



**There are three kinds of giving:
Grudge giving Duty giving Thanksgiving**

Grudge giving says, "I have to..." **Duty** giving says, "I ought to..." **Thanks-**giving says, "I want to..." The first comes from constraint, the second from a sense of obligation, and the third from a full heart. Nothing much is conveyed in grudge giving, since the gift without the giver is bare. Something more happens in duty giving, but there's no joy in it. Thanksgiving is an open gate into the rewards.

Navarre News and Notes

Remember In Prayer Those On Our Sick List: Tracy Cauley, Carrie Hare, Felis Larson, Francis Mansfield, Jim Wetzstein, Starr Wilkins, Gerry Wiemert, J.D. Mosely in West Blocton and Connie St. Pierre's granddaughter. Keep Houston Perry in your prayers also as he is away.

We meet on James M Harvell Rd next to the public library in Navarre. Call us for directions and more information (850) 939-8109



Navarre church of Christ
8490 James M Harvell Rd
Navarre, FL 32566

Place
Stamp
Here

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES
Sunday

Bible Class for all ages.....9:00 AM
Morning Worship Service.....10:00 AM
Evening Worship Service 6:00 PM

Wednesday
Bible Class for all ages.....7:00 PM

**VISITORS ARE
WELCOME!**

If you know of someone who would like to receive this publication, please let us know.

For a free Bible correspondence course by mail, call us.

Navarre Messenger

"Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee." Matthew 11:1

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Thought To Ponder

**What we
weave in
time we
will wear
in eternity.**



**2 Corinthians 5:10
Revelation 14:13
Ecclesiastes 12:14
Hebrews 6:9-10**

Inside This Issue:

Page 2 - "Two Men Know They Are Saved"

Page 3 - "Infant Baptism"

Page 4 - "Three Kinds of Giving"

Jim Bell
Evangelist & Editor

"FRUITS OF RELIGIOUS ERROR"

In Matthew 7, as Jesus warns of false teachers, he states, "by their fruits ye shall know them."

Physically, we know what kind of tree bears an apple or peach. We likewise know the results of eating a juicy, ripe apple or peach – pleasure for our senses – and the great discomfort that can come from eating a soured, rotten piece of fruit. False teachers bear fruit that are unpalatable and dangerous to our spiritual health.

One type of fruit would be the unsubstantiated sense of hope that may be receive through the doctrine of "faith only." This doctrine has been described as "full of comfort" and indeed it is, but deceptively so, since the Bible clearly states that much more is required for salvation. Many live their lives devouring this poison fruit. It can lead to complacency and in extreme instances, even to destruction of the very fiber of morality.

"Once saved, always saved" is a fruit as deadly. Again, it is contrary to the inspired word of God which teaches that one who has known salvation can "fall." When one believes that he can-

"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves." Matthew 7:15

not fall, any despicable way of life could be engaged in and no dire results would be feared. Some false teachers would

even deny the very authority of the Word of God substituting "traditions of men" as a "religious" fruit. The most alarming aspect of this fruit is that it spreads and fosters the growth of "new traditions." The plethora of denomination is the world today bear this out.

The sad end of all of these fruits is the same– a final home without God. Many are led astray as they fail to study or accept the Bible as God's word; they believe they are living lives pleasing in God's sight without actually doing so. When Jesus warned of false teachers, he also stated, "Not every one that saith unto Me, Lord, Lord, shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father who is heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then I will profess unto them, I never knew you depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

- S. Scott Richardson
~via Gospel Guide

Check us out on the internet: www.navarrechurchofchrist.net

TWO MEN "KNOW" THEY ARE SAVED

Two men "know" they are saved. The first man bases his assurance of salvation on his experience. He had been assured that when he completely turned his life over to Jesus Christ, accepted Him as personal Savior, and received Him into his heart, that an inner peace and feeling of well being would sweep his soul; that he would be able to recognize that feeling when it came; and that this peace and feeling of well being would be unmistakable evidence of his salvation. In keeping with that teaching he did "receive Jesus into his heart." He did feel this wonderful peace sweep his soul. And he "knows" that he is saved.

