

**SERVING IN WORSHIP**

February 26, 2023

*Sunday Morning:*

**Call to Worship:**

Romans 3:21-26

Barry Phillips

**Song Leader:**

Ralph Brown

**First Prayer:**

Dwight Mullett

**Presentation/Lord's Table**

Dennis Blanton

**Servers:**

Austin Miller \*\*Mark Claypool

**Speaker:**

Johnny Felker

**Prayer & Announcements:**

Larry Miller

**Usher:**

Walter Culbreth

\*\*\*\*\*

*Sunday Evening:*

**Call to Worship:**

Luke 9: 28-36

Austin Miller

**Song Leader:**

Dennis Blanton

**First Prayer:**

Doug Driver

**Speaker:**

Johnny Felker

**Lord's Table:**

Ralph Brown

**Prayer and Announcements:**

Larry Miller

**Usher:**

Walter Culbreth

**Prayer List and Announcements**

**Jeanette Aldridge** is about the same, staying in and staying warm and dry.

**Janett King** has been dealing with a lot of discomfort from her hiatal hernia, but she said the doctor told her there was nothing he could give her for the pain except Tylenol. Yesterday she had been dealing with a lot of neck pain, perhaps due to all the wet weather we are having, but was getting some relief from her heating pad. Her brother Earl and sister Brenda are about the same.

**Deborah Grigsby** is getting around OK. She said Mike is about the same, and she hope to be able to visit him again next week.

**Fred Duggin** saw another neurologist this week, had another swallowing therapy session, and visited a cardiologist. They have arranged for test later. He will be getting a fasting blood draw, and MRI, MRA, and another exam from his PCP in a couple weeks. Right now they are ruling out things, there is no specific diagnosis. Elaine is about the same.

**Betty Travis** has remained alert and talking this week. She is eating a fair amount, but could be eating more. She remains week.

**\*\*Let us continue to Remember in Prayer\*\***

Janett King, Chelsea Gilliam (friend of Betty Copley), Paige Toxey, Keith Barclay (friend of Betty Copley), Susie Martell & Allison Barton, Neal Smith, Dalton Gregory, and Esther Carreira, co-worker of Dwight Mullett.

**Birthdays:**

March 2      Barry Phillips

ELDERS:    Johnny Felker & Doug Driver

DEACONS:    Ralph Brown & Mark Claypool

# Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin

**Perry Heights church of Christ**  
423 Donelson Pike  
Nashville, TN 37214 (615) 883-3118  
www.perryheights.faithweb.com

*"...let us consider how we may encourage one another"  
Heb. 10:24*

February 26, 2023

## Justified By Faith?

In Romans 5:1 Paul writes, "Therefore being justified by faith." Paul states this after writing to the Romans reminding them what the prophet said, "the just shall live by faith" (Romans 1:17). Surely, there should be no one that would question the fact that men are justified by faith before God. The question arises, "What is the faith that justifies?" Is it just a fact of feeling good, "a better felt than told" faith that no one can explain or a faith based upon the instruction from God?

### Faith Defined

The scriptures do not leave us to guess as to what faith is and how it is received. In Romans 10:17 we read, "So faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God." Here we learn that faith comes by hearing the word of God. But is simply hearing the word of God faith? No! Jesus taught that hearing alone would not result in man being justified. In Luke 6 we read that Jesus said, "But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of the house was great" (Luke 6:49). Jesus describes the one who hears, but does not activate himself in what he hears as receiving great ruin. In this case one hears, but does not develop within himself the faith to be pleasing or justified by God. Faith, then, is more than hearing. Although it comes from hearing the word of God, faith causes one to act or do what he has heard (James 2:26).

### When Is Man Justified By Faith?

Many believe that man is justified or saved by faith when he hears. But

**"Your lovingkindness, Oh Lord, extends to the heavens,  
Your faithfulness reaches to the skies." Psalm 36: 5**

## Preacher's Pen points

# Living as a Justified Person

*The person who has been justified by faith will never be the same as the result of his experience.*

\*\*\*

The person justified by faith....

Lives in the continuing a \_\_\_\_\_ of God's forgiveness.

*"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:9; cf. Heb. 10:17; Rom. 5:2)*

Lives a new life \_\_\_\_\_.

*Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:3-4; cf. 6:12-13)*

Lives in service to a new master \_\_\_\_\_.

*For just as you presented your members as slaves to impurity and to lawlessness, resulting in further lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, resulting in sanctification." (Romans 6:19; cf. 6:17-18)*

Lives with the help of the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_.

*"And in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words;" (Romans 8:26; cf. 5:5; 8:2, 13,16)*

Lives with the prospect of sharing \_\_\_\_\_ with Christ.

*"The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we share with Him in order that we may also be glorified with Him." (Rom. 8:16-17; cf. 5:3-4)*

Lives in hope \_\_\_\_\_ of eternal life.

*"Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from the wrath of God through Him." (Romans 5:9, 3-5)*

*continued from page 1*

God's Word teaches that man is not justified when he hears only. If that were the case then Jesus would have not taught that man should do anything else after hearing the word of God. In Hebrews 11, we have a record of the many great men and women who lived their lives and pleased God or were justified by faith. Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sara, etc. all pleased God by faith. In order to please God we must have faith (Hebrews 11:6). Those mentioned in Hebrews 11 had faith that caused them to do something God had told them to do.

Abraham is mentioned in Hebrews 11 and Paul also mentions Abraham in writing to the Romans as he speaks of being justified by faith. Abraham left his homeland not knowing where he was going. He was promised to have heirs when he and Sara were old and past the normal age to have children. But Abraham believed (had faith) in God and did what God told him to do. Paul writes concerning Abraham's faith saying, "He staggered not at the promise of God through unbelief; but was strong in faith, giving glory to God; and being fully persuaded that, what he (God, DAC) had promised, he was able to perform" (Romans 4:20-21). It was with that attitude that Abraham exhibited his faith by doing what God commanded. Even after Isaac was born God told Abraham to offer Isaac as a burnt offering in the land of Moriah. Abraham did exactly as the Lord commanded him and would have offered his son if the angel of the Lord had not stopped him (Genesis 22:1-12). Could Abraham explain and give answers for how the Lord was going to fulfill his promises to him? No, but upon hearing the word of God Abraham did what he was told and was then was justified by faith.

We must recognize that justification by faith is not based on how one might feel about a matter. Feelings can be deceptive. Remember Jacob's feeling of remorse when he saw Joseph's coat that had been dipped in blood? He thought Joseph was dead (Genesis 37:32-35). Jacob thought, believed, and felt that Joseph was dead but it was not the truth.

May we all look to the truth recorded in the word of God; Allowing that truth to develop an active and living faith in our lives. Recognizing that we are justified by faith as we look for, receive and obey the truth of God's word.

(David A. Cox, Market Street Messenger, September 16, 2012 )