



Central *News & Views*

Rejoice in the Lord's Purpose

September 2011

Mark Your Calendar

9.3

Church Breakfast/Work Day

9.9

Family Night

9.22-25

Abortion, Medical Ethics
and the Bible Conference
Roy Dearmore, M.D.

10.8

Schaeffer Farms Outing

10.30

Fellowship Dinner
Fall Fest

Mistake Made by Many

Jonah 1:11-15

The book of Jonah deals with obedience and the consequences of disobedience. Jonah is the primary character of the book, but others were also challenged to trust God's direction instead of their own desires. When Jonah fled from God and secured passage aboard the ship going to Tarshish, the crew of the ship became involved in his situation.

God sent a storm because of Jonah's disobedience. It was a terrible storm that produced great fear in the crew. As the storm became stronger the sea grew more violent. The sailors feared for their lives and looked for a way to calm the storm. Jonah had made it clear to these men that he was the reason for the troubles. Since Jonah's disobedience brought the storm the men may have concluded that he would know how to calm sea. The crew, after looking to their gods for help and finding none, turned to Jonah. He told the men what God demanded, "Take me up, and cast me forth into the sea". That's what God required and that would bring peace to the sea.

The crew heard Jonah and provided an answer, their verbal response may not have been recorded but their actions reveal the decision. Instead of throwing Jonah overboard they worked with all their might to reach land. Perhaps land was visible from the boat or maybe they knew where the land was located. Either way, they chose to work for their safety instead of following God's direction. The sailors worked for a good cause, their lives and the life of Jonah. Life is precious and should be respected. Shame on those, that claim Christianity but endorse abortion and euthanasia. These worldly men had greater regard for life than many in our churches today. The sailors were extremely sincere in their work; this effort came from their hearts. The motive behind their work was to save themselves and Jonah. The sailors worked with great diligence, rowing until they could no longer row, these veteran sailors had a limit and it was eventually reached. The problem is that they worked against God. The work was done with good intentions, faithfulness, diligence and sincerity; but it was done in disobedience to God's directions. The Lord had sent the storm and provided a way to bring peace, but it was not by their strength or might. Peace would come with obedience to God.

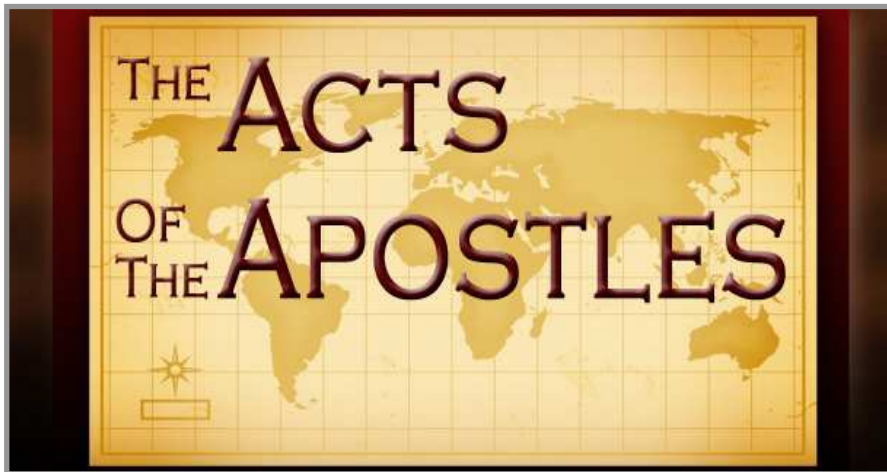
The hard work was not completely in vain. They accomplished three things. First, they concluded that they could not save themselves. Their work got them nowhere, the sailors found themselves exactly where they began, in the middle of a violent storm. Second, they realized that their work would not bring peace to their lives. The sailors found exhaustion and hopelessness but land and peace were still missing. Third, the crew came

to the understanding that they needed God. Though they had worked hard, they had failed and were without hope. The sailors did what should have been done to begin with, they cried out to God for mercy, followed God's direction and found peace.

God allowed the crew to work until they realized that their efforts were useless. God has allowed many to work. He allowed Cain to bring his works to the altar, the Pharisees to offer their works of righteousness and people to work for acceptance. What must be remembered is that God does not accept human works for salvation. (Ephesians 2:8-9; Titus 3:5) God demands obedience to Him. Adam and Eve fell because of disobedience and many remain in their sins because of disobedience. God has provided the answer to our sinful condition, His Son Jesus Christ. Since God is our creator, He determines the way for us to come to Him. Jesus summed it up best when He said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6)

Many are making the same mistake as the crew did that day, works instead of obedience. Eventually they will come to the same conclusion, peace is only found when God is obeyed. Hopefully, that understanding will come while there is still time to turn to God through Jesus Christ.





Current Bible Class

We invite you to join us Sundays at 10:00 am for our weekly Bible Class. Practical and timely lessons are presented each Sunday from the Book of Acts.

The Book of Acts provides testimony of God's continued work on earth. The work of redemption was finished but the work of the commission was just beginning. The Book of Acts provides a history of God's work for thirty years following Christ's ascension. The theme is not men and their acts but God's acts through men. It is a history of apostles, evangelists, missionaries, elders and church members working through the power of the Holy Spirit to spread the gospel.

