Oak Grove Church of Christ Newsletter - 2023.04.09

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Sermon recordings

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Speaker-AM: Brad Bunyard Title: Crucifixion Attitudes Recording: tinyurl.com/BradCrucifixion Speaker-PM: Robbie Moreland Title: Passover Parallels Recording: <u>tinyurl.com/RobPassover</u>



PETER 2:24

Cleanse out the old leaven that you may be a new lump, as you really are unleavened. For Christ, our Passover lamb, has been sacrificed. Let us therefore celebrate the festival, not with the old leaven, the leaven of malice and evil, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.

1 Corinthians 5:7-8 ESV



Obeying The Gospel, 4/6/23 By Sam Bunyard

"How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the gospel of peace, who bring glad tidings of good things! But they have not all obeyed the gospel" (Ro. 10:15-16).

In this section of Romans, Paul explained the spiritual state of the nation of Israel. Many Jews were under the mistaken impression that their ancestry was enough to merit a special relationship with God. While many accepted the gospel, the nation as a whole rejected it. God said of them, "all day long I have stretched out My hands to a disobedient and contrary people" (Ro. 10:21).

What was this gospel that Israel failed to obey? Paul defined what he meant by 'gospel' when writing to the church at Corinth. "I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you... by which you are saved... that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures" (I Cor. 15:1-4). The message is simple – but how can it be obeyed?

While this definition of the gospel does not include an inherent command, it does include a pattern. Paul wrote that the Roman Christians "obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered" (Ro 6:17). In other words, the Christian was delivered to the pattern of the gospel! The gospel (death, burial and resurrection) is a mold to which we must conform – but again, how?

"As many of us as were baptized into Christ were baptized into His death. Therefore, we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead... even so, we also should walk in newness of life" (Ro. 6:3-6). Have you obeyed the gospel?

Love of God Poured Out in the Heart, 4/6/23 By Terry Wane Benton

You know the Holy Spirit has poured the love of God in your heart (Romans 5:5) when you have listened to what the Holy Spirit has revealed about it. When you read what the Spirit revealed to Paul (Ephesians 3:3-5), it spills over from Paul's heart into your heart, and when all Christians talk and sing about it (Ephesians 5:17-19; Colossians 3:16), it pours over from heart to heart, and when we realize that God loved us at our worst when a blind sinner, and I realize He loved even me, then the Spirit has poured God's love into my heart via the message of the cross.

When I realize love for me via the message of the cross and I realize the Holy Spirit revealed and confirmed that this message was to me, I come to realize how the Holy Spirit poured the love of God out in abundance that continues to flow into one heart and overflow out into another heart. Each receptive heart receives the overflow that continues from the first-century hearts and keeps overflowing into the 21st-century receptacle.

Has your heart received such love? It is for you too if you will but listen and claim it! Accept it on God's terms (Acts 2:37-41), and it will create a wonderful joy within you, a joy inexpressible and full of glory (I Peter 1:8). God loved me at my worst and certainly loves me now as I strive to honor Him. That fact has been poured out abundantly via the cross!