

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649  
 (812) 944-2305  
[www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

**Sundays**  
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM  
 Worship.....10:30 AM  
 Worship.....6:00 PM

**Wednesdays**  
 Bible Study.....7:30 PM

**Elders**  
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917  
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536

**Deacons**  
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766  
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938  
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

**Editor**  
 Stephen W. Nale.....502-727-7559

**Beginning Our 65th Year Dec. 4, 2022**

Goals For 2023  
Theme  
 "Courageous Christians in 2023!"  
Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40:  
Sunday AM: 50  
Sunday PM: 40: Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 130

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service

Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana  
Hold A Men's Training Class

Hold One Gospel Meeting

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

**Mike Thomas**  
 will be preaching today.

**We are on week # 41 of our daily Bible reading.**

**Prayer List**  
 Sharon Nale, Polly Ward,  
 Macon Ward, Debby Spears  
 (Roseann's sis) Sharon  
 Thompson, Kay Thompson  
 Gene Ward & Beth McFarland  
 Brooke Thomas, Pam Caudill  
 Debbie Lewellen, Cathie Hall

**THIS MONTH:**  
**Courage to Overcome the Devil**  
**Romans 8:31**

**Who Have You Invited To Services This week?**

**Lord's Supper Reading**  
**Isa. 53:1-6**

**Scripture Reading**  
 AM: Acts 8:26-40  
 PM: Mark 10:17-22

**Encouragement Tally**  
 Invites this month 3  
 Invites last month: 9  
 Visitors YTD: 12

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Place Stamp Here



The  
**Clarksville Beacon**  
 www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

Our Theme for 2023...  
**"Courageous Christians!"**  
 1 Cor. 16:13  
 Clarksville Church of Christ  
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.  
 Clarksville, IN 47129  
**First Service December 7, 1958**

Volume 35 Issue 41 Clarksville Church of Christ October 8, 2023

**Salvation, and the Joy of the Eunuch**

**Welcome!**  
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

**VISITORS**  
 Please fill out a visitor's card or scan the QR code below and provide the information requested.

**Text: Acts 8:26-40**

**I. How Isaiah is arranged:**

A. God removed His presence from Israel, which made them vulnerable to other nations. Chapters 1-39 tell of Isaiah warning both Israel and Judah of certain destruction; the last part of the book foretells how God would deliver them from Satan and restore His kingdom through the Messiah.

B. Imagine this from the eunuch's point of view – from the Jewish point of view – how would he be reading the Isaiah text?

**II. What was the eunuch reading prior to Philip's arrival? 52:3-10**

A. The people are oppressed (v 4) because God left His people for their unfaithfulness, but there is hope (v7; Rom. 10:15) ... the "good news" is "Your God Reigns!" (v 7; Mark 1:1).

B. Isaiah showed that the natural response to God delivering His people is praise (52:8-9).

- Do we wake up each day singing and rejoicing that our God reigns and has delivered us from bondage of our sins? Do we rejoice to know our greatest burden is delivered in Jesus?
- "Therefore **by Him** let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name." (Heb 13:15)

C. Isaiah said the Lord will demonstrate His "holy arm" (power) to "all the nations" (v 10) ... "My Servant" will bring that deliverance AND be "marred" in the process (vv. 13-14; 53:1-11)

**III. Philip "preached Jesus to him" (Ac 8:35)**

A. He showed how Jesus fit Isaiah's text: He is the good news (Luke 24:47)

B. The eunuch realized the gospel includes baptism – **but why?** (Matt. 28:18-19)

- The immediate response is to think of Jesus' command (Matt 28:18-19), which is correct.
- Just as the Servant suffered in order to "prolong his days" (53:10), in being raised to life, so the disciple of Jesus pictures his own death and resurrection in baptism (Rom 6:1-7, 11)

**IV. Consequently, "He went on his way rejoicing"**

A. What did that rejoicing produce in Isaiah 52:7-10? **Acts 8:3-4**

B. We rejoice for the greater message of God defeating Satan and giving us hope past our sin:

Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am <sup>1</sup>gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For My yoke is easy and My burden is light." (Matt. 11)

**Mike Thomas**

## One Thing You Lack

**Mark 10:17-22** A man sincerely asked Jesus how to find eternal life yet would not give up the “one thing” Jesus told him to do. How many of us are one thing away from being right with God?

