

Upcoming Events...

1 Corinthians Class: Every Tuesday at 12:00 p.m.

Business Meeting, Today at 4:30 p.m.

Ladies Bible Class: October 15

Barnabas Group Meeting: October 31

Some things to think about...

“God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference” - The Serenity Prayer

“Speak when you are angry, and you will make the best speech you'll ever regret.” - Lawrence J. Peter

“The quieter you become, the more you can hear.” - unknown

“The best way to win an argument is to begin by being right.”
- Jill Ruckelshaus

October Birthdays

3 Betty Heitmeyer

28 Allan Brown

October Anniversaries

21 Garroll & Olivia White

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How to Benefit Once a Gospel Meeting is Over

by Randy Cantrell

(Modified to personalize and reflect Indio)

Sowing seed used to be much more personal than it is today. Farmers now use machinery. Rural America was once characterized by farm workers sowing seeds by hand, one person casting the seeds onto prepared ground. True to the parable of the sower, not all seed lands on good ground, or soil capable of taking the seed. Men’s hearts are the ground spoken of in the parable.

A gospel meeting is a sowing of the seed. Our fall meeting with Erik Borlaug is now history. Last week Erik sowed the seed of the gospel to all who came to worship. Like all sowers, Erik was unaware of the full condition of all the soils that heard the Gospel. Some soil was likely ready, but other soil may not have been. Erik’s job was to preach the Word – to sow. His part in this task is now completed – so far as our fall meeting is concerned. But the work is far from over.

It now rests with each member and each person who heard the Gospel to make a decision. What will be our response? It may be that our heart – our soil – wasn’t fully prepared to accept the sowing of the Truth. If so, then an opportunity for salvation may have been wasted. All people must prepare their hearts to accept the Truth. All people must continue to guard their hearts so they can continue to be touched by the Gospel.

But, if we failed to prepare our heart before our meeting – it’s not too late. The seed of the gospel is long-lasting, but only if we will continue to consider the things we were taught by Erik. Go back and listen to the sermons again. They will soon be posted on our website under “Bible Study and Evangelism”, then click on “Sermons”; then select the lesson.

Regular Meeting Times

Sunday.....9:45 a.m.

Sunday.....10:45 a.m.

Sunday.....6:00 p.m.

Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.

Preacher:

Mike McKnight

Church of Christ

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Prepare our heart. Go to work on our soil, making it ready to accept the Truth. The gospel only gives us two basic options: acceptance or rejection! Salvation accompanies acceptance. Damnation accompanies rejection. A seemingly easy choice, but unfortunately, during our meeting some were perhaps determined to remain in sin.

Are we determined to reach heaven? Are there things in our life that distract us from being the Christian we know we should be? Name something in our life that is more important than serving God. (If we can name a single thing, then we're not living as we should.) What will we do – today? What choices will we make about how we live and where we decide to spend eternity?

The gospel of Christ was sown during our meeting. If we attended one or more of the services, then we were the recipient of that sowing. Will the seed take hold in our heart? Will we make positive changes in our life to serve God faithfully?

Listen to Erik's sermons again. Listen to the Truth of what he taught. Listen to the personal appeals he made for every listener to accept the Gospel and be more devoted to the Lord. It was personal. It was directed to each of us and all who were present. Now, it's necessary for us to do our part and let it take hold and germinate in our heart.

The Prophetic Word

By Jon Mitchell

“And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.” 2 Peter 1:19-21

“The prophetic word.” I like how Peter put that. When we think of terms like “prophecy” or “prophet,” we usually think of someone miraculously foretelling the future. And while we do read of prophets foretelling of things to come (cf. Isaiah 53), we also read of prophets referring to the past (as Moses did when he wrote about the creation events of Genesis) and some referring to what they observed while they were presently living (as Amos did – Amos 1:1ff). Therefore, a “prophet” who gives “prophecies” is certainly more than someone foretelling the future...and rightfully so, because the term prophecy literally refers to a message spoken on behalf of God and a prophet is literally one who speaks on behalf of God. Thus, it is proper that Peter talks about *“the prophetic word”* and *“prophecies of Scripture.”*

When we read the Bible, we are reading a message from God. When we hear a sermon that has its basis completely on the entirety of Scripture concerning a topic, we are hearing a message from God (1 Thessalonians 2:13). The writers of Scripture were inspired or carried along by the Holy Spirit of God. In other words, God told them what to write. No wonder we call the Bible the Word of God!

Even verse 20, a verse commonly used by Catholics to tell people, “You can't figure the Bible out on your own! You need the Catholic Church to tell you what it means!”, is in reality promoting this idea that Scripture originated from God. (By the way, the Bereans sure wouldn't have fit in with that Catholic mindset – Acts 17:11). The word “interpretation” literally means “a loosening, unloosing” and only metaphorically refers to “interpretation.”

Therefore, what Peter is literally saying is that no prophecy of Scripture was ever loosened or unloosed by some man (v. 20), because no prophecy was ever produced by man's will; rather, the writers of Scripture spoke from God due to being inspired by his Spirit (v. 21).

Basically, when you read Scripture you are not reading a message that came from man. You are reading a message from God. May we all recognize that and respond with the proper reverence (Hebrews 12:28) and obedience (John 14:15).