

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1148

January 29, 2017

Jeremiah 17:1, *“The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron, and with the point of a diamond: it is graven upon the table of their heart, and upon the horns of your altars;”*

When we begin school we probably do some of our first writing with a pencil. The markings of a pencil are easy to erase. As we grow older we start writing with ink which is more permanent. If you are in some type of profession that requires engraving upon stone, then that writing could possibly last until the world ends.

In addressing the sin of Judah, Jeremiah said their sins were written with a pen of iron and the point of a diamond. These sins were engraved upon a table— the table of their hearts and the horns of their altars.

Anything written with a pen of iron and point of a diamond is going to be permanent. Our sins are permanent and will not be erased until they are forgiven. What can be so powerful as to erase such permanent writing?

I John 1:7 says, *“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we*

have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.” Revelation 1:5 says, *“And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood.”*

Sometimes it’s hard for us to remove writings made by pencil, and almost impossible to remove ink. Sins are totally impossible to remove until the blood of Jesus removes them. This blood does not reach everyone. It only cleanses the sins of those who are in Christ. We are told in Galatians 3:27, *“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”*

We are baptized into Christ. We are told in I Peter 3:21, *“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:”*

Peter plainly wrote that baptism saves us. Paul was told in Acts 22:16, *“And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”* We are told here that we wash away our sins with baptism.” If we are saved before baptism, then there would be no sins to wash away.

Many fail to be baptized because they do not think any work is required at all. We are told in Ephesians 2:9-8, *“⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.”*

Works will not save but they are still required along with the faith we have. James 2:17, *“Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.”* Verse 20 says, *“But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?”*

continued on next page...

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Sunday 9 AM & 4 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Sally Marshall, Jewell Watkins, Jean Coffey, Alice Thrasher, Steve Seaton, and Brad Terry.**

—This coming Wednesday we will begin a study of the book of Daniel. Lessons for each Wednesday are posted on our website and in our church FaceBook group.

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James then says in James 2:22, “*Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?*” Faith is perfected, or made complete by works.

Those who believe in faith only without any works have an incomplete faith. This will not save them. They believe but we are told in James 2:19 that even the devils believe and tremble. This belief obviously doesn’t save the devils.

Faith alone is incomplete without works and works alone cannot save. The conclusion is that it takes both. I’ve often given the illustration of asking what is most important for your vehicle to move properly— the engine or the tires? Both are required and without either one, the vehicle is incomplete.

No, we are not saved by works, but without the works our faith is dead and incomplete. It takes both together. Many works must be done along with our faith— prayer, attendance, giving, doing good to others, as well as baptism, which Paul was told to do and wash away his sins.

Our sins are written with a pen of iron and point of a diamond, but by the blood of Christ we have them removed completely. Psalm 103:12, “*As far as the east is from the west, so far hath he removed our transgressions from us.*”

continued on back page...

Sunday, January 22, 2017		
Classes	22	Philippians 2:1-11
Preaching	26	Psalm 2:1; Psalm 37:1-20
Contribution	\$511.00	
Evening	12	Proverbs 27:1-27
Wednesday, January 25, 2017		
Classes	22	Esther 9:1-10:3

Visitors— Jan 25 (Wed) Karen Kerney (Glasgow, KY)

Bible Quiz

What sharpens iron?

Last Week’s Answer— The fire goes out (Proverbs 26:20)

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Make sure you are following the LORD according to the teachings in the Bible. Do not follow the words of man or tradition. What does the Bible say to do? That is what we need to do.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)