

~ Kevin's Kolumn ~

It's not that we've nothing to do!

In referencing the fact that we are saved by grace through faith, some might be mistakenly led to believe that we do nothing to inherit eternal salvation. Nothing could be further from the truth! There are two important aspects we need to consider concerning our salvation. The first aspect is God's sovereignty. God is a just God who demands obedience. His righteousness cannot overlook the sin problem each of us deal with on a daily basis. Because sin is an issue needing dealt with, He had to send His son to atone for our sins. The second salvation aspect is of our own volition. One has to ask a very important question: if salvation is solely up to Christ Jesus' death on the cross and the Spirit's leading through our spirit, why did God leave us with all the commands in scripture? Jesus reminds us, "***If you love me, you will keep my commandments***". Nobody goes to hell unless they're guilty of sin or disbelief! Unatoned-for sin needs dealt with through the blood of Jesus. Disbelief is man's way of telling God that He doesn't have the power to save through Jesus' atoning blood.

Those who celebrate salvation from eternal damnation, also need to glorify God's divine judgment on those who willingly disbelieve. It's not that we desire folks to be lost; but we must understand God for who He is. If we cannot be thankful for God's judgment I don't believe we can completely understand how precious His grace is. God's divine judgment will ultimately condemn those who willingly choose to disbelieve. We must remember, however, that our own volition, our own decisions and our own actions ultimately lead us to our eternal destination! By grace we are saved through faith. We don't diminish Jesus' death on the cross by focusing on our obedience. We *magnify* Jesus' death on the cross by focusing on our obedience!

Have a blessed day and remember the One who gave it to you!

Kevin

Good Morning & Welcome!

Prayer Requests

- ♥Prayers have been requested for Denise Myers, sister of Dianne Tonkery. She has been in the Intensive Care Unit at FGH this past week with large blood clots in both lungs and a blood clot in her leg. She is doing better but still needs prayers for a full recovery.
- ♥Al Lemon has pneumonia and Dot Lemon is still in need of prayers after her recent fall and broken ankle.
- ♥Theo Hill had a knee replacement this past week and is now home recovering.
- ♥David Lough also had a knee replacement this past week.
- ♥Noah Miller, Jr., son-in-law of Robert Tonkery, has been in Ruby Memorial with fluid on his lungs and an infection.
- ♥Please continue to keep Edwina Summers and Jim Reszler in your prayers.

News & Notes

Baby Shower – There will be a Baby Shower in honor of Mandy Rennix TODAY, January 18th immediately following the morning services. All ladies are welcome to attend.

Whitehall Nursery School still has some openings in the three year old sessions for next Fall. If you would like to enroll your child, they must be three years old by September 1st and potty trained. For more information, please contact Edwina Summers at 304-368-0300 or 304-265-2085.

Save the Dates...

Spring Friend Day will be Sunday, April 19th.

Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the week of June 7th – 11th. If you would like to help with VBS, please see Mary Lough. This years theme is "Heartbeat Hospital".