

# THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



## 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
- Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace

### Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

### Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here  
and We Care"*

## SPIRITUAL TIDBITS INTO THE PIT

Today, we are going to step back to the children of Israel as they struggled against God while at Kadesh Paran. God had appointed delegates from each of the twelve tribes, *"every one a ruler among them...all those men were heads of the children of Israel"* **Numbers 13:2-3**. Apparently, each person that God had specifically named was capable of encouraging their respective tribes to rejoice in the blessings of God in this new land flowing with milk and honey. However, the opposite occurred, and they revolted against God, Moses and Aaron.

The result was 1) a plague, killing ten of the spies and 2) the 40 year wandering in the wilderness for the remainder of the people. The first denial of entry was the ten unfaithful spies; the next denial was toward *"all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have murmured against me"* **Numbers 14:29**.

However, the children of Israel still had yet to learn a lesson in obedience and submission to God. While still at Paran, a group of 250 men, *"famous in the congregation and renown princes of the assembly"* **Numbers 16:1-2** confronted Moses and Aaron. The scriptures confirm that these were men of substantial authority among their peers, but they questioned the authority of Moses and Aaron for, *"all the congregation are holy...and the Lord is among them; wherefore then lift ye up yourselves above the congregation of the Lord?"*

In the minds of Korah, Dathan, Abiram and On, they, too were eligible before God as leaders of the congregation thereby questioning by what authority Moses and Aaron had the exclusive right to leadership. In the book of **Numbers 16**, the result of this sin suffered a unique retribution as Moses declared, in **v.30**, *"if the Lord make a new thing and the earth open her mouth and swallow them up and they go down quick into the pit, then ye shall understand that these men have provoked the Lord."*

God's retribution was direct. At this point, His intent was to destroy all the children of Israel had not Moses intervened. He instructed Aaron to take a censor with *"fire from the altar and make atonement for them"*. As he did, the plague was stopped, but not before the death of 14,500 people in addition to the 250 princes who were swallowed up. Israel learned the hard way. Let us avoid their mistakes and always submit to the Lord's authority.

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 visiting our congregation, **welcome!** Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. 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 .

## LEADERSHIP MEETING NOTES

- ◆ The financial report showed that our giving was a little less than usual this month, but fortunately there were few extra expenses.
- ◆ The church gave Burley \$1450 in a special contribution for his India mission work; and the elders approved another \$3000 also from the church's funds for his efforts
- ◆ A sign-up list has been put in the back of the auditorium to gauge the congregation's interest in a special series on Scams and Financial Concerns.
- ◆ It was noted that our last men's breakfast had several new men coming. Our next meeting will be Nov. 1.
- ◆ Park will present a series of lessons on Marriage and Family on three successive Wednesdays, Nov. 5, 12, and 19. It will include some pre-marital material, some newlywed material, some marriage enrichment, some parenting material, and some problem solving material. Tell your friends and encourage even your teens to come.
- ◆ A new website look for the church was presented and with minor tweaks approved.

## IN OTHER NEWS...

**THE CHURCH'S WEBSITE** will be getting a new look within the next few

weeks — a little brighter and friendlier.

**MARRIAGE AND FAMILY SERIES** will be presented (see above) on three successive Wednesdays, Nov. 5, 12, and 19. Mark it on your calendar and invite others to join us.

**SUNDAY EVENING** will begin a new series on the book of Daniel; this Sunday evening, will be Daniel 1. Come and find out about this little studied book of the Bible.

**THE NEXT MEN'S BREAKFAST** will be Nov. 1 at 9AM. Come and bring others with you.

**The White Rock Fund** — a mission support effort is hosting their annual reporting and fundraising day on October 25. Put it on your calendar and plan on coming. It is always an encouraging day. And it comes with a free lunch.



**BURLEY'S MISSION WORK** — On Friday he reported having baptized 53 in his preaching and teaching.

## OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Burley's mission trip to India in Sept. (and Linda at home)
- Susie C. Please pray for a quick recovery from eye surgery.
- Esther Myrick, low blood count
- Reiven and Ora H — Pray for quick and complete recoveries
- Ken Conklin recovering from a heart operation..
- The Staffords, our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, grand-

daughter Peyton living with them.

- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

## LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy with Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie
- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube

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

- Sep 21, Amos 6-9
- Sep 22, Obad./Jonah
- Sep 23, Micah 1-3
- Sep 24, Micah 4-7
- Sep 25, Nahum all
- Sep 26, Habakkuk all
- Sep 27, Zephaniah all
- Sep 28, Haggai all

*A Sunday crowd is not a church. A mushroom can grow in hours, an oak tree takes years. What are you trying to grow? — HB Charles*

# 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.

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IT'S A SCAM!...

