

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 TEMPLE TRANSITION, PART 4

Perhaps the most notable characteristic we can make of the Temple is the relationship of the spiritual realm and the physical (earthly) realm. God has made both identifiable and distinct. It is not enough to know the difference in the two, but encourages us to appreciate His intent. This is well described in ***Ephesians 1:9-10*** when He says, "*Having made known unto us the mystery of His will...which He purposed in Himself, that in the dispensation of the fullness of time, He might gather together in one, all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth, even in Him.*" This is the new dispensation in Christ.

The Old Law was 'a shadow' of things to come, as was the Temple. Perhaps the reason the Church had its beginning while the Temple remained standing, has to do with the choices we must make. ***Galatians 3:21-22*** indicates, "*if there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law. But the scripture hath concluded (included) all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe.*"

The most significant parallel of the Old and the New, made in scripture, is in ***Hebrews 9:7-8***, "*into the 2nd (veil) went the high priest alone...not without blood, which he offered for himself and for the errors of the people: the Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest (known) while as the first tabernacle was yet standing...*"

As we mentioned earlier, the Original design of the Tabernacle and Temple described the Most Holy Place (the Holiest of all) as the place where "*God will meet you there above the Mercy seat, between the Cherubims.*" This was all about access to God, as well as the meeting of Spiritual and Physical. When the veil was torn separating the two, it represented a new way... a different way of access between God and mankind.

However, there is a contingency mentioned; "*while the first tabernacle was yet standing (in force).*" This is consistent with ***John 7:39*** "*But this spake he of the Holy Ghost which had not yet been given, because that Jesus was not yet glorified.*" The key to one of the more significant parts of the "Plan for Salvation" had been revealed...More to follow.

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 .

WELCOME BACK KENT AND AVERY — at least for one day.

Join us for a light fellowship lunch after worship this morning to visit and catch up with them.

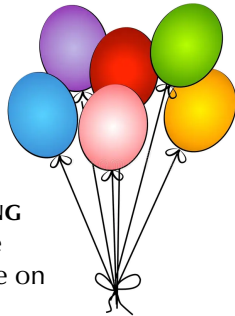
WEDNESDAY EVENING BIBLE CLASSES Bible classes will resume on Jan. 8.

SEWING MINISTRY The ladies that are interested in this ministry will be meeting every Thursday in January from 10am-2pm. Come join them and develop and use your talents for the Lord.

DEEPEST CONDOLENCES for Jim B at the passing of Bonnie yesterday. Psa. 116:15 “Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of His godly ones.

AND THE LORD ADDED... Friday evening Jim Wurst was baptized into Christ for the forgiveness of sins. Rejoice and pray for our newest brother in Christ!!

A PLANNING MEETING FOR THE LADIES of the congregation is happening Monday evening, January 6th, at 6:30 in the fellowship hall.



Please attend if at all possible as this is an important meeting where we plan the events for the coming year and put them on the calendar.

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN how to make cinnamon rolls, Trudi R. is going to teach a class. It will be January 11 at 10:00. Please sign up so supplies can be purchased.



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.

WANT TO HELP with the recovery from the disasters in NC and FL? The church of Christ Disaster Relief is recommended by the RH leadership. Here is a link to making a contribution. <https://www.disaster-relieffort.org/>

NEW PRAYER REQUEST...

- Comfort for Jim B at the passing of Bonnie yesterday.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Dianne's brother Billy M has returned home.
- Lynn T. is now home, Alene, his wife has the flu.
- Zeke R.'s family at his passing.
- Ora H home from the hospital, but still not feeling well
 - Anna S, a Christian sister who comes with Lynn and Alene T, has COVID.
 - Elizabeth H's cousin, Tracy, is still in need of prayers for better health.
- Cleves family at the loss of his father,
 - The Pittsfield church.
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Esther M health.

What's Going On?

- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Lynn T: cancer
- 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
- Bonnie B.
- 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

- Jan 5Gen 16-18
- Jan 6Gen 19-20
- Jan 7Gen 21-23
- Jan 8Gen 24-25
- Jan 9Gen 26-28
- Jan 10,Gen 29-30
- Jan 11,Gen 31-32
- Jan 12,Gen 33-35

If you think your mess-up is bigger than God's grace, that's your second mistake — Bob Goff

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 POWER OF UNITY

If you are participating in our Read-the-Bible-through-in-a-year schedule, you shall have read the brief story of the tower of Babel. It might appear on the surface that it simply an explanation for how the world has so many languages, but the Bible is not a book to simply answer questions about which we might be curious, like "Why are there so many languages?". The Bible instead is a book that gives us spiritual information to help to get us to Heaven, so where is the spiritual message of the story of the tower of Babel?

The spiritual message is Genesis 11:6, "The LORD said, 'Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them.'"

The context of the story is that about 200 years had passed since Noah's flood happened. In the aftermath of the flood, Noah's family (the human family) had rapidly grown and moved eastward as a group to the plain of Shinar, in the region of what became Babylon later and they also, naturally, spoke only one language.

But sin, as always, was always close at hand and the pride of men moved them to build a great and high city with a tower who top would reach into heaven, in order to make a name for themselves. This appears to have been offensive to God for a couple of reasons, 1) they were not populating the whole earth as God had commanded (Genesis 9:7) and 2) they were puffing themselves up with pride, thinking to be able to reach right up to heaven and make a name for themselves. But here's the interesting thing that God says — did you catch it? — "and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them".

Why would nothing be impossible for them? Because they were "one people and they all have the same language". There is apparently great power and ability in unity. God knew it and in order to humble their pride, God divided them up through different languages. The different lan-

guages threw them into division and confusion and ... well, that was the end of their grand construction project.

Now, God has a grand project for us: the spreading of the Gospel to the whole world, the strengthening and increase of the Kingdom of God. And in order to make that tall order possible, Jesus prayed that His disciples would be united like He and the Father are one (John 17); Paul urged early Christians to be "diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Ephesians 4) and to "all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment" (1 Cor. 1:10). And yet divisions prevail among those who profess to love Jesus, not unity.

From an outsiders' point of view, can you now understand why there is reluctance among unbelievers to hear and believe. They're asking the question, "Who should I listen to? Who has the real story here? They all claim to teach the truth, but each 'truth' is different from the next; how can that be?" And they have a point, don't they?

One of the greatest blessings to the cause of Christ would undoubtedly be the unity of all believers. Not a mere union of divisions, but real unity without divisions — a real unity, not based on man-made teaching, but upon the Bible, God's inspired book and final word regarding all matters pertaining to spiritual truth, right and wrong, promises, hope, and salvation. Seeing this, the world would, then, want to hear.

Don't underestimate the power of unity. God says that with it we can accomplish the impossible. The churches of Christ hold out the restoration plea that calls men to unite and do what the Bible actually says without omission or addition. Listen to what the Bible says, unite, and let's accomplish God's grand purpose of sharing the Gospel with the world.

Park Linscomb



