

# Plain Path

Weekly newsletter of the Fry Road church of Christ

Sunday, January 12, 2014

Volume 19, Number 2

“Teach me thy way, O Lord, and lead me in a plain path... Wait on the Lord; be of good courage, and He shall strengthen thine heart” (Psalm 27:11-14)

## A DESPERATE CRY

by Bob Pulliam

*“Save me, O God! For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying; my throat is dry; my eyes fail while I wait for my God.”*

(Psalm 69:1-3)

The urgency in these words of David should arrest our attention. David felt the burden of his sins in more ways than just guilt. David was in a position that demanded a watch-

ful life. There were many who wanted to see the king make bad decisions (see, for example, II Samuel 15).

Although most of us are not in such vulnerable positions, we

must still feel the urgency of the sins we commit. We must learn to feel as though we are in over our heads. We must learn to weep at our own error, realizing that we have not just broken *a* law... We have broken **God's law!** When the prodigal awakened to his foolish ways, he did not simply view himself as having made a few “bad choices”. His words were, “*Father, I have sinned against heaven, and in your sight*” (Luke 15:18 & 21).

All of this requires a closeness to God that only comes through personal development and maturity. But how do we work at growing closer to God?

The first thing we must do is **take God's word personally**. Jesus died for the sins of the world, yes; but He died for **my sins!** God's provisions must take on a personal aspect of your life. And that isn't just your public life; but also (especially) your private life. Read His word continually. Find application for it in your life, and

(Cry, continued on pg 2...)

Our Gospel Meeting and Singing Are In

**Two Weeks**

Flyers  
are in the  
Foyer

Flyers  
are in the  
Foyer

*Are They in Your Schedule?*

Our Meeting Speaker Will Be Mark White

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# What Law Did Jesus Live Under?

by Bob Pulliam

Last Sunday, I was asked by a visitor, “What law did Jesus live under?” And that is a very important question to ask, and answer correctly.

I began by pointing out that the gospels, while taking place during the Old Testament period (except for the end of those gospels), were written after the cross to relate the good news of the New Testament. They stand in relation to the New Testament exactly as Genesis did to the Old Testament. Although the events of Genesis took place before the Old Testament law was given, the

Jews (including Jesus) regarded it to be a part of “the Law”. The four gospels were written in this same way, pointing out important aspects of the coming kingdom (e.g. the parables of the kingdom).

So Jesus’ life is related in the New Testament, but He actually lived under the Old Testament law. In the same way, Abraham’s life is related in the “law of Moses”, but he lived long before Moses gave that law (and wrote Genesis).

Since Jesus was a Jew and lived under the law of Moses, He was bound to do things that we are not bound to do, because that law was abolished at His death (Col 2:14; Eph 2:15; Jesus could not be our High Priest unless that law had been abolished - Heb 7:11-12). Jesus observed the Sabbath (Mk 1:21; 6:2) and went up to Jerusalem at the prescribed feast days (Jn 2:23; 5:1; 7:10). He

quoted Old Testament Scripture, and defended it eloquently (e.g. Mt 5:21-48; 15:1-11).

It is very important that we recognize Jesus position as a “testator” in all of this. The testator draws up a testament, or will. In this case, we are talking about the New Testament. But a will does not go into effect until after the testator dies (Heb 9:16-17). This becomes the answer to the question about the thief on the cross being saved without baptism. Although I don’t know he was never baptized, Jesus had every right to give, in whatever way He cared to, gifts of the testament before his death. But once He is dead, the testament must go into effect, and be honored by all who would receive from that estate.

Had you lived before Jesus died, you could have requested salvation from Him on any terms He might agree to. But you now must abide by His Testament (Acts 2:38; 3:19; Rom 10:10; Gal 3:26-27; Rom 6:3-5). 

## THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READINGS

### NEW TESTAMENT READING

JOHN 6 - 8

January 12 - 14

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

GENESIS 10 - 20

January 15 - 18

I TIMOTHY 4:13

(Cry, continued from pg 1...)

meditate on it when your Bible isn’t handy.

The second thing we must do is to **take God personally**. God isn’t an unconcerned entity. God is our creator and sustainer! He cares for us as a loving father, and is patient with us in all things (II Peter 3:9). “Pray without ceasing” (I Thessalonians 5:17). The very Psalm cited above is a prayer to God! And David didn’t just look to God when things became difficult. David looked to God in good times, and bad (Psalm 23).

The third thing we must do is

**take God to others**. David wrote, “I will teach transgressors Your ways, and sinners shall be converted to You.” (Psalm 51:13). Sharing God with others helps one share God within oneself. It helps us to keep our priorities straight, and remember His word.

David’s needed “higher ground” in Psalm 69. He was in danger of drowning, and had no “place” to go but God. May the urgency of the life God expects us to live drive us to “higher” service. Only in Him can we find a place above the floods of life. 

# FAMILY NEWS & NOTES

*News and Notes of Interest  
to Fry Road Members*

Because of the large number of visitors to our services, we would ask those wishing to identify with the congregation to do so by expressing this interest directly to the elders.

## *Upcoming Meetings & Events:*

**Gospel Singing**  
January 25, 2014 (2:00 PM)

**Gospel Meeting (Mark White)**  
January 26 - 29, 2014

**Gospel Meeting (Steve Wolfgang)**  
April 13 - 16, 2014

**V.B.S. ("We Would See Jesus")**  
June 23 - 26, 2014

## *Sick and Shut-Ins*

## *New Arrival*

## *Directory Info*

*Sections have been removed to preserve member's privacy*

## **Sermons:**

### **Next Sunday:**

Principles Involved in  
Acceptable Sacrifice

### **Tonight:**

Showing Partiality  
- According to James

## *Prayers...*

## *Devotion Time*

*"He went up to the mountain by Himself  
to pray"*  
(Matthew 14:23)

If you ever thought anyone would be exempt from the need to pray, you would think it would be Jesus. However, not only did He continually teach others to pray, but He personally engaged in it with vigor. For this devotion, look up passages where Jesus prayed and list the benefits He would have derived from each prayer. Then apply the needs of your own life to see how doing as Jesus did would help you.

# FOR THE RECORD

## WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS

## MONTHLY ASSIGNMENTS

Sections have been removed to preserve member's privacy

IN KEEPING WITH OUR LONG STANDING AGREEMENT, THOSE SERVING PUBLICLY ARE REMINDED TO PLEASE DRESS IN A MANNER RESPECTFUL OF THE GOD WHOM WE SERVE.

### ELDERS:

Ruben Amador  
Matthew Heaton  
Donnie Mangrum  
Steve Voss



### DEACONS:

John Coleman	Ken Dunsmore
David Ellison	Ray Farrell
Aubrey Garner	Steve Geraci
Steve LaGrasta	John Light
Steven Martin	Mike McMurray
Jason Mock	David Stevenson
Glenn Tomblin	

### TIMES OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Assembly	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Assembly	6:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Classes	7:30 PM

### EVANGELIST & EDITOR:

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