

"herald the good news" Romans 10:15

THE HERALD

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HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT CONVICTS

When Jesus told the apostles He was going to leave them and ascend back to heaven, He promised that the Holy Spirit would come. As the Lord told His apostles about the coming of the Spirit, He said that the Spirit would convict the world of sin: "Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you. And when he is come, **he will reprove the world of sin**, and of righteousness, and of judgment" (John 16:7-8). Notice the word "reprove." This word literally means "to convict." Therefore, Jesus was saying that the Holy Spirit would convict people of sin.

But *how* does the Spirit convict? Does the Spirit do this directly or indirectly? Does the Spirit do this by a mysterious "better felt than told" experience? Does the Spirit do this in a miraculous way? How does the Spirit convict? The Bible answer is revealed in Acts chapter 2. Jesus had promised that the Spirit would come upon the apostles and guide them into all truth (John 16:13). On the occasion of Acts 2, the Spirit did come upon the apostles, just as Jesus promised: "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:4). These Spirit-filled apostles preached about the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ (Acts 2:22-24). Then, having preached to the people of Acts 2 about Jesus, those people were convicted: "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do" (Acts 2:37)? Did you notice in this verse that the people were "pricked" when they "heard"? This is, when they *heard the Word* preached by the apostles, they were "pricked" or convicted of sin.

Putting this information together, we learn the following: (1) Jesus promised that the Spirit would come; (2) When the Spirit came, He would convict the world of sin; (3) The Spirit came upon the apostles in Acts 2:4; (4) When the people of Acts 2 heard the apostles preach the Word, they were pricked in their hearts. Therefore, the Spirit convicts people of sin *through the Word of God*. A sinner is not convicted of sin by a miracle from heaven, nor by some strange experience, but by God's Word. That is why Paul wrote (Ephesians 6:17). The Holy Spirit's "sword" is God's Word and He uses it to convict people of sin.

Mark Lindley

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. I MUST BELIEVE

"But without faith, it is impossible to please Him" (Hebrews 11:6)

2. I MUST REPENT

"Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish" (Luke 13:3)

3. I MUST CONFESS

"And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 8:37)

4. I MUST BE BAPTIZED

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." (Mark 16:16)

5. I MUST LIVE RIGHT

"We should live soberly, righteously, and Godly in this present world" (Titus 2:12)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

Worship at 10:30 am & 6:00 pm
Bible Class at 9:30 am

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class at 7:00 pm

ELDERS

Fred Barnett, Mark DeLong,
Rodney Newton, Ray Poston, Stephen Stilwell

DEACONS

Micah Busbey, Karl Dawson, Bob McIndoo,
Jeff Morris, Juan Nunez,
Mark Springer, Leland Steely, Tim Tapp

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THEY HEARD AND OBEYED

“And he (Jesus) answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it” (Luke 8:21). “But he (Jesus) said, Yea, rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it” (Luke 11:28). In the last few weeks we have seen 5 people who have heard the word obey the gospel. Yes, there are still people who desire to know the truth and are willing to obey the truth that they hear. The wonderful power of the gospel is still being demonstrated 2,000 years after it’s first proclamation. Jesus consistently told his followers that they had to be willing to obey his commandments. When James penned the words from God to the brethren he stressed the same principle. “But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed” (James 1:25). The wonderful old story of salvation is never “old” to those who love God and desire to live with him forever. We must never grow weary of sharing the “good news” with others, knowing that God will give the increase. Gary Puryear

YOU AND WORSHIP

One day the famous orator Henry Ward Beecher had to be absent from the Plymouth church where he usually preached. His brother was invited to speak for him. The auditorium was crowded, but when it became evident that the eloquent Henry Ward Beecher was not going to appear, many started to leave the building. The brother of Beecher was not disturbed. He stood up before the murmuring crowd, called for silence and said, “All who came this morning to worship Henry W. Beecher may leave now. The rest will remain to worship God,” No one left after that.

It seems to be a constant oversight on the part of some visitors to the worship just what we are there for. Some, like that Athenians, come only to hear the preacher say “some new thing” (Acts 17:21). “Is it relevant? Is it positive?” These are the mental guidelines used in judging sermons. The same is true with some who attended to judge the singing, the prayers, or the friendliness of the congregation. These go away with a host of criticism, but the thing forgotten here has been worship.

What are we in worship for? Granted, some are there to “get it over with for a week” or “to get their ticket validated once more.” But those who are there because they need the strength in carrying their crosses know the value in truly worshipping God. Worship has nothing to do with the song leader or the talent of the preacher. It has everything to do with you and your God. Let people do what they will to please themselves. “The rest will remain to worship God.”

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY (July 22)

Opening Prayer:	Ray Poston
Closing Prayer:	Bud Siimons
Devotional:	David Leigh
Song Leader:	Leland Steely

SUNDAY (July 26)

AT THE TABLE

*Larry Bundy	Rodney Newton
Jim Burke	Glenn Whitledge
William Ray Jr.	Juan Nunez
Ben Grogan	*Karl Dawson

*Denotes those to serve communion Sunday night

AM Worship

Announcements:	Leland Steely
Opening Prayer:	David Leigh
Scripture Reading:	David Hust
Closing Prayer:	Mike Coffman
Ushers:	Terry Bonds Brad Carter

DOOR GREETERS
Glenn Whitledge
Tammie Whitledge
Lou Price

PM Worship

Opening Prayer:	Juan Nunez
Scripture Reading:	Everett Mays
Closing Prayer:	Barney Shockley

FOR THE RECORD (July 12):

Sunday Morning Worship:	227
Sunday Morning Bible Study:	155
Sunday Evening Worship:	108
Wednesday Bible Study:	106
Contribution:	\$6744.51

NEWS AND NOTES

Prayer Request: Irby Lapington (had surgery this past Wednesday), Ariana DeLong, Vera Pleasant, Vera Jo Sumner (Methodist), June Bollinger, Carolyn Clevenger, Debbie Newman, Kathy Riggs, Jenny Revlett, Nina Barfield, Doris McDaniel, Carolyn Turpin, Earlene Scott, Joann Hayes, Tommy Jenkins, Bob Harrell, Donald Stone, Wayne Moore, Patricia DeLong, Gene Thomason, John Kavanaugh, Carole Bass, Lori Hill (surgery on the 24th).

Monthly fellowship meal: It will be tonight following services. We will honor the Watwood’s who have recently moved to Evansville and plan to worship at Washington Ave. Please bring a non-perishable food item for the pantry.

Give-Away Committee Meeting: In ladies classroom today at 5 p.m.

Gospel Meeting: July 19-23 at Fairview Church of Christ.

What a Day: This past Lord’s day there were 3 people who obeyed the gospel. Daniel Howard was baptized following services Sunday morning and Louis and Donna Moschner were baptized during services Sunday evening. We rejoice with all three of these precious souls.

New addresses:
Daniel Howard
See office.
Louis and Donna Moschner
See office.