

Announcements & Prayer Requests

- Let's keep the following in our prayers:
 - Jimmy Woodall's sister, Alene, passed away yesterday
 - Olive Hall, Bernida Wolf, and Jimmy Woodall, who all have suffered recent losses of loved ones
 - Amoz Perez: outpatient ear surgery scheduled for 2-16
 - Kim Self: Cancer and stomach ulcers
 - Angie Self: Arthritis and Parkinson's
 - Joann Larkin: Advanced dementia
 - Barb Agee's son (James)
 - Rick Parks' parents: Roy has prostate cancer; Helen has dementia
 - Dorothy Macon, Sandra Perez's grandmother: Dementia
 - Frank Wineinger, Sandra Perez's uncle: Stage 4 cancer
- Joel Perez is preaching at the Spanish church in Smithville today

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

- Hear Gospel – Rom. 10:17; Acts 8:30-31
- Believe – Heb. 11:6; Mk. 16:16
- Repent of & Turn from Sins – Acts 2:38; 17:30
- Confess our Faith – Rom. 10:10; Mt. 10:32
- Baptism – Acts 22:16; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Live Faithfully – Rev. 2:10

Let us draw near with a **true heart in full assurance of faith [Believe]**, having our **hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience [Repent]** and our **bodies washed with pure water [Baptism]**. Let us **hold fast the confession [Confess]** of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to **stir up love and good works**, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but **exhorting one another**, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching. – *Heb. 10:22-25*



CHURCH OF CHRIST

Invitation

'Therefore, go into the highways, and as many as you find, invite to the wedding.' – Mt. 22:9

Address

5080 Highway 70 East
Rockwood, TN 37854

Assembly Times

Sunday Bible Study – 10:00 AM
Sunday Worship – 11:00 AM

Please text/email any announcements, questions, or concerns to Bill Fix, (865) 934-9239 or fix.bill@gmail.com

www.hwy70church.com

February 14, 2021

We extend a warm welcome to all our visitors and members. If you have any questions or need any assistance, please let one of us know.

Adult Bible Class – Legal Principles and the Bible:
Authority – Finish questions
Begin “Judge” lesson

Sermon Topic – How Do You Read the Bible?

So You Talked with an Angel

By Norman Midgett
(GUARDIAN OF TRUTH, XLI, Mar. 20, 1997)

We are living in an age of amazing claims. Some have been kidnapped by beings from another planet and whisked away in a UFO, or so they claim. Some claim their spirit left their body in death, drifted around the ceiling of the operating room, and then re-entered their body and they lived again. Some claim to have spoken directly to God and Christ or to have seen Mary or an angel from heaven. Some claim they were at the point of death and were miraculously healed or had some dread disease and upon attending the services of a faith healer were completely cured.

Claims are a dime a dozen, but proofs are another matter. Furthermore, there are some things people claim that you have no way to "disprove." Let none of these things bother you. Just keep your eye on what really matters, and here it is.

So you talked with an angel or saw Jesus Christ! Is that going to change the demands of the gospel or prove you are a Christian? Cornelius had a vision and saw an angel, but he was far from being a saved man (Acts 10:4; 11:14). While Saul was still persecuting the church, he "saw" Christ and "heard a voice from his mouth" (Acts 22:14). At this time in his life Paul later said he was the "chief of sinners" (1 Tim. 1:15).

Now suppose you really believed you were healed miraculously by being touched by a "faith healer." Is that going to change one command of Christ? Let us suppose you have been taught, and you believe, you were saved by faith only. Is the fact you think you were healed with or without a faith healer going to change the command of Christ to "repent and be baptized for remission of sins" (Acts 2:38)? Is anything that you do in this life or that happens to you in this life going to change one word in the Bible? When you look in the Bible at people that really were healed, that healing had nothing to do with whether they were in the family of God or saved. Take as examples Naaman (2 Kgs. 5:8-14) or Jeroboam (1 Kgs. 13:1-6). Naaman was a Gentile and Jeroboam a renegade Jew filled with wickedness. They were both healed, one of leprosy and the other of a withered hand. Neither these cases nor any in the New Testament made anyone closer to God nor proved they had his fellowship.

No matter what you claim has happened to you, nothing affects what God said you must do to be saved. If you believe you had a barbecue feast with a thousand angels or played handball with Moses, you would still have to repent and be baptized to be saved (Mk. 16:15-16). You would then need to live a faithful life, according to the gospel, to go to heaven (Phil. 1:27; Rev. 2:10).

Interestingly, it is usually those people who are not following the Bible who try to give credence to their spiritual lives by these claims of external experiences. Your concern should not be about seeing angels but about obeying the gospel

because that is the only thing that can save you and give you fellowship with God (Rom. 1:16).

Assembling with the saints to worship God should be your excuse for missing everything else...

Little Stories (About a Lot of People)

By Robert F. Turner
(PLAIN TALK, April 1970)

Joe Doakes really loves God—he stoutly affirms, every time some nosy person asks why he was not at worship Sunday. He cannot understand why anyone would think differently; and suspects their seeming interest in him must be a self-righteous covering for hypocrisy. If they would leave him alone, so he could act on his own, he would worship God regularly—maybe.

It has been many months since Joe gathered for prayer with the saints. He says some of those church-tied ninnyes seem to think the church building is the only place where one can talk to God. Of course, he **doesn't** pray at home—but he **could**.

Joe says worship must be directed to God—and a fellow's clothes have nothing to do with it. Joe doesn't notice how others are dressed—he is wondering what they think of him. They are probably snickering at his out-of-date suit—when they should be thinking about God. If he had a new suit, he would likely resume his place in public worship—after waiting a few months to wear off the newness. You know how some people are—notice all the clothes in the house.

Love God? Serve God? What ridiculous questions! Everyone should know that he loves God and wants to serve God. Why are people always pushing him around? His wife, always saying, Do this! His friend, saying, Joe, will you help me here? And the boss, yelling, Finish that job! No one is going to push Joe Doakes around!!

But Joe listens to his wife—for he loves his wife, and wants to make her happy. And Joe helps his friend, because he appreciates and needs him. And Joe listens to his boss, because he wants his praise, and a raise—and lest he be fired. Joe submits himself to these, because he believes it is to his best interest to do so. Re-examine Joe's thinking, and you see he judges others on the basis of his own standards, with thoughts always turned inward. He has not yet learned that to save his life, he must lose it. (Mt. 10:39). **Joe does not love and serve God, because he has chosen to love and serve himself** (Mt. 6: 24)...