

“What Must I Do To Be Saved?”

Acts 16:30

Learn The Gospel

John 6:45; Romans 10:17;

Believe On GOD In CHRIST

Hebrews 11:6; John 3:16

Confess CHRIST

Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10

Repent Of Sin

Acts 3:19; 17:30

Be Baptized Into CHRIST

Mark 16:16; Romans 6:3-6

Remain Steadfast

1st Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

“Let The Word... Dwell In You Richly”

Colossians 3:16

The current memory assignment is: *“The Son of Man will send out His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all things that offend, and those who practice lawlessness, and will cast them into the furnace of fire. There will be wailing and gnashing of teeth”* (Matthew 13:41-42).

Commit this passage to heart.

“The Assembling Of Ourselves Together”

Hebrews 10:24-25

Sunday

10:15 am.....Worship

Las Vegas Library

833 Las Vegas Boulevard North

Tuesday

7:00 pm.....Ladies' Study

Winstead residence

Wednesday

7:00 pm.....Study & Worship

Jerry & Beverly Dockens residence

**Visitors Welcome.
Members Expected.**

“Give Attention To Reading”

1st Timothy 4:13

Sunday...Ecclesiastes 3; 1st Kings

17:1-18:29; Acts 14:8-28

Monday...Proverbs 2; 1st Kings

18:30-20:12; Acts 15:1-21

Tuesday...Ecclesiastes 4; 1st Kings

20:13-21:24; Acts 15:22-16:5

Wednesday...Ecclesiastes 5; 1st

Kings 21:25-22:53; Acts 16:6-18

Thursday...Proverbs 3; 2nd Kings 1:1-

33; Acts 16:19-40

Friday...Ecclesiastes 6; 2nd Kings

3:4-4:28; Acts 17:1-15

Saturday...Ecclesiastes 7; 2nd Kings

4:29-5:27; Acts 17:16-34

“Sound Doctrine”

Titus 2:1

“TWICE AS MUCH A SON OF HELL”

Bryan Matthew Dockens

When we receive news of men and women converted elsewhere, our immediate inclination may be to *“rejoice with those who rejoice”* (Romans 12:15), but it would behoove us to pause and first consider what they've converted to. If the church belongs to Jesus, is sound in doctrine, and its members and teachers upright, then indeed, we glory in the salvation of once lost souls putting on Christ. However, if the church is not the Lord's, but a denomination of men, if its doctrine is a distorted variation on the gospel, or its members and teachers hypocrites, then sorrow is the fair reaction.

Jesus proclaimed, *“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves”* (Matthew 23:15). The Lord did not extol the Pharisees for winning proselytes, but chastised them for bringing others under greater condemnation than themselves. Inconsistency between truth and the practice of hypocrites brings about the spiritual ruin of their converts.

Christ also described the Pharisees as *“blind leaders of the blind”*, explaining *“if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch”* (Matthew 15:14). What joy can be had in foreseeing such an awful outcome? We fervently desire the salvation of the lost, thus their conversion to error raises alarm.

Concerning Israel, Paul penned, *“I bear them witness that* -- Continued on page 2 --

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PUTTING DOWN OUR WHOLE WEIGHT

Author Unknown, adapted

To celebrate an old man's seventy-fifth birthday, an aviation enthusiast offered to take him for a plane ride over the little West Virginia town where he spent all his life. The old man accepted the offer. Back on the ground, after circling over the town twenty minutes, his friend asked, "Were you scared, Uncle Dudley?" "No-o-o," was the hesitant answer. "But I never did put my full weight down."

We smile at the remark of the old man, but there is no doubt of the fact that there are many Christians who are exactly the same way. They have been offered and have received salvation; they enter Christ, but they never put their full weight down on Him. He's carrying them all the time, but they are tense and un-relaxed in their lives as Christians and do not know the joy that comes from complete rest in Him.

"...casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you" (1st Peter 5:7).

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they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God" (Romans 10:2-3). Likewise, we acknowledge the enthusiasm involved in persuading others, yet imperiling their souls is no cause for celebration.

The apostle referred to one *"confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law. You, therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself?"* (Romans 2:19-21). False teachers, blind leaders, we implore you to repent, for you will stand in judgment not only for your own sins, but of those you lead astray, as well. *"My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment"* (James 3:1). The Lord Himself warns of the severe consequences of such behavior, saying, *"whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea"* (Matthew 18:6).

New converts everywhere, be on your guard. *"Beloved, do not believe*

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WHERE IS THE KISS?

Greg Gwin

Someone has written to ask: "Where is the kiss?" Our correspondent lists five passages which refer to the greeting of a *"holy kiss"* (Romans 16:16, 1st Corinthians 16:20, 2nd Corinthians 13:12, 1st Thessalonians 5:26, 1st Peter 5:14). He goes on to say, "I remember once being told that in the place of the holy kiss we use a handshake. But is this not a violation of the exclusionary principle? If we condemn someone for using an instrument when the scriptures say sing, why do we use a handshake when the scriptures specify a kiss? Is this not an equally severe violation of Bible authority?"

Our querist has made a serious mistake. The Scriptures do not specify a kiss as the **only** form of greeting. We read of salutations given by spoken or written word, by a wave or gesture of the hand (Acts 21:40), **and** by a clasping of the hands. Paul mentions that James, Peter, and John *"gave to me and Barnabas the right hands of fellowship"* (Galatians 2:9).

The "exclusionary principle" does not apply here, simply because there is not one form of greeting which was taught to the exclusion of all others. In contrast to this, as we read the New Testament, we find that **only** vocal music (singing) was used by early Christians in their worship to God. Therefore, we properly apply the principles of Biblical authority when we insist that our worship today follow that ancient pattern.

The instructions given concerning the *"holy kiss"* were designed as an injunction against wrong motives and impure emotions. If people greet one another with a kiss (as is still commonly practiced in many places) it must be a **holy** kiss. Such greetings provide an obvious opportunity for lustful or improper thoughts, and the statements concerning the *"holy kiss"* were given as a regulation of an existing practice, rather than the establishment of a new and exclusive law concerning salutation methods.

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every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1st John 4:1). And, *"Test all things; hold fast what is good"* (1st Thessalonians 5:21).