

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

*Bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ*

## A PLAN FOR RECONCILIATION



## 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

As early as Genesis 3 in the Bible historical record, a reference is made to God's Plan for Salvation. In **Genesis 3:15**, God makes a simple reference to the continual conflict. God said, "*I will put enmity between thee and the woman (to whom Satan first offered the fruit), and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.*"

Three things stand out;

1. Enmity (hostility to the point of hatred) between Satan and man.
2. The enmity would extend to generations to come; no time limit given.
3. The harm inflicted by Satan to the descendant of the Woman would be superficial (*bruise the heel*): the harm inflicted to Satan would be catastrophic or terminal (*bruise the head*)

The implication here is a reference to Jesus, the Son of God; born of woman as the Savior of the world. Jesus would make His stand against evil, but he was destined to die upon the cross. Although this would seem (at first glance) as defeat, we know NOW that Jesus was raised on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, and has taken his place in 'Glory' at the right hand of God. Satan, on the other hand, will suffer a tremendous loss and a permanent place in torment. Until that time, Satan is at liberty to live and work on the Earth until Jesus comes again. The Plan reached a milestone with the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus, but several hundred years transpired before this significant spiritual event. It is important to understand that everything from 'The Fall' until the Resurrection of Christ was planned and controlled by God. The record of these events is greatly published in the Old Testament. It is a wonderful, historical record of what was written to bless men by the *Gospel of Jesus Christ*.

Insight can be gained of God's purpose and plan within the writings of the Old Testament, but was never intended to last beyond the glory of Christ. For example, read **Galatians 3:21-25** where the Bible says, "*If there had been a law given which could have given life, verily righteousness should have been by the law... the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ*". In order to please God, it is imperative that we clearly identify His **requirement of us today**...and confirm it with Scripture. **Hebrews 1:1-2** reminds us that, "*God...spake in times past by the prophets...hath in these last days spoken to us by His Son.*"

Doug Jones

# 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 .

**AND THE LORD ADDED** — Logan Campbell was baptized into Christ last Sunday! Praise God!! Contact info coming soon.

**ELDERS AND DEACONS SEARCH** — Today we formally begin a search for additional elders and deacons for the church here.

- Park will provide a lesson today on the qualifications of such leaders.
- In this bulletin there is an insert for nominations for these leaders.
- Please talk to men you would like to see appointed an elder or deacon, then put your name at the bottom
- Hand in your nominations Charles or Jim.
- There will be a two week window of time to submit your list of names.
- On Nov. 6 the nomination time will end
- The elders will start, Nov 6, interviewing the candidates for potential appointment on Nov. 13.

In the meantime, please be praying for this process. Leadership of the Lord's church is important.

**THIS IS BIRTHDAY CAKE SUNDAY** — After worship this evening, we'll be fellowshiping with some light snacks and cake and

ice cream in honor of those with birthdays in October.

**OUR NEW OUTREACH PROGRAM**  
We are collecting food and household items to contribute to various food banks in the area. There is a list of suggested items and collection tubs in the back of the church building by the water fountains. If you would rather contribute money, a money jar is on the table for your convenience. Please keep this outreach effort in your prayers.

**LADIES' ACTIVITIES** The fall ladies' Bible class continues each Tuesday at 10AM.



**THE MEN'S MONTHLY SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST** will be Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to join us at 9AM for devotional, fellowship, and food.

**GIVING OPTIONS** — please be aware that there are now several ways to contribute. The collection plate will continue to be passed, but we also have online options at our website, rhcoc.org.

**ANSWERED PRAYER** — John Bautista's surgery went well, and he is on the road to recovery.

## PRAYER LISTS...

### Prayers needed

- Hugh R.'s sister Andrea Kerley, scheduled for surgery.
- Stahr's family at the loss of her aunt
- Sue Carter: please pray for more health improvement
- Chuck T. cancer treatments
- Betty Shaw, Doug's sister. Very ill, now in hospice
- Dianna C.'s cancer markers have gone up
- Recovery from eye surgery for Ora Holt
- Isela H.'s Jeff Barnett with stage 4 brain cancer.

### Remember these often:

- Ora Holt, kidney
- Search for a PT youth minister
- brethren in India
- the churches in New England
- our congregational leaders

### Long Term Requests

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

### READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Oct 31, Luke 21-22
- Nov 1, Luke 23-24
- Nov 2, John 1-3
- Nov 3, John 4-5
- Nov 4, John 6-7
- Nov 5, John 8-9
- Nov 6, John 10-11

# A Word of Encouragement

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*"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.*

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## How Safe Is Your God?

