

GROW IN GRACE

NEWSLETTER

PLEASE USE the Grow in Grace Newsletter for your own spiritual growth; and **AS A RESOURCE** to help equip you to MINISTER to others! **Volume 47, No. 8, March 1, 2022** / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes—designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. **"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

CHRIST'S DEATH and RESURRECTION— WILL I Be Guided by the Word of God or by 'Christian' Religion?

MANY CHURCHES OF AMERICA are already gearing up for the annual **HIGH ATTENDANCE DAY**, called **EASTER!** *However, for the masses, the DRAWING CARD is not a call to 'Deny self, take up the Cross, and follow Jesus!'* **New Testament Christians DID NOT set up or keep the beloved religious holidays of modern Christendom; nor did** they try to overcome pagan culture by attempting to marry and mix culture with genuine Christianity.

QUESTION: *WHY DID THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANS not need religious and secular entertainment to draw and to keep them loyal to Jesus Christ?*

RESPONSE: The earliest converts to Christ had been boldly confronted with the reality that they had by wicked hands crucified and slain **JESUS CHRIST!**

By the amazing grace of God, they were crushed and stabbed to the heart by Holy Spirit conviction of sin, they repented, were born of God, and continued steadfastly in worship, the Word of God, prayer, the **LORD'S Supper;** and by the time persecution came they all scattered preaching the gospel! (Acts 2:23-47; 4:23-33; 8:4)

True Christian worship, AS SET FORTH IN THE BIBLE, is not about carnal enjoyment, nor is it to stir up emotional responses to religious presentations/customs born out of the imaginations and/or creativity of man.

Rather, true Christian worship is a response of praise, submission, and obedience to the Great Triune God Himself! He reveals in the Bible how to worship Him in ‘spirit and in truth.’ **We need to do more than give ‘lip-service’ to—** “...The Word of God, as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only infallible rule of faith and practice.” (Charles Hodge)

In Christian worship we are BEHOLDING Jesus, (2 Cor. 3:18), and as we do— we are changed, transformed! The more we sit at His feet to KNOW Him, the more we will love Him; and the more we become like Him!

Therefore, let us receive the following Scriptures and worship, praise, and give thanks to God for SO GREAT SALVATION. As we do, we shall more and more be TRANSFORMED into His likeness!

JESUS CAME TO EARTH AND LIVED AND DIED SO AS TO,

1. Propitiate (absorb/satisfy) the just and righteous Wrath of God: “Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree.” (Galatians 3:13) “[JESUS] Whom God hath set forth to be a **propitiation** through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God.” (Romans 3:25) “Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us, and sent His Son to be the **propitiation** for our sins.” (1 John 4:10)

2. Please His Heavenly Father: “Yet it pleased the LORD to bruise Him; He hath put Him to grief:..” (Isaiah 53:10a) “... Christ also hath loved us, and hath given Himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet smelling savour.” [a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God] (Eph. 5:2)

3. Learn Obedience: “Though He were a Son, yet learned He obedience by the things which He suffered.” (Hebrews 5:8) “For it became Him, [It was fitting that He] for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.” (Hebrews 2:10)

4. Show the Wealth of God's Love and Grace for Sinners, even before they are saved: "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure [perhaps] for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth [shows, proves] His love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." (Romans 5:7-8)

5. Show His Own Love for His Church; for all who are in His Church: "Christ hath loved us and gave Himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God." (Ephesians 5:2) "Christ loved the church and hath given Himself for us an offering and sacrifice to God..." (Ephesians 5:25) "[He] loved me and gave Himself for me." (Galatians 2:20)

6. Cancel the Legal Demands of the Law Against His redeemed: "And you, being dead in your sins... hath He quickened [made alive] together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us [canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands], which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way [set it aside], nailing it to His cross." (Col 2:13-14)

7. Become a Ransom for Many: "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

8. GIVE Forgiveness of Sins for all He saves: "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses." (Ephesians 1:7) "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:28)

9. GIVE HIS BLOOD, as the Basis for Justification: "We have now been justified by His blood." (Romans 5:9) "[We] are justified by His grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:24) "We hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law." (Romans 3:28)

10. Complete the Obedience that becomes our Righteousness: "Being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." (Philippians 2:8) "For as by the

one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous." (Romans 5:19)

"For our sake He made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God." (2 Corinthians 5:21 "...not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ." (Philippians 3:9)

11. Take Away our Condemnation: "Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died— more than that, Who was raised— Who is at the right hand of God, Who indeed is interceding for us." (Romans 8:34) "There is therefore NO CONDEMNATION to them who are IN CHRIST JESUS!" (Romans 8:1)

12. Give Us a Clear Conscience: How much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. (Hebrews 9:14)

13. Heal Us from Moral and Physical Sickness: Upon Him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with His stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5)

14. Reconcile Us to God; and 'deliver us from sin's dominion by His resurrection life': For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by His life. (Romans 5:10; See Amplified Translation)

