

**Crossville Church
of Christ**

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COMPASS

**Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation**

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Elders:

Frank Bohannon
Jiggs Killgore
Jonathan Loveday
Larry McDuffee
Brian McLaughlin
Jon Tatum

Deacons:

Jim Bell
Charles Evans
Kyle Fairman
Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
David Kerley
Doug Loveday
Greg Maxwell
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Roger Smith
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Barry Kennedy
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM
	6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class
Tuesdays 11AM
Prayer Meeting
Tuesdays 10 AM
**Joyful Generation
(Youth Devotional & fellowship)**
1st Sunday 7:00 PM

August 9, 2015



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JULY

July 8: "My Joy & My Crown, an Introduction"
Ben Bailey, McMinnville, TN
July 15: "My Joy & My Crown in Grace & Peace" (Phil. 1:2)
Tom Holland, Brentwood, TN
July 22: "My Joy & My Crown in Prayer & Preaching" (Phil. 1:4, 15-18)
Jason Gann, McMinnville, TN
July 29: "My Joy & My Crown in Faith" (Phil. 1:25)
Brandon Parsley, McMinnville, TN

AUGUST

August 5: "My Joy & My Crown in Fellowship & Unity" (Phil. 1:5, 2:1, 2)
Bill Williams, Manchester, TN
August 12: "My Joy & My Crown in Christ's Return" (Phil. 2:16)
Tony Britt, Pikeville, TN
August 19: "My Joy & My Crown in Christian Service" (Phil. 2:17-22)
Paul Sain, Pulaski, TN
August 26: "My Joy & My Crown Being in the Lord" (Phil. 3:1-7)
Ralph Hart, Manchester, TN

SEPTEMBER

September 2: "My Joy & My Crown in Present & Future Things" (Phil. 3:13-14)
Ken Mears, Crossville, TN
September 9: "My Joy & My Crown in Right Thinking" (Phil. 4:8)
Tony Lawrence, McMinnville, TN
September 16: "My Joy & My Crown in Contentment" (Phil. 4:11-12)
Dale Barger, Wheeler Hill, TN
September 23: "My Joy & My Crown in Christ Given Strength" (Phil. 4:13)
David Lipe, Cookeville, TN

YOU HAVE COMPASSED THIS MOUNTAIN LONG ENOUGH

Jeff Archey

Beginning another year of daily Bible reading, I am using a plan that goes to Deuteronomy one day each week as the new year begins. I am once again reminded of the journey of the children of Israel through the wilderness. God declared divine instruction through Moses, “Ye have compassed this mountain long enough...” (Deuteronomy 2:3). In other words, you have gone around the base of this mountain for several days, it is time to move onward!

In another sense, there are “mountains” in life we compass or go around and around. We stay in the same old direction that we direct, but we need to listen to God and turn a better direction, friends! A new year is upon us...why not resolve to do so? I challenge us to follow what God directs today. It is time we cease compassing the mountains!

Wasting time is a mountain we compass. “Redeeming the time, because the days are evil” (Ephesians 5:16). As Robertson puts it, “We all have the same time. Paul goes into the open market and buys it up by using it rightly.” There’s the factor: it is imperative we use our time wisely and rightly. God forbid any of us be like Felix in Acts 24:24, 25. He sent for Paul but afterwards trembled at what he heard. No example from the scriptures where Felix came to Christ. We go around and around not using time wisely. Schedule carefully and prioritize with importance.

Apathy. Simply not caring. Can you imagine? No emotion, no compassion, no concern for anything or anyone. In Revelation 3:14—16, the church allowed the things of the world to dictate their comfort and the Lord commanded them to repent! Indeed, a mountain that takes us around and around with no direction and no concern. Oh, “turn northward,” friend!

Worry is a never ending compass. Around and around with emotions all torn. “Be careful (or anxious, JA) for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God” (Philippians 4:6). Turn it over to the Lord...the worry, concern and strife. Always remember a rule of thumb concerning worry: If you can’t do anything about it, worry won’t change it and if you can do something about it, then work and don’t worry!

Ignorance is a mountain (Hosea 4:6). Ignorance is destructive. Those at Berea did not allow ignorance to permeate their lives (Acts 17:10, 11). Ignorance and refusal to learn is as one that is “ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2 Timothy 3:7). Let us grow in our knowledge and put it to use (2 Peter 3:18).

Wasting precious time, apathy, worry and ignorance. Oh, there are so many throughout the world that compass these mountains and get nowhere. Praise to God that we have a direction to go! Dear friend, do you have that right direction and plan?