## "DENOMINATIONS ARE OK WITH GOD"

There are a lot of lies and scams in the world that are devised to fool you and take your money. But there are some more insidious lies and scams that have been devised by Satan and proclaimed by deluded men to fool you and rob you of eternal life. We've taken a look at a couple already over the past weeks, and this week we'll look at the lie that "Denominationalism is alright with God".

Let's start with the rationale for it, why people think it's OK. It begins with men's various false doctrines, teaching what they want to hear or believe, and there are, of course, plenty of them. So churches or religious groups divide, separated by these false doctrines. However, then they run across passages like John 17:20ff (we'll talk more about this below, in which Jesus explicitly prays to the Father for unity in His church. Other New Testament passages (see below) likewise teach unity. As a religious leader, then, I need to find a way to explain to myself and to others why it's OK to be divided from other religious groups. And the explanation is that all of these various "Christian" groups should be considered "the one church" separated only by name (thus the word "denomination") and the doctrine that they emphasize.

But this is not unity; it is union, at best — and not a very good one. Which they would know, if they read John 17 more closely...

*"I do not ask on behalf of these alone, but for those also who believe in Me through their word; that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me. The glory which You have given Me I have given to them, that they may be one, just as We are one; I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me."*

*(John 17:20–23 NAS95)*

A close reading clarifies the kind of unity Jesus was talking about. Note that Jesus wanted His disciples to be one in the same way that He and the Father are one. Are the Father and the Son in disagreement about truth? Morality? The conditions of salvation? The teachings of

the church, including worship? The authority of the church? Or anything else? The clear answer is an absolute, "No!" They are two entities (persons), but they are in complete agreement, completely unified. This is the unity Jesus is seeking from those who call Him "Lord".

Later in the New Testament the apostle Paul told the Ephesian church...

*"There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all."*

*(Ephesians 4:4–6 NAS95)*

The one body is referring to the church (see Ephesians 1:20,21) and it is one in the same way that the Holy Spirit Himself is one. There is also one faith, and in this case Paul is referring to the body of Christian teachings or doctrines that Christians believe. And please note that this body of teachings is one in the same way the Lord (Jesus) is only one. The unity that Jesus seeks is very narrow and is manifested in one church that teaches and believes only one set of doctrines.

To perhaps make the definition even clearer, let look at one last passage...

*"Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment."*

*(1 Corinthians 1:10 NAS95)*

Here Paul tells them that all the folks in the Corinthian church needed to agree. We're not talking about "agreeing to disagree"; we're talking about "no divisions among you", being on the same page, believing the same things, with "the same mind and in the same judgment". Clearly there's no room for denominationalism in Paul's command here.

Denominationalism is not OK with God. It's a scam to help people avoid serious doctrinal discussion and be able to sing Kum-ba-yah with the church down the street. Don't fall for it and help your friends to recognize the scam, too.

*Park Linscomb*

# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN SEPTEMBER

21	22	23	24	25	26	27
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:00AM Bible classes</li> <li>■ 10:00AM Worship</li> <li>■ 6:00PM Worship</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Stahr's ❤️</li> <li>■ Rosh Hashanah</li> <li>■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Rosh Hashanah (day 2)</li> <li>■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tom and Nancy R ❤️</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Mary H. 🙏</li> </ul>	

## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

### **Week of September 21 .....AM .....PM .....Wed.**

Announcements ..... Charles H..... Charles H  
 Song Leading ..... Doug J ..... Scott W ..... Jim B  
 Opening Prayer ..... Marty K..... Doug J  
 Communion ..... Chris S ..... Jim B  
 Closing Prayer ..... Scott W ..... Ralph K  
 A/V Control..... John S ..... Scott W ..... Charles H  
 Greeter..... Hugh R

### **Week of September 28 .....AM .....PM .....Wed.**

Announcements ..... Jim B ..... Jim B  
 Song Leading ..... Scott W ..... Doug J ..... Jim B  
 Opening Prayer ..... Marty K..... Tom R  
 Communion ..... Jim B ..... Reiven H  
 Closing Prayer ..... Doug J ..... Ralph K  
 A/V Control..... John S ..... Scott W ..... Charles H  
 Greeter..... Ralph K



Sermon Notes...

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