

Words of

# Truth & Reason

Acts 26:25

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CHURCH OF CHRIST—QUAIL VALLEY

## Facts About Sin

*When we sin, a black spot does not appear on our forehead to show we have sinned. We must learn about sin to identify it.*

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge* (Prov. 1:7). Without this fear, there are many facts we will never know. Today, consider some facts about sin you will never know without including God in your knowledge.

**Sin is real** Some people do not take sin seriously because they do not believe it is real. God uses death to help humans know that sin is real (Genesis 2:17; Romans 6:23).

**What sin is** Do you know what sin is? It is not inherited guilt or nature. God says that sin is lawlessness and is committed, not inherited (1 John 3:4; Ezekiel 18:20).

**Sin puts us in darkness** Sin is an attack against God and puts us in the darkness of Satan (Colossians 1:13; Ephesians 2:1-2). If you are not in God's army, you are on Satan's side.

**We will answer for our sins** We may avoid and ignore the subject of sin today, but Jesus said that we will *give account of it in the day of judgment* (Matthew 12:36).

Whether your sin is gambling, homosexuality, lying, etc., you need to know the facts of sin. There is more you need to know, so contact us for a free CD of two lessons on this subject or contact us with your comments or questions.

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## Facts About Forgiveness

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge* (Prov. 1:7). Without this fear, you will lack knowledge of many truths. Learn the facts about God's forgiveness. Read these verses in your Bible---

*Colossians 1:14* Without **Jesus' blood**, you cannot be forgiven. Humble yourself--admit you need God's help.

*Hebrews 11:6*-- Without **faith** it is impossible to please God or receive forgiveness. Why do you not believe?

*Luke 24:47*-- Without **repentance**, God will not forgive you. Will you change your life and follow Jesus?

*Romans 10:9*-- Without **confessing Christ**, you will not be saved (forgiven)—salvation is not by faith alone.

*1 Peter 3:21*-- Without **Jesus' baptism**, you are not saved (forgiven). Baptism, when combined with faith, is the time that Jesus' blood removes, and God forgives, sin. Do you believe this? If not, write us and tell us the Bible verse that shows someone being saved first and baptized later.

Did you read these verses? If so, you know the facts about God's forgiveness of all sin (theft, adultery, filthy words, etc.). If you are ready to receive His forgiveness, let us know how we can help.

# Baptized FOR the Remission of Sin

## *What is the purpose of baptism?*

Since you first sinned, you have needed forgiveness from God. God's plan for your forgiveness is revealed in the gospel (Rom. 1:16). Is baptism a part of that plan?

Peter once said, *Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins...* (Acts 2:38) Read that again and answer this question: Why did Peter tell them to repent and be baptized?

Religious groups who teach that God gives the remission of sins before baptism often claim that "for the remission of sins" means "because of the remission of sins." You can test this idea by finding another passage that has the same words. Jesus taught the apostles that His blood/death was "for the remission of sins" (Matt. 26:28). Jesus gave His blood because of sin but not because of the remission of sin! His blood removes our sin when by faith in the working of God, we are baptized (Col. 2:12; Heb. 10:22). Before we receive the benefits of His death, we must be "baptized into His death" (Rom. 6:3). Have you learned about this baptism?

*buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. (Col. 2:12)*

You are invited to:  
Sunday AM Bible classes:  
**10:00AM**  
Sunday AM Worship:  
**10:45AM**  
Sunday PM Worship:  
**5:00 PM**  
Wednesday Bible Classes  
& Worship: **7:00 PM**

## Looking Back At Easter

When you look back at Easter, how far back can you look-- a few days ago or back to your childhood? Have you ever looked back at Easter of the distant past? If you look back to the seventh century (500+ years after Jesus' resurrection) you would find that the observance of Easter was just becoming uniform. Now ask yourself why the observance of Easter wasn't already uniform.

If you look back to 325 A.D. (300 years after Jesus was raised), a human council decided when Easter would be observed. Ask yourself why the date was not already set, and why neither Jesus nor the apostles set the date for Easter.

Finally, look back to the time when the apostles taught what Christ commanded (Mt. 28:20). Here, there is no "Easter." Christians remember Jesus' resurrection when they worship Him on the day He arose--the first day of the week (Matt. 28:1; Mk. 16:2; Acts 20:7; Rev. 1:10).

Today, Scripture thoroughly equips us to honor Jesus' resurrection, without human tradition, by worshipping God in spirit and truth each Lord's Day (2 Tim. 3:17; Col. 3:22). We assemble each week for this purpose and invite you to come.

### Questions from this issue's articles:

1. Before I will truly understand sin, I must first have the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord.
2. With the fear of the Lord, what do I learn about forgiveness?
3. The blood of Jesus and baptism are "for" the same purpose---what is it?
4. Who set the date for Easter? Was Jesus or the apostles aware of or involved in that decision?

\* Mail your answers to the church of Christ in Quail Valley 4104 E. Harrison St, Batesville, AR 72501 OR, e-mail your answers to **TruthAndReason@suddenlink.net**

\* If you have a comment or question, call (793-6700; 569-4491) or visit our website **WWW.QVCOC.COM**

\* All past and current issues of *Truth and Reason* are available at our website—tell a friend!