

For Our Information

Ruben Keisler is to have surgery on his hand July 9th.

Summertime not only brings travel, it also brings opportunities to hear God's Word. Check the board each week for meeting announcements.

Take opportunity to speak with our visitors and let them know they are welcome. Any visitor cards are posted on the board just inside the office. Send them a thank you card.

Remember one another as we pray to the Father each day

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

hall of fame" who looked to the reward. In a world completely engrossed in corruption, when Noah's faith moved him to prepare the ark as per God's direction, it redounded to the saving of his house (v. 7). Moving successively through Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, and Moses, the scribe of this Hebrew letter compounds the evidence that God is a REWARDER of faith (vs. 8-29). Space not permitting biographical sketches of others to whom he wanted to call attention, the writer hastily enumerates the many and varied accomplishments of these great characters who were "diligent seekers" after God, all of whom obtained a good testimony through faith (vs. 30-38).

Those Old Testament saints peered, in faith, through the long ages to the fulfillment of a promise into the benefits of which you and I have access (Hebrews 11:39-40), benefits and blessings that accrue only to those in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:26-28). Are you IN CHRIST?

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about our work in the Lord's Kingdom.

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Seeking His Righteousness

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The God Who Is, Rewards!

Norman E. Fultz

The author of Hebrews, using Abel and Enoch as examples, reasoned that it is by faith that one pleases God. He then declared, "Without faith, it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently see Him" (Hebrews 11:6). To please God one must believe, not that He "was", but that He "is". That's the present indicative of the verb "be", and it indicates a present and continuing reality. Note some of the attributes ascribed to Him which declare His "isness", if we may coin a word.

When Moses queried God as to

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Revelation

1:8



Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

1512 Tanner St. Malvern, AR

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how he could identify Him to the Israelites, God declared, "*I AM WHO I AM*"; *tell them "I AM has sent me to you."* (**Exodus 3:14**) One writer said of the phrase, it suggests "the idea of uninterrupted continuance and boundless duration." Another said that the idea is that of "real, perfect, unconditioned, independent existence." In the next verse, "*LORD God*" is equated with the "*I AM*"; and in **Genesis 21:33**, He who is the LORD is called "*the Everlasting God.*"

In his final speech to the Israelites, Moses sought to comfort and assure them by declaring that "*The eternal God is your refuge, And underneath are the everlasting arms...*" (**Deuteronomy 33:27**). In the New Testament, many hundreds of years later, Paul also called God "*the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God*" (**1Timothy 1:17**). Joshua, having succeeded Moses as leader of Israel, reminds them that "*the living God is among you*" (Joshua 3:10); even as Paul referred to "*the living God*" Who is the creator (**Acts 14:15**), and a bit later declared Him to presently be "*Lord of heaven and earth*" (**Acts 17:24**), "*the living and true God*" (**1Thessalonians 1:9**).

One of the "omni" terms which is frequently applied to God is "omnipresence", that is that He is everywhere and always present. The Psalmist wrote, "*Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? If I ascend into heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in hell, behold, You are there. If I take the wings of the morning, And dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, Even there Your hand shall lead me, And Your right hand shall hold me*" (**Psalm 139:7-12**). The very concept of "omnipresence" demands that one recognize that "God is."

The God who is has revealed Himself and His will

Store In My Heart

Psalm 119:11

I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. (ESV)

This verse is what prompted the heading above. The idea of storing God's Word helps us keep it front and center so it can help us avoid sin. We want to hold it dear in our minds and use it to guide in all things. Such action will help us avoid the sin that surrounds us daily.

Fill your mind with the Word of God and there will be no room for the deceitful teaching of Satan or his servants among men.

Keeping Scripture in focus is one tool in our box that can help us focus on God and move away from Satan and his distractions in the world. Don't just read the Word, keep it always in focus.

to man. He "*has spoken*" (**Hebrews 1:1-2**), and He calls upon His creation for response. He desires that we "*might seek Him and find Him*", He "*commands all men everywhere to repent*" in view of a coming judgment (**Acts 17:27-31**); and He desires the worship of His creatures (**John 4:23-24**). Kind reader, do you believe that He is?

Both warning them against discarding their faith in Christ and encouraging the Hebrew saints forward in steadfastness, the apostle affirmed that "*The just shall live by faith*" and that one may "*believe to the saving of the soul*", while God has no pleasure in one who draws back (**Hebrews 10:38-29**). Faithfulness should be encouraged when one realizes that the God who IS, is a REWARDER of those who diligently seek Him (**11:6**). Evidence abounds that He IS, and the inspired author offers testimony that He REWARDS.

Hebrews 11 has been called "the hall of fame of the Scriptures." This chapter recalls a host of diligently seeking believers who took God at His word when there was nothing to cling to but His promise. That faith in a God who is able to reward those who seek after Him is shown to be a worthy operative principle of life; for such a faith gives substance to the object of one's hope and conviction or assurance of things one cannot see. The writer's declaration that "*God is a rewarder*" flows naturally from what he had just avowed concerning Abel and Enoch. Abel had witness that he was righteous, God, in some manner, having testified to Abel's gifts; and Enoch, due to his faith, prior to his translation, had testimony that "*he should not see death.*"

Allowing these to serve as the foundation for his affirmation that God is a REWARDER of the diligent seeker, the apostle recounts the faith of many in "the