

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

Bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ

THE CHURCH: FULFILLMENT OF GOD'S PLAN

In **Luke 19:10**, Jesus says, “the Son of man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.” What was lost? Separation from God because of sin. If we turn to **Isaiah 59:2**, the Bible poses the problem of mankind. Isaiah said, “your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.”

If we look back at **Ephesians 1:9**, we see that God had a distinct “purpose, according to his good pleasure”. This purpose was not revealed until the plan was complete. It is referred to as a “mystery” because it remained unknown until God revealed it. This “mystery was hid from generations” according to **Colossians 1:26**, and **Ephesians 3:9**. The prophecies concerning the plan were common knowledge among the prophets. Look at **Matthew 13:17** where Jesus tells his disciples, “many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them, and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.” They desired to see and hear the fulfillment of things they prophesied.

They desired to see the fulfillment of the prophecies passed down for 42 generations (**Matthew 1:17**) from Abraham until the birth of Christ. Spiritual guidance was distributed from God through the prophets according to **Hebrews 1:1** then delivered by the Lord himself at his coming as indicated in **verse 2**. If we remember **John 1:1** the Bible says “in the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. **Verse 14** makes clear that “the Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.”

The prophets and the Old Testament were intended to get spiritual things in place. God would make final His plan that included the death, burial and resurrection of the Savior. Therefore, it is called a mystery “hid in God from the beginning of the world” **Ephesians 3:9** where the Apostle Paul describes his charge to “make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ; to the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the Church, the manifold wisdom of God, according to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Doug Jones



The Rock Hill church of Christ

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Worship Times:

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

Elders:

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley

Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Doug Jones
- Burley Stinnett
- Fernando Zapata

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

Family News

"For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:18,19

If you are a visitor to our church, welcome! If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

N . E . W . S .

THE STORM OF APRIL 4 brought water to flow under our doors and through the weep holes in the brick walls. But a professional cleaner has fixed much of it and a new carpet is in the offing — none of which was covered by insurance. If you'd like to help with the substantial cost of



Building Repair Fund

putting things back together again, please find envelopes next to the bulletins in the back of the auditorium OR give online (there's a building fund option you can give to).

SPEAKING OF FIXING THINGS UP, thanks go out to Charles H. and Burley S. for a ton of work in getting things back in shape.

LEADERSHIP MEETING NOTES...

- We have a \$12,000 deposit from the sale of a building in India that we helped finance a few years ago.
- Our baptistry will be getting a new water heater soon.
- We are trying to make plans for a mission work in New England — perhaps a Gospel Mtg. in the fall.
- Discussed the new Communion protocol with some good suggestions



- We continue to get positive feedback, sometimes from visitors to our assembly, regarding our online broadcasts.

APRIL'S MEN'S

BREAKFAST has been postponed until next month, due to the many other activities going on in the month of April.

NEXT SUNDAY is our monthly Birthday Cake Fellowship after evening services. Come enjoy the fellowship and goodies.

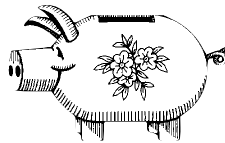
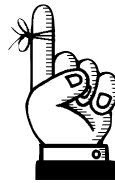
OUR LADIES' "SPRING

FLING" is coming up on April 23rd 11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are invited.

The theme will be "What's in Your Purse?" Jessica Stelzer will be the speaker and the cost is \$20 per person (you can give your money to either Nancy or Dianne)! All the ladies are invited. It's always a lot of fun for our sisters; put it on your calendar and plan to come.

GIVING...We

can now give online (rhcoc.org), by mail (PO Box 2301, Frisco TX 75034), or of course in person at worship assembly.



PRAYER LISTS...

Giving Thanks...

- Successful surgery for Brad Kissinger

NEW REQUESTS...

Prayers needed

- John and Carmen's 3-year-old granddaughter, Kate, suffered a severe cut from a fall. She had to have internal and external stitches.
- Frieda Rose is very sore from a fall this past week.