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**H**ow safe is God? I'm not talking about the security of the saved; That's super secure. I'm asking, "How safe it is to follow the Lord?" It is an important question because sometimes the God we really *want* is all about safety, security, no boat, rocking, even keeled, harmless, and benign. And sometimes we're disappointed when things aren't that way. Times when we're thrown a curveball, and God doesn't stop it. When God doesn't give us all the resources, we think we need to do what seems to be as well. When God commands us to do things that aren't exactly safe, in fact, they're downright risky. When he calls on us to challenge the worldliness around us or the status quo of lukewarm discipleship. My point is that sometimes God is not safe, He is always good; but sometimes He's not safe at all. And yet we want safe.

In Judges 6 the Midianites had invaded and raided Israel like locusts. Israel was without a central government or army, and consequently, it was easy prey. Israel cried out to God, and God, sent a prophet to point out the problem, sin. Israel repented, and then God sent an angel of the Lord to Gideon, who was standing in a wine press, fearfully threshing wheat in secret. The angel of the Lord said, "Hail, mighty warrior!" I don't think timid Gideon could have been more surprised! But would you be surprised to hear, that the Lord still comes to to us — even the timid — looking for might warriors?

Gideon was looking for a low profile. He was threshing grain — in a wine press. The place to thresh grain was on hilltops, so the chaff would blow away in the wind; but wine presses were almost always at the bottom of the hill. But Gideon didn't want to be on top of the hill; it would be too easy for the Midianites to see him up there; he wanted to keep a low profile and not draw any attention to himself. Sound familiar? Granted, it's sometimes easier to "come out" as a homosexual than a Christian these days, but the Lord is still looking for the mighty warrior in us. Matthew 5:14-16 tells us that we are the light of the world, not meant for hiding under bushel baskets. Discipleship isn't about cowering in the wine presses, but threshing wheat on the hilltops, through servanthood, giving glory to God, refusing to be ashamed of the Lord, and sharing the gospel with others without apology or embarrassment.

Gideon also wanted peaceful coexistence with idols and their worshipers. There was an idol right within the town that belonged to his father and was worshipped by most of the townspeople, but God commanded that Gideon tear it down and build an altar to the true God. Don't you know that stirred things up? But aren't we also tempted to prefer the "god" of peaceful coexistence? Of moral tolerance? It has been rightly said that all it takes for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing. Let us, therefore, speak up for Jesus, speak up for truth, speak up for what's right. If evil grows stronger, never let it be said that it was because we failed to speak up.

Gideon wanted a real army. The Spirit of the Lord moved Gideon to put out a call to arms against the Midianites in the valley of Jezreel. The Midianites had about 120,000 soldiers, but the Israelites could only muster an army of 32,000. Nevertheless, the Lord said that was too many—tell the fearful to go home, and so 22,000 left, leaving only 10,000. But that was still too many. Let the people drink, the Lord said, and afterward 9700 went home leaving only 300. Can't you hear Gideon saying, "Excuse me? 330 versus 120,000? Can I have a real army now?" Would we prefer a "real army", too? The proper resources? Sometimes our faith is tested to prefer the "god" of tangible resources and assets. And to be honest, God *has* provided us with a lot of resources in this congregation, but sometimes those blessings can be addicting, because they're safe and secure. But following God means taking on higher risks, projects with few or no tangible assets or resources, but Paul tells us why God may lead us that way sometimes. "For the sake of Christ, then I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities; for when I am weak that I am strong" 2 Corinthians 12:10.

We probably do not think of ourselves as mighty warriors, but that is exactly what the Lord calls us to be. So let us march forward in faith, seeking the high rather than the low profile. Seeking no peaceful coexistence with the idols and the immorality of this world. And being content with the resources that God grants us.

Park Linscomb

# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN OCTOBER

30	31	1	2	3	4	5
Jeremy C. 9:00 AM Bible classes 10:00 AM Worship 6:00 PM Worship 7:00 PM Birthday Cake Sunday		Ladies' Bible class at 10am	7:00 PM Wed. Bible class		TWRF Luncheon	

## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

October 30	AM	PM
<i>Greeter</i>	Fernando Z	Fernando Z
<i>Announcements</i>	Jim B	Jim B
<i>Songleading</i>	Doug J	Scott W
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Reiven H	Yaw F
<i>Communion</i>	John S	Reiven H
<i>and Servers</i>		
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	David J	Burley S

## November 2

*Songleading*

Nov 6	AM	PM
<i>Greeter</i>	Reiven H	Reiven H
<i>Announcements</i>	John S	John S
<i>Songleading</i>	Doug J	Scott W
<i>Opening Prayer</i>	Fernando Z	
<i>Communion</i>	Yaw F	Fernando Z
<i>and Servers</i>		
<i>Closing Prayer</i>	Charles H	Doug J

## November 9

*Songleading*

## Sermon Notes...

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## Shortcuts to good info...

To our website...



A quick teaching on salvation...

