

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Back to the Bible

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Chris Aumick, Alice Stone, Josiah, Wayne and Cathy, Helen Spicer, Peggy

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Steve and Abby are in Juneau.

Ladies Class: There will be a Ladies Class February 20, 2021 beginning at 11:00 AM at the church's building. All the ladies are encouraged to attend. Contact Terry Campbell for additional information.

Radio Programs: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." **2 Timothy 2:15 (KJV)**

Wisdom for Today: "Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him." **Proverbs 30:5 (KJV)**

Tonight's Lesson: "Three Great Words"

Attendance Last Sunday 67/52: Our Record: 107

For more information, visit our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

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February 14th BULLETIN for the

Church of Christ AT WASILLA

God's Plan of Salvation

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Hear..... | Romans 10:17 |
| Believe..... | Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6 |
| Repent..... | Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10 |
| Confess..... | Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33 |
| Be Baptized | Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16 |
| Arise & Walk in Newness of Life | Romans 6:4 |

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES

| | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| | <u>Sunday:</u> |
| Bible Classes: | 10AM |
| AM Worship: | 11AM |
| PM Worship: | 5PM |
| | <u>Wednesday:</u> |
| Bible Study: | 7PM |

OFFICE HOURS

Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!

The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

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Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:

www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Back to the Bible

Let's get "Back to the Bible!" A lot of people use it, including a lot of demonization's. But if we really want to get "Back to the Bible" we need to do something about it. We can't just quote a few favorite sayings of our grandmother, we can't just memorize a few short verses like John 3:16, nor can we depend on the knowledge of others.

There are a lot of things that people say the Bible says that it really doesn't. Some of these are so ingrained in our minds that we can not believe that they are not found somewhere in the Bible. These include such well known statements as:

1. Spare the rod, spoil the child. How many times have we all heard this. And usually it is prefaced with "You know what the Bible says". But this is not actually in the Bible. The verse people usually relate this to is **Proverbs 13:24 (KJV)** and that verse really says "He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes." The phrase " was coined by Samuel Butler, a 17th century British poet. But most of the people you ask will insist that it comes from the Bible.
2. Money is the root of all evil. This is another famous statement that people usually use by saying, "Well you know what the Bible says, money is the root of all evil." While this is a close statement to what Paul tells Timothy, it is not accurate. In **1 Timothy 6:10 (KJV)** Paul writes "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." It is not money that Paul says is the root of everything evil, but the **love** of money. It is not a sin to be wealthy, although it will be more difficult to remain spiritually strong for many people. Some of the disciples of Jesus were wealthy including Joseph of Arimathea (Matthew 27:57-60) and probably Matthew (Matthew 9:9-10).
3. Cleanliness is next to Godliness. This is also one of those things that we have heard over and over that is in the Bible. Many people say that it was originally uttered by Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount. But not only was it not said by Jesus, it is not in the Bible in any form. The closest thing to it is found in **James 4:8 (KJV)** where James stated "Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded."
4. All things work together for good. This one has been used over and over by many people. The only problem is that the Bible doesn't actually say this. What it does say is in **Romans 8:28 (KJV)** where Paul writes "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose." The people who all things work together for good are those who love God and are called, i.e. Christians.

Sermon: Paul Stone; Article: Bill Beebe

5. God moves in mysterious ways. This is almost universally believed to be a verse in the Bible. But it is nowhere to be found in the scriptures. **Isaiah 55:8 (KJV)** may be the closest verse to it. But Isaiah actually says there "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD."
6. Pride comes before the fall. Of all these well known statement, this is the one that is closest to a verse in the Bible. It comes from **Proverbs 16:18 (KJV)** "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

To be able to really get "Back to the Bible" we have to study enough to know when the Bible speaks and when it doesn't. And if we are not certain if it is what the Bible actually says we need to study and educate ourselves. Then we can help others know what the Bible says, and not what someone says that it says. For example the statement "Saved by Grace only through Faith only" is used often by denominational preachers. It is based on **Ephesians 2:8 (KJV)** "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:" We know that it is by grace that we are saved because we can not do enough to deserve salvation. God extended His grace to us through the sacrifice of Jesus. We also know that faith is necessary for us to be pleasing to God (Hebrews 11, James 1-2, 1 Peter 1:9)

But the faith that is pleasing to God is a faith that causes us to obey. It was by faith that Abraham was found acceptable to God. His faith caused him to obey when God told him to leave his home and move into a strange country. It was his faith that caused Abraham to obey and be willing to offer his son to God as a burnt offering. So the faith that saves is a faith that causes people to obey. When Paul wrote to the Ephesians and told them that it is by grace that we are saved through faith, he wasn't saying that we are saved by grace through faith alone. Everything we read in the Bible lets us know that it is a faith that results in obedience that saves us. James told us something similar. **James 2:23-24 (KJV)** "And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only." So to get back to the Bible, we need to study to know what it really says and not just repeat things we have heard. We are saved by God's grace through our faith, but it is a faith that demands action. And that action starts with hearing, believing, repenting, confessing and being baptized by immersion in water to wash away our sins. And it continues for the rest of our lives as we grow in the Christian graces (1 Peter 1:5-10)

Lets be like the Bereans who searched the scriptures daily to see if what we hear is true. That is the only way to get "Back to the Bible".