THE ATONING BLOOD OF CHRIST

Barry Kennedy

What can wash away my sin? What can make me whole again? Nothing but the blood of Jesus. These words have been sung by countless souls ever since Robert Lowry penned them all those many years ago. How comforting and convicting these words are to the sinner’s ear! Man has a great need, but it often goes unattended, and that is the need for the atoning blood of Christ. In fact, no other subject in scripture can shock man to his core more than the blood of Christ. Consider the atoning blood of Christ as it emphasizes the seriousness of sin; reminds one of the salvation available, and finally encourages the security promised.

OVER>>>

The atoning blood of Christ emphasizes the SERIOUSNESS of sin. It seems to be the normal course of action for people to try and “justify” their deeds, be they right or wrong. It is unpopular to say that something is a sin in today’s tolerant society. What many of this mindset fail to realize is that if this is so, then the shed blood of Christ is somewhat “cheapened.” Moses wrote long ago that “...the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul” (Leviticus 17:11). This statement was made in reference to eating blood (Leviticus 17:10, 12-16). Of course, God was protecting His people physically, but there is no denying the spiritual implications involved in these scriptures as well. In fact, Moses said that the blood was used in the atonement of their souls. Sin always has and always will cause death (i.e. separation) from God (Isaiah 59:1-2; Ezekiel 18:20; Romans 6:23). The hard reality is that only one thing has the power to remove man’s guilty stains brought on by sin and that is the precious atoning blood of Christ.

When one takes to heart the fact that his personal sins caused Jesus to endure the cross, it should promote his desire to repent. “For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death” (2 Corinthians 7:10). One cannot truly appreciate the sacrifice God has made for man and feel good about living in sin. Jesus shed His life’s blood for the sins of the world, but we should never lose sight of the fact that He died for each one individually. He knew when he was being scourged that He was doing it for this author personally. He knew when those nails were driven into His flesh that it was for you dear reader. See yourself at the foot of that cross and you will see His blood flowing down for your sins. If that does not dampen ones desire to transgress God’s law nothing will. Yes, His precious atoning blood emphasizes the seriousness of sin.

The atoning blood of Christ also reminds one that SALVATION is available. One need not think of atonement only as his personal gift. Jesus made this clear when He stated: “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost” (Luke 19:10). Man’s sin brought about a great need and that need was salvation. John wrote it this way: “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:8). One literally sins by saying he has no sin (Ephesians 4:25; Colossians 3:9; Revelation 21:8). Not only does this person lie about his own life, but he makes God out to be a liar as well (1 John 1:10). Therefore, salvation is the greatest need for all men. This is at the very heart of why Jesus shed His blood. “But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man” (Hebrews 2:9). Notice, the Hebrew writer clearly emphasized the scope of Jesus’ sacrifice when he wrote “every man.” This is a point that many Calvinists need to consider before they espouse their doctrine of “limited atonement.” However, one need not stop here; John also stated this truth in the Revelation when he wrote “And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will (Emph. Mine BK), let him take of the water of life freely” (Revelation 22:17). Yes, Jesus shed His precious atoning blood to make salvation available to anyone who will obey Him (John 3:16; Titus 2:11-14; Hebrews 5:8-9).

The atoning blood of Christ encourages the SECURITY that is promised. No one wants to feel as though they are in danger. People spend money on security systems for their homes and automobiles. They lock their doors and study safety plans in order to secure their peace of mind. How secure do people feel spiritually speaking? One can only answer this question for himself. The real issue is why do people not have the proper feeling of security? Maybe people are putting too much trust in their own abilities (or inabilities) and fail to see the atoning blood of Christ. Of course every individual has his and her personal responsibilities (2 Corinthians 5:10). How does the Christian find this security knowing the possibility of apostasy (Galatians 5:4)? God does not expect His people to be in doubt (2 Timothy 1:7). The promise of security was clearly stated by the apostle John when he wrote: “But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ (emph. Mine BK) His Son cleanseth us from all sin” (1 John 1:7). Yes, there is a continual cleansing promised to all souls who walk faithfully in the light of God’s word (Psalm 119:105). This is only possible because of the precious atoning blood of Christ (John 1:29; 1 Peter 2:24).

The precious atoning blood of Christ washed man of his sins (Revelation 1:5; 7:14), redeemed man to God (Ephesians 1:7), justified man as if he never sinned (Romans 5:8, 9), also gives man peace (Colossians 1:20), and enables him to overcome Satan (Revelation 12:11). This is possible if we see the seriousness of sin, lay hold on the available salvation, and access the security of a faithful walk with Him.