



The Weekly Jog

Volume 2, Issue 41 Jog: to nudge, to give a reminder, jog the memory 8th October 2008

“The New Plymouth Church Family Experiencing and Sharing the Transforming Power of Jesus.”

Salvation Gods Way

The book of Luke uses the word “lost” more than any other book in the New Testament. It is within the pages of this account of the gospel that we read, “For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost” (19:10). Chapter 15 focuses on a sheep that was a lost, a coin that was lost and a son who was lost. In God’s eyes, who is lost? When the Son of Man came, how would He identify the lost?

Over the years, some men have tried to advocate that mankind enters this world (as a baby) in total depravity, separated from God, having inherited at birth the sin of Adam. While this doctrine has been accepted and taught with slight variants over the centuries, the gist of the basic dogma is that babies are born sinful in the eyes of God. (This false doctrine gave rise to the false doctrine and practice of infant baptism.)

However, diligent and unprejudiced Bible study will lead one to realize that God never recognizes infants to be in a lost condition. Ezekiel 18:20 clearly states, “The soul who sins shall die. The son shall not bear the guilt of the father...the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon himself.” Being born of woman (Gal. 4:4) as the Son of Man, baby Jesus could not have escaped some level of depravity, if this doctrine is true. Instead, Jesus told mankind to “become as little children” (Matt. 18:3). No, infants are not lost! So, who is lost?

When we consider those who are of age and are accountable before God (cf. Rom. 14:12), Scriptures teach that the following persons are lost: those who do not know God (2 Thess. 1:8-9); those who reject the cross of Christ (1 Cor. 1:18); those who do not obey the gospel (2 Cor. 4:3-4); those who do not believe that Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24); those who do not repent of their sins (Luke 13:3); those who do not confess their faith (John 12:42-43); those who repudiate Bible baptism (Mark 16:16); those who are outside the Lord’s church (Acts 2:47, the saved are in the church); those who are lukewarm church members

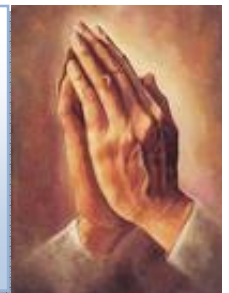
(Rev. 3:14-19, told to repent); those who have turned away from the truth (James 5:19-20). This list is not exhaustive but begins to outline who is lost in God’s eyes.

When the most important and fundamental subject of Scripture is studied—**salvation**—let’s lay aside all man-made doctrines, go to the Bible and find God’s way.

Allan’s Psalms Journal

Psalm.41.

- 1- This psalm is not only a prayer for deliverance but also that God will bless in times of adversity.
- 2- Vv1-4, Affirmation of Gods blessings and prayer for healing. Confidence in Gods blessings.



Prayer Requests.

Miss Shirley, Anne VanKuyk, Dorothy. (Eye Virus).Juricz, Gaye Kyle, Christi Jensens Grandfather Bill. (Cancer)The Kyle family. Luke and Vanessa as they plan their return to N.Z. Those who have fallen from the faith over the years, Jaracz job prospects. Those who are at the point of making a decision for Christ. Campaign in Palmerston and those who will be working in it.

Bit’s and pieces

- **A special thank you to Lila for the wonderful job on the flowers for the building and the chairs that were donated for the foyer and first principles class.**
- **Working list for around the building has been placed on the notice board. Volunteer yourself for a job and tick off when completed.**
- **Kevin Key from Carlisle Church of Christ, Pennsylvania U.S.A, will be our guest speaker Sunday 19th for both the sermon and the adult class.**

Belong to Christ in the same way one would belong to Paul

In the first chapter of First Corinthians, Paul addresses the first (of many) problems with which the church in Corinth was struggling. There were “contentions among” the members, saying, “‘I am of Paul,’ or ‘I am of Apollos,’ or ‘I am of Cephas,’ or ‘I am of Christ’” (1 Cor. 1:12). To help the brethren to see the gravity of their condition, Paul asked, “Is Christ divided?” (1:13).

Then, to show the absurdity of one claiming, “I am of Paul,” Paul asks the brethren to think what would be required in order for one to belong to Paul—(1) “Was Paul crucified for you?” To belong to Paul, that would be required. (2) “Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?” To belong to Paul, that would be required. Obviously, they did not belong to Paul.

By implication, this verse profoundly proclaims what would be required in order for one to belong to Christ—(1) Christ being crucified for you, and (2) being baptized in the name of Christ. Do you belong to Christ? Baptism is absolutely essential for one to say, “I am of Christ”!

– David Sproule

Eyes and Ears

By Teresa Hampton

It was uncanny. Even when we were not in her presence, Mom seemed to know our every action. When we were bad, unfortunately, she knew. When we were good, she knew about it before we could report the good news to her. We declared she had eyes in the back of her head and ears in every place! Obviously, she didn't. We look back on those childhood days and realize her ‘eyes and ears’ were a good thing.

Did you know there is someone still watching and listening? There is one who sees and hears everything, the good, the indifferent, and the bad. *“The Lord looks from heaven; he sees all the sons of men. From the place of His dwelling he looks on all the inhabitants of the earth”* (Psalm 33:13-14).

In the next chapter, the Psalmist revealed, *“The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry. The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth”* (Psalm 34:15-16). God knows our every action, and hears every word we utter. He sees those who practice evil, yes, even his children. It is also just as true God sees His righteous ones trying to do good, trying to obey him. He hears our prayers of thanksgiving and praise. And when we experience fear or suffering, He is open to hear our cries.

The eyes of the Lord are upon us. The assurance of His attentive ‘eyes and ears’ brings comfort and great peace during good times and not so good times. We have come to realize...it is a very good thing.

Today's Verse: *“For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him...”* 2 Chron. 16:9.

Allan.