

Prayer Requests & Announcements

- Brenda is waiting on test results on her sickness
- April’s health issues.
- Ross and Debbie will be traveling to AR for the Christmas break and to move their belongings to Idaho. They plan to start the drive back on 1/10.
- The Christians in the Philippines.

**For prayer requests, call or text
Chad @ (208) 221-2587 or Ross @ (208) 680-6590**

Assignments

<p><u>Today</u> Bible Study – Tom Mitchell Song Leader – Tom Mitchell Lord’s Table – Chad Mitchell Sermon – Ross Ward</p>	<p><u>Wednesday</u> Bible Study – TBD Song Leader – Tom Mitchell Invitation – TBD</p>
<p><u>Next Sunday</u> Bible Study – Tom Mitchell Song Leader – David Porter Lord’s Table – Tom Mitchell Sermon – Chad Mitchell</p>	<p><u>Next Wednesday</u> Bible Study – TBD Song Leader – Chad Mitchell Invitation – TBD</p>

Blackfoot Church of Christ
 370 North Shilling Ave.
 Blackfoot, Idaho 83221

Meeting Times:

Sunday Morning Classes 10:00AM
 Sunday Morning Worship 11:00AM
 Wednesday Evening 7:30PM



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Preparing to Leave the Earth

By William C. “Bill” Sexton.

We all will be leaving the earth in time, because it is appointed to man to live, die, and meet his/her Maker, according to Hebrews 9:27! Each can find “peace” through the avenue of faith (Rom. 5:1), “Into Christ” (Rom. 6:3-4), to where all spiritual blessing are (Eph. 1:3). Being in that state, one can face each day with a happy smile, even though there may be pain and from mistreatment (Cf. Acts 16:25 and it’s context), or from physical health problems. That can be so, due to the fact that we know it is just a matter of time till we come to the end here, and things will be much better where we are going (Rev. 14:13).

It has been said, that heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people, while Hell, where there is eternal punishment, is a prepared place for an unprepared people (Cf. Matt. 25:41, 46). Life here, whether it be long or short, as we count a life time, will soon be over, and each of us will face death either prepared or unprepared (Cf. Matt. 7:21-27).

So, I try to get people to be prepared, by hearing the word of God and allowing it to produce faith (Rom. 10:17). Having reached that level, then one is told to repent, which God has commanded all to do (Acts 17:30). At that state, one can confess his/her faith in Jesus, moving on toward salvation (Rom. 10:9-10). Having come to that stage, one is a candidate for baptism which is “into Christ” (Gal. 3:26-27). One can be buried with the Lord Jesus and raised to walk in newness of life (Col. 2:11-12; Rom. 6:3-4, 16-18). At that point one is born again, as he/she has obeyed the gospel (1 Pet. 1:22-23) and can wear the name Christian (Acts 11:26) of which he/she need not be ashamed (1 Pet. 4:16). By being faithful (Rev. 2:10), one can die in the Lord, being prepared. Are you?

Warnings Are Given to be Heeded –Men would depart!

By William C. "Bill" Sexton

Passages are many that say there would be a departure, and that people would go on teaching and practicing things that are not right. They are recorded for us, and we can choose to ignore them and suffer the consequences, or we can heed them, learn, practice the truth and be successful even though we may at times be persecuted for our stance! In fact we are told that those who live godly will suffer persecution (2 Tim. 3:12).

Look at some passages that predict the future departing, etc.

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." (Acts 20:28-30)

"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; 2 Speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron; Forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from meats, which God hath created to be received with thanksgiving of them which believe and know the truth. For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving: For it is sanctified by the word of God and prayer. If thou put the brethren in remembrance of these things, thou shalt be a good minister of Jesus Christ, nourished up in the words of faith and of good doctrine, whereunto thou hast attained." (1 Tim. 4:1-6)

"I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers,

having itching ears; 4 And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables. 5 But watch thou in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, make full proof of thy ministry." (2 Tim. 4:1-5)

These three passages point to the future, as to what would happen, and God has seen fit to preserve them for us. When I first became interested in religion, I was of the view that there were good people in all churches and it really didn't make a lot of difference which one you're in, as long as you were honest and wanted to do right.

When I came in contact with the truth, and saw the narrowness of God's way (Cf. Matt. 7:13-14; Jn. 14:6) etc., I was troubled. I tried hard to find justification for my views. Finally as I prayed, studied, talked and studied with others, I came to see that God has told us, and we can either, accept it and abide by it, or we can go our way. However, He has plainly told us what the results are going to be. I can ignore his word, as evidently many are, and go happily on our way, NOW. Yet, we see the picture of doing that in the rich man in (Lk. 16:24-31)

I am saddened to see so many who never will accept the truth in regard to their salvation. But I'm saddened even more to see a person who has accepted the truth, embraced it and perhaps taught and practiced it for a long time, and then turn aside. I see Peter addressing that person in (2 Pet. 2:20-22).

Frankly, I am unable to understand how one who had learned, accepted and practiced the truth for awhile can live with him/herself when they turn aside. I tried it once, and I could not find any satisfaction at all. However, I know that God will allow one to be satisfied in his/her state if they do not have the proper love for the truth (2 Thess. 2:10-12). Beloved, it is a serious matter to turn aside. As long as one is alive, perhaps he/she can be turned around. Let us see the need for one to embrace the truth and abide in it (Jn. 8:31-32; 17:17; 2 Thess. 2:10-12).