

## *“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**

1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:58; Revelation 2:10

## *“The Assembling Of Ourselves Together”*

Hebrews 10:24-25

### **Sunday**

10:00 am.....Children’s Study

10:15 am.....Worship

Las Vegas Library

833 Las Vegas Boulevard North

### **Tuesday**

7:00 pm.....Ladies’ Study

Dailey residence

### **Wednesday**

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

Jerry & Beverly Dockens residence

**Visitors Welcome.  
Members Expected.**

## *“Let The Word... Dwell In You Richly”*

Colossians 3:16

The new memory assignment is: *“Then the righteous will shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”* (Matthew 13:43).

Commit this passage to heart. Read it, write it, hear it, and recite it aloud.

## *“Give Attention To Reading”*

1<sup>st</sup> Timothy 4:13

**Sunday**...Ecclesiastes 12; 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings

17:34-18:37; Acts 21:37-22:21

**Monday**...Psalm 88:1-9; 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings

19:1-20:15; Acts 22:22-23:10

**Tuesday**...Psalm 88:10-18; 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings

20:16-22:20; Acts 23:11-30

**Wednesday**...Proverbs 7; 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings

23:1-23:37; Acts 23:31-24:21

**Thursday**...Psalm 89:1-10; 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings

24:1-25:30; Acts 24:22-25:12

**Friday**...Psalm 89:11-29; Joel; Acts

25:13-26:1

**Saturday**...Psalm 89:30-37; Jonah;

Acts 26:2-26:23

# *“Sound Doctrine”*

Titus 2:1

## **WHY DID BLOOD AND WATER COME OUT OF JESUS' SIDE?**

Those who were flogged (Mark 15:15; John 19:1) would often go into hypovolemic shock, a term that refers to low blood volume. In other words, the person would have lost so much blood he would go into shock. The results of this would be that the heart would race to pump blood that was not there, the victim would collapse or faint due to low blood pressure, the kidneys would shut down to preserve body fluids, and the person would experience extreme thirst as the body desired to replenish lost fluids.

There is evidence from Scripture that Jesus experienced hypovolemic shock as a result of being flogged. As Jesus carried His own cross to Golgotha (John 19:17), He apparently collapsed, and a man named Simon was forced to either carry the cross or help Jesus carry the cross the rest of way (Matthew 27:32-33; Mark 15:21-22; Luke 23:26). This collapse may indicate Jesus had low blood pressure. Another indicator that Jesus suffered from hypovolemic shock was that He declared He was thirsty as He hung on the cross (John 19:28), indicating His body’s desire to replenish fluids.

Prior to death, the sustained rapid heartbeat caused by hypovolemic shock also causes fluid to gather in the sack around the heart and around the lungs. This gathering of fluid in the membrane around the heart is called pericardial effusion, and the fluid gathering around the lungs is called pleural effusion. This explains why, after Jesus died and a Roman soldier thrust a spear through Jesus’ side (probably -- Continued on page 3 --

www.vvoc.info

(702) 374-9799

P.O. Box 750152, Las Vegas, Nevada 89136-0152

Volume II Issue I

July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## “IF... AN UNBELIEVER... COMES IN”

Bryan Matthew Dockens

The assemblies of the church have, as their basic purpose, the encouragement of the saints, as it is written, “...let us consider **one another** in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of **ourselves together**...” (Hebrews 10:24-25). Not to be overlooked, however, is the responsibility the church has to its visitors. Paul the apostle was concerned about these when he asked, “**Therefore if the whole church comes together in one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those who are uninformed or unbelievers, will they not say that you are out of your mind? But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convinced by all, he is judged by all**” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:23-24). A church must consider its obligations to visitors.

**If an unbeliever comes in, greet him with a friendly welcome.** Some members of the church maintain the shamefully insensitive practice of entering the meeting place, greeting their fellow disciples, and **ignoring visitors**, some of whom they must literally squeeze past, on the way to their seats! Yet the Lord asked, “...**if you greet your brethren only, what do you do more than others?**” (Matthew 5:47). Is it any wonder that some curious souls choose never to return? Jesus also commanded, “...just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise” (Luke 6:31). Judging by the habit some have of disregarding visitors in the assemblies, they, too, would wish to have been snubbed during their initial encounter with the church.

**If an unbeliever comes in, share your seat.** Other members stand to be blamed when they behave as though they have reservations for a particular seat! James addressed this matter when he wrote, “...**if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, ‘You sit here in a good place,’ and say to the poor man, ‘You stand there,’ or, ‘Sit here at my footstool,’ have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?**” (James 2:2-4). Partiality is exercised when members of the church regard themselves as those deserving to “sit... in a good place” while visitors are

-- Continued on page 3 --

-- Continued from page 2 --

relegated to the “*footstool*.” **There is no reason to be offended that a visitor might occupy one’s usual seat**, but some will stare in disbelief that their designated space has been intruded upon without so much as greeting the newcomer. Could there be a more childish display of selfishness than this, that a Christian would territorialize seating in the assemblies of the church? May such a one learn that love “*does not behave rudely, does not seek its own*” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 13:5). To avoid the problem of preferential seating, members of the church may wish to choose a different seat for each assembly, rather than settling into one particular spot.

**If an unbeliever comes in, help him to understand.** When spiritual gifts were still available, Paul expressed concern that the exercise thereof might confuse the uninformed and unbelievers, asking, “...**if you bless with the spirit, how will he who occupies the place of the uninformed say ‘Amen’ at your giving of thanks, since he does not understand what you say?**” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:16). It is reasonable to assist visitors in understanding what is said and done in the assemblies of the church. And, although it is anticipated that the world will “*revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you*” for the sake of Christ (Matthew 5:11), there is no need to legitimize their accusations, giving them grounds to “*say that you are out of your mind*” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:23) by failing to provide a simple explanation. A brief comment or scripture reading prior to eating the Lord’s Supper or taking up the collection will suffice to inform visitors of the purposes in observing such things. Similarly, sermons should be delivered in such a way that those present might comprehend them. “...**Unless you utter by the tongue words easy to understand, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air**” (1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 14:9).

Christians should be delighted to see unbelievers taking an interest in the church and do their utmost to nurture that interest by greeting visitors warmly, seating them comfortably, and explaining the practices of the church simply.

-- Continued from page 1 --

His right side, piercing both the lungs and the heart), blood and water came from His side just as John recorded in his Gospel (John 19:34).