

SOLAR ECLIPSE

Just about everyone has known for months that a solar eclipse is scheduled to occur in the United States on August 21, 2017. The area in which we live, as I have been told, will have a total eclipse. According to Wikipedia, "A solar eclipse occurs when the Moon passes between Earth and the Sun, thereby totally or partly obscuring the image of the sun for a viewer on Earth. A total solar eclipse occurs when the moon's apparent diameter is larger than the sun's, blocking all direct sunlight, turning day into darkness." I also read that the longest total eclipse on that day will be less than three minutes. I thought of another time when there was darkness in the middle of the day. Matthew states in Matthew 27:45, "Now from the sixth hour there was darkness over all the land unto the ninth hour." This darkness lasted for three hours and it covered all the land. The sixth hour would have been noon. The occasion was the crucifixion of our Lord. Soon after this our Lord died (Matthew 27:50). The eclipse of 2017 will be an economic boost for those locations in the path of the eclipse. The darkness that occurred when Jesus was crucified means he paid the price for my sins and your sins so that we could live eternally with Him. This was no eclipse or clouds or anything from nature. This was a supernatural event. The eclipse of 2017 will be interesting to experience. The darkness when our Lord was crucified means I now have a way to heaven. L. Cole

YOU MUST BE DOING SOMETHING RIGHT.

Through the years, I've heard numerous people say, "You must be doing something right, you all are really growing." This comment has led me to conclude that there is a misconception among us that if a church is growing, someone must be doing something right. However, is "church growth" really proof that "someone is doing something right?" Would it not be just as plausible that if a church is growing, "someone must be doing something wrong?"

Are we to believe that people are attracted by truth, but not by error? While I can appreciate the compliment intended by this expression, it just isn't true. The reason some churches grow has nothing to do with doing something right, but has everything to do with preaching doctrines that "tickle the ear" (2 Timothy 4:3). Brethren, we need to stop measuring churches and preachers by "growth." Not long ago, I received a "Job Description" from an eldership wanting to hire a preacher. Among their list of "measurable expectations" they had for their preacher were:

- .. Increase Sunday morning worship attendance by 3% each year.*
- .. Increase Sunday evening worship attendance by 5% each year until it equals 90% of the Sunday morning worship attendance.*
- .. Increase Bible class attendance by 3% each year.*

I don't think these good men understand that church growth, or a preacher for that

matter, is not measured by numbers. Under their criteria, Noah would have been a miserable failure but God compliments him as a “preacher of righteousness” (2 Peter 2:5). Cultures will experience ebb and flow with respect to repentance and interest in spiritual things. The lack of increase in numbers no more reflects negatively on a preacher or a congregation than an increase of numbers reflects positively on a preacher and a congregation.

We need to stop being preoccupied with numbers. Elders, stop letting a focus on numbers drive you to unnecessarily uproot a faithful, hard-working preacher and spend the Lord’s money in preacher shuffling. Preachers, stop letting a preoccupation on numbers cause you to give up on a congregation in search of “greener grass.” Maybe we would be better served if we would stop talking about “growing the church” and get back to the biblical verbiage of our planting and watering and letting God give the increase (1 Corinthians 3:6)

By Steve Higginbotham, Karns Courier 07/17

IF...

IF Christ stood before you right now and said, “*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved.*” What would you do?

IF the Lord will save us without baptism, why did Peter command it (Acts 10:47-48)?

IF the Lord promises us salvation without baptism, why did Peter say it saved (I Peter 3:21)?

IF sprinkling and pouring are scriptural baptism, why did Paul say there is ONE baptism, which is a burial (Ephesians 4:5; Romans 6:1-6; Colossians 2:11-12)?

IF we can receive remission of sins without baptism, why did Peter say baptism is for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38)?

IF we get into Christ without baptism, why did Paul say we are baptized into Christ (Galatians 3:27)?

IF we get into the body of Christ without baptism, why did Paul say we are baptized into the body (I Corinthians 12:13)? The body and the church are the same (Colossians 1:18).

IF Jesus Christ grasped your hand and said, “*If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments*” (John 14:15), would you love and obey Him?

—Copied

**THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE
WORSHIP—SUNDAY AM**

Aug 20, 2017

Coordinator Steve Anderson
Announcements Kaleb Bush
Scriptures Reading.. Rom. 5:1,2. . . Dallas Eddie

Song Leader Jacky Carver, Jr.
Opening Prayer. George Clay

Lord's Supper-Preside: Roger Draper
Serve: Glen Reece, John Leonard
Ethan Leonard, Billy Halliburton
Closing Prayer.....Jacky Carver, Sr.

Greeter— Jacky & Jacqueline Carver
Greeter— Glen & Patsy Reece
Count Offering. Dallas Eddie
. Kaleb Bush
AM Sermon— Kaleb Bush speaking
PM Sermon— Guest Speaker—Mark Holloway

WORSHIP---SUNDAY---6:00 PM

Announcements George Clay
Song Leader. Jacky Carver, Sr.
Scripture Reading...II Tim. 2:1-2 Dallas Eddie

Opening Prayer Mitchell Brooks
Lord's Supper Roger Draper
. Billy Halliburton
Closing Prayer George Clay

BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY---7:00 PM

Announcement..... George Clay
Song Leader Dallas Eddie

First Prayer. Billy Halliburton
Opening Prayer Mitchell Brooks
Closing Prayer Jacky Carver Sr.

Prepare Communion for **Aug**
Vickie Cole

Note: If you are not able to fulfill your assignment listed above, **please notify the coordinator** so that he can find a replacement

MONTROSE BULLETIN BOARD

NURSING HOME:

Opal Agee-Kindred
Pearl Anderson—Knollwood Manor,
Carolyn Clay—Knollwood Manor

Kasel Dillehay—Overton Co. Nursing Home
Idella Spurlin- McFarland Rehab.

THOSE ON THE SICK LIST;

W. A. Gibbs, Gladys Bowling,
Jimmie Faye Cole, Sawyer Cole,
Arnold Rich, Sue Buckner,
Opal Green,

OUR RECORD OF LOVE FOR CHRIST

08/13/17

Wednesday.	36
Worship Sunday AM	81
Bible Study Sunday AM	70
Daily Bible Readers	37
Worship Sunday PM	54

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Month of August. Collecting School Supplies for DES.

Aug 18-24th. Polishing the Pulpit

Aug 27th. Fellowship Meal

Sept. 2nd. Women's Breakfast

READING SCHEDULE FOR AUG

01 Isa. 18-20	12 Isa. 53-57	22 Jer. 21-23
02 Isa. 21-23	13 Isa. 58-60	23 Jer. 24-26
03 Isa. 24-26	14 Isa. 61-63	24 Jer. 27-29
04 Isa. 27-29	15 Isa. 64-66	25 Jer. 30-32
05 Isa. 30-34	16 Jer 1-3	26 Jer. 33-37
06 Isa. 35-37	17 Jer. 4-6	27 Jer. 38-40
07 Isa. 38-40	18 Jer. 7-9	28 Jer. 41-43
08 Isa. 41-43	19 Jer. 10-14	29 Jer. 44-46
09 Isa. 44-46	20 Jer. 15-17	30 Jer. 47-49
10 Isa. 47-49	21 Jer. 18-20	31 Jer. 50-52
11 Isa. 50-52		