The second man's assurance is based on the promise of God. He had read in God's word, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (**Mark 16:16**). From other passages he had learned the necessity of repentance and confession of faith (**Acts 2:38; 7:37; Rom. 10:10**). Trusting God's promise of salvation, he obeyed from the heart those commands (**Rom. 6:17**), and has never doubted since that God forgave him of all his past sins, according to His promise.

The first man's assurance of salvation is based upon an unsure foundation. The Bible teaches neither the action he has taken nor the criterion he has accepted. We do not question his feelings; but we do question that such feelings are proof of salvation, for they are the product of his teaching. The cultist who has been taught certain gross practices in religion and has become the victim of his perverted leader will experience similar feelings. If the feelings of the

latter are not sufficient proof of salvation, neither are the feelings of the former. "But an angel appeared and spoke to me," someone may be thinking; or "I spoke in tongues." The Bible teaches, however, that even unusual, inexplicable occurrences in one's life cannot set aside the teaching of God's revealed word. Many who will be in hell will have said, "Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils [demons]? and in thy name done many wonderful works?" (**Matt. 7:22**). But all their experiences, even "miracles," will not substitute for their doing the Father's will as it is recorded in the scriptures (**Matt. 7:21; see also Gal. 1:8; 2 Thess. 2:9-12; Deut. 13:1-5; Col. 2:18, 19**).

The second man has based his assurance on a solid foundation. God's promises are sure. He cannot lie (**Hebrews 6:18**). What He has promised He is able to perform (**Romans 4:21**). The person who obeys His commandments through truth in His promises can know, because God is faithful. "And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments" (**1 John 2:3**).

We ask our readers, "Who really demonstrates strong faith in God: the one who simply trusts God's promises and finds assurance in His word or the one who must experience some overwhelming feeling that sweeps his soul?" God's judgment will be based, not on what we "know," but on His word. Be not deceived!

— Bill Hall



INFANT BAPTISM

Many churches today practice infant baptism. Each year thousands of people have their babies baptized. Possibly many of them never stop to ask is the practice authorized in the New Testament. Many do it realizing that it is possibly nothing more than a rule or regulation of their denomination. The Bible teaches that doctrines which have their origin with man make one's religion **vain (Matthew 15:9)**. This should point out the importance of teaching only the doctrine of Christ.

Please note the following reasons why infant baptism is contrary to the doctrine of Christ.

- 1. Teaching is a prerequisite to baptism.** Christ told His apostles, "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost" (**Matthew 28:19**). Please observe here that those who were to be baptized were those who had been taught. Infants cannot be taught, therefore they are not subjects of Bible baptism.
- 2. Faith is a prerequisite to baptism.** Jesus said, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved" (**Mark 16:16**). Infants cannot have faith in Christ, therefore they are not subjects of Bible baptism.
- 3. Repentance is necessary before baptism.** Peter told those believers in Acts the second chapter, "Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (**Acts 2:38**). Repentance involves a change of one's mind

or will with regard to sin. Infants cannot change their minds with regard to sin, therefore infants are not subjects of Bible baptism.

- 4. The Bible teaches that baptism is for the remission of sins.** Look again at the passage given above, **Acts 2:38**. Notice that the apostle said that baptism is "for" (unto, ASV) remission of sin." Infants do not have sins, therefore they are not subjects of Bible baptism. "Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for such is the kingdom of heaven" (**Matthew 19:14**).

— Cecil Cox

FAITH AND SIGHT

I have not seen the wind,
But when I see the sky
Fill up with murky clouds of dust,
I believe a wind is night.

I cannot see your mind,
But nobody doubts to say
That mortals move from morn till night
By minds that point the way.

I have not seen God's form,
But still I do not fear
To use the sunshine and the rain
As proof that God is near.

I have not seen the devil,
But in truth I can declare,
When brethren fight like cats and dogs,
I know the devil is there.

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