



The next youth devotional will be hosted by Archana Verma. More information to come!

- July 19-24 Peach Valley Camp.
- The next Thursday area-wide Summer Youth Series will be held July 23 @ 7 p.m. at Odem and is entitled, "Seek Ye First."



EDUCATION

In Search of the Lord's Way

The lesson for Sunday, July 26 at 7:30 a.m. on KMOL is entitled, "Mark of the Beast." The book of Revelation speaks of many unbelievers following a beast that opposes the people of God and follows Satan. What is the mark of the beast, and does Revelation have anything to do with twenty-first century America?

SUNDAYS

Bible Classes9:00 AM
Morning Worship10:00 AM
Evening Worship 5:00 PM

Mondays (every first and third week)
Ladies' Bible Study 7:00 PM
Tuesdays (September through May)
Men's Bible Study 10:00 AM
Ladies' Bible Study..... 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS

Midweek Bible Study 7:00 PM

EVANGELIST

Clay Bond

SUPPORTED WORKS

James and Emily Cammock
Hamilton, New Zealand

Cecil Shaw
Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Mike Batot
Southwest School of Bible Studies

THE MIDTOWN MESSENGER IS THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE MIDTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST, 5901 N. MAIN, VICTORIA, TEXAS 77904 . 361-573-0030
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JULY 19, 2015

"JUDGMENT DAY SURPRISES" by Clay Bond

If Jesus Christ returned today would you be ready? Would you receive Him with joy or would you feel like those who wished the mountains would fall on them to hide them from the wrath of the Lamb of God (Rev. 6:16). The sad truth is, far too many will be caught off guard by judgment for various reasons.

When Christ returns, many will be surprised that not everyone is saved.

While it is true that the grace of God brings salvation and that salvation is available to all through the blood of Jesus Christ, it is also true that some will be lost. The Universal-

ists who, based on a misunderstanding of Titus 2:11 and Hebrews 2:9, teach that all are saved will be greatly surprised to find that so many are lost. The Scriptures teach that every person has the *ability* to be saved, but not everyone will exercise that ability (Matthew 7:13-14). Jesus said, "Many are called, but few are chosen" (Matthew 22:14).

When Christ returns, many will be surprised that they are not going to heaven.

The parable of the ten virgins illustrates this reality by showing us five prepared and five unprepared people. The unprepared were surprised that the door was shut and they were not allowed to attend the marriage (Matthew 25). Everybody seems to envision themselves going to heaven, but the Scriptures teach that not everybody who is talking about heaven is going there. Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven" (Matthew 7:21).

When Christ returns, many will be surprised that not all religious people are going to be saved.

One of the most sobering contexts in all of God's word is Matthew 7:13-24 which talks about the many religious people who have been led down the broad path to destruction by false teachers. On the Day of Judgment, these

"Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest"

Hebrews 4:11

religious people were surprised that they were lost. It is heartbreaking to read their desperate plea, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?" (Matthew 7:22). The only way to avoid this surprise at judgment is to search the Scriptures to see if what we are following is right (Acts 17:11; 1 John 4:1).

When Christ returns, many will be surprised that not every member of the Lord's church will be saved. I hope we are honest enough to admit the truth of this statement. There are those who pride themselves on being second, third or fourth generation Christians, as if that will save them even if they are unfaithful to the Lord. Others are convinced that they have their ticket punched because they were baptized into Christ. Consider what Paul wrote in Romans 8:1, "There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit." This passage gives us the "two L's": location and lifestyle. Paul already told us how one gets into the right location, Jesus Christ, in Romans 6:3-4, but having done that we must also maintain the right lifestyle, walking after the Spirit. If we want to go to heaven, we must be faithful and finish the Christian race (Matthew 10:22; Revelation 2:10). Peter made it clear that we can fall from grace when he wrote, "For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning" (2 Peter 2:20). Even the apostle Paul acknowledged the fact that he could become disqualified if he did not finish his race (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). Heaven is a prepared place for the faithful, "Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest" (Hebrews 4:11).

Records You Helped Make
For the Week of
JULY 12, 2015

Attendance

Sunday Bible Class.....123
Sunday Morning Assembly.....160
Sunday Evening Assembly.....110

Offering: \$4,866

When Christ returns, many will be surprised that there really is a place called hell. Many seem to read the Bible with blinders on. They see the goodness of God, but seem to filter out any section of Scripture that mentions His severity. The Bible has so much to say about hell that we simply cannot afford to ignore the warnings. Don't be surprised to learn that there really is a place "Where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched" (Mark 9:44).

The Apostle John wrote, "And now, little children, abide in him; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not be ashamed before him at his coming" (1 John 2:28). If Christ returned today would you be ready? John had no problem declaring "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20). If we made the same declaration would we be surprised by His coming? God has no pleasure in those who "draw back" (Hebrews 10:38). Don't assume that everyone is saved and headed for heaven. Don't make the mistake of assuming that all religious people are saved or even that all members of the church are saved. There really is a dreadful place called hell, but there is also a wonderful place called heaven. Search the Scriptures and examine yourself so you won't be surprised to learn which one lays in store for you.

News
& ACTIVITIES

WELCOME:

Donna Champion has asked to be identified with the MidTown congregation. Please be sure to make her feel welcome!

Sunday, July 26

Plan to attend the Fourth Sunday Fellowship Meal following evening service.

Wednesday, July 29

MidTown will hold a 5th Wednesday singing night for the adult and teen classes. Children classes will continue their summer series.

Thursday, July 30

The Young Ladies' Potluck luncheon will be held at Noon.

Sunday, August 2

There will be a monthly Men's Meeting at 3:30 p.m. here at the building.

- Homewood Team #3 will meet today.
- Please bring baby wipes and 8 gallon trash bags for Sunny Glen Children's Home by Sunday, August 9.
- Please email information for the bulletin to nia_fitzsimmons@yahoo

Keep in PRAYER

MidTown Members:

Jeff Cannady
Tre Cannady
Dee Gilpatrick

Betty Key
Sandy Malone
Bob Neel
Ann Pantel
Glen Pitts
Rex Sims
Etta Williams

& Friends Family:

Cynthia Barrett,
daughter of Dee Gilpatrick
Sandra Barton,
sister-in-law of Karon
Josephine Escojido,
mother of Lupe Escojido
Pam Hawkins,
daughter-in-law of June
Jim Hinchey,
brother-in-law of Lupe Escojido
Amy Jamison,
daughter of Terry
Perliene Johnson,
mother-in-law of Steve Randle
Dorothy Koenig,
mother of Mickey DeDear

Dorothy McCarn
aunt of Pam Clifton
Edna Randall,
aunt of Randy Tipton
Sarah Randle,
mother of Steve
Ernest Rundzieher,
brother of Jackie Rutherford
David Smith,
brother of Bob Smith
Richard Smith,
uncle of Les Daltry
Ray Shannon,
son of Donna
Mark Withers,
nephew of Clark
Ray Williams,
son of Etta
Martha Young,
friend of Elana Carroll

CONGRATULATIONS!

BRAXTON JAMES MORROW
FLONNORY
BORN
MONDAY, JULY 13
8LBS. 15 OZ. 21 IN.

