

One In Christ, Inc **NEWSLETTER**

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<http://www.stevepettitmessages.com>

Consider Jesus: Noticeable Evidence (Part 2) Hebrews 13:8-25

Our material realm is forever changing - from shifting tectonic plates to weather phenomena, from technology to our own bodies - even the rate or pace of change is changing! You might think the only thing constant is change... but not so! The only thing that is "the same yesterday, today, and forever" is Jesus Christ (Heb 13:8). That's why we have been encouraged by the Hebrews author to always "consider Jesus." He characterizes the constancy and consistency of Divinity and, therefore, is alone the only solid, reliable, unchanging object of our faith. (That doesn't mean He is predictable - we'll never catch and confine Him, use Him for our purposes!)

It does mean, however, we test everything by Him (Eph 4:20). He is our standard for all valuation (Col 3:17) and for all Biblical interpretation (Lk 24:27,44-45). We are to be “occupied” with Him (Heb 13:10). He is our altar, our high priest, our sacrifice, our mediator for all things God. As the changeless and eternal One, He is our indwelling and unlimited supply for all we need to live as God intended human beings to live (Heb 13:5,6). We will never need to plow a rocky field without being yoked to the One Who can plow concrete. We will never be in a storm without the One Who will calm the storm or calm us in its midst. We will never face death without the Resurrection and the Life abiding in us. The One Who is always the same is always with us.

That being so amply said in all that precedes this final chapter, our author simply leaves some "words to the wise" in his conclusion.

#1 Be Watchful! Don't let anyone distract you away from the simplicity of the gospel (Heb 13:9). Jesus Christ is the Subject and the Vitality of all Christian living. Whatever can't save you can't make you holy or glorify God - stay away from any other "strange teaching."

#2 **Be Warned!** Not everyone will approve or applaud your choice to trust in Christ alone. You may be regarded as profane, even blasphemous and relegated to a place of reproach and rejection (= "outside the camp") (Heb 13:13). In every conflict of loyalties, make Jesus your priority - "go to Him"!

#3 **Be Worshipful!** You want a ritual? I'll give you one", the author seems to be saying. "Continually" worship Jesus Christ (Heb 13:15,16). You are not bound to times ("Sabbath"), to places ("Temple"), to the presence of others ("Priests"), to sacrificial animals ("lambs"). With lips that praise Him and lives that profess Him, let everything He has placed in you find its release.

Remember, you are "saints" (13:24). Don't forget, it is all of "grace" (13:25). As you faithfully consider Jesus, you will find all you need... for this world... and the one to come!

8

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Greetings

After 21 years of pastoring CenterPoint Christian Fellowship, as we told you last month, that "role" has come to its end for me. There will still be some "transition" work in the days and weeks ahead. And, as you can see, there is plenty of opportunity throughout the fall to preach and teach!

Please pray for us as we consider what is next. Supply preaching? More conferences? Home meetings? Perhaps a simple investment in a local church without any teaching or leader role at all? We'll see!

If you are interested in a gathering/meeting in 2020, now is the time to let us know. We have some meetings already scheduled and, without the CCF Sunday commitment, a few extra opportunities as well.

Thank you for all your encouragement during our CCF years. Your prayer and financial support made it possible for us to be and do what God wanted for that season. We value your participation with us in all that is yet to come!

CALENDAR

AUGUST

13 Alachua Study (7:00 p.m.)
18-22 Panama City, FL
27 Ocala Study

SEPTEMBER

12-15 Louisville, KY (502-664-5622)
22-28 Ashton, ID

OCTOBER

4-6 Binghamton, NY (607-239-5006)
18-20 Vero Beach, FL (772-563-0430)

NOVEMBER

8-10 Calais, ME

Praise & Prayer



Our mentors and spiritual guides



Christ our Solid Rock



The simplicity of the gospel to rule in our hearts



Opportunities to share the truth

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