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Service Times

Sunday

Bible Class: 9:30 A.M.

Worship: 10:30 A.M. & 5 P.M.

Sonshiners: 4:45pm

Wednesday

Bible Study: 7 P.M.

Preacher: Russ Earl

AM Sermon: Like Joshua – part 3

(Joshua 6 & 10)

PM Sermon Saul's Disobedience (1 Samuel 15)

Sunday AM Bible Class: Philippians - R. Earl

Wednesday Bible Class: Things a Christian Should and Should Not Do – R. Earl

In SEARCH of the Lord's Way
On Channel 6-2 Sundays @ 7:30 am
The Gospel of Christ TV Program
on Saturday @ 7:30am on Channel 53
BibleWayMediaMedia.org

The Oologah church of Christ only uses the **KJV**, **NKJV** or **ASV** translation of the Bible in classes & sermons.

## The Oologah Informer May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

## Thoughts from the Preacher "Hard of Hearing"

In Isaiah 59:1 the Bible teaches that God hears the prayers of man. Some today seem to believe God has not heard their prayers when they have not been answered as the think they should.

Man must realize it is not God with the hearing problem instead it is man.

## Living In Hope

By Jim O'Conner

I know of no situation more dreadful than that described in Ephesians 2:12 of "having no hope." A hopeless case is a sad case in any situation in life, but especially so in spiritual matters. One who has no hope spiritually is in the worst possible condition.

However, this state of hopelessness does have a remedy. Hope is offered through, and in, Christ Jesus, the Son of God. Those who are "baptized into Christ" (Romans 6:3, Galatians 3:27) are in Christ. The cloud of despair revealed in Ephesians 2:12 vanishes in the next verse, which reads "But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ" (Ephesians 2:13). The beauty of this hope is, I can't be robbed of it by circumstances outside my own will (Romans 8:1, John 6:37). An economy crunch, or a thief, may rob us of our hope for financial wealth; an accident may rob us of our hope for a certain career; a disease may rob us of our hope for a long and useful physical life; but nothing outside ourselves can rob us of our hope for eternal life (Romans 8:38-39).

The fact of our hope is not true because of things we have generated. Therefore, it does not depend upon human ingenuity to exist nor human power to maintain it's existence. The writer of Hebrews confirms this as follows: "Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of his counsel, confirmed it by an oath: That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil; whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec" (Hebrews 6:17-20). Our hope is sure and stedfast because Jesus, our forerunner, has us anchored in heaven. Let us be sure we don't turn loose on this end through unfaithfulness. It is fitting that people with hope live as hopeful people. We have been "begotten...again unto a living hope" (I Peter 1:3) and we ought to act like it. We are sustained by hope (Hebrews 6:18), and we are saved by hope (Romans 8:24), therefore, we ought to "rejoice in hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:2), and cultivate "patience of hope" (I

Thessalonians 1:3). Our hope ought to direct us in our handling of life (I John 3:3), and in our handling of death (I Thessalonians 4:13). It is worth working for (Hebrews 6:10-11), protecting (Colossians 1:23), and talking about (I Peter 3:15). I am confident that Paul and Silas could pray and sing praises unto God while in prison (Acts 16:25) because of their "hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2).

Let us determine to live "soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world; looking for that blessed hope" (Titus 2:12-13), for "the righteous hath hope in his death" (Proverbs 14:32), remembering that it is "Christ in you, the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27) that makes hope possible.