



Living By Faith

"The just shall live by faith." Romans 1:17

March 7, 2010

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

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Brownwood, TX 76801
325-646-7102
www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:45 AM
Worship..... 10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service..... 2:30 PM
Redstone Service..... 2:30 PM
Worship..... 6:00 PM

Tuesday:

Redstone Class 9:30 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..... 10:00 AM
Bible Study..... 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister Jim Moore
Don Smith..... James Thomas

Preacher:

Ryan Smithey

Works We Support:

Belize Mission & Kindergarten
Cherokee Home for Children
Eric Henry, SWSBS
Food Pantry
Gospel Broadcast Network
Gospel Chariot Missions
House to House, Heart to Heart
Lake Cisco Camp
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
The Truth in Love
World Bible School

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.

Antioch: 2 Cities, 2 Reactions to the Gospel

By Luke Griffin

According to the New Testament account of Paul's missionary journeys, the people in two cities with the same name, Antioch, had very different reactions to the Gospel.

Antioch of Pisidia, the smaller city, was located northeast of Ephesus in what is now modern day Turkey. In the first century, it was part of the Roman Empire and had a population of just over 50,000. Antioch on the Orontes, also known as Antioch of Syria, was about 300 miles north of Jerusalem and had a population of more than half a million.

In Acts 13:14, Paul and Barnabas departed from Perga and arrived in Antioch in Pisidia. On the Sabbath they preached to the Jews about Christ (13:64) and on the following Sabbath, they preached to the whole city, focusing more on the Gentiles (13:44-47), since many of the Jews had rejected the Gospel. Eventually, these Jews stirred up the chief men of the city, persecuted Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from the city (13:50). The Jewish leaders were not satisfied with forcing the missionaries to leave town and pursued Paul and Barnabas to Lystra (Acts 14:6-8) where they stirred up the people, stoned Paul, and threw him out of the city, thinking he was dead (14:19). However, Paul lived and continued to preach the next day before departing for Derbe.

Today we remember the Jewish people at Antioch of Pisidia first "followed Paul and Barnabas" and then became envious and opposed them because they spoke to "multitudes" of Gentiles who "were glad and glorified the word of the Lord" (13:43-49).

By contrast, Antioch of Syria had a better response to the Gospel and a greater influence on the development of Christianity than any other first century city except Jerusalem. Nicknamed "Queen of the East," this Antioch was the third largest city in the Roman Empire, after Rome itself and Alexandria in Egypt. Located on the Orontes River, which flows into the Mediterranean about fifteen miles to the west, it was an important center for trade and learning. In addition, the Roman provincial mint was located there. Today, Antioch shows few signs of its past glory. Located in Syria, it has about 28,000 inhabitants.

After Stephen was stoned, persecution intensified in Jerusalem, and many believers were scattered. Some went as far as Antioch on the Orontes, preaching the Gospel-but only to the Jews (Acts 11:19). Then men came from Cyprus and Cyrene, preaching Jesus to the Gentiles also, and "a great number believed and turned to the Lord" (11 :20, 21). Apparently, Jewish and Gentile believers were able to unite peacefully in their faith in Christ. When the church at Jerusalem heard about these conversions, they sent Barnabas to encourage the young con-

(Continued on page 3)



Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son.

2 John 1:9

Is Your Soul Prospering? by Gary Colley

The beloved John wrote, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth" (III Jn. 2). His prayer should be our prayer for the souls of our fellowmen!

Our Saviour asked a question almost 2,000 years ago that still rings in the ears of every sober thinking individual: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" (Mk. 8:36). The Bible makes it clear that we should consider our soul of greater worth than our family, occupation, education, wealth, or pleasure! Further, it is to be understood that it is a bad exchange if any of these things pertaining to this world are chosen above the safety of our soul (Mk. 8:37). Since our soul is given to us by our Maker (Gen. 2:7; Heb. 12:9), for meaningful purposes both now and eternally, all should wisely nourish, cherish, and protect from evil this immortal and eternal nature!

But, if we give all of our time, energy, allegiance, and money to the things of this world and leave God out, we shall be the greatest of failures. If we do not think about our relationship with God enough to care for our soul, we will suffer eternal and irreparable loss (Rom. 6:23; Lk. 16:19-31)! When all of the things of this world have passed away, as surely they must (II Pet. 3:10), there will still be God and our soul! When we stand before the judgment bar, we shall stand there naked and alone if the world has been our only goal (I Tim. 6:6-10).

We should be reminded that in that day there is but One who can insure the salvation of our soul, the perfect Lamb of God (Jn. 1:29). He is now able, ready, and willing to save all who will hear and learn from the Father about Him and obey His will (Jn. 6:44-45; Heb.5:8-9). Since His sacrifice on Calvary for the sins of the world and His ascension back to Heaven to reign at the right hand of God, all have the means by which they can be acceptable in the sight of God (Acts 10:34-35). But, it is the responsibility of every individual to accept the cleansing (Acts 2:38) and remain attentive to the needs of the soul (Rev. 2:10).

With the help given in the Gospel (Rom. 1:16), where we are commanded to hear, believe, repent, confess, and be baptized, it is our solemn duty to fit our soul for the high destiny prepared for us in Heaven (Jn. 14:1-6). Though there may be many losses suffered in this life, such as dear parents, children, or the loss of good health, there are none to be com-

pared with the loss of the soul! Hence, with an unknown author we ask again,

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT YOUR SOUL?

