

Elders:

Rufus Barfield * Dan Jackson * Donnie McDaniel

Deacons:

Paul Byas * Chris Gorham * Rhet Moeller * Michael Myrick * Sheldon Smith

Evangelist:

Antoine Holloway

Worship Times:

Sunday Bible Study/9:30AM Sunday Morning Worship/10:30AM
Sunday Evening Worship/6:00PM Wednesday Bible Study/7:30PM

Meetings:

Men's Leadership Class

October 27th @ 9:00am

Saturday Evangelism Class

November 3rd @ 9:00am

Elders/Deacons Meeting

October 28th @ 5:00pm

Women's Thursday Bible Study

TBA

2012 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Shawn Jeffries of Leesburg, Virginia

October 11th-14th, 2012

2013 Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Ethan Longhenry of Venice, California

April 18th-21st, 2013

2013 Vacation Bible School w/ David Graham of Cincinnati, Ohio

June 17th-21st, 2013

THEME: TBA

Prayer Requests (Health Problems & Sick Presently)

Thelma Findley * JoAnn Harrison * Andrew Madison * Bruce McDonald *
Janet Ostroff * Isaac Parker * Lewis & Anne Wise

Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)

Anne Harrison * Steven Chung * Angelita Dillon

Prayer Request (Traveling)

Barfield Family * Ruth Branson * Jackson Family * Mitchell Family

Additional Announcements

- Song Practice TODAY @ 5pm!!!
- Gettysburg COC Gospel Meeting – September 30th-October 5th w/ David Thomley
- Annandale COC Gospel Meeting – October 5th-7th w/ Chuck Durham
- Susquehanna COC Gospel Meeting – October 12th-14th w/ Various Speakers
- Exton COC Gospel Meeting – October 18th-21st w/ Various Speakers
- Southwest COC Gospel Meeting – October 19th-21st w/ Jesse Bartley
- Dulles COC Gospel Meeting – November 2nd-4th w/ Sewell Hall

Contribution & Attendance Figures

September 23 rd	\$3,156-Contribution	127-Attendance
September 16 th	\$4,316-Contribution	124-Attendance

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Hear The Gospel (Acts 15:7) * Believe In Jesus (Acts 8:12) * Repent Of Our Sins (Acts 3:19) * Confess Christ To Be The Son Of God (Acts 8:37) * Be Baptized In Water (Acts 22:16) * Remain Faithful (Acts 2:42)

TODAY'S DATE: September 30, 2012

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CHURCH OF CHRIST



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Call BIBLE MOMENTS

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Updated This Week By Calvin Mitchell

"A Going Church For A Coming Lord, Which Does All The Lord Authorizes" – Romans 16:16

Understanding The Necessity Of Water Baptism – Part 1



1 Peter 3:20-21- "Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water. The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

We are living in an age where individuals do not have a respect for God & His word. One of the areas in which many in the religious world have displayed their disrespect has been regarding matters of salvation. We must understand that the issue is not the need for salvation, but rather "who" & "when" a person is saved. This brings us to a discussion of water baptism: is it or is it not essential for salvation?

By essential, we are addressing whether something is absolutely necessary to fulfill a specific purpose. If water baptism is essential for salvation, then a man cannot be saved without it. If water baptism is not essential for salvation, then a man can be saved apart from it. In this article, I would like to address the misconception others, who deny the essentiality of water baptism, have of those who believe such is necessary. We will let the word of God speak regarding this crucial issue because eternity hangs in the balance.

Water Salvation

When asked, "What one must do in order to be saved?", the person asking is seeking a specific pattern authorized in Scripture to follow in order to obtain eternal life (**Mark 10:17**, **Acts 2:37**, & **Acts 16:30**). We read the words of Jesus in **John 6:45** about hearing God's word. We read the words of Jesus in **John 3:16** about believing in Christ. We read the words of Jesus in **Luke 13:3** about repenting of sin. We read the words of Jesus in **Matthew 10:32** about confessing Christ before men. There are some who may have a problem with some or all of what Jesus has said to this point, but very few in denominationalism & so

called "Christendom" would disagree with the Master's plan. It is only when **Mark 16:16** is brought up, in which Jesus said, "**He that believeth & is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned**" that folks become uptight & begin to find ways to discredit the Lord.

One of the ways they attempt to accomplish this is by suggesting to believe that water baptism is essential to salvation is to believe in "water salvation" & not Christ alone to save us. This is used to create prejudice against the plain teachings of God's word. If the devil can convince a man that something is "silly" before he even hears & investigates the opposing arguments, then Satan has already won that person's soul.

Without fail, whenever water baptism is brought up, individuals have the brazen audacity to tell me what I believe without even knowing what I believe. "*You believe in water salvation!*" What individuals mean by this statement is "*I must believe there is something powerful & miraculous about the water itself that gives the water the power to remove sin & save souls.*" It is sad if someone does believe this, for the Bible does not teach this. However, when the Bible teaches that water baptism is essential to salvation, it is not suggesting anything remotely close to man's prejudicial statement of water salvation.

Jesus is the man & He saves by His plan. His plan includes water baptism. To reject this is to reject the plan & the one who brought it (**John 12:48**). Through water baptism, one is born again & enters the kingdom of God (**John 3:5**). Water baptism was administer to the Ethiopian eunuch after he heard the word, believed it, & confessed Christ (**Acts 8:35-39**). If it was not essential, then why do it? Cornelius & his household were commanded to be baptized in water (**Acts 10:47-48**). Water baptism now saves us (**1 Peter 3:20-21**), not because there is something magical in the water, but as a result of obedience to the one whom all humanity will one day call "Lord."

Next Week: *Answering the critics accusing Christians of believing in "Water Baptism Only."*

- **Antoine N. Holloway**