

WHAT CHILDREN NEED MOST

To know the Bible is from God *Jesus loves me this I know, for the Bible tells me so* teaches two important truths (Jesus' love, Bible is true). The first truth is built on the second truth. 2 Timothy 3:16 says that all Scripture is from God, and the Bible provides the proof. Do you know the proof? Have you taught your children? Some TV shows, phone apps, and local college textbooks teach your children otherwise. Your children need this knowledge more than any gift!

To know that you love God the most Your children are not the most important beings—God is, and they need to know that. When their desires conflict with God's, they need to know you will put God first. King David failed to do this (1 Kings 1:6). Teach them that disciples break bread on the first day of the week in memory of Jesus' death (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:24), not playing ball instead. Teach them to dress in a way that is consistent with godliness (1 Tim. 2:9-10). Teach that God always comes first because He deserves our love the most. (Contact us for a free CD on this subject or view charts at WWW.QVCOC.COM; see "Sermon Charts")

Simple opportunities to teach the lost and assist each other.

- Can you post various Scriptures on our signboard during October? Sign up!
- Prepare for our fall meeting with Wayne Goff-- **September 22-27**.
- Future gospel meetings: Brett Hogland (Spring 2014), Ron Halbrook (Fall 2014), Donnie Rader (Spring 2015), Jimmy Stevens (Fall 2015).

We assemble each Sunday at 10AM, 10:45AM, 5PM & Wednesday at 7PM

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The Exhorter

Acts 11:23 *Exhorted them all... cleave unto the Lord*

Church of Christ--Quail Valley

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WWW.QVCOC.COM

CHRIST: A CRUCIFIED SAVIOR (PART 2)

David Halbrook

(Last week's article introduced the crucified Savior as the Savior of Prophecy who was witnessed by men whose testimony God has preserved for us today. Now, let's be reminded that the crucifixion was not the final time the Savior was rejected.)

The Crucified Savior: Unpopular in the Past & Present

... but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness (1 Cor. 1:23).

Without question, many of the Jews missed the opportunity to be saved by the Savior when they refused His help. And why did they refuse His help? Because He did not fit their expectations. Paul said they wanted a sign (1 Cor. 1:22)—but not just *any sign*. They wanted to choose the timing and type of sign. They wanted a sign that involved the overthrow of Rome and the return of Israel's prominence (Jn. 6:15). Thus Jesus' miracles and teachings never met their expectations. Modern Jews are likewise determined to define the terms of their Messiah, and many have decided that the Christ of the Old Testament is not even a literal person. Their speculations are endless as they miss the Savior who shared their bloodline.

While most Americans are not overlooking Christ due to a desire for a civil leader or new government, many make the same mistake as the Jews of defining the Savior in their own way. Some define Jesus in terms of race, talking about a "White Jesus," "Black Jesus," or "Hispanic Jesus," using Him to promote their own cause. Some define Jesus as an always-friendly leader who rarely criticized, debated, or condemned false ideas, teachings, and teachers. The idea that Jesus was crucified for spiritual redemption and not mainly for civil or social redemption misses the mark many have set. Most people who claim to follow Jesus today would wash their hands of the spiritual conflict and controversy in which Jesus was engaged that led to His crucifixion. Had these people lived in Jesus' time, they might not have fled from the

cross as Christ was crucified, but they would have avoided the spiritual controversies that preceded and produced it, dismissing such conflict as “unnecessary theological disputes” (read Matthew 21-23 of conflicts over the source of authority, the resurrection, the meaning of “Son,” religious titles, etc.). They would have been equally uncomfortable as the apostles were with Jesus’ plainness in Matthew 15. As it did in many of the Jews, their love for Jesus would have failed, either before or after the cross, for His hard sayings which did not fit their expectations of how their King would speak in matters of religion (Jn. 6:66; 4:22 unacceptable worship; Lk. 9:23 deny self; 16:18 limits on marriage and divorce).

