

It's Up To You

Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Do you know the Lord? I don't mean to know about Him. I mean do you know Him and is He your Lord and Savior? This may be a question that you, like many other people, don't want to think about, at least not right now. Why? Maybe it is because you're not sure if you believe what the bible says. Or, perhaps someone who is a Christian has offended you at some point in your life. Some are confused by all the things that the world says about evolution, and the things that are going on in this world.

Some people think that God shouldn't allow so many bad things to happen. Things like robbery, violence, corruption, fornication, greed, wars, and all the other sins that are going on daily. These, plus the many things that are in life to distract people from seeking God, keep so many from even considering God and the judgment to come. The pursuit of pleasure and the material things of life fill up so much of a person's time

that there is hardly any room for the Lord.

Still a person must, or should, give a lot of thought about God, life, and death. Life here on earth is relatively short. We are here for a number of years and then this life ends. What then? The body is flesh and decays, but the spirit will live, but the question is - where will it live? The Devil, and yes there is one, wants mankind to think that death is the end and that there is no heaven or hell. The truth is that there is a heaven, and sad to say, there is a hell. You, me, and everyone will be in one, or the other at some time in the future.

As the title says, "It's up to you." **Matthew 22:1-3**, "And Jesus answered and spake unto them again by parables, and said, The kingdom of heaven is like unto a certain king, which made a marriage for his son, And sent forth his servants to call them that were bidden to the wedding: and they would not come." You may not have realized it but this column is but one of the ways that God is calling you to come to him. Whether it is by reading, a personal witness and invitation to come to church, which is to say, "Come to the Lord," hearing a sermon, or any other of the many ways that God calls to a person, it is a call from the Lord. Your

response is up to you for the Lord will not force you to come to him.

Could a person who is lost and condemned say that he had no chance to be saved? Some would claim that here on earth, but standing before God I don't think that they could, or will. John 3:16 is not just a verse, but a fact. God loved mankind enough that he did send his son, Jesus, to save us from sin. He has made the way and paid the price of our redemption with his blood and the life he gave on the cross. Then God has sent his message of grace to us and invited us to come out of sin and to live for him. We not only can live for him now, but with him for eternity.

John 1:11-12, "He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name." Will you come? Don't look at the world and the things of it for salvation. Do not trust in man, preachers, or even the church for they can not save you, only the Lord can. I, like other men, will disappoint you at times, but Jesus won't, he alone is the great example. This is an invitation to you and you can come to the Lord, or reject it. It's up to you..

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Exodus intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times.

JACOB'S TOIL
RACHEL HAS HASTENED TO HER FATHER, LABAN, AND TOLD HIM OF HER MEETING JACOB AT THE WELL AND THAT HE IS A KINGMAN. NOW...

COME WITH ME—EVERYONE!

WE MUST MEET THIS JACOB WHO SAYS HE IS MY SISTER'S SON!

...WHILE JACOB STILL TARRIES AT THE WELL...

WHAT MADE RACHEL RUN AWAY?

BEHOLD, MANY PEOPLE COME RUNNING!

ART THOU, THEN, JACOB THE SON OF MY SISTER REBEKAH?

I AM HE.

THEN THOU ART SURELY MY OWN FLESH AND BLOOD!

COME THEN! ABIDE AT MY HOUSE AND WE SHALL HAVE FEASTING AND MUCH MERRY-MAKING FOR THOU ART A KINGMAN AND I LOVEST THEE AS A SON.

Next Week Jacob's toil begins

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