

Southeast Sower

August 2017

Volume 32, Number 8

The Southeast Church Of Christ Meets At:

- 35 Walnut Ct.
Mogadore OH 44260
- Phone: 330.628.7432

Services:

SUNDAY:

10AM Bible Study

10:50AM Worship

6PM Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:30PM Worship

God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Rom.
10:17

Believe Heb. 11:6

Repent Acts 2:38

Confess Matt.
10:32

Be Baptized Mark
16:16

Stay Faithful Rev.2: 10

Remember that one day you will look back and say that the struggles of life you face today "Came To Pass."

This Too Shall Pass

With each new struggle or challenge we may face, we find ourselves hearing this phrase over and over, until we make it a cliché. However, in this phrase is wisdom, comfort and hope. As we become caught up in our valleys in life we too often forget these challenges and difficult times are only temporary.

I have heard of, or have seen, many people who are burdened, suffering, hungering, thirsting and begging for relief. Each of us, to differing degrees, has also felt burdened or suffered or hungered and thirsted at some point in our lives. During those times it becomes difficult to find a positive in the situation. It is during those times that many turn **away from** God, not **closer to** God. In God's revelation to man, the Holy Bible, God offers us encouragement; we just need to look for it.

If you feel burdened, it is recorded for us in Matthew 11:28-30 that if we **draw nearer to** Christ then we will find rest for our souls, because He will comfort and guide us. However, we must learn from Him and follow His commandments (Matthew 6:25-34). If you are burdened with sin, Paul tells us in Romans 6:18 that we can be freed from sin. However, we must first present ourselves "as instruments of righteousness" (Rom.6: 13) and obey every command of God. If you are suffering, either with a physical illness or dealing with the loss of a loved one, take comfort in the Lord. There will be a day when, if you are found faithful, you will no longer suffer. Rev.21: 4 says, "And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there will be **no more** death, nor **sorrow**, no crying. There shall be **no more pain**, for the former things have passed away." If you hunger and thirst, Jesus tells us in John 4:6-15 that "whoever drinks of the water I shall give him will never thirst." And in Matthew 5:6, Jesus says, "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled."

There will be a day when the burdens, sufferings, temptations, hungering and thirsting we deal with in this life, will all pass. This earth is passing away (Revelation 21:1), our lives are drawing to a close, as are our chances of making our hearts right with our Lord. Do not turn away from God any longer; it will do you no good. Rather turn to God and follow Him for He will lead you down the path to everlasting life.

God offers each of us the opportunity to be saved. He has given us His law, commandments and promise. If you do not follow Him today, remember His invitation to follow Him is here today, but just like everything else on this earth, this too shall pass.

-Jordon Smith

Romans 1:16

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek."

"All that God has done has been for your benefit."

Pray To God

James 1:5 "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God..."

1ST Thess. 5:17

"Pray without ceasing."

"For Your Good"

"And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. And to keep the commandments of the Lord and His statutes which I command you today for your good?" (Deut. 10:12-13).

Living in a society that is becoming more and more self-centered, whose mentality is, "what is best for me?" It is important to remember there is One who has done everything with our best interest in mind.

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life." Then in 2ND Timothy 3:16-17 we are told, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." Paul wrote in Romans 1:17, "For in it (the gospel of Christ, v.16) the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith: as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

I bring these scriptures to your attention for one reason; to show you that all God has done has been for your benefit. He sent His Son to die for our sins; He has given us the Bible so that we may know how we ought to live because in it is His righteousness and the plan He has given us so that we may have everlasting life. God created everything, all the plants and animals so that we may be nourished. He created woman, not without cause, but because He saw man's need for companionship. Since our creation He has kept our best interest in mind, providing us with mercy, grace, love and forgiveness, but only if we follow His commandments. He asks nothing more of you than to simply live in accordance with His laws.

-Jordon Smith

Do You Use S.O.A.P...

When you study the scriptures? Using the "S.O.A.P" method when studying God's inspired word will help you "rightly divide the truth" (2ND Tim. 2:15). Reading, or skimming, over passages in the Bible, or "religious books" is not enough for us to understand God's word. So let's better understand what this method is.

The "S" in this acronym stands for scripture. To understand God's word we must read God's word. Although other books written by men may aide us in our study, remember God did not inspire them.

The "O" stands for observation. You must observe who the writer is, who the recipient is, the context of the passages and the setting of the writing.

The "A" stands for application. We are not to just be "hears of the word" but also doers of the word (James 1: 22). We must live as God commands us to.

The "P" stands for prayer. Pray to God for guidance as you study, and for understanding. Pray to the Lord that you might be honest enough to apply what you've learned to your life.