

Non-Profit Org
US POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #2
Kewanee, MO 63860

Lilbourn Church of Christ
P.O. Box 270
Lilbourn, MO 63862

Address Service Requested



Times of Assembly:

Sunday:

Bible Class	9:45am
Morning Worship	10:45am
Evening Worship	5:30pm

Wednesday:

Bible Class	7:30pm
-------------	--------

Website:

[Www.Lilbourncofc.com](http://www.Lilbourncofc.com)

Preacher and Editor:

Shane Williams

Office: 573-688-2234

Home: 573-748-5204

shanews@sheltonbbs.com

'Lilbourn Light' is published monthly by the Lilbourn Church of Christ. It is mailed free upon request. Send all correspondence or address changes to the address above.



Website:

Our website can be found at:
<http://www.Lilbourncofc.com>

Have you studied your Bible today?

"For you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God" (1 Peter 1:23).



The Lilbourn Light



"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path" -Psalm 119:105



Volume 9

March, 2009

Number 11

Is God getting through to you?

Perhaps you've heard the story about a senior citizen years ago hanging up the phone on President Reagan. It didn't happen just once but six times! He didn't believe it when the operator insisted that the White House was calling. Eventually it worked out and he took the call.

Another man named Samuel received a different kind of call centuries ago. He didn't realize who it was calling him, even after the call was repeated (1 Sam. 3:1-15).

It was from God Himself. At first Samuel was puzzled and thought it was Eli calling him. Finally when Eli

told him who was trying to get through, he listened.

Have you ever heard the Lord speaking to you? No, you're not going to hear him audibly speak out to you. However, that doesn't mean He has nothing to say to us. God speaks to us today through His written Word, the Bible (2 Tim. 3:16-17). He has communicated His will to us. Do we appreciate that?

God is always trying to get through to us! The important question is: Are we taking the time to listen?

— Shane Williams

Different Views of Truth

Isn't it interesting that 2 people can see the same thing and come away with two different conclusions? The same thing can be said concerning what we hear or with what we read.

When the 12 spies were sent to explore the Promised Land in Numbers 13-14, they all saw the very same lush green fertile areas. Yet 10 were intimidated by the size and number of the hostile people who lived there. They said it would be foolish to invade and it couldn't be done. The other two spies, Joshua and Caleb, insisted that with the Lord on their side they could take the territory. By faith they saw God and His promises beyond the obstacles.

There are countless examples of the gospel message being preached. Some believed and were baptized, others ignored and scoffed. The same message was preached and heard but people reacted differently.

Today, people can read the same passage and react different ways.

Mark 16:16, *"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be*

Some believed and obeyed, others resisted.

saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned." "No, Jesus didn't mean that," some will say. Others will determine that it's the "believing part" that's the really important part. Still some will actually believe that Jesus meant what He said.

Acts 2:38, *"And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and let each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" Some will say, "See you have to repent, you're saved, then you are baptized." Others say, "How did you possibly arrive at that conclusion? 'Repent and be baptized,' what's hard to understand about that?"*

There are not different truths in these passages. There is one right answer. There were not different acceptable truths when the gospel was preached in the 1st century. Some believed and obeyed, others resisted. Things are not so different now than they were then. Some will desire to see the truth, many others will refuse. Which side will we find ourselves on: God or men?

— Shane Williams

Terror or Trust

Can you imagine a sudden storm sweeping down with gale force winds through the funnel-like valley above the Sea of Galilee, almost 700 feet below sea level? Can you picture being in a small boat as the huge waves threaten to sink it? How would you feel?

The disciples of Jesus were in this exact situation. Terrified, the disciples woke Jesus up. How could He sleep through such winds and tempest? *"Do You not care that we are perishing?"* they shouted (Mk. 4:38).

Calmly Jesus arose and commanded the raging storm to cease. Then, amid the calm, He asked two questions of His amazed disciples: *"Why are you so fearful? How is it that you have no faith?"* (v.40). The disciples should have known that God was not going to let the boat overturn with Jesus there. The Son of God was not about to let a storm stop Him from completing His mission.

As we voyage through life, many worries threaten to overwhelm us. Illness, loss, financial troubles and

suffering may hit us without relief. In our concern we may cry out to our seemingly indifferent Lord, *"Don't You care about our problems?"*

Our creator wants us to trust Him and His sovereignty. We must have faith that He is in control. Our main concern needs to be spiritual in nature. Are we following the Lord? Are we obedient to His Word? If not, we need to start there and determine

that above everything else, He comes first (Luke 9:23; Matthew 22:37-38).

— Shane Williams

Our main concern needs to be spiritual in nature.

God's Plan for Saving Man

- ⇒ Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:17)
- ⇒ Believe the Gospel (Hebrews 11:6; John 20:31)
- ⇒ Repent of Past Sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- ⇒ Confess Faith in Christ (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32)
- ⇒ Be Baptized in water (Acts 2:38; Mk. 16:16; Gal. 3:27; I Pet. 3:21)
- ⇒ Live Faithful (Heb. 10:35-39)