## Acts 20:28-3 I (KJV)

"Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

## Our Family News

Traveling/Working / Charles is in Kotzebue Pray For/ Josiah, Helen Spicer, and Peggy. Pray for each other daily. Radio Programs / Listen to "Searching the Scriptures," our weekly radio program on KMBQ 99.7 Sunday mornings beginning at 9:00 AM.

Today's Scripture / John 4:23-24 (KJV) "But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

Wisdom for Today / Psalm I43:I0 (KJV) "Teach me to do thy will; for thou art my God: thy spirit is good; lead me into the land of uprightness."

AM Sermon / George Jensen PM Sermon / George Jensen
Attendance last Sunday: 67.
For more information check our website at www.churchofchristwasilla.com

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Bill Beebe |(907) 84I-926I | billbeebe7@gmail.com

## God's Plan of Salvation

Hear Romans 10:17
Believe Mark 16:16, Hebrews II:I-6
Repent Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
Confess Romans 10:9-10, Matt 10:32-33
Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
Arise and Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4
Remain Faithful Matt 24:13, Rev 2:10, James I:12
"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

## Contact Information

Meeting Times
Sunday
Bible Classes 10AM
AM Worship 11AM
PM Worship 5PM
Wednesday
Bible Study 7PM

## Office Hours

Call or Ck Web

Come join us!
The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:

206 I N. Merciful Circle Wasilla, Ak 99654
(907) 373-5773

Visit our website at: www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Welcome, Members Expected

## One Way

Bill Beebe
As a young boy growing up in the bible belt I remember seeing billboards along the roads with signs encouraging people to "Attend the Church of Your Choice this Sunday". I also heard radio preachers proclaim that there were many roads that lead a person to Heaven. You don't see these billboards much today, nor do you hear preachers declare that there are many roads that lead to heaven. I didn't think much about these messages at the time, but I wonder how the people who put the signs up and those radio preachers made enough money to pay for their advertisements. After all if I attended the church of my choice or thought that their were many roads that I could take to get to heaven, why would I choose their church? When Peggy and I moved back south after we retired, I do not remember seeing a single sign with this message, nor did I hear one preacher proclaim that there were many roads that a person could take to reach heaven. So, I wonder what happened to make those changes.

There are at least two plausible reasons for this change. First, the churches of Christ were growing extremely quickly in the 1950's and early 1960's. The message that we were teaching then, as we do now, was that there was only one church and only one path that would lead a person to God. This teaching is clear in the Bible when we read John 14:6 (KJV) "Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." And Ephesians 4:4-5 (KJV) "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One Lord, one faith, one baptism," And secondly preachers begin to see that there was a lot of profit to be made off their members. So, if they continued to teach that a person could worship in the church of their choice they would loose lots of money when people left looking for a church that didn't demand tithes and annual fundraising offerings. And in the meantime, the churches of Christ seem to have lost our zeal for teaching the truth and we began to shrink rather than grow. Instead of buildings where there were packed pews, folding chairs in the aisles' 14 or 21 day revivals; most of our buildings are nearly empty and congregations are closing.

What has happened to make the message that the denominations used to teach so hard, many paths to heaven, out dated today? Why aren't we
growing like we once did? I have heard a few reasons for this, two of which I have thought about a lot since reading them. One is that we are trying to teach kids of the $21^{\text {st }}$ century with 1950's methods. I well remember the felt boards that the teachers used to illustrate a point or a Bibical story. And it worked...that is until we got our first television then those felt boards became boring. We need to modernize our teaching methods, but not the message that we teach! The second reason is that we are cheap. We don't invest in teaching methods, materials nor delivery today. When was the last time that you remember having a teachers clinic where teachers were exposed to new methods of teaching the truth and then we invested in those things? Now don't get me wrong, I do not in any way condone in converting our services into a two hour show where the point is to entertain those in attendance rather than worship God in "spirit and truth" (John 4:22-24). The point of our worship is to please God and not ourselves, therefore the point of our teaching must be to teach the truth as it has been delivered to us by the Holy Spirit.

There is only one way, not many. Jesus phrases it as follows Matthew 7:14 (KJV) "Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it." And the only church that is acceptable to God is the one that Jesus died for, that Peter opened the doors to, that the Apostles were martyred for and that is clearly taught about in the sacred writings of the New Testament. Let's make sure that we are members of that church, that we are traveling on the one and only road that leads to life, and that we clearly proclaim the truth of God as it was taught in the first century. However, we shouldn't hesitate to take advantage to modern teaching techniques. If we do this, we may see those old denominational sighs reappear and once again have standing room only in our buildings.

