

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



## 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"*

## GOD'S PLAN, PART 6

The plan of God that would bring Salvation down to men should be recognized for what it is; it was ordained of God, executed by Jesus Christ and delivered by the Holy Spirit. (for lack of better explanation). It is based upon truths that only could have been originated by God Himself, due to the miraculous events and interconnecting historical facts that are recorded. God has blessed us by revealing such a wonderful collection of Spiritual facts that lead us to salvation, exclusively provided through His Son, Jesus **Act 4:12**, and **John 14:6**.

The Apostle Paul said it best, a reference to true worshippers of the New Testament, in **1 Corinthians 4:1**, said, "Let a man so account of us as of the ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God." Unfortunately, to so many today, the "mystery" remains. It can only remain a mystery if we neglect the instructions that are provided, and continue to feel as though we can find a better way, a faster way or perhaps a more entertaining method of generating audiences.

God has already tried to deal with man by direct intervention with flood, fire and pestilence all of which occurred before the coming of Christ. Under the new dispensation, that is to say, under the New Testament, it is as Paul said to the men at Athens in **Acts 17:30-31**, "And the time of this ignorance, God winked at, but now commandeth all men everywhere to repent; because he hath appointed a day in the which He will judge the world in righteousness by that man he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that He hath raised Him from the dead."

Rather than intervene with personal retribution for sin instantaneously, God has declared two undeniable things: (1) **Galatians 3:22**, "But the scripture has concluded (included) all under sin, that the promise by faith in Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe. (2) **Romans 12:19**, "avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath; for it is written, vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord." God has "given us all things that pertain to life and Godliness" **2 Peter 1:3** which is, according to **2 Corinthians 10:13**, "the measure of the rule which God has distributed to us, a measure to reach even unto you." It is the standard of righteousness given by God Himself.

Doug Jones

# 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! Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. 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 .

**BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY** is this evening after worship services. Come join us for a wonderful time of fellowship — and food!

**LEADERSHIP MEETING** — Here's a few highlights of the leadership meeting last week

- A new *Camp Deer Run Camper-ship Fund*. Camp is a great experience for our young people, and the elders want to support every young person who wants to go. So, it was decided that we would inform all our young people (and families) that we will provide camper fees for this summer for those who'd like to go, 2 weeks costs \$895. To underwrite that we'll be implementing a campership fund for anyone to contribute to, and then subsidize any remainder of the approximately \$4500 with congregational funds. If you'd like to give by check, give it to Charles.
- We will be purchasing a mobile partition for the fellowship hall to provide sound-proof division between two classes that are there.
- Our new streaming TV campaign is getting good results in terms of views and visits to our website. It can be seen on Thurs. through Sat. on Roku, Pluto TV, FoxNews, DirecTV Stream, Sling TV, LG Channels, and History.

- We have reached out to a couple of mission points offering some human resource help, but so far we've not received a response.
- Park will be taking vacation time from March 8 to 14.
- Doug, Charles, and Park went to *Harding Univ.* to interview a possible summer intern. The jury is still out, but we continue to search for a summer intern at *Sunset International Bible Institute*, and possibly *Southwest Christian College*.

### AREA WIDE OFFERINGS

- Area wide worship, March 3, Greenville Ave

**AN EVANGELISM CLASS** — Our next class will be at the Ruebushes home at 7PM on Feb. 29. Join us!

**OUR YOUTH** delivered 16 baskets of comfort items and toys to Children's



Hospital! The staff, and especially the kids on the wards were thrilled! Well done!!

**THE PITTSFIELD MA CHURCH** — We have an ongoing monthly benevolence program to help the Berkshire County church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. See Trudy R. to contribute.

### NEW PRAYER REQUESTS...

- Nancy Jones' cousin, David Kemp, passed away, as did a more distant relative Tom Kissinger.
- Reiven Holt has lost several relatives over the last few weeks.

### OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Lynn Turner recovering from a broken leg, now in PT. Lynn also has cancer

- Burley Stinnett Jr. — various health issues
- Rachel W's friend, Madeline, with Guillain-Barré syndrome
- Whitney Perez, cancer chemo
- Bev W., recovery, knee surgery.
- Zeke R. — PTSD, depression, and VA issues. Also, Zeke's sister-in-law Carmen R., eye sight
- Dianna C. for cancer treatment
- Sue Carter: digestive problems
- Freida R. recovering
- Bonnie D. broken shoulder and, struggling; Suzanne as she cares for her mother
- The Stafford's grand-daughter
- Ora Holt, kidney
- the churches in New England
- brethren in India
- our elders, deacons, preacher,

teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregational

### LONG TERM REQUESTS

- Isela Hughes' sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff with cancer (very ill)
- 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
- Ken C.

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

- Feb 25, Num 32-33
- Feb 26, Num 34-36
- Feb 27, Deut 1-3
- Feb 28, Deut 4-7
- Mar 1, Deut 8-10
- Mar 2, Deut 11-13
- Mar 3, Deut 14-17
- Mar 4, Deut 18-20

# 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.

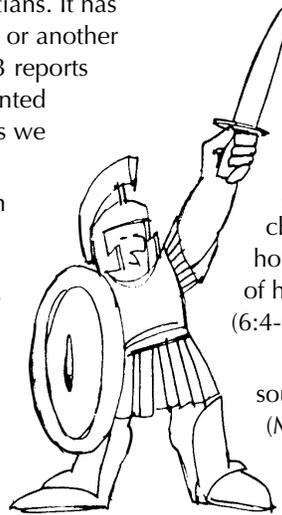
## THE MOST SERIOUS CHALLENGE

We live in challenging times for Christians. It has always been that way to one degree or another since the first century. Acts 14:21-23 reports that Paul and Barnabas fortified their newly planted churches by saying, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

For one example, the Lord's word, *the truth* that saves and frees us is under attack. To the world these days truth is a relative matter, and nobody is supposed to claim that they have *the truth*, that's just "so exclusive" and a whole host of other "virtuous" terms crafted to shame and ostracize Christians. But the Scripture quite clearly claims to be *the truth*: Psalms 119:160 "The sum of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting." Jesus made the audacious claim, "I am the way, the truth, and the life, and no man comes to the Father except by Me" (John 14:6). **And God's eternal truth will, in fact, outlast every lie of the world.**

The Lord's church also faces challenges — from both the outside and the inside. The external opposition seeks to conform the church to its idea of what religion should be: accommodating to popular culture, sensitive to political ideologies, attentive to the latest polls, and faithful to the idea that we're all going to the same place, just by different paths. And internal attacks aren't much different, because they seem to *want* to conform to the world and not be so different (see 1 Sam. 8:5). But the Lord's church: the church doesn't belong to us, or to society, or to the theologians, or to popular trends, or to political or legal expedience, or the financially expedient — it belongs to the Lord...alone. Jesus said, "...All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth" (Matthew 28:18). **And His church will also, in fact, outlast any other religious institution created by man, because, it's an eternal kingdom — even the gates of Hades will not overcome it!**

The most *serious* challenge, however, is the individual Christian's resolve to be and remain obedient. While God's word and will will definitely prevail; while the Lord's church will triumph over everything and anything; the jury is still out on the soul of the individual disciple. In Rev. 12 there's a wonderful parable of sorts revealing the grand spiritual struggle of the centuries between Satan and



God's people. In this powerful vision Satan tries again and again to destroy the people of God, envisioned as a woman (the bride of Christ). God continues protect her and help her, until Satan is ultimately defeated on this attack; "So the dragon was enraged with the woman, and went off to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus" (Rev. 12:17). The "rest of her children", that's us! And the book of Hebrews (6:4-6) is clear that we might fail, rather than prevail.

And in meeting the challenges to our personal souls, we must *be wise* and handle them Jesus' way: (Matthew 10:16) "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and innocent as doves." Be discerning about the influences that swirl around us.

And we must *speak wisely*, as Paul commanded, (Colossians 4:6) "Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person." In a world of so much violent language, the Christian must speak fully under Christ's control

And connected to speaking wisely, we must also *act wisely*. This will include standing for and doing what is right, even though the whole world stands for and even revels in and celebrates the wrong! And acting wisely will also include active prayer for our country, to do what we cannot do, and putting the future in God's hands.

We do not know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future. With the Lord as our guide, with God's Spirit as our strength, with Jesus as our Judge, we will overcome—

Romans 8:31-39 "Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... **But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.** For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (emphasis added)

Park Linscomb

