

Divin' In – Wednesday Night Bible Study

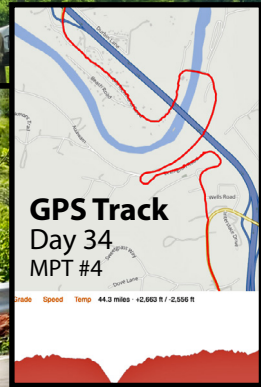
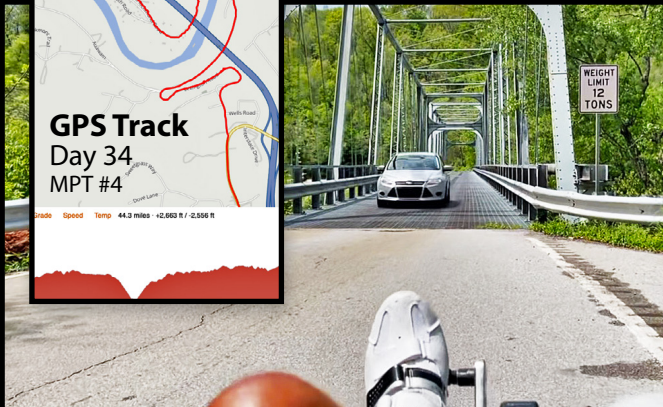
THE CHURCH OF THE SPRINGS – 3/15/23



Jesus said to him, *“I am the [only] Way [to God] and the [real] Truth and the [real] Life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me.”*
SEE John 14:6 AMP

Trying to beat the system

DAY 34 Old Clays Ferry Bridge



Orlando to Alaska – Book 2

FAITH LESSON 10 of 14

The Lord my God is a just, true God, so I'm pounding on the gates, and I can't get in. But the Lord my God is a God of grace – though the gates are solid, and the gates are shut, I can breach the fences if I really, REALLY want to get in.

– by Ross Clark [Australia], Psalm 153 “Sneaking into Heaven”

Matthew 7:20-23 NLT+

“Not all people who sound **religious** are really godly. They may REFER to me as ‘Lord’, but they still won’t enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The decisive issue is whether they ACTUALLY obey my Father in heaven.

“On judgment day many will say to me, ‘Lord! Lord! We **prophesied** in your name, we cast out demons in your name, we performed many miracles IN YOUR NAME!!! [Aren’t you IMPRESSED?!?’]

“But I will reply, ‘Go away. GO AWAY, you who **refused** to obey God’s Laws! I never knew you. The things you did were unauthorized; what YOU promoted actually went AGAINST GOD’S LAWS!’”

Acts 2:36-41 LB

[Peter] “Therefore I clearly state to everyone in Israel that God has made this Jesus YOU **crucified** to be the Lord, the **Messiah!**” These words of Peter’s moved them deeply, and they said to him and to the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what should we do?’

“And Peter replied, ‘Each one of you **must** turn from sin, return to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; then you also shall receive this **gift**, the Holy Spirit. For Christ **promised** Him to each one of you who has been called by the Lord our God, and to your children and even to those in **distant lands!**’

“Then Peter preached a long sermon, telling about Jesus and strongly urging all his listeners to save themselves from the evils of their nation. And those who believed Peter were baptized—about **3,000** in all!”

Romans 3:21-26 LB

“But now God has shown us a different way to heaven—not by ‘being good enough’ and trying to keep His laws, but by a **NEW** way (though not new, really, for the Scriptures told about it long ago). Now God says He will **accept** and **acquit** us—declare us ‘not guilty’—if we trust Jesus Christ to take away our sins. And we **ALL** can be saved in this same way, by coming to Christ, no matter who we are or what we have been like. Yes, **ALL** have sinned; **ALL** fall short of God’s glorious ideal; yet now God declares us ‘not guilty’ of offending Him **IF** we trust in Jesus Christ, who in His kindness freely takes away our sins.

“For **God** sent Christ Jesus to take the **punishment** for our sins and to end all God’s anger against us. **He** used Christ’s **blood** and our **faith** as the means of saving us from His wrath.....For **He** was looking forward to the time when Christ would come and take away those sins. And now in these days also **He** can receive **sinners** in this same way because Jesus took away their sins.

But isn’t this unfair for God to let criminals go free, and say that they are **innocent**? No, for He does it on the basis of their **trust** in Jesus who took away their sins.” [see Numbers 21:5-9, John 3:13-15, and 2 Cor. 5:20-6:4]

ALSO: Romans 10:9-12, and Revelation 12:10-11 “...by the blood of the Lamb, and the word of their testimony...”