

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# Questions for the Church

## 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.

**Teachers Meeting:** There will be a teachers meeting immediately following the AM Worship on February 28 in the office. Anyone who is currently teaching, has taught or wants to teach should attend. See Tom Betti 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:** "And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven. And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." **Mathew 16:17-18**

**Wisdom for Today:** "Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day." **Psalm 25:5 (KJV)**

**Tonight's Lesson:** "Cling to What is Good" Charles Nordstrom

Attendance Last Sunday 52/43: Our Record: 107

For more information, visit our website at [www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

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February 21st 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

#### Sunday:

Bible Classes:	10AM
AM Worship:	11AM
PM Worship:	5PM

#### Wednesday:

Bible Study:	7PM
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### 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  
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Visit our website at:

[www.churchofchristwasilla.com](http://www.churchofchristwasilla.com)

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

## Questions for the Church

Throughout the years the church that Jesus built on the confession of Peter that He was the Christ, the son of the Living God (Matthew 16:16-18) has come under attack. Satan has influenced people throughout the centuries to try to tear apart the church with false accusations and questions designed to destroy the faith of the righteous. In fact Paul cautioned Timothy about this in **2 Timothy 2:23 (KJV)** where he writes *“But foolish and unlearned questions avoid, knowing that they do gender strifes.”*

In first few years after the church's beginnings in 30 AD, Jewish tendencies ran strong and their teachers began to teach that the simple truths being taught by the Apostles wasn't adequate to save a person. In addition to hearing, believing, confessing, repentance and being baptized, they taught that a male convert had to be circumcised (Acts 15:1). This attack was settled by the Apostles and Elders in Jerusalem and resulted in the instruction by James that the Gentile converts should not be compelled to be circumcised. *“But that we write unto them, that they abstain from pollutions of idols, and from fornication, and from things strangled, and from blood.” Acts 15:20 (KJV)* A little later in the life of the early church people began to turn the holiness and sanctity of the Lord's Supper into a common meal where some had too much to eat and drink and others lacked. *“For first of all, when ye come together in the church, I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. “For there must be also heresies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you. When ye come together therefore into one place, this is not to eat the Lord's supper. For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken. What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not.” 1 Corinthians 11:18-22 (KJV)*

Then throughout the following centuries, heresies came in and started the church down the road to apostasy leaving the truth and simplicity that had been the church of Christ. Instead of having a plurality of Elders who guided and shepherded a single congregation, men decided that a plurality of congregations should be overseen by a single person and an organization developed that lead to many man made organizations. These range from the organization of the Catholic church, with their Bishops, Arch Bishops, Cardinals and Pope to the Protestant organizations that we see today with their boards and Presidents..

Today we still see attacks against the church. Just as in the days of Jesus and the Apostles, the religious leaders attack the church with questions designed to trap Christians into contradicting the true word of God. Some of the questions are simple to answer and take no real thought or study. These have been asked and answered for decades and even centuries. Others are newer and

## Sermon: Tom Bette; Article: Bill Beebe

need to be carefully answered. We will look at a one of the more common questions and one newer accusation being used against the church today.

**You think that members of he church of Christ are the only ones going to Heaven.** In the first century, there was only one church. Jesus promised to build His church, not His churches (Matthew 16:16-18). All those who were baptized were added to that church (Acts 2:41, 47). Since Luke, in Acts 2, tells us that those being baptized were added to the church and Paul tells us that those being baptized were added to the one body (1 Corinthians 12:13) it is apparent that the church and the one body are one and the same. And Paul makes this crystal clear in **1 Corinthians 12:27 (KJV)** where he writes to the church in Corinth *“Now ye are the body of Christ, and members in particular.”* We are also told that salvation is “in Christ” (1 Timothy 2:10), since God put salvation in Christ we know that it can not be found anywhere else. Therefore it follows that since the body and the church are one and the same, and salvation is in Christ that is in His body, only those in the church have access to salvation. So, in answer to this question, we believe and teach that only those in the church that was set up by Jesus will be saved. So out of the 41,000 plus “Christian” churches in existence today which on is the one true church? This is easy to answer, just compare their teachings to the things taught in the Bible and the one that holds to those truths must be the one true church where salvation can only be found. Anyone going to heaven must therefore have been added to that church through baptism.

**The church of Christ is a cult.** This is a relatively new accusation that is being leveled at us today. The definition of a cult as given by Dictionary.com is <sup>1)</sup>a particular system of religious worship, especially with reference to its rites and ceremonies, <sup>2)</sup>an instance of great veneration of a person, ideal, or thing, especially as manifested by a body of admirers, <sup>3)</sup>the object of such devotion, and <sup>4)</sup>a group or sect bound together by veneration of the same thing, person, ideal, etc. Since we are a religions system that is defined by our beliefs which dictate certain rites and ceremonies such as meeting on the first day of the week to break bread (Acts 20:7), singing praises to God, praying, preaching and collecting funds only from free will donations of our members I guess we may meet the firs definition of a cult. we venerate Jesus Christ as our one and only savior and believe in the ideals He taught, I guess we meet might meet the second definition of a cult. And, since we are a group bound together by our veneration of the same thing and that thing being God, I suppose we could meet the fourth definition of a cult. However, as the world uses the word “Cult” in defining groups like Jim Jones and David Kuresh and their followers we are most definitely NOT a cult. We do venerate Jesus, we do venerate God, we do venerate the Holy Spirit and we do venerate the Holy Bible, but that does not make us a cult as the term is most commonly used today.