15. Become a Sympathetic and Helpful Priest: For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weakness, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. (Heb. 4:15-16)

16. Free us from the Slavery of Sin: To Him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. (Rev. 1:5-6)

Jesus also suffered outside the gate in order to sanctify the people through His own blood. (Hebrews 13:12)

17. Empower us to Die to Sin and Live to Righteousness: He himself bore our sins in His body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. (1 Peter 2:24)

18. Enable us to die to the Law and Bear Fruit for God: You also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to Him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. (Romans 7:4)

19. Enable Us to Live for Christ and Not Ourselves: He died for all that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for Him, who for their sake died and was raised. (2 Corinthians 5:15)

20. Enable Us to Live by Faith in Him: I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. (Galatians 2:20)

21. Give Marriage Its Deepest Meaning: Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave Himself up for her. (Ephesians 5:25)

22. Create a People Passionate for Good Works: (He) gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession who are zealous for good works. (Titus 2:14)

23. Call Us to Follow His Example of Lowliness and sacrificing Love: This is a gracious thing, when, mindful of God, one endures sorrow while suffering unjustly... For to this you have been called, **because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in His steps.** (1 Peter 2:19-21)

Consider Him who endured from sinners such hostility against Himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. (Heb. 12:3-4)

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, He humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:5-8)

24. Create a Band of Crucified Followers: If anyone would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me. Luke 9:23. Whoever does not take his cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. (Matt. 10:38)

25. Free Us from Bondage to the Fear of Death: Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, He himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death He might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. (Hebrews 2:14-15)

26. Enable us to be with Him Immediately after Death: (He) died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him. (1 Thessalonians 5:10) To live is Christ, and to die is gain! (Phil. 1:21)

27. Secure Our Resurrection from the Dead: For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like his. (Romans 6:5) If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. Romans 8:11. If we have died with Him, we will also live with Him. (2 Timothy 2:11)

28. Destroy the works of satan: The reason the Son of God appeared [and went to the Cross!] was to destroy the works of the devil. (1 John 3:8)

29. Unleash the Power of God in the Gospel: The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18) I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. (Romans 1:16)

30. Destroy the Hostility Between Races: He... has broken down in His flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments and ordinances, that He might create in Himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. (Eph. 2:14-16)

31. Ransom People from Every Tribe and Language and People and Nation: Worthy are You to take the scroll and to open seals, for You were slain, and by Your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation. (Rev. 5:9)

32. Gather All His Sheep from Around the World: And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. (John 10:16)

33. Rescue Us from Final Judgment: Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him. (Hebrews 9:28)

34. Show That the Worst Evil is meant by God for Good: ... there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus... both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, to do whatever Your hand and Your plan had predestined to take place. (Acts 4:27-28) *[The above 34 reasons are edited from John Piper's book, Fifty Reasons Why Jesus Came to Die]*

Grace and Peace in Christ! James Bell
www.southsidegallatin.org

NEWS NOTES:

SUNDAY SERVICES, March 6, 13, 20, 27... / 2022

1. * Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes.

2. * WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SERVICES:

1. 3/6/22 ... NOON fellowship meal

2. 3/13/22 ... 5pm regular Training Faithful Men

3. 3/20/22 ... The climax of the service: THE LORD'S TABLE

4. 3/27/22 ... FORTH SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE at 5PM. (Adam, Bradley, and others give specific preparation for this Service.... and, this month, Luke Haskins will be preaching.)

EVERY SATURDAY*** 8:00 AM, — Men's Bible Study! (*Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!*)

***** NEXT Ladies Bible Study, March 8, @ 11:00 AM**

TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ SOUTHSIDE:

6:30pm— come in back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning!

**** Adult Prayer Service, BACK AT CHURCH BUILDING**

**** Young FAMILIES Prayer Service [ADAM or Jaden weekly communicate as to LOCATION]**

***** LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING:**

SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066/ OR YOU MAY CHOOSE TO GIVE via ONLINE GIVING:

<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>

HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES AND as to Responding with WISDOM and NOT fear IN SEEKING TO KEEP AS HEALTHY AS

WE CAN— SO AS TO BE ACTIVE IN THE KINGDOM BUSINESS OF THE LORD!

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; or if you have • Fever; • Coughing; • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], Please stay home!]

2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... WE do not require it. WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM as to 'social distancing'... masks ... vaccine choices, etc. — PLEASE HONOR THE LORD, by continuing to give sensitivity and respect one to another.

3. In addition to carefulness, good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: SEEK TO BUILD UP A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM! I PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, ZINC, GINGER, VITAMIN D, Quercetin, and a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber... And I have a PRESCRIPTION of Ivermectin... TO TAKE, if needed.

DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH! BE PROACTIVE! BE PREVENTIVE!

