

# Weekly Newsletter

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## The Religion of Islam

### *Christ or Muhammad? The Bible or The Koran?*

Beginning last Wednesday night, we began a study of the religion of Islam. Please make your plans to attend the adult Wednesday night Bible class as we, for the next several weeks discuss the background, doctrines, and challenge of Islam. The proposed schedule of topics is as follows:

The Birth of Islam	February 14
Understanding Islam	February 21
The Five Pillars of Islam	February 28
<b>Beliefs of Islam (Part 1)</b>	<b>March 7</b>
Beliefs of Islam (Part 2)	March 14
The Koran	March 21

## A Weekend Of Preaching With Andy Baker

We are pleased to announce that on the weekend of March 10-11, we will have Andy Baker with us. He will be speaking on Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. and then again at the three services on Sunday. Please mark your calendar, invite your friends, and make plans to be present.

Andy's lessons will be geared toward encouragement, faithfulness, and greater commitment. The titles for his lessons are listed below:

Sat. P.M.:	The Message and Work of Christians
Sun. Class:	Commitment to Jesus
Sun. A.M.:	Commitment to the Body of Christ
Sun. P.M.:	Commitment to the Work of the Body of Christ

## CHRIST IN *Youth*

### You Are Valuable To God

By Steve Higginbotham

Due to our keen awareness of our own imperfections, we are often made to wonder, as did the psalmist, "Who is man that you are mindful of him?" (Psalm 8:4). We sometimes wonder how God could possibly still love us after all our sins? Maybe the answer to that question can be best understood by way of illustration.

Suppose I offer you a crisp, new, \$100 dollar bill, would you want it? Of course you would. But suppose I crumpled the money up in my fist. Would you still want it? That wouldn't change your mind, would it? Well, suppose I then threw the crumpled \$100 dollar bill on the floor and ground it into the floor with my shoe. Would you still want it? Well, of course you would. You see, whether crumpled or crisp, clean or dirty, the \$100 dollar bill retains its value.



Likewise, it matters not to God how dirty we get from wallowing in sin, God still sees our value and wants to possess us.

Friends, don't ever sell yourself short. Do you feel guilty for all your sins? Good! You should. But don't let your sins cause you to think that God no longer wants you. You are his creation, his offspring, and consequently he will never stop loving you. Don't allow his love to go unrequited.

# We Were Robbed!

By Steve Higginbotham

I've often heard the title of this article spoken by a losing team following a ballgame with poor officiating. However, yesterday this phrase took on a whole new meaning for me. Allow me to explain.

I was invited to present a seminar on Internet Safety at the Memorial Parkway Church of Christ in Huntsville, Alabama. My good friend, Reed Swindle is one of the preacher's there. I left Glasgow immediately following Sunday worship service and arrived in Huntsville, Alabama at 3:30 p.m. I arrived at the building as the doors were unlocked and I entered and went to Reed's office. I sat and talked with Reed for approximately 5 minutes when a wide-eyed man suddenly appeared in Reed's doorway. He had on a hooded sweat jacket, a cap, and a bandana covering his face like in the old Western movies. He pointed a gun at both of us and demanded all our money! Reed and I both laughed at him at first. I thought it was one of the kids in his youth group and he thought I had brought someone with me who was playing a joke. As he pointed the gun at our heads, it eventually dawned on both of us that this wasn't a joke, and that he was serious. We gave him all the money we had and as he kept the gun trained on us, he said as he was about to leave, "I'm sorry I have to do this." At that point, I didn't know whether he was sorry for having robbed us, or if he was telling us he was sorry for what he was about to do. Fortunately, it was the former. The young man then fled the building and Reed called the police. Fifteen minutes later I had to begin presenting four lessons on Internet Safety. Actually, I don't remember much of what I said. I probably owe the good brethren at Memorial Park a do-over (but good luck getting me back down there! Ha!). (By way of side note, when the detective asked me what kind of pistol the man had, I said, "Pistol? From what I could see, it looked more like a bazooka or cannon!")

