

**Elders:**

Rufus Barfield \* Dan Jackson \* Donnie McDaniel

**Deacons:**

Paul Byas \* Chris Gorham \* Rhett 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**

December 22<sup>nd</sup> @ 9:00am

**Saturday Evangelism Class**

November 3<sup>rd</sup> @ 10:00am

**Elders/Deacons Meeting**

TBA

**Women's Thursday Bible Study**

TBA

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

April 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

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

June 17<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2013

THEME: TBA

**2013 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Larry Wright of Savannah, Georgia**

October 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>, 2013

**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 \* Bruce McDonald

**Prayer Request (Traveling)**

The Myrick Family

**Additional Announcements**

- Prayer Meeting on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> @ 7:30pm
- Phillip Mullins (Evangelist-Dulles COC) will be speaking tonight @ 6:00PM.
- PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIME FOR EVANGELISM CLASS!
- Thank You **Dan Jackson** for preaching God's Word on last week.
- Thank You **Mark Ostroff** for teaching God's Word this past Wednesday.
- Dulles COC Gospel Meeting – November 2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> w/ Sewell Hall

**Contribution & Attendance Figures**

October 21 <sup>st</sup>	\$4,068-Contribution	125-Attendance
October 14 <sup>th</sup>	\$3,127-Contribution	152-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: *October 28, 2012***

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**CHURCH OF CHRIST**



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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 3



**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."**

## **What Does Water Baptism Have To Do With Faith?**

Whenever we talk about salvation, the debate between Christians & denominationalists begin. This discussion is centered on salvation by faith. Any honest student of the Bible can read the New Testament & know that salvation is by faith (**Luke 7:50, Luke 18:42, Ephesians 2:8, 2 Timothy 3:15, & 1 Peter 1:5**). Yet, many who say this deny the essentiality of water baptism. They would suggest that if baptism is essential, then you are not saved by faith. They explain it this way...."*Water baptism is a work. We are not saved by works. Therefore, it cannot be essential. Believing is not a work. To believe takes faith. Jesus did the work already. Therefore, we trust in Him alone to save us.*" If we are not careful, then this sounds real good. Nevertheless, I recall reading in Scripture that believing was a work too. Listen to your Bible! In **John 6:29**, the Bible reads, "**Jesus answered & said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.**" If we are not saved by works, then believing is not essential to salvation either, for believing is a work.

The problem is a misunderstanding of works. Are we saved by faith? Yes! Are we saved by works i.e. can I earn my way into Heaven? No! Are works essential to salvation i.e. doing that which God has commanded in order to be saved? Absolutely! God commanded that we hear His word & hearing is a work, for we are doing something (**John 6:45**). God commanded that we believe in Jesus & believing is a work, for we are doing something (**John 3:16**). God commanded that we repent of our sins & repenting is a work, for we are doing something

(**Luke 13:3**). God commanded that we confess Christ & confessing is a work, for we are doing something (**Matthew 10:32**). God commanded that we be baptized & baptism is a work, for we are doing something (**Mark 16:16**). God commanded that we remain faithful to Him all the days of our lives & living right is a work, for we are doing something (**Matthew 10:22**).

A person who truly believes will be baptized because believing is more than just mental acknowledgement. Believe is a verb, which presupposes action. Faith is a noun, which describes that action. So, if we say we have faith & are saved by it, then where is the evidence of our faith, independent of repentance, confession, & baptism (**James 2:18**)? If we are yet to give up sin, then we are still in our sins & we don't have faith. If we are yet to confess Christ, then our allegiance is still to sin & we don't have faith. If we are yet to be baptized, then our sins have not been washed away & we don't have faith.

Finally, we need to look at **Hebrews 11**. The Bible recalls numerous individuals & their stories. The Scriptures teach that good things happened to them because of their faith. However, my question is, "Did God bring them out because they simply believed that He would OR did they have to do something in order to be justified as having faith???" Believe the latter.

By faith, Abel OFFERED \* By faith, Enoch was TRANSLATED because he PLEASED God \* By faith, Noah PREPARED \* By faith, Abraham OBEYED, SOJOURNED, LOOKED, & OFFERED \* By faith, Sarah RECEIVED, DELIVERED, & JUDGED \* By faith, Isaac BLESSED \* By faith, Jacob BLESSED & WORSHIPPED \* By faith, Joseph MADE MENTION & GAVE COMMANDMENT \* By faith, Moses HID, REFUSED, CHOSE, ESTEEMED, FORSOOK, & KEPT \* By faith, the Israelites CROSSED \* By faith, the walls of Jericho FELL \* By faith, Rachab PERISHED NOT.

This can be said of every true believer of God..."By faith, they REPENTED, CONFESSED, WERE BAPTIZED, WERE SAVED, & REMAINED FAITHFUL (**Acts 2:37-42**). Believe the Bible, for the Bible is right.

**Next Week:** *Understanding Holy Ghost Baptism & Why It Is Not The Baptism By Which We Are Saved*

- **Antoine N. Holloway**