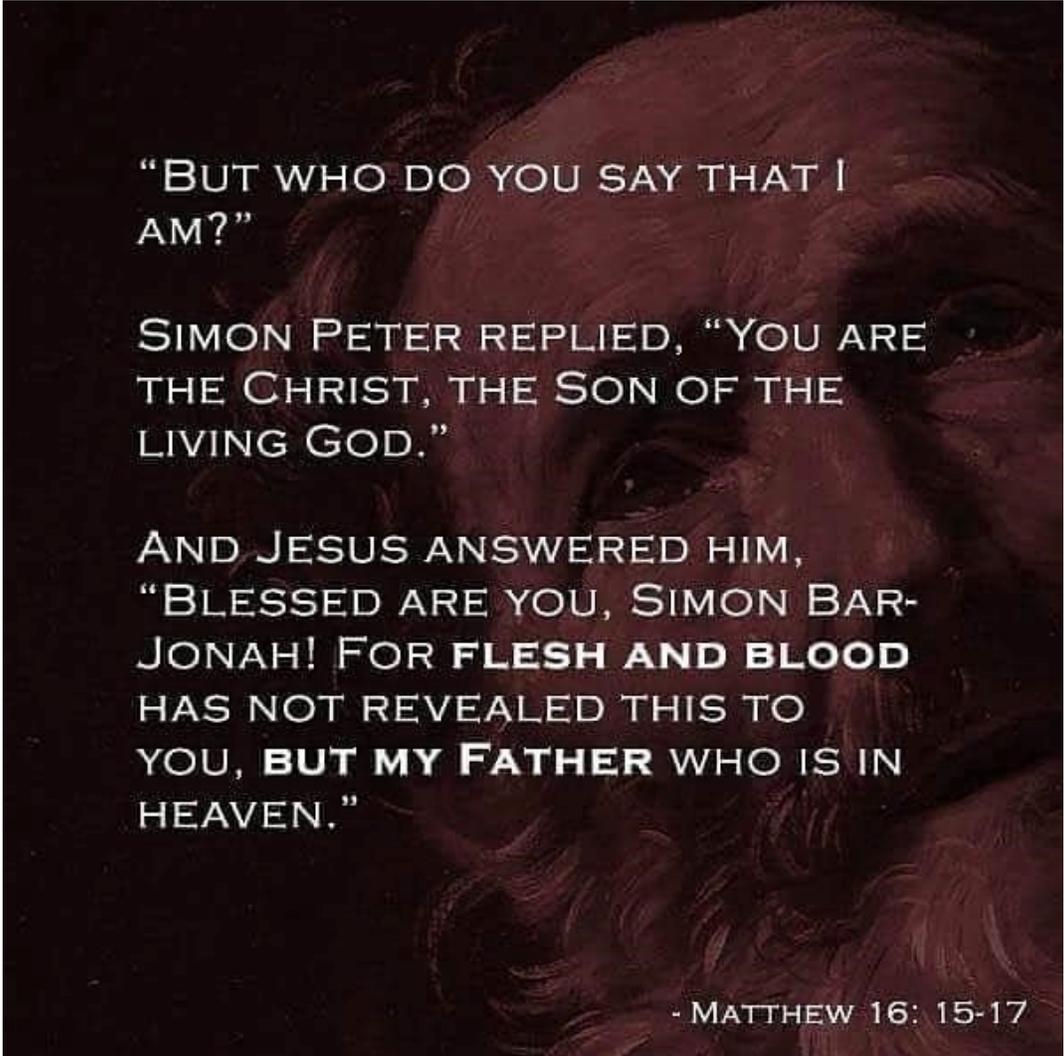
4. LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene. [IF you use the restrooms— please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.]

5. HERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL resource from The Association of American Physicians and Surgeons... FROM Doctors who successfully treat covid-19 patients! => <https://breggin.com/covid-19-home-treatment/>

Peter McCullough, MD testifies to Texas Senate HHS Committee. BRIEF. EXCELLENT: → <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAHi3lX3oGM>

The PDF booklet: A Guide to Home-Based COVID Treatment can be downloaded ... **focus is on PREVENTION and early treatment:** [COVID Treatment - Truth for Health Foundation](https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/)<https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/>

BECOMING A CHRISTIAN IS NOT THE RESULT OF THE 'BEST DECISION YOU EVER MADE; BUT RATHER THE EXCLUSIVE RESULT OF THE GRACIOUS, SOVEREIGN GRACE OF GOD, EVEN AS WITH PETER!



"BUT WHO DO YOU SAY THAT I AM?"

SIMON PETER REPLIED, "YOU ARE THE CHRIST, THE SON OF THE LIVING GOD."

AND JESUS ANSWERED HIM, "BLESSED ARE YOU, SIMON BAR-JONAH! FOR **FLESH AND BLOOD** HAS NOT REVEALED THIS TO YOU, **BUT MY FATHER** WHO IS IN HEAVEN."

- MATTHEW 16: 15-17