



Living By Faith

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

April 4, 2010

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801
325-646-7102
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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.

A HIDING PLACE

by Mike McDaniel

Not long ago, this writer read a book entitled, *Anne Frank Remembered*. This is the story of the woman who helped to hide Anne Frank and her family. Miep Gies tells of how she helped to hide eight Jews from the Germans in the city of Amsterdam from July 1942 until August 4, 1944. They hid in secret rooms above the pectin and spice business which Mister Frank helped to run. They called it "The Annex." The entrance to these rooms on the third floor and fourth floor was concealed by a moving bookcase which could be locked. This was their hiding place, their place of refuge from the Germans. Only a select few were trusted with this secret.

Miep Gies, who worked in the business, supplied them with food and other essentials as she was able. In 1944 someone betrayed them. The Germans came and took the Jews prisoner and sent most of them to concentration camps in Germany to die. The youngest of the family, Anne Frank, wrote a diary of her two years in the hiding place, which Miep Gies hid immediately after the hiding place had been discovered. After the war, only the father, Otto Frank, still lived. He granted permission to have Anne's diary published in 1947. Since then, it has been read by tens of millions all over the world. It is among the most enduring documents of the twentieth century.

Man has often needed a hiding place. Proverbs 14:26 states, "In the fear of the Lord is strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge." The Bible reveals several examples of God providing refuge for man. (1) Noah and his family found refuge from the flood in the ark (Heb. 11:7). (2) The Hebrews found security for their firstborn in the land of Egypt by putting the blood of the Passover lamb on the two side posts and on the upper door post of their houses (Exo. 12:13). (3) The cities of refuge, three on either side of the Jordan, provided protection from the avenger for anyone in Israel who had unintentionally caused death. These were places of refuge provided by God.

Likewise, God has provided a hiding place for us today where we may find refuge. "That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us" (Heb. 6:18). It appears to this writer that the Hebrews writer saw in the cities of refuge a type of the refuge which we have in Christ. We need refuge from doubt, from guilt, and from sin. The Christian has fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope that is set before us.

Only in Christ and in His Church is refuge found. Christ's body is the church (Col. 1:18). It is Christ who saves, and the church, which is His body, is

(Continued on page 3)



*But let all those that put their trust in thee rejoice:
let them ever shout for joy, because thou defendest them:
let them also that love thy name be joyful in thee.*

Psalm 5:11

The Right Scent

By David A. Sargent

Consider the scenario when a ewe dies while giving birth to a lamb. The newly-born lamb desperately needs the care of its mother, but that is not possible.

Why not give the lamb to a ewe that may have lost a lamb about the same time? Among those who care for sheep, it's common knowledge that you can't bond an orphaned lamb with just any ewe. Every lamb has its own unique scent. A ewe recognizes her own lamb by its scent. If a lamb doesn't have the right scent, the ewe will reject it.

So what can be done with a hungry orphaned lamb?

This is what shepherds have done through the years. They will take the skin of a lamb that has died in birth and wrap it around the motherless lamb like a sweater. Then the "clothed" lamb is presented to the mother of the dead lamb. The ewe sniffs the lamb, recognizes the scent, and accepts the lamb as her own.



Due to our sin, you and I don't have the right "scent" to be accepted by the holy God. His eyes are too pure even to look on evil (Habakkuk 1: 13). Our sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59: 1-2) and we are left as needy orphans destined to die.

But God loves us so much that He has provided a remedy to our predicament: He gave His Son—the Lamb of God (John 1:29)—to die on the cross for our sins (Ephesians 1:7). Jesus, the sinless Lamb whose heart and life are a sweet savor to God (cf. Matthew 3:17), took upon Himself the sins of the world, paying the price for them.

Now you and I can be accepted by God through Jesus (John 14:6; 2 Corinthians 5:21). To be accepted by God as one of His sheep, we must be clothed with Christ. We "put on" Christ in baptism (Galatians 3:26-27). Have you been clothed with Christ?

From The Preacher...

