

## TODAY'S ORDER OF WORSHIP

Welcome by: Daniel Balch /Opening Prayer by: Walden David

Morning Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#76 How Great Thou Art

#587 Sing and Be Happy

Scripture Reading by: Parker Balch

#349 Ten Thousand Angels

**Lord's Supper and Contribution**

#548 The Lily of the Valley

**Sermon: "A Great Nation"**

**Daniel 2:31-34, 36, 44-45**

#934 Softly and Tenderly

#989 Soon and Very Soon

Closing Prayer by: Daniel Balch

Welcome by: Daniel Balch

Evening Assembly Song Leader: Michael Simmons

#121 Come Let Us All Unite to Sing

#615 He Keeps Me Singing

Scripture Reading: Brooks McKelroy

Opening Prayer: David Smith

#313 The Old Rugged Cross

**Sermon: "One Word: Church"**

**Ephesians 3:7-10**

#945 Kneel at the Cross

#851 I'll Fly Away

Closing Prayer by: Kelly McCain

### **Other Opportunities For Spiritual Growth**

**Sunday:** 9:00am — Bible Study Classes, 10:00am — Worship, 6:00pm — Worship

**Wednesday:** 10:00am — Ladies Bible Class, 7:00pm — Bible Study Classes

June 30, 2019

## ***"Stand Firm in...Liberty"***

Galatians 5:1

### **James Harding on (Re)Baptism**

*We celebrate Independence Day this week, a time to reflect on the beliefs and actions of our Founding Fathers. In a similar way, I think it is profitable to occasionally consider the views of our fathers in the faith. James Harding was a preacher, writer, and educator in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries; Harding University is named for him. This is from the July, 1900 edition of his publication "The Way" in response to a letter from a fellow editor on the "rebaptism" question that was then confronting many churches. For those in our Sunday morning Bible class, this article touches on some things we discussed about baptism last week. I commend it to your attention not only because it is good for us to be grounded in our history, but more importantly, because it is biblical. BP*

To demand that a man shall understand that baptism is in order to forgiveness of sins as a prerequisite to baptism, and to stop with that, is the perfection of inconsistency; and, worse still, it is the adoption of the principle that caused all the creeds in Christendom; it is rank sectarianism. As we have repeatedly shown in these columns, the very word ("eis") that connects baptism with remission connects it also with another and a greater blessing—greater inasmuch as the whole is greater than any of its parts. For example, we are not only baptized eis remission, but (which is a much greater thing) we are baptized "eis the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit"—"into Christ." All the spiritual blessings (of which remission of sins is one only) are found in Christ, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Baptism is the marriage ceremony in which we are united to Christ, in which we receive the family name, the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, the name "God," so that we are henceforth called "the sons of God;" then, having been thus brought into the divine family, we begin to receive the promises of God, the remission of sins, the gift of the Holy Spirit; the daily protection, guidance, and blessing of God; the constant readiness of God to hear and answer our prayers, and so on. Paul exhorts the Colossians to give thanks unto the Father, "who made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light; who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love; in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins." In baptism, he who believes with his whole heart that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, is made meet to be a partaker of the inheritance of the saints in light; he is delivered out of the power of darkness, and is translated into the kingdom of the Son of God's love, in whom he receives the forgiveness of his sins: "For how many soever be the promises of God, in him is the yea: wherefore also through him is the Amen, unto the glory of God through us." (2 Cor. 1:20.)

How any man can fail to see that it is inconsistent, unreasonable, and unscriptural to demand that the candidate for baptism must understand that baptism is for (eis) the remission of sins, and not also demand that he must understand that he is baptized into (eis) the name of the Father and of the son

## Our Sick

**J. P. Williams** is in Liberty Health Care room 605B for rehab.

**Bill Lunceford** is in Magnolia Place Health Care room 606 for rehab.

**Joe Edd Stifflemire** will be having a lung biopsy on Monday, July 1st.

**Virginia Pickard** fell and is in St. Elizabeth Hospital room 622.

## Continued Prayers

### (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Gwen Pettit, Gary Nielsen, Harold & Geri Cryer, Steve Ward, Jackie David, Frank & Tina Garcia, Eric Davis, Dayla Hale, Minny Owen, Doris Trahan, Joe Edd Stifflemire, Phillip Cottle

