

PRECIOUS, BLESSED SAINTS

“Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints” (Psalm 116:15).

“And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, ‘Write, Blessed are the dead which die in Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them” (Revelation 14:13).

Just who or what is a saint, and what makes one precious or blessed? If we look into the New Testament, we find that all who obey the gospel and become Christians are saints. Notice the words of Paul: “To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called to be **saints**: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ” (Romans 1:7). “Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the **saints** in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons” (Phil. 1:1). “Unto me, who am less than the least of all **saints**, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ” (Eph. 3:8). Ananias did not want to go to Paul because he had heard of the evil Paul had done to the **saints**, the church, Christians at Jerusalem (Acts 9:13).

The word *blessed* means happy. In neither of the passages in the text of this article do the inspired writers mean that one should be happy when a friend or loved one dies. But the day of death should be a better occasion than the day of one’s birth (Eccl. 7:1). Why? Because if one is faithful to the Lord, he can have heaven as his eternal abiding place when this life is over. The faithful who die are not mourned in death. We mourn because of the loss we have suffered. The faithful are not suffering! It is precious for God to see one of his children cross the waters of death and pass into that land of bliss, happiness, and joy.

The only ones who are precious and blessed are those who are “in the Lord.” One must be “in the Lord” in life if he is to die “in the Lord.” Only in Christ are you a new creature (2 Cor. 5:17). To be a new creature, one must be born again of water and the Spirit (John 3:3-5). Paul said, “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been **baptized into Christ** have put on Christ” (Gal. 3:26, 27). If you obey the gospel plan of salvation and are baptized into Christ, you are added to the number of saints and can face death without any fears. Death is fearful, but only to those who are unprepared! Are you ready?

Terry Joe Kee

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE SCHOOL?

Why have a Bible School? What is the purpose of a teacher going into a class of students and studying with students? What should the purpose of the teacher be as he/she prepares and presents a lesson?

There are at least four things that we all ought to keep in mind as we enter our classes.

1. The classroom is a mission field. We have an opportunity to go into a classroom and teach the gospel to a group of individuals who have some interest in spiritual matters. Every class from Cradle Roll to Adult ought to look at the classroom as a part of the world into which we are sent teaching (Matt. 28:18-20). Every classroom is a field white unto harvest (John 4:34). From infancy we ought to be instilling the facts of the Bible into the minds of our students, because faith is built on facts, evidence (Heb. 11:1). The Bible School is an excellent opportunity to save the lost.
2. The Bible School should be used to help those who are Christians to grow and mature in the faith. Every Christian has a responsibility to grow (2 Pet. 3:18; 1 Pet. 2:2; Heb. 5:12-14). It is nothing more than wasted effort for us to save the lost and then not help them to grow and develop. Many of our members are falling by the wayside because we are not grounding them in the faith.
3. The Bible School ought to be a place where Christians are being equipped to go out and meet their daily battles. We are engaged in a warfare and must be properly equipped to overcome the world and gain the victory. Students ought to be equipped to carry the same gospel they are learning in Bible class to others.
4. Finally, the Bible School should be a place where the Bible values that are being taught at home are reinforced. Parents ought to be seeing and helping in these same areas at **HOME!** When the Bible is the center of the home *and* the Bible School, it better equips us all to engage in the work of the Lord.

These are at least a few things we ought to be considering every time we enter our classes.

Terry Joe Kee

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)
Remember in Prayer:

May Calendar addition:

Pray for those directly and indirectly affected by Covid-19, and please keep us updated.

The Friend of Truth



Greensboro Road church of Christ
Jonesboro, Arkansas 72405
(870) 932-3920

“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

Vol. XXVIII, No. 23

June 7, 2021

KeeNotes

We never know from one day to the next what life will bring our way. This past Lord’s Day was good, because we were together worshipping God. This is always a time so special to me and I am so thankful to be your preacher and friend. I know that to be a good friend, I must show myself friendly (Proverbs 18:24). Help me to be a better friend to all of you who have helped and continue to help me through the loss of my mother in August and now my daddy.

Both of my parents passed from this life on a Sunday. I’m not sure there is any significance to that, it is just interesting to me. For all of your prayers for me Sunday and every day since I am so thankful and pray that you will continue to pray for me. I could not believe how many cards were waiting in my P. O. Box when I got home and for all the sweet Facebook messages, text messages and calls I have received. You are so very loving and kind and I will always be thankful to you for all you do.

My daddy was special and I will truly miss visiting and talking with him. I have thought of a hundred things I wish I could ask him or tell him since he passed and there is a wealth of knowledge that went with him to the grave. But I do have very precious memories and no one can ever take them from me. I hope and pray you have such fond memories of loved ones you have lost and continue to treasure them always. May God’s richest blessings be upon all who have lost and will miss those we loved and are precious. Never take a moment of time you have with a loved one for granted. Time passes too quickly.

Today we took another step toward getting us *back to normal*. We are working slowly and gradually to resume our Bible school classes for everyone as we were doing. Now we are beginning with a 20 minute class period with our youngest little ones. The nursery class will be meeting and so will a class for those from 2 yrs. Old up through 1st grade in the classroom at the North end of the hallway and a class for those from 2nd grade through 6th grade in the South classroom. There is space and mothers are encouraged to come and see what we are doing and how we are working to protect our little ones while also encouraging them in their spiritual growth. We all need to be feeding our little ones with the sincere milk of the Word daily and I know many of you have been and will continue to do that at home. God bless us all is our prayer.

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols
Randy Oden
Jody Pickens

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
Jerry Dodson
Mike Felts
Jason Garland
Marshall Lands
Mark Wooten

EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes
Samrit Kammanee
Arnold Kelley
Guyana, South America
Warren, PA

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17

Believe the Word of God
John 8:24

Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3

Confess your faith in Jesus
as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10

Be Baptized for the
remission of your sins
Acts 2:38

Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10

“Where there is no vision,
the people perish....”
Proverbs 29:18

God Give Us 2020 Vision
in 2020

Those Privileged To Serve
June 7, 2020

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK
Week Of
May 31, 2020

<p>SUNDAY MORNING</p> <p>Song Leader: Ben Johns Opening Prayer: Scottie Blanchard Closing Prayer: Ryan Manley Bible Reading: Scott Pratt Preacher: Terry Joe Kee</p>	<p>SUNDAY EVENING</p> <p>Song Leader: Ben Johns Opening Prayer: Noah Flanrey Closing Prayer: Hillard Holcomb Preacher: Terry Joe Kee</p>	<p>Sunday Bible Study</p> <p>Sunday AM Worship 122</p> <p>Sunday PM Worship 91</p> <p>Wednesday Bible Study 85</p> <p>Contribution \$5849</p>
---	---	---

LORD’S TABLE
Presiding: Mitch Mosley
Jeff Presley Steve Stoker
Donnie Gilliland Jimmy Powell
Jacob Eddleman Samuel Light
ANNOUNCEMENTS
Dan Nichols

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
June 10, 2020
Song Leader: Mark Wooten
Opening Prayer: Jason Garland
Closing Prayer: Carroll Morris
DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER
June 10, 2020
Terry Joe Kee

“The sacrifice of the wicked is an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright is his delight.”

Proverbs 15:8