It is great to be back with all of you this week. My family and I had a great time visiting with friends and family for a few days and then being able to attend the lectureship at the Memphis School of Preaching. It was a great time of study, worship, and fellowship. But as much as we enjoyed it, we were all ready to return home. I really appreciate the time to be able to attend such events as they are a time of encouragement and learning that I believe is of great value. I hope to be able to further study and present some of the material we heard this past week in some upcoming sermons and pray that it will be of great benefit to you as well.

It may not seem like it should already be April, but it is! As such it is a busy month — there are many meetings and events happening this month and I have tried my best to keep them updated on the next page. Let me encourage you to attend as many of these events as possible not just for the support of other congregations but also you will gain much from them.

Being April also serves as a reminder that May is just around the corner and that means **it is only 4 weeks to our own gospel meeting**. It is scheduled for May 2-5 with John Moore, who I have no doubt will do an excellent job of proclaiming the gospel as we look at *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*. Be looking for flyers, hopefully as soon as tonight and be inviting friends, family, and neighbors to be with us.

Many are turning their thoughts to religious things at this time of year as they celebrate Easter. Yet, it is sad that so many want to celebrate in the hope of Christ's death and resurrection without actually having that hope! There are many like the false prophets of old proclaiming "peace, peace; when there is no peace" (Jer. 6:14) and tickling the ears of the people with what the masses want to hear (2 Tim. 4:3-4). Surely Jesus would say to many as He did long ago, "why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say" (Luke 6:46). The world needs to know that indeed Christ has an open invitation (Matt. 11:28-30) but it is to those who will **submit** to Him, those that do His Father's Will (Matt. 7:21), those who will **hear and do** the things which He says (Matt. 7:24). Indeed, I am eternally grateful for the life and death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, not at one time of the year, but throughout, and not on my own terms but remembering that "He became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that **obey Him**" (Heb. 5:9). Have you been obedient to God's Word or what man says? Think on these things as you read the articles this week — are you in a safe hiding place, clothed in Christ? If yes, rejoice and tell others; if not, why not?

Television

The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish)
Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB
In Search of the Lord's Way (Mack Lyon)
Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB
Gospel Broadcasting Network
Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org
Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am
on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)
Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

God's Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).
Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)
Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)
Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)
Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

Bible Reading Schedule

Sunday...Joshua 5-7; Luke 7:1-17
Monday...Joshua 8-9; Luke 7:18-50
Tuesday...Joshua 10-12; Luke 8:1-18
Wednesday...Joshua 13-14; Luke 8:19-39
Thursday...Joshua 15-16; Luke 8:40-56
Friday...Joshua 17-18; Luke 9:1-27
Saturday...Joshua 19-20; Luke 9:28-45
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)

News & Notes

1st Sunday Potluck

Today is the first Sunday of April and as such we will be having our monthly fellowship meal following the morning worship. We hope you can join us.

For Your Calendar

See bulletin board for flyers with more information.

- ◆ **April 4-7:** Gospel Meeting at Avenue T in Temple with Michael Light.
- ◆ **April 10-14:** Southwest Bible Lectures.
- ◆ **April 11-14:** Gospel Meeting at Park Heights in Hamilton with Terry Jackson.
- ◆ **April 17:** Ladies Day at De Leon with Dee Dee White.
- ◆ **April 18-21:** Gospel Meeting at Bangs with David Harris.
- ◆ **May 1:** Cherokee Day at Cherokee Home for Children.
- ◆ **May 2-5:** Our Gospel Meeting with John Moore — *Evidence That Demands a Verdict*. Look for flyers soon.

Cherokee Day...

Is now only 4 weeks away. Here are some suggested pantry items for this week which can be dropped off in the entry way to be donated to the home: **Cleaning supplies, Liquid dishwasher detergent, Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Salad Dressing.** See flyers on bulletin board for details.

