

## Our GOSPEL MEETING

Next Sunday through Thursday, Sept. 29th

Tim Hatfield, Speaker

Sunday: 9:30 & 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m.; Monday - Thursday: 7:00 p.m.

Covered Dish Dinner, Fellowship Building: Sunday about noon,  
followed by our early afternoon service at the church building

### The Gospel

Paul Vaughn

Gospel appears one hundred times in the New Testament. It "denotes the "good tidings" of the kingdom of God and of salvation through Christ" (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words). In reading the different uses of the word in the New Testament it must be noted that the word is never identified as a gospel or one of many gospels, but the Gospel. Paul understood his responsibility to preach the Gospel. It is written, "For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!" (1 Cor. 9:16).

Why did Paul take his responsibility to teach only the Gospel so seriously? He understood the Gospel is God's power to save one from sin. Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16). The Gospel is the only message that needs to be preached. It is the only message that needs to be obeyed. It is the only message that man needs today because all who refuse to believe and obey the Gospel are lost in sin. Paul gave warning of this very thing to the church of the Thessalonians. It is written, "In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ" (2 The. 1:8). Perhaps the greatest questions that we should ask ourselves is: "How do we view the Gospel?" It should be important to all of us because there is no other message coming from God. There is no other way of salvation apart from obeying the Gospel.

- Beacon, Bellview Church of Christ, Pensacola, FL -

- G** — Good News (Matt. 28:5-6; 1 Cor. 15:1-7)
- O** — Originating in love (John 3:16)
- S** — Simple, yet profound (Isa. 35:8; 1 Cor. 2:10)
- P** — Powerful to Save (Rom. 1:16)
- E** — Eternal Salvation, bringing (Heb. 5:8-9)
- L** — Leading to a beautiful life (Matt. 7:14)

- Author Unknown -

God is good and heaven is forever. If those facts don't cheer you, nothing will.

## News & Notes

**BAPTISMS:** Chris Wiersbicki and Scott Sprout.

**TRAINING SESSION THIS COMING WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21ST:** at 7:00 p.m.

**PANTRY:** Candied yams or sweet potatoes.

**SICK & SHUT-IN: At Home:** Mariyn Miller, Stan Williams, Charlotte Mader (David Stefl's sister), Becky McKitrick, Russell Martin, Mike West, Barbara DeLong, Claudette Miller, Sam Burdine, Alex Harless, Cheryl Renfro Walker. **Fox, Pepperberry Suites:** David McCoy. **Weston, WV:** Rick Beck.

## Who Is a Wise Man?

Toney L. Smith

In James 3:13 we read: "Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom." Most everyone wants to be considered wise. However, some seek to find wisdom in the wrong place. Wisdom is not the same as educational intelligence. Real wisdom is obtained from God (James 1:5). By this I mean we can have real wisdom when we turn to God, study His word, and are faithful to it. Wisdom is knowing how to apply what we have learned.

There is a false idea concerning wisdom. The Bible describes it as "wisdom of this world" (1 Cor. 1:19-24). Who then is the wise man?

1. **He who fears God.** This fear motivates us to live in accordance to God's will for mankind. Fear of the Lord helps us to make sure we are in Christ and to remain faithful (Prov. 1:7; Ecc. 12:13-14; Heb. 10:31; Acts 2:37).

2. **The wise man demonstrates a life based upon the Word.** Wisdom is putting into action that which we know we should do (James 3:13; 2:26; 1 John 1:7).

3. **The wise man will obey the Gospel and live according to it** (2 Thes. 1:7-9). The wise man has the assurance of salvation (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

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## SOME THINGS NON-ATTENDERS CAN'T DO

1. They can't pray for the success of the Church without being a hypocrite.
2. They can't say that Christ is first in their lives!
3. They can't say they were made stronger by their absence!
4. They can't say they glorified God by their neglect!
5. They can't blame anyone else if the affairs of the Church don't please them.
6. They can't criticize if the Church doesn't seem to grow like they think it should.
7. They can't have any assurance that God was pleased with their actions.

- Author Unknown -