In 1 Corinthians 1, Paul also tells us that the Gentiles viewed the message of the crucified Savior as *foolishness*. One aspect of what they considered foolish is recorded in Acts 17:32, where many mocked when they heard Paul testify of Jesus’ resurrection. In their highly-educated minds, such supernatural events were impossible. To others, the strict lifestyle required of Christians was laughable (1 Pet. 4:3-4).

These ways of the Gentiles live on today. The uninformed, modern skeptic both denies and despises the supernatural teachings of the Bible. Thomas Jefferson famously denied Jesus’ miracles, including His resurrection, clipping the record of them from his personal copy of the Bible, preferring only the moral teachings of Jesus. Spiteful claims like that of physicist Stephen Hawking, that at death the human brain is merely like a computer that goes offline when unplugged, have no answer to the question, “Who built the supercomputer called the human brain?” These people with brilliant minds, daily explore and perform experiments in the heavens and earth based on the scientific belief that something cannot come from nothing and that what is seen proves something unseen exists or has happened. Lacking Jesus’ humility, they profess to be wise while denying that this house, called earth, has a builder though they would otherwise admit that every house has a builder (Rom. 1:22; Heb. 3:4). Also, the Gentile mind that rejects submission, self-control, and self-denial lives today among those who contend “I don’t get very drunk on a beer or two,” “You are not going to your Senior Prom because dancing is *lewd?*,” or “No one can tell me how to dress. Its *my body*.” Many things have changed since the first century--many things have not.

Conclusion

The wisdom of man will always look down upon the message that accompanies the record of the crucified Savior for man’s wisdom lacks the qualities that brought our Savior to the earth and cross: humility, submission, and love. The broad way has always been filled with unreasonable skeptics and rebellious servants of self. They will not be moved. But also remember that some in the broad way are deceived or uninformed and are searching for the narrow way. Will your words and life point them to the narrow way of the crucified Savior? There is no other way.

“IN CHRIST”

Kyle Pope

The Bible teaches some wonderful blessings available to those who are “in Christ.” Let us consider these blessings:

- ✓ Redemption (Romans 3:24).
- ✓ Life from the Dead (Romans 6:11).
- ✓ Eternal Life (Romans 6:23).
- ✓ No Condemnation (Romans 8:1).
- ✓ Freedom from the Law of Sin and Death (Rom. 8:2).
- ✓ The Love of God (Romans 8:39).
- ✓ One Body (Romans 12:5).
- ✓ Sanctification (I Corinthians 1:2).
- ✓ Hope (1 Corinthians 15:19).
- ✓ Triumph (2 Cor. 2:14).
- ✓ Removal of the Veil (2 Cor. 3:14).
- ✓ A new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- ✓ Reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:19).
- ✓ Simplicity (2 Corinthians 11:3).
- ✓ Liberty (Galatians 2:4).
- ✓ Justification (Galatians 2:16).
- ✓ Sonship (Galatians 3:26).
- ✓ Unity (Galatians 3:28).
- ✓ Every spiritual blessing (Eph. 1:3).
- ✓ Kindness (Ephesians 2:7).
- ✓ Nearness to God (Ephesians 2:13).
- ✓ Partakers of the promise (Eph. 3:6).
- ✓ Consolation (Philippians 2:1).
- ✓ Righteousness through faith (Phil. 3:9).
- ✓ Perfection (Colossians 1:28).
- ✓ Faith & Love (1 Timothy 1:14).
- ✓ The promise of life (2 Timothy 1:1).
- ✓ Grace (2 Timothy 1:9, 2:1).
- ✓ Salvation (2 Timothy 2:10).
- ✓ Salvation through faith (2 Tim. 3:15).

The only question that remains is how does one get into Christ? Romans 6:3 teaches that one is “baptized into Christ.” Galatians 3:27 teaches that in baptism one may put on Christ. Are you in Christ?

[Faithful Sayings Mar 17, 2013 <http://olsenpark.com/Bulletins13/FS15.11.pdf>]