## Shut Ins

### (Need cards, phone calls & visits)

Jim Smith, Winona Angelle, Myrtle Sheffield, Dr. Ronald Davis, Larry Hicks, Mark Wilcox

## Thank You

Dear Church Family,  
We greatly appreciate all the prayers, the delicious food and the beautiful Croton plant that was furnished during the loss of our loved one. Jackie Meigs and family

## Upcoming Activities

**Elders, Minister** meeting Monday at 7:00 pm.

**VBS** is July 8-11th from 9:00am to 11:30 am. Make your plans to attend and invite your friends. The theme this year is "The Faith Force of Godly Living". Ages 2-6th grade.

## Primetimers

Cheryl & Jerry are having a Primetimers meeting to get some info on what they like and would like to see done for the Primetimers. We are open to all suggestions as we take on this challenge. We will be playing two rounds of bunco. If you can count to 5 you got it. It is a no brainer game. Just fellowship, laughs and fun. Bring your ideas and come. We will take the bus as usual and be back in couple hours. It will be at my daughters house beside ours. Much bigger for the many people we hope to come and join our plans. If you can please give us a heads up if can be there it would be appreciated. We hope to build up this Primetimers group with many new and the one that come faithfully. New members welcome also. It will be held July 16th. 5:00pm. Meet at the Church building as always. Sign up sheet will be on the bulletin board. It will be finger foods. So bring your favorite finger food. Drinks will be provided Thanks so much. Jerry and Cheryl Mast. 740 243 0102.

Communion Preparation: Rita Upton  
Nursery Attendants: Marsha Rader, Lynette Ward

Communion Preparation for Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>: Iva Votaw  
Nursery Attendants for Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>: Tania Balch, Pat Hobbs

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and of the Holy spirit, when the fact has been explained to him that the relationship in the two cases is expressed by the same word, "eis" (into), is one of the things hard for me to understand. I doubt if anything but the stupefying power of prejudice and party passion, of sectarian zeal, could also blind a man...

All that Christ demands of a man as a prerequisite to baptism is believe with the heart (intellect, affections, and will) that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. He who demands more than this demands too much. He is more particular than God; he presumes to require of him who would enter into the divine family more than God himself requires. He exalts himself above God by assuming that he can complete that which God, for some cause, left imperfect. He is too wise, too good. To such a one Solomon wisely says: "Be not righteous overmuch; neither make thyself overwise: why shouldest thou destroy thyself?"

Of the man who has not been immersed, but who desires to be, we have the right to ask: Do you believe with your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and do you confess him as your Lord? (See Rom. 10:9, 10.) And of the man who has been immersed, and who desires to work and worship in fellowship with us, we have a right to ask: Did you believe with your heart that God raised Jesus from the dead, and did you confess him as your Lord? Who cannot see that the same state of mind and heart that prepares a man for baptism at my hands prepares him to receive the institution at the hands of any other?

The trouble with those people whom Paul immersed again at Ephesus (Acts 19:1-7) was, they did not believe that God had raised Jesus from the dead, nor had they confessed him as their Lord. They had only been baptized into John's baptism for (into) the remission of sins. They had been baptized into John instead of into Jesus...When we find people who have been immersed; but who did not believe in the resurrection of Jesus, and who did not take him as their Lord, we ought to instruct them in the way of the Lord more perfectly; and when they do so believe and confess, we ought to reimmerge them. But no man has a right to reimmerge another who was baptized believing in Jesus as the resurrected Son of God and confessing him as his Lord. He who does it is "righteous overmuch;" he has made himself "overwise;" and he is in danger of destruction. Solomon says to him, "Why shouldest thou destroy thyself?" and Paul exhorts us to learn "not to go beyond the things which are written." It is as dangerous to add to as it is to take from the word of God; and every division that has arisen among the people of God, so far as I remember, began in adding to, rather than in taking from, the

### "Stand Firm in...Liberty"

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