

7. **Practice self-examination and self-discipline.** As we are to do this concerning the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:28), so we are to do it in all things (2 Cor. 13:5). If Paul, the spiritual giant of the first century, had to practice self-discipline (1 Cor. 9:27), then we surely need to do so. All things being equal, the church whose members faithfully practice these "basics" will grow both spiritually and numerically.

Dub McClish

## THAT YOU MAY KNOW...

### Let us pray for...

- Rick Beauchamp**—on extended absence from family and us because of employment  
**Sheila Beauchamp's brothers**—Mike, Rick, and Doug.  
**Jerry Douglas**—fighting bone and lymph cancer (Danny Douglas's twin brother)  
**Ann Henderson** - fighting cancer again, trying one last treatment series (Sheri's Aunt)  
**Terry Hightower**—in the loss of his wife, Vicki  
**Debbie Post**—fighting cancer (wife of Doug Post, Gospel preacher)  
**Judy Reid**—sister in NJ, planning to move here  
**Brian Ritter**—fighting rare autoimmune disease (son of Rick Ritter, Gospel preacher)  
**Jeff Simmons**—“our boy” in the US Navy (Saratoga Springs, New York)  
**Don Smith**—faithful brother in Ohio prison, ordered to cease teaching fellow inmates  
**Stephanie Tigner**—who has been restored to Christ (Kourtney's sister)  
**Samuel Bagsangi**—Gospel preacher in Philippines we support  
**Danny Douglas**—Gospel preacher in US we support

### Records you helped make last week...

Bible Classes	12
Sunday AM Worship	12
Sunday PM Worship	12
Wednesday PM Bible Class/Worship	13
Contribution	\$919.00
Contribution average (2017)	\$1,255.55

### Internet and YouTube Sermon broadcasts...

- Both sermons each Sunday are broadcast, beginning at approximately 10:45–10:50 a.m. and 1:12–1:15 p.m., via Internet through our Website, [www.northpointcoc.com](http://www.northpointcoc.com).
- Our **YouTube** channel at *Northpoint Church of Christ* has a growing collection of Northpoint sermons available for viewing.

Preacher, Editor, *The Lighthouse*

Philip Smith



# The Northpoint Lighthouse

Volume 13, Number 21  
May 21, 2017

## There's a Great Day Coming!

...He hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner...(Jude 6c–7a) [and] For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord cometh as a thief in the night (1 The. 5:2).

When the ancient city of Pompeii was devastated by the exploding of Mount Vesuvius in A.D. 79, the destruction was overwhelming and unexpected. The spades of the archaeologists through the centuries have revealed some astonishing facts. The devastation had come so swiftly that most of her citizens were buried in the molten lava while going about their daily affairs. Mothers were busy bathing their children. Craftsmen were found with their tools of trade still in their hands. The Roman soldiers were at their posts, many of them with their hands on the hilts of their swords, as if ready to defend the city against this fiery and fierce foe. Some were found in beds of fornication and others at their tables of drunkenness. A few were found trying to escape the sure and certain destruction of the awful day! The bones found within the ruins of the city tell us that none escaped to safety.

In just this manner our Lord has indicated that He will return one day in the judgment of the world and all its inhabitants. None will escape that day of the Lord. It will be a day like any other day. Men will be taking care of business like they always do. Women will be watching and playing with their children. When men and women, boys and girls, least expect it, that great day of destruction and judgment will come! “When the Son of Man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory” (Mat. 25:31). We are all reminded of the words of Matthew 24:36: “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but My Father only.”

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**Sunday**  
 Bible Class 9:30 AM  
 Worship 10:30 AM  
 Worship 1:00 PM

**Wednesday**  
 B.C./Worship 7:00 PM

Friend of mine, there is indeed a **great day coming**—are you ready for that day to come? Now is the time to make the necessary preparation as you obey His will in all things.

Jess Whitlock

## HEAVEN: The Hope of the Obedient

“If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable” (1 Cor. 15:19). Though the blessings of God in Christ are a hundredfold in this present world, yet they are as nothing compared to those that shall be revealed in heaven.

Human language cannot adequately describe the majestic beauty of the heavenly home of the faithful, nor can the mind of man conceive the splendors which adorn that celestial home.

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also (John 14:1–3).

To escape the torture of hell and obtain salvation in heaven is the cherished hope of every faithful follower of our Lord.

There will be a home in heaven for those who have faithfully carried out the requirements of the New Testament. The question is often asked, “Is this or that essential to salvation?” The answer is easy. Every command of God is essential, or the Lord would not have given it. Those seeking salvation from their past sins must in faith repent of their sins, confess the name of Christ, and be buried in baptism (Acts 17:30–31; Rom. 10:9–10; 6:3–4; Mark 16:16). Each act of obedience is necessary.

Jerry Brewer

***Psalms 119:72: “The law of thy mouth is better unto me than thousands of gold and silver.”***

## The “BASICS”

Anytime men stray very far from “the basics” in any field of endeavor, they fall far below their potential. A football team can have splendid athletes, but if it neglects crisp blocking and sure tackling it neutralizes its superior athletic ability. A move away from “the basics” in education three generations or so ago has produced a school system whose high school graduates have to take what amounts to another year of high school after they get to college to be anywhere near capable of college level courses. Colleges are graduating students who, in some cases, cannot read, comprehend, and/or write well enough to fill out a job application. Many in the church have moved away from individual and congregational spiritual “basics” in favor of various gimmicks, gadgets, and fads, trying to force church “growth” by human standards (usually borrowed from denominational sources).

However, when we forsake “the basics” for the showy and sensational, we always pay a high price eventually. The kind of growth the Lord wants comes from implementing some rather ordinary and elementary principles that are in reach of every Christian. If we want personally to grow spiritually and if we want the church to experience true growth, I suggest we dust off the following “basics” if we have been neglecting them:

1. **Read your Bible daily.** It is good to be zealous, but zeal without knowledge is often a very dangerous thing (Rom. 10:2–3). We can never learn too much of God’s Word (Psa. 119:11; 2 Pet. 3:18).
2. **Pray always.** Make prayer a natural, consistent part of life, rather than a special “religious exercise” (1 The. 5:17–18). We often faint because we do not pray (Luke 18:1).
3. **Live a pure life daily.** We must keep ourselves pure from worldly stains (1 Tim. 4:12; 5:22; Jam. 1:27). Few things impede the Gospel more than the corrupt life of a Christian (Mat. 5:13-16).
4. **Think and live evangelistically.** “Honest and good” hearts yet exist (Luke 8:15). Our words and/or deeds may turn a lost soul from the path of ruin. Be alert for opportunities to spread the Gospel; nothing is more “basic.”
5. **Invite others to worship assemblies and Bible classes.** Tell others of our articles, our Website, etc. Carry some of our “calling cards” with you. These things are so elementary we may overlook them. On behalf of Christ, let us say, “Come” (Rev. 22:17).
6. **Look for ways to serve others daily.** Jesus gauges our greatness by our service (Luke 22:26). Many disciples have forgotten we are here to serve, rather than to be served.