

Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649
 (812) 944-2305
www.clarkvillechurchofchrist.org

Sundays
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM
 Worship..... 10:30 AM
 Worship..... 6:00 PM

Wednesdays
 Bible Study..... 7:30 PM

Elders
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917

Deacons
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

Editor
 Stephen W. Nale.....502-727-7559

Beginning Our 66th Year Dec. 3, 2023

Goals For 2023
 Theme
 "Courageous Christians in 2023!"
 Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40:
 Sunday AM: 50
 Sunday PM: 40: Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 130

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service

Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana
Hold A Men's Training Class

Hold One Gospel Meeting

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

Gerald Barr
 will be preaching today.

We are on week # 51 of our daily Bible reading.

Prayer List
 Sharon Nale, Polly Ward, Macon Ward, Debby Spears (Roseann's sis) Sharon Thompson, Kay Thompson Gene Ward & Beth McFarland Brooke Thomas, Pam Caudill Debbie Lewellen, Cathie Hall Ronnie Kahl

THIS MONTH:
 Courage and Good Conscience
1 Pet. 3:16, 2:19; Acts 23:1

Who Have You Invited To Services This week?

Lord's Supper Reading
1 Cr. 11:23-26

Scripture Reading
 AM: James 1:12-20
 PM: Amos 7:1-9

Encouragement Tally
 Invites this month 6
 Invites last month: 12
 Visitors YTD: 12

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Our Theme for 2023...
"Courageous Christians!"
 1 Cor. 16:13
 Clarksville Church of Christ
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.
 Clarksville, IN 47129
First Service December 7, 1958

The
Clarksville Beacon
 www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org



Volume 35 Number 51

Clarksville Church of Christ

December 17, 2023

The Origin of Sin

Welcome!
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

VISITORS
 Please fill out a visitor's card or scan the QR code below and provide the information requested.



Text: James 1:12-20

GOD's Promise
 -James 1:12, John 3:16, 1 Corinthians 2:9

GOD is Holy
 -James 1:13, Leviticus 11:44, Leviticus 11:45, Leviticus 19:2

GOD wants everyone to succeed.
 -James 1:13, I Timothy 2:3-6, 2 Peter 3:9

Lust is the root of sin.
 -James 1:14, I John 1:10, Romans 6:12, Mathew 5:8

When lust is conceived it gives birth to sin
 -James 1:14

Do not be deceived.
 -James 1:15, I John 1:8

We Must Look to The Word for Guidance
 -James 1:16

I Timothy 2:3-6

3 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time.

Gerald Barr

The Plumb Line of God

Text: Amos 7:1-9

- **GOD has made us a promise.**

-John 3:16

-Revelation 2:7-11

- **Christ is our chief corner stone.**

-Matthew 21:41-43

-Acts 4:10-12

-Luke 6:45-49

- **GOD has a standard (plumb line) for judgment.**

-2 Corinthians 5:10

-2 Peter 2:4

-Romans 12:1-2

-I Peter 4:15-19

Amos 7:7-8

7 This is what he showed me: The Lord was standing by a wall that had been built true to plumb, with a plumb line in his hand. 8 And the Lord asked me, "What do you see, Amos?" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line among my people Israel; I will spare them no longer."

Gerald Barr

Is Christ Divided?

Was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul? The apostle Paul poses this question in 1 Corinthians chapter one, verse 13, to the Christians who made up the church at Corinth. He had just given them the divine pattern for success as a congregation in verse 10: "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all **speak the same thing**, and that there be **no divisions among you**; but that ye be **perfectly joined together in the same mind** and in the **same judgment**." KJV. (emphasis mine, sn) He then points out a grievous flaw in the congregation; there were contentions among them (vs 11). Some were elevating one preacher of God's word above another. Some tried to connect their obedience with Paul, some with Apollos, some with Peter and some with Christ. Paul condemns such thinking! His desire was for those who were converted as a result of his preaching to be converted to **Christ** and not to Paul!(vs 17) This notion of "unity in diversity" was not going to work at Corinth, and it does not work today.

A few weeks ago, I passed by a denominational meeting house in the area and noted a new sign in the front lawn. The sign announced: "One Lord, Two Congregations." The name of each group, along with their individual meeting times was then listed. Each wore a different denominational name, neither of which can be found in the scriptures, and each met at a separate time on the Lord's Day. Now you might ask, "What's the big deal about two groups sharing the same building?" If each of these groups was a true New Testament church of our Lord, if each taught "the same thing," if the members were "perfectly joined together in the same mind and the same judgment, and if there were no divisions among them, then why wear different names and meet separately at different times on the Lord's Day? Why not meet **together**, sing **together**, pray **together**, study **together** and partake of the Lord's Supper **together**? The answer should be obvious. The two groups do not believe and teach the same thing! As a result, they must function separately to justify their existence. Was this not the party spirit that was brewing at Corinth? The sign may say "One Lord," but the unity stops there.

God's plan for unity is found in Ephesians 4: 1-7 "I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.4 There is **one body**, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in **one hope** of your calling 5 **One Lord**, **one faith**, **one baptism**, 6 **One God** and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ." KJV If Christians are to be united, they must follow this pattern. The authority of God and His inspired Word must be respected! We cannot follow after the teachings and philosophies of man. Choosing such a course will lead us nowhere, as Gamaliel observed in Acts 5:38-39.

Having therefore a profound reverence for the Word of God, we recognize that the one Spirit of God, as described in 1 Cor. 2, has delivered this certified gospel message to mankind. This message tells of the one Lord, the one and only Savior of man, Jesus Christ. He died for the sins of mankind (1 Cor 15:3) He was resurrected from the grave, conquering death and making the resurrection of the faithful possible (1 Cor. 15: 4; Rom. 6:4,5). There is but one baptism, and that baptism is an immersion in water that puts us into Christ (Acts 8:38,39; Gal. 3:27). There is but one faith, then, that God has delivered to man (Jude 3), and that faith tells us of the one hope of the Christian, salvation from sin and an eternal home with God and Christ in heaven (John 14:2; Heb. 6:18,19).

What then can we conclude from this brief study? Is Christ divided? If we insist on following after men rather than truth, if we fail to show meekness, longsuffering, forbearance and love for one another, and if we stop working at keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, then, yes, Christ will be divided. Not because **Christ** caused the division but because **we** did!

Think about that sign one more time: "One Lord, Two Congregations." "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" 1 Cor. 3:3 KJV

Steve Nale