

cross. The second thief not only was a believer, but he also repented. This thief acknowledged his sins versus the sinlessness of Jesus (Luke 23:40-41) and appealed for salvation to the sole Savior this world has ever known (Luke 23:42). Christ forgave him according to the terms of the religious law under which they both lived--dependent on and in prospect of the death, burial, and resurrection of our Lord; likewise today, men and women can only be saved according to the terms of the religious law under which they live (now, the Gospel)--dependent on and with retrospect to the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Though forgiven, as often is the case, the penitent thief still had to endure the consequence of his sins (in this instance--death).

The penitent thief also rebuked his sinful cohort and defended Jesus. Followers of the Lord today oppose unrighteousness, too (1 Peter 5:8-9; James 4:7). Further, we are to defend the Gospel (Philippians 1:17; Jude 3). His conduct demonstrates that it is imperative for penitent souls to turn from their former sins and evil associations. The middle cross was viewed from contrasting perspectives. The impenitent thief saw a man, evil like himself and an impostor Savior. Whereas, the penitent thief saw on the middle cross the Son of God--the Savior (Messiah). That middle cross is immensely important because on it Jesus Christ suffered vicariously (in our place for us). The thieves died for themselves, but Jesus died for the sins of others (2 Corinthians 5:21; 1 Peter 2:21-24; 3:18). That center cross was also the cross of fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy (Isaiah 53:4-12). The precious, matchless blood shed thereon saves souls (1 Peter 1:18-20; Ephesians 1:7). (That blood is contacted when one is baptized into the death of Christ, Romans 6:3-5; Colossians 2:12.) The redemption of souls was the mission for which Jesus left heaven and came to earth (Luke 19:10; Matthew 1:21-23). Man's part of salvation (Philippians 2:12) includes faith (John 8:24; Mark 16:16), repentance (Luke 13:3), confessing Christ to be Lord (Romans 10:9-10), and obedience (Hebrews 5:8-9; Luke 6:46), which requires immersion in water (1 Peter 3:21). Then Jesus adds one to his Church (Acts 2:47).

In summary, impenitent sinners are lost until they repent. Penitent sinners need to obey the Gospel plan of salvation--the redemptive terms under which we now live. The road to salvation begins with the statement "I have sinned" (Nehemiah 1:6). Jesus Christ's blood is the propitiation for sins by which God saves men by grace (Romans 3:23-25). "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus: Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God."

CHURCH NEWS

PRAYER LIST

We need to remember all those who are sick and afflicted in our daily prayers. We need to remember those who are in the nursing homes, and in the military. We also need to keep Doris Pendleton, Ruby Backus, Tex Kinman, Bill and Verna Butler, Lynna Shanks, Verma Long, Connie Gass, Nelta Brock, Cheryl Harris, Janet Patrick, Evonelle Calkins, Elnora Shanks, Dawn Tivoli, Richard Massey, the Bill Habermehl family, Adrian and Jean Swindler, Nettie B. Shirley, Dixie Stacy, Darrell Conley, and Marvin Howard and his wife in our daily

prayers. Sandy Sarchette is having further problems. Let us keep her in our prayers. We also need to remember Danny and Barbara Keeney in our daily prayers.

<p>THOSE TO SERVE August 16, 2009 A.M.</p> <p>Greeters.....Tex & Lois Kinman Announcements.....David Shanks Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas Lord's Supper.....Jerry & Thomas McDonald Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Taylor Shanks</p> <p>P.M.</p> <p>Song Leader.....Men of the Congregation Opening Prayer.....Leroy Thomas Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....David Shanks</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Song Leader.....Andy Shanks Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge Devotional.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....David Shanks</p>	<p>THOSE TO SERVE August 23, 2009 A.M.</p> <p>Greeters.....David Shanks & Delmar Backues Announcements.....Taylor Shanks Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald Opening Prayer.....Elwood Runge Lord's Supper.....Andy Shanks & Taylor Shanks Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....David Shanks</p> <p>P.M.</p> <p>Song Leader.....Thomas McDonald Opening Prayer.....David Shanks Sermon.....Jerry McDonald Closing Prayer.....Elwood Runge</p> <p>WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY</p> <p>Song Leader.....Jerry McDonald Opening Prayer.....Taylor Shanks Devotional.....Thomas McDonald Closing Prayer.....Andy Shanks</p>
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FAIR HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOME

The items for Fair Haven's Children's Home will be "Canned Soups," and "Canned Vegetables."

Sermons for the Next Two Weeks:

The a.m. lesson for August 16, 2009 is "What Brings The Wrath of God." The p.m. lesson is "What Brings The Wrath of God." The a.m. lesson for August 23, 2009 is "What Is Man Enamored With?." The p.m. lesson will be "Boldness In Christ."

LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

The ladies Bible class will be cancelled this month. It will resume on the third Monday in September.

FELLOWSHIP MEAL/SINGING

We will have our fellowship meal following the morning services. There will be a singing following the meal which will take the place the evening service.

