

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may . . . glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:16

The Coastal Light

Church of Christ

1912 Osborne Rd. St Mary's, GA 31558 : (912)882-5800 : www.churchofchriststm.org

Elders:

Linwood Burden

Terry Powell

Deacons:

Eric Bennett

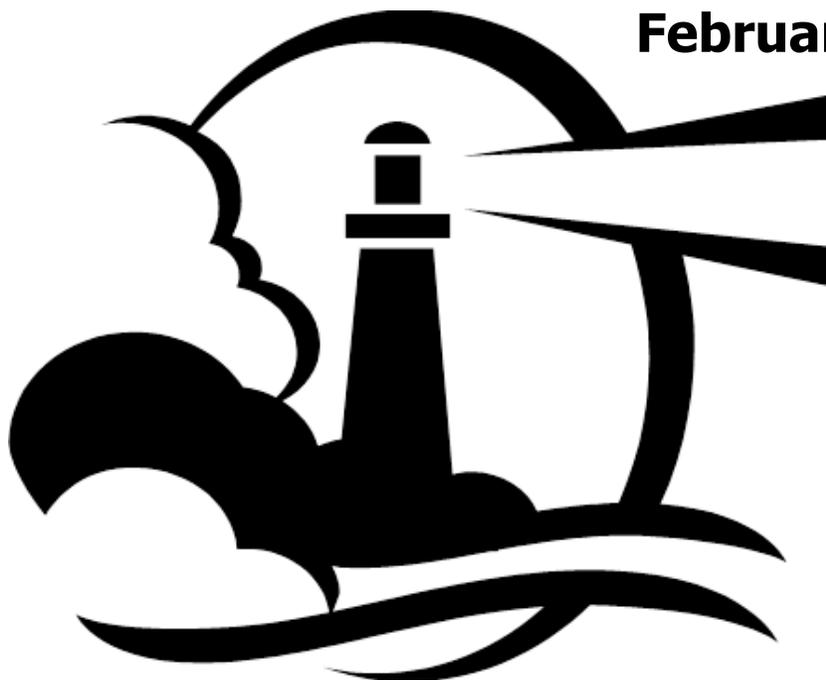
Bill Christensen

David Nordstrom

Gary Tupper

Preacher:

Art Wilson



February 26th, 2023

Evangelize

"Go therefore and, make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Mt. 28:19-20
ESV

"The churches of Christ salute you"

Romans 16:16

Sunday Services

10:00am service

11:00am Worship

6:00pm Worship

Wednesday Service

7:00pm

Welcome Visitors

**You are our honored guest.
Thank you for coming to visit with us.**

Please complete a Visitor's Card and put it in the collection plate or give it to one of the men and please sign the register in the foyer so we can have a permanent record.

You are encouraged to take any DVDs or tracts you find in the foyer and enjoy some Visitors Bread in the basket beside the door as you exit.

**Past sermons can be found on our website at:
www.churchofchriststm.org.**

If you have any questions about anything you have heard or seen, please feel free to ask.

In respect of the worship service, please turn off or place your cell phone on silent during worship.



THANK YOU

**PRAYER REQUEST
FRIENDS & FAMILY**

King – Prayers

Kenny Hodges – Prayers (Ernie's friend)

Keri Hedgecock – Prayers (Amy's cousin)

Today's Sermon

AM: 4 Reasons Faith Alone Is Wrong

PM: Q & A

Art Wilson

Announcements

Cards are available in the fellowship hall. For the card ministry

Live streaming of the **10 AM & 11 AM Sunday morning** service and **Wednesday's 7 PM** bible study can be watched on the St Mary's church of Christ Facebook page.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word

Romans 10:17

Believe the Word

Hebrews 11:6

Repent of Your Sins

Luke 13: 3, 5

Confess Jesus Christ as the Son of the Living God

Mathew 10:32

Be Baptized for the Remission of Your Sins

Acts 2:38

Remain Faithful unto Death

Revelation 2:10

Faith Only?

The New Testament makes it abundantly clear that man's salvation from sin is "through faith" ([Eph. 2:8](#)), "being justified by faith" ([Rom. 5:1](#)). Unfortunately, certain denominations and individuals have grabbed that foundational truth and have twisted it to teach that man is saved "by faith alone." That "destructive heresy" (cf. [2 Pet. 2:1](#)) has confused many Bible readers and has cost many souls. The reality is that the doctrine of "faith only" contradicts their own doctrine and, more importantly, Bible doctrine.

The effort to emphasize salvation at the point of faith is simultaneously an effort to de-emphasize works as a part of salvation. A fundamental misunderstanding of the phrase, "not of works," in [Ephesians 2:9](#), has led some to teach that one is saved at the moment of faith, apart from any works. That is not what that passage or the New Testament teaches, and interestingly, that is not what their own doctrine teaches.

"Faith only" proponents are usually the same ones who urge individuals to "say the Sinner's prayer and be saved." "The Sinner's Prayer" (a doctrine and practice foreign to the New Testament) typically confesses sin, asks for forgiveness and requests Jesus into one's heart. But consider this for a moment: If salvation is by faith only, why would one need to say a prayer? Isn't saying a prayer some step beyond faith? By requiring "a prayer," proponents of the "faith only" doctrine themselves affirm that salvation is not by "faith alone."

Even more critical and more destructive than contradicting themselves is contradicting plain Bible teaching. First, the Bible does teach there are requirements for salvation beyond (i.e., in addition to) and based upon one's faith ([Mark 16:16](#); [Acts 2:38](#); [17:30](#)). The Bible teaches that "faith without works is dead" ([Jas. 2:20, 26](#)), for "faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead" (2:17). The Bible teaches that one is "justified by works, and not by faith only" ([Jas. 2:24](#)). The Bible teaches that "Even the demons believe—and tremble!" ([Jas. 2:19](#)).

Second, there is not one single example in the Bible of saving faith being a "faith alone," apart from works. Read Hebrews 11 and try to make all of the "By faith" statements to mean "By faith only." It makes the whole chapter nonsensical. There are examples of Jews who had faith in Jesus but clearly were not saved ([John 12:42-43](#); [8:31-44](#)). The reason is that believing in Jesus only gives one "the right to become" a child of God ([John 1:12](#)). One must act on that faith and exercise that "right" to actually become His child ([John 3:3-5](#); [Gal. 3:26-27](#)).

The Bible teaches that salvation is by faith, but it also clearly teaches that salvation is not by faith alone.