

# The Vincennes Voice

“...The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight...” (Matt. 3:3)

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## **A WEE, LITTLE MAN**

*Larry R. Ping II*

As Christians, the people of God are in possession of tremendous gifts and blessings. They come from *“the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning”* (Jam. 1:17). Perhaps we do not pause enough to remember those things “we have.” Now is a great time to do so!

### **1) WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.**

This good news was announced by Paul in Romans 5:1. Most today are looking for peace, but are glaring in the wrong direction. Genuine peace is made *“through the blood of his cross, by him to reconcile all things unto himself”* (Col. 1:20). Do you have this peace? If not, why not?

### **2) WE HAVE NOW RECEIVED THE ATONEMENT.**

The apostle penned this wonderful information in Romans 5:11. To “atone” is “to make things right.” Sacrifices in the Law of Moses were made in order

to “make atonement” for individuals (Lev. 1:4). Jesus is our atoning sacrifice. He is the Only One Who can take one full of wrongs and make him right. Do you have a relationship with the One Who became your atonement? If not, why not?

### **3) WE HAVE MANY MEMBERS IN ONE BODY.**

Paul declared this in Romans 12:4. The body is identified as *“the church”* (Eph. 1:22-23; Col. 1:18). It was said to the Corinthians *“the body is not one member, but many”* (I Cor. 12:14). Each member is different (I Cor. 12:21-24), yet each member stands ready to *“Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep”* (Rom. 12:15). Do you, because of obedience to God, have many members with whom to live and labor? If not, why not?

### **4) WE HAVE HOPE IN CHRIST.**

Paul confirmed this in I Cor. 15:19, while reminding his readers of the tragedy of a non-resurrected Jesus. The Good Book reports

*“we are saved by hope”* (Rom. 8:24) and that hope serves *“as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast”* (Heb. 6:19). Do you have this hope? If not, why not?

**5) WE HAVE A BUILDING OF GOD.** This building is *“an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”* (II Cor. 5:1). As

Abraham once confessed, so we confess, we are *“strangers and pilgrims on the earth”* (Heb. 11:13). As we often sing, *“This world is not my home, I’m just passing through. My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue.”*

Once physical life is complete, God’s children will eternally enjoy a place where *“there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away”* (Rev. 21:4). Do you have a building of God not made with hands?

**6) WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS.**

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The Ephesian brethren were the recipient of this marvelous news (Eph. 1:7). Since “*all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God*” (Rom. 3:23), all are in need of redemption from sin, the act of “buying back” sin. Christians are “*justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus*” (Rom. 3:24). Do you have redemption from your sin? If not, why not?

**7) WE HAVE OBTAINED AN INHERITANCE.** Paul penned these words in Ephesians 1:11. Christians stand to inherit something magnificent once earthly life is complete. Jesus has “*begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you*” (I Pet. 1:3-4). Do you have this inheritance awaiting you? If not, why not?

**8) WE HAVE GREAT JOY AND CONSOLATION.** In writing to Philemon about his run-away slave

Onesimus, Paul made this comment (Phm. 7). For people of God, there is no reason not to be happy and joyful. The Philippian brethren were instructed to “*Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice*” (Php. 4:4). Simply put, the Thessalonians were charged to “*Rejoice evermore*” (I Thess. 5:16). Do you have great joy and consolation? If not, why not?

**9) WE HAVE A GREAT HIGH PRIEST.** The Hebrew author affirmed this in Hebrews 4:14. This High Priest “*is passed into the heavens,*” declared to be “*Jesus the Son of God,*” Who can be “*touched with the feeling of our infirmities,*” and has been “*in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin*” (Heb. 4:14-15). God’s children have a sympathizing Jesus, who understands how it feels to be infirmed and how it feels to be tempted. Do you have Him as High Priest? If not, why not?

**10) WE HAVE RECEIVED THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH.** The Bible confirms

Jesus said “*ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free*” (Jn. 8:32).

Knowledge comes as a result of diligent study of God’s Word (II Tim. 2:15). Paul explained “*when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge*” (Eph. 3:4). Do you have a knowledge of the truth? If not, why not?

**11) WE HAVE A GOOD CONSCIENCE.** The Bible speaks of this kind of individual in Hebrews 13:18 when writing, “*Pray for us: for we trust we have a good conscience, in all things willing to live honestly.*” A good conscience is one which has responded to the Gospel call. Peter authored “*The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ*” (I Pet. 3:21). Do you have a clean and clear conscience as a result of obedience? If not, why not?

God has blessed us with great things, hasn’t He?

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## FIRST CITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

### MEETING AT HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS

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## MEETING TIMES (EST)

### SUNDAY

Bible Study – 10:00 am

Worship – 11:00 am & 3:00 pm

### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study – 7:00 pm