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## What is Valley Station Church?

It is a group of Christians determined to be pleasing to God. How do they do this? They do all in their power to follow the teaching of Jesus Christ with no changes, additions, subtractions or alterations.

It is a group of Christians that claim no human denominational affiliation — just Christians working and worshipping together at the Lord’s word teaches. If you need Christ as your Lord and Savior, we believe you will find him among the Christians at Valley Station.

**Come and see.**

The **VALLEY TIDINGS** is published monthly by the church of Christ, meeting at 1803 Dixie Garden Drive, Valley Station, Kentucky 40272

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### Assemblies

Sunday Bible Class 9:30 A.M.  
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Sunday Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Classes 7:30 P.M.  
Ladies Class, Thursday 10:00 A.M.

Visit Valley at [www.vscoc.org](http://www.vscoc.org)

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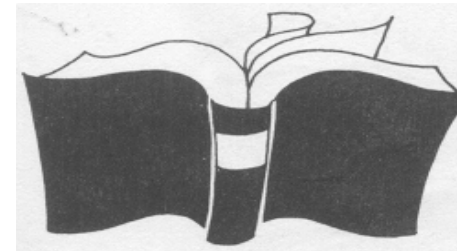
# Valley Tidings

**Set For The Defense of the Glad Tidings**

Volume IX, September 2008, Number 9

## Why Be Baptized?

A very miserable man was waiting in the ancient city of Damascus for the most important information of his entire life. Not only was he miserable, he was confused. He was blind and had not eaten for three days. The Lord had appeared to this man, Saul of Tarsus, at the very time Saul was on a mission to persecute those who were followers of Jesus Christ.



On the way he had seen a brilliantly bright light that struck him blind. In his confusion he sought an answer: “Who are you Lord?” The divine reply was, “I am Jesus whom thou persecutest.” The Lord told him to go into the city of Damascus and wait for further instructions. He learned that a very simple thing was required.

A chosen messenger gave Saul the Lord’s requirement. “*And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on his name*” – Acts 22:16. He could have asked, “How can water baptism wash my sins away?” but he didn’t — he just obeyed. He was obedient and was baptized to wash away his sins. He told a king, “I was not disobedient unto the heavenly vision” – Acts 26:19.

Reader – have you become obedient to the same requirements Jesus laid on the great apostle Paul? Without obedience that is the same as Saul’s, how can one have sins washed away?

A very famous Baptist scholar wrote of this verse, “This clause states a result of baptism in language derived from the nature of that ordinance. It answers to ‘for the remission of sins,’ in 2:38, -- i.e. submit to the rite in order to be forgiven.” – Horation B. Hackett, *American Commentary on Acts*.

The man is right. Do you agree? Baptism is far from being unimportant or unnecessary. - DRS

## *The Two Ways Of Life*

*“Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate, and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat; Because strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it” (Matthew 7:13, 14).*

This passage is a description of two ways of life. One is difficult and called “life” while the other is easy and called “destruction.” One way is narrow and difficult; the other is wide and easy. Paul wrote, “And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ; who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power, when he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe. . .”(2 Thess. 1:7:10). Divine warnings are to create a desire to be sure of being in the right way.

The wide gate leading to destruction is opened wide and is very attractive. It promises wild and enthusiastic pleasures. It offers an enjoyable trip to a terrible end. No effort is required to travel the broad way. No sinful pleasures, companions, cherished loved ones or possessions need be forsaken. On the other hand we see quite a different picture. The narrow way has a small opening. It offers no worldly allurements, no apparent earthly charm or spectacle. There is a small sign, overlooked by the majority of people which says, “To The City Of The King.” In the light of these truths it is immensely important that every honest reader be sure of being in the right way.

Few travel the road leading to life. Entry to the broad way requires no separation from worldly attachments while the small opening of the narrow way requires that one be stripped of worldly pleasure, selfishness, and any other hindrance. The difficulty is not the travel on the narrow road—it is in the entrance. A good beginning does not insure a successful ending. There are many pitfalls along the narrow way. It requires more than a human guide. We “walk by faith and not by sight” (2 Cor. 5:7). “Faith comes by hearing and hearing from the word of God” (Rom. 10:17). The word of God therefore is a “light unto our path and a lamp to our feet” (Psa. 119:105).

Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No man cometh unto the father, but by me” (John 14:6). He is **the** way. He blazed the trail. He knows well the route so that all who follow His directions will have a safe trip. Peter wrote, “For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example that ye should follow his steps” (1 Pet. 2:21). To follow His steps is to follow His attitude of humility and submissiveness to His Father. Our Lord said, “I can of mine own self do nothing; as I hear I judge; and my judgment is just, because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me” (John 5:30). With this attitude, one whose heart is filled with faith and love, will obey the Lord. “Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven” (Matt. 7:21).

If we believe the good news (gospel) that God’s only Son came here and died for our sins, was buried, arose and was received into Heaven where he now reigns — if we believe this

with all our hearts and souls, obedience to the commands of God will be our happy privilege rather than a burden (1 John 5:3). This settles the essentiality of obedience forever.

The commands of the gospel of Christ are simple and plain. Christ through His gospel requires faith in Him with all the heart, repentance and reformation of our lives. Immersion in water into the sacred name of the Holy Three for the remission of sins is not optional but must be obeyed (Matt. 28:19-20). When the Ethiopian Eunuch was convinced that Jesus Christ was the Son of God, he asked, “Here is water, what hinders me to be baptized?” (Acts 8:36). Phillip, the evangelist, said, “If you believes with all your heart, you may.” Jesus commissioned the apostles to “preach the gospel to every creature, He that believeth (the gospel) and is baptized shall be saved, but he that believeth not (the gospel) shall be damned” (Mark 16:15,16).

Once entered upon the road to life everlasting, one must add to faith virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and love. (2 Pet. 1:5-9). Living soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world, finally one day the Lord will come again and beckon us with His welcome voice to dwell with Him forever and ever in the land of happiness and joy (Titus 2:11-14). The glorious and precious promises move the faithful to endure to the end of the strait and narrow path. At the end the faithful can say with John, “Even so, come Lord Jesus.”

*“An atheist's most embarrassing moment is when he feels profoundly thankful for something, but can't think of anybody to thank. -Vincent*



A soft answer turneth away wrath; But a grievous word stirreth up anger. The tongue of the wise uttereth knowledge aright; But the mouth of fools poureth out folly. The eyes of Jehovah are in every place, Keeping watch upon the evil and the good. A gentle tongue is a tree of life; But perverseness therein is a breaking of the spirit.—Prov. 15:1-4