Have you ever stopped to wonder
 What this life is all about —
 Why you're here and where you're going
 When your lease on time runs out?
 Maybe you've been far too busy,
 Trying hard to reach your goal;
 Would you let me ask you kindly,
 Have you thought about your soul?
 You may reach the highest portals,
 And your dreams may all come true:
 Wealth and fame may be your portion,
 And success may shine on you.
 All your friends may sing your praises,
 Not a care on you may roll.
 What about the great tomorrow?
 Have you thought about your soul?
 Don't forget your days are numbered,
 Though you may be riding high;
 But like all of us poor mortals,
 Someday you'll just up and die.
 Your success and fame and glory
 Won't be worth the bell they toll.
 Let me ask you just one question:
 Have you thought about your soul?
 If you've never thought it over,
 Spend a little time today.
 There is nothing more important
 That will ever come your way.
 Than the joy of sins forgiven,
 And to know you've been made whole
 In the name of Christ the Savior,
 Have you thought about your soul?

Our brother Paul writes, "We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain. (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)"

Is your soul prospering?

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Reading Schedule
<p>The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB</p> <p>In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon) Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB</p> <p>Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org</p> <p>Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Radio</p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</p> <p>Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)</p>	<p>Sunday...Numbers 15-16; Mk 9:30-50</p> <p>Monday...Numbers 17-18; Mk 10:1-31</p> <p>Tuesday...Numbers 19-20; Mk 10:32-52</p> <p>Wednesday...Numbers 21-22; Mk 11:1-14</p> <p>Thursday...Numbers 23-24; Mk 11:15-33</p> <p>Friday...Numbers 25-26; Mk 12:1-27</p> <p>Saturday...Numbers 27-28; Mk 12:28-44</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15)</i></p>

News & Notes

(Continued from page 1)

gregation (vs. 22). Barnabas recruited Saul (later Paul) and brought him from

Tarsus to Antioch. Both men worked with the church for a year. "And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (vs. 25, 26).

Other important Christian events are connected with Antioch of Syria. One of the deacons appointed in Acts 6:5 was a proselyte from Antioch. Prophets from Jerusalem came to Antioch and warned of persecution that was coming. The Christians at Antioch then sent relief to those that were about to suffer and entrusted Paul and Barnabas to carry it to the elders (11 :29-30). It is also in Antioch that Paul confronted Peter regarding Peter's refusal to eat with Gentiles when the Jewish Christians from Jerusalem visited the church (Galatians 2:11-14).

Antioch became a base of operations for Paul and – Barnabas, at first together, and then Paul alone. Directed by the Holy Spirit, the church sent them on their first journey. They departed from Antioch and returned with reports of their work in Acts 14:25-27, 15:30-35, and 18:22,23.

An early dispute in the church arose in Antioch, when some Jewish Christians came and argued that in order to be a Christian, the Gentiles must be circumcised. They took this dispute to Jerusalem, to confer with the apostles and elders there. Peter defended Paul and Barnabas' position that circumcision was not necessary for salvation.

The two cities called Antioch are both well known among Christians today. The source of their fame, however, is different. One is infamous for persecution; the other is a good example of an active, dedicated church, striving to do God's will.

*From Think Magazine, March 2010
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Visitation Program

Remember to join us for our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services in the fellowship hall**. Last week **28 contacts** were made.

Ladies Class

Remember our **ladies class every Wednesday at 10 AM** in the fellowship hall— Join us as we study the life of Christ. Also don't forget that we will be going to lunch this week.

First Sunday

As today is the first Sunday of March, please plan to stay with us for lunch in the fellowship room after morning services.

Daylight Savings Time

Don't forget! Daylight Savings Time begins this coming Saturday night. Make sure to set your clocks 1 hour ahead.

Wilcox – Barnum Wedding

Mark your calendar: Kevin Wilcox and Amy Barnum plan to be wed on Saturday, March 20th at 4pm at the Bangs Church of Christ building.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

March Birthdays: Ken Manninger (04); John Greer (07); Maidee Wheeler (07); Allen Griffith (20); Mileen Kahlich (21); Michael Bickford (23); Zach Middleton (23); James Thomas (23); Jessica Stultz (28); Ethel Adams (29).

March Anniversaries: Cindy & James Fuller (02); Billie & Clarence Ford (20); Carol & Tom Wilcox (23).

"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Recent Records	February 21, 2010	February 28, 2010
Bible Class	57	66
AM Worship	70	81
PM Worship	59	61
Wednesday PM	49	47
Contribution	\$1496	\$1540

Privileged to Serve	03/07/10 - AM	03/07/10 - PM	03/14/10 - AM	03/14/10 - PM
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller		Michael & Gayle Bickford	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Hank Wheeler (Col. 4:2-6)		Michael Bickford
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	Jim Moore	Lloyd Leslie	Billy Chism
Wait on Table	Don Smith*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Ken Makuta	Don Smith	Jim Moore*, Don Smith Michael Fuller, John Barnum	Jim Moore
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	James Thomas	Hank Wheeler	Tom Wilcox
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	March 10 Ken Makuta	March 17 Allen Griffith	March 24 Jim Moore	March 31 Don Smith

Studies For The Week of March 7th:

Sunday Class Allen Griffith

Wednesday Class Minor Prophets: Joel 2-3

I am sorry that I cannot be with you today. Somehow I caught the flu and it knocked me down quite well beginning on Thursday and is still clinging on! I want to thank Allen Griffith for teaching class and preaching this morning, Jim Moore for preaching this evening, and Priscilla for doing the bulletin for me. I will miss being with you and hope to be back Wednesday.
~Ryan Smithey

Notes:

Notes:

Living by Faith is published weekly by the
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3201 4th St.
Brownwood, TX 76801

Return Service Requested