THE VANISHING DUCK

 Sitting on the bank of Guntersville Lake, I noticed three ducks in the water not far from the shore.  About seventy-five yards away was one lonely little duck.  I wondered at the duck being all alone for one usually sees ducks in a group.  I know you’re asking what ducks have to do with anything.  Well this one little duck suddenly vanished beneath the water.  I closely watched the place where it went under, waiting for it to surface.  It never came up, at least not where it went under.  Instead he came up into about twelve to fifteen yards away.  Then he went out of sight again.  He comes up about fifteen feet further away. Then I realized that each time he came up he was closer to the small group of three.  After descending and surfacing five or six times the lone duck became part of the group.

        It seems odd that the duck would choose to swim under water rather than swim the normal way of a duck which is on top of the water.  I realized he was moving much faster under water than on the surface.  The duck wanted to get to the group quickly and he did.

       That is the way of a lost person he or she needs to get to Jesus.  If he can’t get there one way he must try another.  If it takes going a little deeper to get to Jesus then go a little deeper.  If it is better on top of the water then go that way if it takes flying then fly; whatever gets us to Jesus let us get there quickly.  Salvation will not wait forever.

       This illustration also reminded me of how we long for the fellowship of others.  The little duck couldn’t wait to be with his friends.  So he made his way to them as fast as he could.  I joined the church the morning after I was saved.  So I have a little problem understanding why some folks do not want to be a part of the church.  Once we are saved and become part of the Heavenly family of God, why should we not want to become part of his visible family; the local church?  We are like the little duck; we need the fellowship of our Christian brothers and sisters.

       It is amazing to watch the newly saved people of the New Testament being baptized immediately after their conversion; they were anxious to be identified with God’s people.  We have that same need to identify and be united with those of the same family; the family of Christ.  Look at the three thousand who were saved at Pentecost; Cornelius and his family; the Philippian jailor and his family; and the Ethiopian eunuch.  All of these folks longed to be baptized and identified with this great family.  In this, God has created the greatest organization on earth; the church.  To God be the glory!  Great things he hath done!

Yours in Christ,

Brother Randy Burtram