### DISCUSSION

#### I. CHOOSING ETERNAL LIFE

- A. The rich man placed his faith in the wrong things (**Luke 8:14; 1 Tim. 6:9-10**)
- B. Key: how would people live if they could return from eternity? (**Luke 16:27-28**)
- C. What if our one thing is a failure to comprehend the value of eternal life?

#### II. EXCESSIVE CONCERN FOR THIS LIFE

- A. We can become too concerned about the events of this life that we neglect keeping Jesus first, even in honorable endeavors (**Luke 10:38-42**)
- B. We all have concerns in life, but our greater purpose as members of the Lord’s church is too important to neglect it for inferior pursuits! (**1 Tim. 3:15**)
- C. What if our one thing is being overly concerned for the affairs of this temporal life?

#### III. FORGETTING THE PAST

- A. Paul understood the importance of doing this ONE THING (**Phil. 3:12-15**) ... was referring to past accomplishments for God, but same principle for failures as well.
- B. Nevertheless, he did great things as a Jew that he let go of those to serve Christ. He did what the rich young ruler would not – “sold all” to follow Jesus (**vv. 7-10**).
- C. What if we are not reaching our potential because we are too focused on our past?

#### IV. OBEY THE GOSPEL

- A. There are some who are wonderful people who are not in Christ (**Acts 10:1-5; v 48**)
- B. This is enough to keep someone from being right with God (**Rom. 6:1-4**)

### CONCLUSION

If Jesus examined us, would He see we are too attached to this world and unwilling to let go of it to follow Him? Do we have the wisdom to release our “one thing” while we still have opportunity?

*Mike Thomas*

## Turning from the Power of Satan to God

“... to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me” (Acts 26:18).

**PAUL WAS AN APOSTLE AND WE ARE NOT, BUT THE MISSION ASSIGNED TO HIM IS ONE WE CAN LEARN FROM.** He was given the task of taking the gospel to the Gentiles, and in the text above, God was telling Paul what the purpose of his preaching would be. We, no less than Paul, need to understand the purpose of the gospel. Indeed, there is nothing more important for us to understand.

*To open their eyes.* The gospel provides the solution to our worst problem, the remedy to our worst illness. But in order to help us, the first thing the gospel has to do is open our eyes to the truth about our situation. We must see our *need* for the gospel.

*So that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God.* If our problem is sin, and if God is offering forgiveness, what we need to do is *turn around*. In denial of the truth about God, we’ve been going in the wrong direction. We’ve submitted ourselves to the power of Satan. That can change — and God will forgive us — but not without a real *conversion* (or “turning”) to Him.

*That they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.* Here are the two things that result from the gospel. First, the forgiveness of sins. This is why Jesus died, and it is what the gospel is about. Second, those forgiven have “a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.” This is what is unique about those who are faithful to Jesus Christ. They still struggle, as all do, but they have a hope based on “the righteousness from God that depends on faith” (Philippians 3:9).

All of this is a wonderful plan, of course, but it requires life’s most serious choice and its greatest love. For those living under the deadly power of Satan, no moderate remedy will do. Jesus Christ can save us, but we must turn to Him decisively. In sin, we took our hearts away from our God and Father. We must give them back. For after all, there are only two alternatives, only two possible “fathers” waiting for us in eternity. We must choose between them.

“There is no heaven with a little of hell in it — no plan to retain this or that of the devil in our hearts or our pockets. Out Satan must go, every hair and feather!” (George MacDonald).

Gary Henry — [WordPoints.com](http://WordPoints.com) + [AreYouaChristian.com](http://AreYouaChristian.com)