

March 11, 2007

Located about eight miles east of
Disney World just beyond John
Young Parkway on the north side.

www.kissimmeeconf.org

Bulletin and News of the **CHURCH OF CHRIST** That worships in Kissimmee

921 W. Vine Street (US Highway 192): Kissimmee, FL 34741
407-847-5749

SUNDAY

Bible study, 9 a.m.
Worship, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

MONDAY

Monday Night for the Master
6 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible study, 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY

Ladies' Bible class, 10:00 a.m.

OFFICE PHONE

407-847-5749

ELDERS

Chuck Broyles 407-855-1477
Robert Guthrie 407-892-9888

PREACHER

David Boren 407-892-6664
Cell 407-922-1635

DEACONS

Byron Chapman 407-846-8408
John Dunn 407-847-6158
Joe Gannotti 407-892-3262
Ansel Hicks 407-846-6878

MISSIONS

Gary Marshall, Kentucky
Paul Gilbert, West Virginia
Gary Wyder, Florida Prison
Ministries
Florida School of Preaching
Memphis School of Preaching
Truth For The World

**This morning's sermon and
Scripture:** What Happens
After Death? Part II
1 Thess. 4:13-18

**This evening's sermon and
Scripture:**

WELCOME VISITORS

If you are visiting today, we want you to know that you are a special guest and we're glad to have you join with us in studying God's Word and worship Him.

You will find our service simple, orderly, and spiritual, following Bible examples for an atmosphere of reverence and humility, intending to draw each one closer to God. Because worship is participation, we invite each of you to join with us in each activity.

Teaching and Preaching

Lessons are designed to instruct and motivate us in the ways of righteousness in God's Word, and encourage obedience by all who come. We make no claim for miraculous powers, sensationalism, or present day non-Biblical topics.

Prayer

The congregation is led in public prayer by one of the men. We pray to praise and thank God for His blessings, and request His continued care over us. (1 Timothy 2:1-4)

Singing

The entire assembly joins together in songs that teach and admonish everyone in attendance, while praising God in the manner He specified, "...making melody in our hearts unto the Lord" (Ephesians 5:19 & Colossians 3:16)

Lord's Supper

Jesus designated this memorial and it's emblems (Matthew 26:26-28) and as such was commemorated on the first day of the week in the New Testament church (Acts 20:7). And so we likewise eat and drink this spiritual meal every Lord's Day.

Giving

The New Testament church members also gave of their means on the first day of the week, (1 Corinthians 16:1-2) and in like manner, so do we.

At the conclusion of each worship service an invitation song is sung to encourage anyone who desires to become a New Testament Christian, to step to the front to make this known. An individual who, believes in Jesus Christ (John 8:24), repents of past sin (Matthew 10:32), and is baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:26-27), is added by God to His church (Acts 2:47). As we done in the New Testament, an obedient believer is recognized as a member of the Lord's church, the church that belongs to Christ (Matthew 16:18), the church (es) of Christ " (Romans 16:16). Of course this obedience is, by its very nature, of one's own will.

We believe that the church of the Bible is God's complete authoritative plan and will for man's salvation. God's Word is timeless, God's plan for salvation is timeless, God's church is timeless. The knowledge of these plain, simple teachings, "planted" in the hearts of honest seekers of God's will, and obeyed, will produce Christians just like it did in the days of the first century. Jesus taught this principal in His parable of the sower in Luke 8.

- Continued on back

We are not a denomination. We want to wear no other name than Christ, and to be known by no other designation than "Christian," members of the body of Christ (Acts 4:12, 11:26, Ephesians 1:22-23). Since we belong to Christ and answer only to Him, we have no human head. Christ alone is the head of the church (Colossians 1:18). Therefore, churches of Christ in different locations function independently, just as in the New Testament.

We accept the Bible as God's Word and authoritative in "All thing that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Peter 1:3). It is inspired of Him and therefore infallible in content (2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 1 Corinthians 2:11-13). The Divine orig in of the Bible, complete and final, leaves no room for needless creed books, latter-day "revelations," or other doctrines, all of human origin. The Bible, by its own testimony, emphatically states that no one may add to, or take from, or alter a single word with impunity (Deuteronomy 4:2, Proverbs 30:6, Revelation 22:18-19).

