

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

Deacons:

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

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

THE ROLE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The power and authority of God the Father is realized by all who concern themselves with the value of righteousness and a personal need for salvation. Within the realm of spiritual things, we consider there are three identities involved with a single mission; Father-Son-Holy Spirit, each of whom are spoken of throughout the Scriptures. It is somewhat difficult to separate the identity of each and to separate their function, because the objective is singular in nature.

For example, **I Corinthians 11:2-3** "the head of every man is Christ: the head of the woman is the man: and the head of Christ is God." Also note **Mark 16:19**, "he was received into heaven and sat down on the right hand of God." Finally, look at **I Corinthians 15:28**, "the Son also himself be subject unto him who hath put all things under him, that God may be all in all." The relationship between Father and Son are more clearly defined.

The role of the Holy Spirit (separate and apart) is slightly more ambiguous, being less-well defined by Scripture. All three were involved in creation, and with the performance of miracles. However, the transition of the New Covenant (the plan of salvation in Christ Jesus) began to reveal a more definitive role for the Holy Spirit that is easily missed.

The Holy Spirit's role in **Acts 2** is much easier to grasp. The miracles that happened are an extension of what we are accustomed to seeing by the Holy Spirit. However, the transition had begun in which the Holy Spirit would bestow upon the Apostles 'miraculous gifts' that had not been given previously while at the same time revealing the NEW GIFT featured only in the NEW COVENANT.

This New Gift was introduced during Peter's original Gospel Sermon recorded in **Acts 2:38**. (note closely) "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins...and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

The 'gifts' of the Holy Spirit can be listed as can 'talents'. The Gift of the Holy Spirit is exclusive to the "Sons of God" **Romans 8:16-17**. "The Spirit itself bearing witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God...and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint heirs with Christ..." **I Corinthians 6:19-20**, "the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit..."

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 .

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL "LOVE PACKS."

Thanks to everyone who contributed and the young people who packed these "Love Packs". We're proud of our young people who are learning to serve others. Thanks also to those who organized it. This project is an ongoing tribute to Linda Linscomb and her passion to help children and hospitals.

CRITTER CLEARANCE FUND — Our office / fellowship hall / class building has been invaded by a raccoon, squirrels, bees, and mice and they've done a lot of damage. To evict these "squatters" and fix the damage will cost about \$10K. If you can help with this fund, it would be a great help to our church budget. See Charles to help.

KENT AND AVERY (our summer interns from 2024) are joining a mission team to Cozumel, Mexico this spring. If you'd like to contribute to their work, see Rachel W

SUNDAY EVENING SERIES — We've started a new series on the parables of Jesus. This Sunday PM we'll study the parable of the Tares and the Dragnet. Join us and grow.

SEWING MINISTRY The ladies that are doing this every Thursday is taking a break for February.

CAMP DEER RUN REGISTRATION— Is open now. Register now, because openings are limited. And camper-

Revive and Thrive in 2025

ships from our congregation are available.

CAMP DEER RUN CAMPERSHIPS — If you'd like to help with sending our youth to Camp Deer Run this summer, please give any special donations to any of the elders.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP the Pittsfield MA church? We have an ongoing monthly benevolence program to help the church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. See Trudy R. to contribute. We send \$400-\$600 monthly to their benevolent fund.

NEW REQUEST

- John S has pneumonia

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Lynn T had surgery on Tuesday and he's also battling cancer
- From Juliana: Pray for Becky B,. diagnosed with tongue cancer. Pray for her and her family (especially her daughters), and that her body will accept the transplanted tissue.
- From Elizabeth: Pray for cousin Tracy to recover from Lupus. And also pray for her cousin Debbie H who had neck surgery today.
- Burley S has safely arrived in India. Please pray for fruitful work, doors of opportunity, and sustained good health and energy in the work of the Lord.
- Jim B.'s son, Jeff's wife is terminal.
- Lynn T. is now home and hopes to come to worship soon
- Ora H home from the hospital, but still not always feeling well
- Elizabeth H's cousin, Tracy, is still in need of prayers for better health.
- Mary H is recovering at home.

- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Ora H, kidney
- the churches in New England
- brethren in India
- our elders, deacons, preacher, teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Rosa's friend Isabella, heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Feb 16, Num 8-10
- Feb 17, Num 11-13
- Feb 18, Num 14-15
- Feb 19, Num 16-18
- Feb 20, Num 19-21
- Feb 21, Num 22-24
- Feb 22, Num 25-26
- Feb 23, Num 27-29

The word of God can be in the mind without being in the heart, but it cannot be in the heart without first being in the mind. R.C. SPROUL

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.

AARON'S BLESSING AND JESUS'

We're not used to folks offering a blessing on us very much anymore. We tend to think of blessings as well as curses as being little more than words, sounds in the air to articulate our well wishes (or our ill wishes). But Israel and the early church gave blessings great weight; they were valued, hoped for, and gladly accepted, because they believed that they would be granted by God and their lives would be blessed, prospered, lifted up, and benefited — and therein is an important point for us today.

Jacob and Esau fought over the blessing of their father, Isaac; and Jacob had to flee from Esau for fear of Esau's rage when he stole the blessing. Jesus blessed children (Matthew 19:13,14). We are told to bless those who persecute us (Romans 12:14).

And God gave to Aaron a blessing that he and all succeeding high priests could bless the nation with, "invoking the Lord's name on the sons of Israel" (Numbers 6:27). We use the words of it in a hymn we sometimes sing, *The Lord Bless You and Keep You*.

The LORD bless you — Here is a call upon the Lord to act in Israel's favor and to their benefit in all that they do. A blessing in this generic sense had to do with economic prosperity, fruitful fields and flocks, good health, a strong family, long life, and general wellbeing. The Lord gives a long list of such blessings for obedience in Deut. 28.

And keep you — To keep them implied a shepherding metaphor of protection and keeping under a watchful eye to provide, help, lead, and minister to (Psalm 121:7,8).

The Lord make His face shine on you — The Lord's face shining on His people is like

the sun shining on the earth, bringing warmth, growth, and blessings. A shining face implies joy and delight in what one looks upon, in God's case, His people. This part of the blessing asks for God's pleased attention (Psalm 80:3).

And be gracious to you — Grace (an undeserved gift) is the result of favor given to someone. This part of the blessing asks for benefits above and beyond the norm given to all mankind who do not even know God.

The LORD lift up His countenance on you — This line of the blessing is a parallelism to "make His face to shine on you"; because to lift up the countenance is to have a face that is beaming and smiling; and to have a fallen countenance (face) is to be angry, sad, or displeased (see Genesis 4:6,7).

And give you peace — The word here for peace is *shalom*, and it is more than mere lack of conflict; the word incorporates a general wellbeing of body and spirit.

What a great, all encompassing blessing to have received from Aaron! We might ask, "Who could ask for more?" But you know, in Christ, our better high priest, we have an even greater blessing than Aaron's: "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places** in Christ," (Ephesians 1:3)! In Him we are chosen, adopted, holy, redeemed, forgiven, lavished in love, enlightened to His mystery of a Jew and Gentile church, heirs of Heaven, sealed in the Holy Spirit, and much more!

And don't you want to share that blessing with others?

Park Linscomb