(Continued from page 1)

where He puts the saved. Ephesians 5:23 says, "He is the savior of the body." Acts 2:47 says, "The Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved." Christ has not promised to save anyone today out of His body the church. One is saved, added to the church of Christ, and made a Christian all at the same time when one enters Christ. When one has trusted Christ (John 8:24), repented of their sins (Luke 13:3), and confessed Christ (Rom. 10:10), one is then baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27). At baptism he enters Christ and His body, the church. First Corinthians 12:13 says, "For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." Christ has but one body. No other body has Divine approval.

This is God's plan and place of refuge today. Just as we find salvation and refuge in the ark, in the house covered by the blood, and in the cities of refuge of the Old Testament, even so God extends salvation today in Christ. If you are not in Christ and in that church of Christ about which we read in the pages of the New Testament, you are not in the place of refuge. Friend, have you found a hiding place in Jesus? Are you abiding there?

Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services in the fellowship hall.** Last week **34 contacts** were made. Keep up the good work!

Ladies Class

Remember our **ladies class every Wednesday at 10 AM** in the fellowship hall— Join us as we study the life of Christ.

Wedding Shower

There will be a wedding shower for Cattie Grimes and Caleb hall on Sunday, April 11 at 3:00 in the Texas Bank Building in Bangs. See the bulletin board for invitation, information, and RSVP contact.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

April Birthdays: Julie Baker (01); Dorothy Reynolds (06); Lu Whitsett (06); Ashley Arnold (08); Ginger King (08); Kristi Maninger (09); Darlene Smith (10); Kenneth Makuta (13); Birdie Reynolds (17); Earlene Birge (17).

April Anniversaries: Tina & John Barnum (08).

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

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Recent Records	March 21, 2010	March 28, 2010
Bible Class	60	56
AM Worship	70	70
PM Worship	51	47
Wednesday PM	N/C	46
Contribution	\$1129	\$1420

Privileged to Serve	04/04/10 - AM	04/04/10 - PM	04/11/10 - AM	04/11/10 - PM
Greeters	John & Tina Barnum		Tom & Carol Wilcox	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		John Barnum 2 Thess. 2:13-17		Michael Bickford
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Billy Chism	Paul McClung	Allen Griffith
Wait on Table	Jim Moore*, James Fuller Michael Bickford, Garrett Barnum	Jim Moore	Don Smith*, Ken Makuta James Fuller, John Barnum	Don Smith
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Tom Wilcox	Gene Bannister	Jim Moore
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	April 7 James Fuller	April 14 Ken Makuta	April 21 Allen Griffith	April 28 Jim Moore

Studies For The Week of April 4th:

Sunday Class1 Corinthians (Chap. 6-7)

Wednesday Class Jonah

For Thy Good Always

We can be assured that God's commands are always for our good.

1. **Beginning with Creation** – From the beginning God cared about man's needs and what was good (Gen. 1:31, 2:16-18) and provided such for him.
2. **According to Moses** (Deut. 6:24) — God had their best interest in mind in all of the laws He was giving. He wanted them to do right but they would have to make that choice (Deut. 30:15ff).
3. **According to Solomon** (Eccl. 12:13-14) – But Solomon didn't just believe it was the best life to live because of the judgment, this was the best life to live period (Eccl. 2:3).
4. **According to the Prophets** – again many instances when the prophets pleaded with God's people to follow Him showing that it was in their best interest and was the right way (Neh. 9:13; Ps. 119:69; Jer. 6:16, 5:25; Lam. 3:25; Micah 2:7, 6:8).
5. **Still True In the New Testament Age** (Heb. 12:10)
 - a. God is pictured as a loving Father that instructs and disciplines better and in greater wisdom than any earthy father.
 - b. Jesus taught us how to live an abundant life now and in eternity (John 10:10; Matt. 5-7; etc.); message is still taught of peace and glad tidings of good things (Rom. 10:15).
 - c. When we live this life we truly will see/experience that God's will is perfect, acceptable, and good (Rom. 12:2).

Its Not About the Music

We will be looking at John 6 to see what Jesus said is the drawing power of God and what people should be seeking after. Sadly many rejected this message then and still do today. Will we seek that which perisheth or that which endureth unto everlasting life?

Notes:

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Return Service Requested