

What a Savior – Arthur Barry

This is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance (and for this we labor and strive), that we have put our hope in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, and especially of those who believe. 1 Timothy 4:9, 10

There is only one Savior, but many who need saving. How can one savior get the job done? If He is all alone in this task, surely some loss is acceptable. Can He realistically be expected to cover every single person equally?

Yes, He can. We can be thankful that He is able to get the job done, but we should be especially thankful that He has the *desire* to save us.

Paul stresses, in 1 Timothy 2:3, that God our Savior wants all men to be saved. Because this is such a priority for Him, He is pleased with us when we “...live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness” (1 Tim 2:2). That should also be a priority for all of us, in which case we will appreciate Paul’s instructions in verses 1 and 2 regarding prayer. We should pray for:

1. Everyone
2. Kings
3. All those in authority

No discrimination there. If God has a desire to save every single soul that ever lived then we should be able to pray for them all, shouldn’t we? We cannot name everyone, but our attitude should be like that of Jesus. In verse 5 we are told that Jesus “...gave Himself as a ransom for all men...” Did He know that most men could not care less about His sacrifice? Yes, He knew, but that did not stop Him. He either had to give His life for every single one of us or for none of us at all. We might think His sacrifice was a failure because the vast majority of people reject Him. Only a tiny remnant cares about Jesus and shares with Paul in his concerns for the Truth. Jesus is the savior of all men, but few are saved. Similarly, Donald Trump is our President even if we did not all vote for him. Choosing or rejecting Jesus is about who we want to be in charge of everything forever, not just for four years.

Those of us who choose Jesus know we are in a battle to keep the truth pure and to get the truth into the minds and hearts of as many people as possible. In 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Paul is concerned about the threat from civil governments and urges us to pray for peaceful relations between what we now call “Church and State”. In chapter 4 he is concerned about false teachings within the church and instructs Timothy and all of us who care to stand for the truth. There is also the admonition in 4:16 which relates to our question about the mammoth task of saving everyone.

Watch your life and doctrine closely. Persevere in them, because if you do, you will save both yourself and your hearers.

Together we have the power to save the whole world.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

January 17, 2021

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

All the churches of Christ greet you.

Romans 16:16

Today’s Sermon: *Do You Believe? Pt 2*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.

Scripture Reading: Acts 5:12-16

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Today Paul will be teaching from the Psalms.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class: no class this week**
- **Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little, Doug and Sandy Zimmerman and Dave and Kristy Bell** hope to be here the last week in June and the first two weeks in July.



NEWS

- **Minutes of last week's annual corporation meeting are available to read. Tim was elected for the one-year trustee position, Jerry remains the two-year trustee, and Ted was re-elected as the three-year trustee.**
- **Arthur and Sandy will be traveling to AL** by way of FL leaving Tuesday. Arthur will be preaching at the Elmore church of Christ, which helps support our work here in Sayre, on the 24th. They should be returning by the following Tuesday, January 26th.
- Join our **daily Bible reading** group! Use the internet or your Bible. Ask Arthur to be invited online or for a printed-out schedule.
- **Sam** has moved to Syracuse, NY for an internship which will last 6 or 7 months. He has connected with David Owens, the preacher, and is enjoying worshipping with the Wetzel Rd. church. He sends greetings to all his friends here and hopes to visit when he can.
- **Doug and Darlene** have returned home from FL and are quarantining still for a few more days. Following that, Darlene hopes to be worshipping with us again.

Paul will be preaching this morning.

PRAYERS

- **Arthur's brother Chris** who lives in Yorkshire, England has been diagnosed with early onset dementia. Please pray that he gets the right medicine and treatments to slow the progress of this condition.
- **Pat Guthrie** who many of us know from the church in Kittanning, has had lung cancer reoccur in his left lung. Please pray that he can go into remission once more.
- **José Rivera**, Molly's husband, has been laid off work until he can stabilize his blood sugar levels. Please pray that he can do that soon.
- Darlene's father-in-law, **Bob Elsbree** underwent emergency surgery last Friday at Packer Hospital here in Sayre.
- Pray for **spiritual growth** (increased Bible class attendance and greater participation in Bible reading programs) and more people in the area who want to worship with us here in Sayre.
- We are thankful that none of us here at Valley Cities has come down with Covid-19. Several of us have close relatives who were sick with it, but we thank God that all recovered fully.
- Pray that **Dan Rowe**, who lives at Elderwood in Waverly, can receive visitors and leave the facility for visits soon so Arthur can continue studying the Bible with him and he can join us in worship.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.