically had more concern with truth and salvation than the Jews. Despite the Jews' hostile opposition, hostile argumentation, and blasphemy they carefully evaluated the message and believed. How important is eternal life to you? If you were to make a list of all the things in your life that have any importance, and rank them all in terms of their priority in your life, would eternal life be at the top? It will make a difference in how disposed to eternal life you are.

How do you honor God's word? Not talking about lip service, but active obedience to it. Jewish tradition has protocol for bringing out and reading the Torah (the Law). First, one must be ceremonially clean to even handle the scroll. Prayers and blessings are recited as the scroll is taken out of and later replaced into

its special place in the synagogue, called "the ark". The scroll itself is considered so holy that they choose not to touch it with the finger as they read, but use a special pointer as they read each line of text. And we can assume that

something like this occurred in the synagogue Pisidian Antioch, displaying great respect toward God's word — at least superficially. However, when it got down to believing and obeying it, they ultimately showed the word of God rejection. The Gentiles, on the other hand, glorified the word of the Lord, believed it, obeyed it, and spread it throughout the region. How do you honor God's word? Bring a Bible to church every Sunday isn't enough. Putting the Bible in the middle of your coffee table like an ornament isn't enough. Honoring it means reading it, leaning it, and obeying it.

How disposed are you to eternal life?

Park Linscomb

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<sup>\*</sup> The Greek word, as it is spelled, can be either passive or middle voice — context tells us which to choose. "Appointed" implies a Calvinistic, unconditional, particular, election of men to salvation or condemnation, apart from men's choice. "Disposed", on the other hand, tells of the attitude of mind that would naturally lead to their salvation — and it is "disposed" that fits the context of this story and the matches the sum of the teachings of God's word elsewhere.