It is amazing how many thoughts flash through your mind while an event like this happens to you. I can't begin to share all of them with you, but I'll share a few thoughts that occurred to me immediately followed this incident.

1. I was reminded of how quickly and unexpectedly life can be taken from you. I can certainly tell you that when I woke up Sunday morning, I didn't think I'd have someone pointing a gun at me before the day was over, but I did. It caused me to reflect on how many people awaken every morning, having no idea that this day will be their last day on earth. Some day we will all awaken to our last sunrise. Will we be prepared when the day arrives?
2. Also, moments after this man ran from the building, I recalled the words I read, written by the Bible commentator, Matthew Henry. On one occasion in his life, he was robbed. That very evening, he recorded the following words in his journal as he gave thanks to God. "I thank Thee first because I was never robbed before; second, because although they took my purse they did not take my life; third, because although they took my all, it was not much; and fourth because it was I who was robbed, and not I who robbed." As bad as things may be, there are plenty of reasons to give thanks if one chooses to do so.

Well, I'm certainly thankful that things worked out as they did. Reed and I are both fine. I'm back safely in Glasgow with a renewed appreciation for a lot of blessings I take for granted.

# Family Matters

## Sick List

- Dewey Shorty Walker, brother-in-law of Charles Short is in the St. Thomas Hospital in Nashville.

## Prayer Request

Prayers are requested for:

- Wendell Britt, Gladys Cornelius, and Ruth Elliott.
- Gavin Coffey, great great nephew of Ruth Stephens and Jessie Thompson.
- Jeannette Krume, mother of Karen Dilley.
- Denver Niemeier, related to the Steenbergen family.
- Delois Page, mother of John Page.
- Shevin Smith, grandson of Ann Surber.

## Birth

Ella Kunkel is happy to announce the birth of her sister; Addison Grace. Addison was born on February 28. She weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. and was 20 1/2 inches long. Proud parents are Matt and Kari Kunkel. Grandparents are Joe & Betty Kunkel and Gary & Diana Brownfield.

## Sympathy

We express our sympathy to the friends and family of Frank Peden. He passed away, Tuesday, February 27. Funeral services were conducted Friday at the Crow Funeral Home. Frank was the brother of Eugenia Groce.

## Visitation Team

Visitation Team #2 will meet Sunday, March 11, following the morning worship service for a potluck meal and meeting. Team members should bring their visitation records to turn in. Team Leaders are Billy Pritchard & Alan Beals.

## Prayer Breakfast

The March Prayer Breakfast will be held Saturday, March 10, at 7:30 a.m. Everyone is invited, men and women.

## Thank You Notes

The many acts of kindness shown us during Jim's illness and passing was overwhelming. The cards, calls, visits, flowers and prayers made his days much brighter. Thanks to Steve and Ralph Burris for their kind words. Also, thanks for the delicious meal brought to us after the funeral. Your every act of kindness made this journey much easier.

The family of Jim Dunaway

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the ladies who recently brought food to me. I am so blessed to have such a caring church family. Thank you for being so thoughtful.

Dorothy Coffey

## Ladies Day

On Sunday, March 18, at 4:30 p.m. there will be an organizational meeting for our upcoming Ladies Day. Sheets have been placed in the foyers for you to sign-up in the areas that wish to help with. All ladies that plan to help with year's event are encouraged to be present at this meeting. Ladies Day at South Green is scheduled for April 28. Should you have any questions please contact Ronnie or Debbie Turner.

## Seminar At Lehman Ave.

The Fundamental Truths Seminar at the Lehman Avenue Church of Christ will be held Saturday, March 24, from 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. The theme is "Uniting On Who We Are." Speakers for the 2007 seminar are: Charles Baugh, Gary Hampton, Mike Greene and Marlin Connelly, Jr. A catered lunch will be served. If you plan to attend, please RSVP at 270-843-8435.

## Vacation Bible School

The dates for Vacation Bible School at South Green have been set for Wednesday, May 31-Saturday, June 2. Please mark these dates on your calendar and make plans to attend this years VBS!