The Book of Acts provides God's plan for the church. In the book we have the growth of the church, persecution of the church and work of the church. There are also several accounts of new churches being established and blessed. The true meaning and mission of the church in this world is found in the Book of Acts, to take the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world.

Come and join us as we study the Book of Acts.

Bible Classes

9.4

Acts 26 - Paul Before Agrippa

9.11

Acts 27 - Paul's Journey to Rome

9.18

Acts 28 - Paul in Rome

9.25

Hebrews 1 - The Exalted Christ

10.2

Hebrews 2 - The Suffering Christ

10.9

Hebrews 3 - The Faithful Christ

10.16

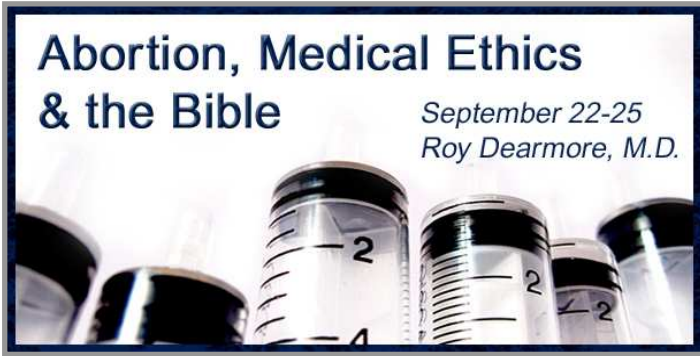
Hebrews 4 - The Merciful Christ

10.23

Hebrews 5 - The Serving Christ

10.30

Hebrews 6 - The Promising Christ



Bible Conference

September 22-25 (Thursday - Sunday)

We invite you to join us for our annual Bible Conference in September.

Our theme is 'Abortion, Medical Ethics and the Bible' with Roy Dearmore as our guest speaker. The conference will cover abortion, post-abortion complication (physical, spiritual and emotional), planned-parenthood, surrogate motherhood, artificial insemination, test tube babies, euthanasia, assisted suicide and adoption. Roy Dearmore has been a preacher of the gospel for 63 years, medical doctor for 52 years and full time local church missionary for 51 years.

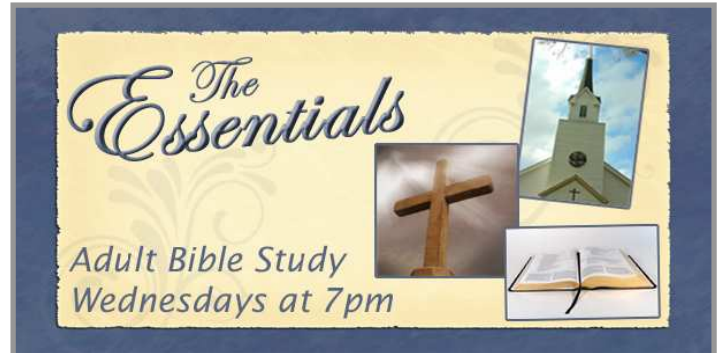
Schedule

Thursday - Saturday Evenings

5:30 Dinner
7:00 Service

Sunday Morning

9:15 Coffee & Fellowship
10:00 Bible Class
11:00 Service
12:00 Fellowship Dinner



Central Baptist Church

A Place to Grow in God's Grace

Church Information
15601 Taylor Loop Road
Little Rock, AR 72223
501-868-7703
centralbaptistchurch.org

Pastor, Cory Ramirez
Associate Pastor, Will Ramirez

Service Times
Sunday Morning
Early in the Word - 9:15
Bible Classes - 10:00
Morning Service - 11:00
Wednesday Evening
Adult Bible Study - 7:00
King's Kids - 7:00

Book of Hebrews

Chapter 1

The Exalted Christ

Chapter 2

The Suffering Christ

Chapter 3

The Faithful Christ

Chapter 4

The Merciful Christ

Chapter 5

The Serving Christ

Chapter 6

The Promising Christ

Chapter 7

The Priestly Christ

Chapter 8

The Excellent Christ

Chapter 9

The Perfect Christ

Chapter 10

The Obedient Christ

Chapter 11

The Promised Christ

Chapter 12

The Seated Christ

Chapter 13

The Eternal Christ



New Bible Class

Beginning September 25th

We invite you to join us for our new Bible Class. Practical and timely lessons will be presented each Sunday from the Book of Hebrews.

The Book of Hebrews was written to Jewish Christians of Asia Minor and Greece. So they would not return to their ceremonies and traditions and to encourage them to abide with Christ and remain faithful to their Saviour. Unlike Galatians, the epistle does not address a specific error but encourages the reader from falling into error.

The Book of Hebrews magnifies and exalts Jesus Christ. It displays His character and manifests His service and work for mankind before God the Father. It encourages the believer to look to Jesus Christ in all things. The study of the Book of Hebrews will deepen our love for Christ and draw us nearer to Him.

Come and join us as we study the Book of Hebrews.