

THE EASTSIDE EXAMINER

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Meeting at the corner of Meadow Dr. and Hwy 24 E; Red Bay, AL

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SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

Sunday morning worship (Bible Study) 9:30 AM
Sunday morning worship (Preaching) 10:30 AM
Sunday evening worship (Preaching) 4:00 PM
Wednesday evening worship (Bible Study ... 7:00 PM

THE EASTSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

(meeting at the corner of Meadow Dr. and Hwy 24 East Red Bay, AL)

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND OUR GOSPEL MEETING

JULY 7 - 12

The times for these lessons will be:

SUNDAY: 9:30 & 10:30 AM & 4:00 PM

MONDAY - FRIDAY 7:00 PM

The speaker will be Bob Hutto

(From: Oak Mountain church of Christ in Pelham, AL)

For more information or transportation

Call 662-542-3170 or 256-333-0017

Please consider this to be your personal invitation to this series of Bible lessons
and please invite your neighbors and friends to attend with you.

WE HOPE YOU WILL MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND

WHAT IS THE GOSPEL AND WHY HAVE A GOSPEL MEETING?

By Jerry L. Henderson

The word Gospel means "Good news" or "Glad Tidings". But what is the "good news"? In order for us to appreciate and understand what the "good news" is we must first of all understand WHY it is good news. We learn from Rom 3:23 that all have sinned and then from

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Rom 6:23 that the wages of sin is death. Therefore, all mankind is "due", that is, his wages is death. Here we are not talking about just physical death. We understand that as a result of sin in the beginning all will die physically, because man was driven out of the garden and was not allowed to eat of the tree of life and live forever. The death we are talking about here is spiritual death. The word "death" simply means separation. In physical death the soul or spirit of man separates from the physical body. In spiritual death the soul or spirit of man is separated from God and that separation will never end (Matt 25:46). Therefore, the gospel is good news because God has placed his saving power in it. Paul in Rom 1:16 says: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek." In 1Cor 15:1-7 Paul says he preached the gospel to the Corinthians and that in preaching the gospel he preached the death, burial, resurrection and ascension of Christ. These are essential facts of the gospel. This is what Paul said was the power of God to salvation, that is the offering of His son as a sacrifice for the sins of the world and then His being resurrected from the dead gives us hope of living again (1Cor 15:1-7). You will notice that the grammatical construction of Rom 1:16 indicates singularity. "THE" and "IT" are both singular indicating the one and only one. So, there is nothing else that can save man from the consequences of sin. For this reason, we have planned this series of meetings to proclaim the Gospel of Christ to those who will listen. The "Good News" of a Savior will be proclaimed as well as how a person can take advantage of this good news and apply it to their life so they can be made free from sin.

Do you understand that there is a sense in which you are responsible for your own salvation? Acts 2:40 says: "And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation." Obviously, then, there is something that you as an individual must do to obtain the salvation of your soul. In the very next verse (41) the text says: "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." Obtaining salvation involves "gladly receiving" the word and being baptized as Peter had told them they must in verse 38 of the same chapter. The apostle Paul in Phil 2:12 phrases it this way: "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling." Again, it is obvious that the individual must be active in obtaining their salvation. However, as Paul goes on in verse 13, he says: "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do his good pleasure." So, according to this passage what is done must be in accord with that which pleases God. Therefore, man cannot do just whatever he pleases and expect to have salvation, he must do that which is pleasing to God, that is, do the will of God. Jesus said in Matt 7:21 "Not everyone that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." And as you continue reading in that same scripture you will see that Jesus is talking to individuals who were religious and doing religious things in the name of Jesus. They said they had prophesied in His name; cast out devils in His name and done many wonderful works in His name. But notice what Jesus said to them in verse 23 "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." Jesus said they were working iniquity, which means lawlessness or working contrary to law. Notice also, that in this same context Matt 7:24-27, Jesus compares the one who hears AND does his sayings to a wise man and the one who hears His sayings AND does not do them to the foolish man. Which one do you want to be; the wise man or the foolish man? You have an opportunity July 7-12 to hear the sayings of Jesus, that is, hear His word preached and taught in a very simple way so that you can understand what He would have you to do in order to have salvation and to be a member of His church, His body Col 1:18; the one He promised to build Matt 16:18.

Paul in Gal 1:6-8 points out that there are many perversions of the gospel. In that text he says that even if an angel from heaven preaches anything other than what had already been taught, they were to be accursed. So, our purpose in this series of lessons is not only to proclaim the gospel (good news) but to also expose the perversions of the gospel that we believe are being taught and practiced by many in the religious world. Remember, Jesus said in Jhn 8:32 "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free". We want to know the truth and we want everyone else to know the truth. We want an open honest investigation of the truth of the gospel. If anyone can show from God's word, which is the truth (Jhn 17:17) that we are teaching and/or practicing error, then we would welcome such correction.

This is what a Gospel Meeting is all about and why we are inviting you to attend with us during this series of planned lessons.