- Trudy R. was hospitalized to receive antibiotic treatment for the infection in her jaw. Should be released in a few days.
- Tom Roberts will need a quadruple bypass sometime soon. Nancy is still suffering with shingles

Remember these often:

- Margret T. as she spends a few weeks with her son David in Stephenville TX.
- Please pray for Johnny Vaz's mother, Victoria Vaz.
- Norma Bautista cataract surgeries.
- Ora Holt
- Our continued search for a part-time youth minister
- Doug Jones' brother, Don Jones, is suffering with cancer
- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our elders, deacons, and preacher

Long Term Requests

- Lori Cloud's father: cognitive confusion
- The Zapata's teenage friend Isabella with a heart lesion
- Carol P.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Bonnie B.
- Dianna C.
- Ken C.
- Mary H. and daughter Sharon
- Cheryl F.
- Ann S.

READ-THE-BIBLE-THROUGH-IN-A-YEAR SCHEDULE

- Apr 17, 1 Kgs 2-3
- Apr 18, 1 Kgs 4-6
- Apr 19, 1 Kgs 7
- Apr 20, 1 Kgs 8
- Apr 21, 1 Kgs 9-10
- Apr 22, 1 Kgs 11-12
- Apr 23, 1 Kgs 13-14

A Word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

Stained Glass Words — "Resurrection"

Resurrection is often thought of as simply the raising of the dead. But it biblically speaking much more.

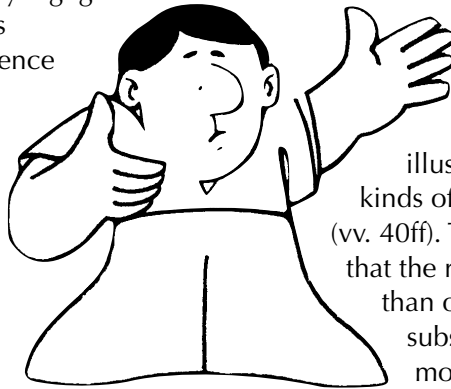
There were several cases of the dead being raised in the Bible. The Shunemite woman's son (2 Kings 4:18ff), the son of the widow of Nain (Luke 7:11ff), Lazarus (John 11:11ff), the child of a synagogue leader (Matthew 9:24), Eutychus (Acts 20:9ff), and less specific ones in reference to Jesus' Galilean ministry (Matthew 11:5). While they are sometimes referred to as resurrections, they are really resuscitations — bringing someone who has died back from the dead, although they will die again in time.

But resurrection in the specific biblical sense is something that has happened physically only once — so far. Jesus was put to death on the day of preparation for the Passover celebration. He was "certified" as being dead by the centurion who kept watch over the gruesome executions known as crucifixion. But even so, when the time came to cut short the death of those being crucified by breaking the legs, Jesus was simply thrust through with a spear to make absolutely, 100% sure that He was dead. Those that took Him from the cross were likewise certain of His death as they lovingly prepared His body for burial and put Him in a tomb.

However, Jesus didn't stay dead. He was raised by the power of God's Holy Spirit (Romans 8:11). And this was no mere resuscitation, because Jesus was raised — never to die again (Romans 6:9) — with a brand new kind of body. Indeed, He was given a glorious resurrection body, something significantly different from the bodies that we inhabit in this physical world.

And Jesus received the first such glorious resurrection body, a body which the saved will also receive — 1 Corinthians 15:49 "Just as we have borne the image of the earthy, we will also bear the image of

the heavenly." And this is why He is called the "firstborn of the dead" (Colossians 1:18) and the "last Adam" (1 Corinthians 15:45). His resurrection is a guarantee that we also will be raised, that death is not "the end" of existence — for both the saved and the unrepentant.



When Paul was asked what these resurrection bodies were like, he offered three illustrations and some other teachings about them in 1 Corinthians 15. He offers the illustrations of a seed (vv. 37ff), various kinds of flesh (v. 39), and the heavenly bodies (vv. 40ff). The sum of these illustrations was to say that the resurrection body will be far greater than our current physical bodies, different in substance than our physical bodies, and far more glorious than our physical bodies.

But in addition to this Paul also taught that these new kind of bodies will be immortal, imperishable (vv. 50ff), and suitable for a new kind of heaven and earth to which the saved will be going to enjoy eternal life in the presence of our eternal God.

And this is why conversion and baptism are connected to resurrection — they are a kind spiritual resurrection.

John 5:25 "Truly, truly, I say to you, an hour is coming and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live."

Romans 6:4 "Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life."

It is a dying to the old self to live a very different kind of life than before, following Jesus.

Have you been resurrected yet in baptism? It is a key to the physical resurrection on the last day, when there will be a resurrection unto life and a resurrection of judgment (John 5:29).

Park Linscomb