Again we thank you for coming today. We trust that you will appreciate what you see and hear, and count us as your friend. Please accept this invitation to return every opportunity you can. -Kissimmee church of Christ

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CHURCH NEWS

Visitors and members please fill out an attendance card (located on the back of the pew in front of you) and pass it to the center aisle at the close of the worship service. Also please put you cell phones in the *off* position so they will not interfere with our wireless sound system.

Happy Birthday to Robert Guthrie, Sarah Williams, Paul McCrimon, 11th Chris Gannotti, 15th, Reginald Hall, 16th, Byron Chapman, 17th; Best Wishes to all of you.

Continue to remember all of our sick and shut ins, *Mary Davidson*, the sister of *Bea Spurlock*, *Cherri Wright* who is undergoing chemo treatments, *Carol Hubbard* who is undergoing chemo treatments, *Paul Kendrick*, the grandfather of Dawn Sprouse, *Millie King* is in room 373 of Osceola Regional Medical Center, *Tom Hyslop* who is undergoing chemo treatments, *Floyd Blake*, *Lea Fontella*, the sister of Camille Hummon, the 14 year old grandson of Eloise Hart, *Alex* was diagnosed with ulcerous colitis, a condition that is not curable but can be controlled with medication, *Bea Spurlock* received the results of her heart tests, the doctors has changed her medicine, but surgery will still need to be done, the doctors will wait approximately 6 months to see what changes have occurred, the niece of Jackie Litteral, *Sharon Allen*, the father of Dawn Sprouse, *Terry Allison*, Sue Jones' son *Billy Jones*, *Jenny Kelly* the daughter of Juan & Rosemary Martinez, *David C. Miller* others include, *Frieda Blalock*, *Ron Kolin*, *Becky Collazo*, *Kerry Keathley*, *Louise Davis*, *Emma Turner*, *Bill & Helen Harris*, *Calvin & Betty Woodruff*, *Shawn Woodall*, *Eddie Litton*, *Dot Taylor*, *William Blake*. Please remember all of the sick with your calls, cards, and visits and especially in your prayers.

Continue to remember the pantry when you shop.

Kissimmee Church of Christ
921 West Vine Street
Kissimmee, Florida 34741

Send To:

Honored To Serve This Lord's Day March 11, 2007

The elders respectfully ask all who serve in public worship to please dress appropriately

-ANNOUNCEMENTS

AM/PM Ansel Hicks

-SONG LEADER

A.M. David Herndon
P.M. Joe Gannotti

-OPENING PRAYER

A.M. David Sloan
P.M. James Maness

-READ SCRIPTURE

A.M. Craig Martin
P.M. Tim Cope

-SERMON

A.M. David Boren
P.M. Harvey Brownlow

-LORD'S SUPPER

A.M. Gary Castel
P.M. Henry Kirkendall

-ASSISTING

A.M. Eddie Litton
Darrell Wright
Jonathan Castel
Arthur Walden
P.M. Earl McLarty

-CLOSING PRAYER

A.M. David E. Miller
P.M. Harvey Brownlow

-USHERS

A.M./P.M. Paul McCrimon
Earl McLarty

-GREETING VISITORS

S & R Crume

-CHILDREN'S NURSERY

A.M. Dawn Sprouse
Dawn M. Sprouse
P.M. Maria Cope

-PREPARE COMMUNION

THIS MONTH

Maria Cope

-BAPTISMAL GARMENTS

Maria Cope

What Happens After Death? Part Two

(1 Thess. 4:13-18)

