



Rockwood Church of Christ

The Proclaimer

Aug 7, 2022

P.O. Box 416
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Elders:

Kendall Bear
Dana Carter
Don Chandler

Deacons:

Larry Brackett
Aaron Evans
Larry Hill
Steve McCreary

Minister:

Dale Barger

Service Times:

Sunday

Bible Study 10 am
Worship Service 10:45 am
Worship Service 6 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7 pm

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God's GPS of Salvation

Our technological society has become very familiar with the "GPS" which facilitates navigating from point A to point B. When properly set, the GPS ideally prevents one from becoming "lost" when driving. I totally depend upon my GPS to navigate me through an unfamiliar city or location. I love it for the miles and the gasoline it saves me, not to mention all of the stress in wandering from street to street trying to find my way.

In His unlimited wisdom, our Creator recognized man's desperate need for a "spiritual GPS." His inspired prophet declared, "I know, O LORD, that a man's way is not in himself, nor is it in a man who walks to direct his steps" (**Jer. 10:23**). No human being is born with a built-in spiritual GPS that can lead him/her to the Lord and His will. Many people make the serious mistake of trusting their own intuition as God's inner voice! This is the spiritual danger Jeremiah warned against.

Many eternally jeopardize their souls by consulting the faulty GPS of "human wisdom" as they trust their own feelings or intuition to lead them to salvation. The good moral person may also reason that since he is as morally good as some Christians, surely a God of love (assuming that He does exist) would never send him to hell! Even some Christians trust their own "good works" as the basis of their salvation. Such thinking reflects the error of human wisdom and a very faulty spiritual GPS.

Paul's epistle to the Romans clearly condemns trusting any human goodness, morality or even good Christian works as the basis of our hope for salvation. Such a spiritually faulty GPS is not programmed with God's wisdom. The only GPS we can fully trust is God's Perfect Son.

Jesus plainly declared, "My sheep hear My voice...and they follow Me" (**Jn. 10:27**). Only those who follow the voice of Jesus as the Way, the Truth and the Life (**Jn. 14:6**) will be safely led to an eternal home with the Father and His Son in heaven.

Ralph Weinhold
Danville church of Christ
Danville, AR

Understanding Coupons and Scriptures

What conclusions can be drawn from this coupon?

1. You must go TO **RALLY'S** - Not McDonald's or Wendy's
2. You must purchase Fries AND a Drink.
3. You will get a BIG CHICKEN SANDWICH for 69 cents, NOT a burger.
4. You can only use ONE COUPON PER VISIT. If you're very hungry and want two 69 chicken sandwiches, you will have to pay full price for one!
5. After October 30, 1999, this Coupon is NO LONGER VALID.
6. You cannot use several coupons and discounts and add them together. This coupon is valid SOLELY BY ITSELF.
7. Some Rally's do not offer this. You will have to check BEFORE ordering!

RALLY'S BIG CHICKEN SANDWICH
\$.69

With purchase of any Fries AND a Drink.

Limit one coupon per visit

Offer expires Oct. 30, 1999.

Not valid with any other offer or discounts.

Valid at participating locations.

Phrase it this way:

If you buy a fries and drink, you can purchase a chicken sandwich for \$.69. If you do not buy only fries, you will pay full price for the big chicken sandwich. Can it not be understood that if we fail to buy the fries AND the drink, we can't receive the deal? We must do both!

Compare to **Mark 16:16**:

"He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved. He that believeth not shall be damned." Can it not be understood that if we fail to believe AND be baptized we can't be saved? We must do both!

Why is it that we have no problem understanding a simple coupon? We know the coupon is not left up to our own interpretation. Nor does everyone have a right to their own opinion of what they make out of the coupon. We can't have the coupon saying whatever we want it to say and then make the statement: *"You see it your way and I see it my way"*. The coupon says what it says, it states the rules, and those are the facts in the matter. The company that issued the coupon intended to convey a definite message. We must then comply with the statements made in the coupon. What the coupon says is not up for debate.

Yet, when it comes to such simple passages as **Mark 16:16**, and others, why don't we use the same simple logic? *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"* (**2 Timothy 3:16**). God, who issued the Scriptures, intended to convey a definite message. We must then comply with whatever God has revealed in the Scriptures. What the Scriptures say are not up for debate. Therefore, the Bible is not left up to our own interpretation. Even the inspired prophets, who God used to reveal His will were not at liberty to *"slant"* the Scriptures or inject their own understanding and opinions. *"Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."* (**2 Peter 1:20-21**). Nor does everyone have a right to their own opinion. Neither can *"you see it your way and I see it my way"*. The Scriptures states the rules and those are the facts in the matter.

If Christ wants man to believe and be baptized, what other way could He have said it so that we could better understand?