I. 1 Thess. 4:13-18.

- A. Paul did not want brethren to be ignorant about Christians who had fallen asleep: dead (v.14).
1. Who is God bringing with Him?
 2. Paul, through inspiration, tells us that God will bring with Him those who are asleep " *in Jesus* "; those who have died faithfully in Christ.
- B. Now, then, according to those who teach " soul-sleeping," such is not possible.
1. These have died and their bodies have decomposed; their soul lie buried in the grave, merely asleep, in an unconscious state.
 2. God is coming from heaven; How, then, can He bring with Him that which is still asleep and unconscious in the tomb?
 - a. Friend, if man is a single unit whose consciousness " conks out" at death, then this passage cannot be explained -- because those who have died, both come with God and are in the grave at one and the same time.
 - b. However, if the soul of a man has a tabernacle to live in; that is, a temporary body - and if that soul departs at death, then these inspired words make perfect sense (cf. Gen. 2:7; 2 Cor. 4:16; Eccl. 12:7).
- C. The Lord shouts, the voice of the archangel is heard, the trumpet of God sounds, God descends with the soul of Stephen, and the other saints who had suffered physical death and were waiting in the Hadean realm, known as "*Paradise.*"
- D. Those who are yet alive at this moment, with body and soul intact, will " *be changed-- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye*" (1 Cor. 15:51,52), and then will be caught up together with them in the clouds.

II. Matt. 22:23-33.

- A. The intent of their (Sadducees') question was to suggest that the doctrine of the resurrection carried with it too many difficulties.
1. Jesus quickly, and easily, disposed of their objection based on the dilemma they offered, by asserting that " *in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels*" (v. 30).
 - a. He simply meant there would be no occasion for marriage.
 - b. Death would be no more -- there would then be no necessity for the continuation of the marriage relationship in order to perpetuate the human race.
 2. Now, then, this is very far from meaning that there will be an end to the love and devotion resulting from such relationships in this life.
- B. Jesus, however, does not stop with the destruction of the Sadducees' favorite scenario; He goes to the root of the problem: their rejection of the doctrine of the resurrection because of their false view of God's power (vv. 31,32).
1. It is clear that Jesus held the Sadducees accountable for reasoning correctly from the Scriptures.
 2. They should have realized that when God used the present tense, "*I am the God,*" that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were still living -- and were, therefore, conscious.

III. Luke 16:19-31.

- A. Perhaps the greatest hindrance to the “soul-sleeping” theory is this passage of Scripture, because the rich man and Lazarus are presented as being both dead and conscious.
1. This text they must try to explain away in order to uphold their theory; and they usually attempt to do so by asserting that the account of the rich man and Lazarus is simply a parable.
 - a. However, the fact is, even though this account contains a few similarities to actual parables, there are also a number of differences, which leads many people to believe that this is not a parable.
 1. What is a parable?
 2. A parable is a narrative in which earthly, everyday things - familiar to the audience’s experience - are used to communicate a spiritual lesson; in other words, it’s an earthly story with a heavenly meaning.
 - b. Now, as I see it, the only part of this definition which could possibly be applied to the rich man and Lazarus is that of its’ being a narrative.
 2. What evidence has been offered for thinking that the rich man and Lazarus is a parable?
 - a. Scholars have more assumed it to be such rather than have attempted to prove it as such.
 - b. The one so-called positive argument offered is that it begins like a parable: “ *There was a certain rich man*” (Luke 16:1,19).
 1. That may seem like an impressive argument until one realizes that Luke uses the word “*certain*” 43 times; sometimes it is used in a parable, sometimes it is not.
 2. It is also the case that no parable ever mentions the name of a person, unless this is the sole exception; every time a specific name is mentioned in a narrative, it is a real person and a real event.
 - c. Some have suggested that heaven and hell are too close together for this narrative to be a literal one.
 1. First of all, from the text, just how close are they? Furthermore, how close is too close?
 2. Jesus, however, to the best of my knowledge, is not describing heaven and hell at the end of time, but simply the Hadean realm (the realm of the unseen dead).
 3. Those who use this objection have erroneously thought that all go directly to heaven and hell. Consequently, they have overlooked the intermediate state of the Hadean world where the soul of all go upon death.
 - a. The righteous abide in “ *Abraham’s bosom*” or “ *Paradise*,” which Jesus promised to the repentant thief (Luke 23:43).
 - b. The wicked dwell in “*Tartarus*”(2 Peter 2:4).
- B. However, suppose -- despite having used the best judgment possible in this matter -- suppose it nevertheless turns out that this narrative really is a parable. Even if considered a parable, it would still teach the same thing, for it is impossible for God to lie (Titus 1:2; Heb. 6:18).

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