



Living By Faith

“The just shall live by faith.” Romans 1:17

August 8, 2010

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

Contact Us:

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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

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

Tuesday:

Redstone Class 9:30 AM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..... On Break
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
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.

Five Faithless Phrases

By Lee Moses

Zacharias, the father of John the baptist, was a faithful man of God, a priest said to walk *“in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless”* (Luke 1:6). In light of this, his response is somewhat surprising when Gabriel, an angel of the Lord, told him that he and his wife Elisabeth, though aged, would have a son who would come in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the children of Israel to the Lord. Zacharias’ response was, *“Whereby shall I know this?”* (Luke 1:18). He had been told of this great blessing that would come upon him, and he responded with five faithless words (four in the original language), asking for a sign. He explained the reasoning behind his doubt, *“for I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years.”* When Zacharias asked for a sign he showed a lack of faith; as Jesus explained to a group of scribes and Pharisees who had asked Him for a sign, *“An evil and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign”* (Matthew 12:39). Because of his lack of faith, his ability to speak (and likely to hear) was taken away from him until the fulfillment of Gabriel’s prophecy. As put by J.W. McGarvey and Philip Y. Pendleton, *“Four faithless words [five in English, LM] cost him forty weeks of silence.”*

Certainly the words of Zacharias do express a lack of faith. But how much more do the following phrases not uncommonly heard in some form or another express a complete lack of faith and trust in God and His ability to provide?

“I have more pressing things to attend to than attending every church service.”

People are busier today than they have been in the past. This is not because they are generally working longer hours each day, but because they have taken on a greater load of outside activities. Sometimes, an emergency may arise rendering it impossible for a Christian to meet with the saints at the designated hour of worship. But when it is not an emergency, what can be more pressing than attending to the needs of the soul? One who puts personal activities above attendance at every worship service is clearly not putting the Lord first.

“I won’t give to the church until I know I have taken care of my needs.”

Although there is the responsibility to provide for one’s own, seeking after food and raiment is not the Christian’s primary motivation in working— *“let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth”* (Ephesians 4:28; emphasis LM). In giving, God demands the firstfruits, not the leftovers. The Christian confidently knows that the Lord will provide for his basic needs (Matthew 6:33).

“If I don’t marry this non-Christian, I won’t ever have a chance to get married.”

There is a tendency for some young people to think that their opportunities for

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*The wise shall inherit glory:
but shame shall be the promotion of fools.*

Proverbs 3:35

The Slavery of Personal Fashion Abuse

By Tom Moore

There is no doubt that what is acceptable in terms of “fashion” is not always right in the eyes of God. Our culture says one can wear as little as possible. The fact is some clothing people wear leaves very little to the imagination. As one person said, “Victoria does not have many secrets left!” Our culture, wanting to be “fashionable,” wants people to be chased by others. God wants His people to be chaste. Many are enslaved to immodesty – “personal fashion abuse.”

When discussing any issue, the ruling of God must outweigh the ruling of man. It does not matter how many men get up and say that something is right. If God says it is wrong, then the matter is settled. “We must obey God rather than men” (Acts 5:29). Joshua made the decision long ago that he would obey God and not listen to any other god or what any man had to say (Jos. 24:15). The issue of personal fashion is no exception to this concept. Men must listen to God and not the false notions of man. This point is seen clearly in the book of Genesis. In Genesis 3:7, the Bible tells of Adam and Eve learning of their nakedness in the Garden of Eden. “And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves aprons.” Whatever those fig leaves did, it was not enough in the eyes of the Lord. “And Jehovah God made for Adam and for his wife coats of skins, and clothed them” (Gen. 3:21). God’s standard was different from the standard of Adam and Eve and God made sure they were modestly covered.

Paul declared, “In like manner, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefastness [modesty - NKJ] and sobriety [self-control - NKJ]...” (1 Tim. 2:9). “Shamefastness” is defined as “a sense of shame, modesty.” People need to be able to dress in such a way that if they are not dressed properly, they feel shame and have the ability to blush because of their embarrassing actions.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation says mixed-gender swimming leads to crimes. More specifically, the clothing which is generally worn at a swimming pool or when people are involved in mixed swimming causes people to lust and think of others in ways that are not pure. This, in turn, will lead to various crimes like rape, abuse, violence, and sexual misconduct. The F. B. I. goes on to say that the crimes start

out “small” and generally lead to “larger” crimes. In 2 Samuel 11, the familiar story of David and Bathsheba is recorded. One can reasonably wonder if the events that transpired would have ever taken place if David had never looked on Bathsheba or had never been in a place he was not supposed to be in to begin with. Often times, people put themselves in situations where it is conducive to be involved in sin. The answer to this problem is simple: Christians do not need to put themselves in these kinds of situations.

Consider Exodus 28:40-42: “And for Aaron's sons thou shalt make coats, and thou shalt make for them girdles, and head-tires shalt thou make for them, for glory and for beauty. And thou shalt put them upon Aaron thy brother, and upon his sons with him, and shalt anoint them, and consecrate them, and sanctify them, that they may minister unto me in the priest's office. And thou shalt make them linen breeches to cover the flesh of their nakedness; from the loins even unto the thighs they shall reach.” Here one learns something about God’s standard of modesty. God wanted them to have tunics to cover their upper bodies. He wanted them to have trousers that would reach from their waists to their knees. What was the purpose of these articles of clothing? It was to cover their nakedness. God wanted them to be covered from their necks to their knees so that they would be modest. No doubt, the standard would be the same today.

Our Lord taught, “But whoso shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be sunk in the depth of the sea” (Mat. 18:6). Christians have a duty to help others and not to cause anyone to fall or stumble. Christians need to be concerned with what they are wearing. They do not want to wear anything that might cause another to have impure thoughts. The issue of modest apparel becomes a personal matter of responsibility.

Christians need to obey God in all matters of life. Today, Christians need to obey God’s law over man’s acceptance. Also, they need to do everything within their power to help build brethren up and not aid in the possible sin in which one can be involved (1 Tim. 5:22). Don’t be a slave to immodesty and/or the current fashions.

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... Psalm 1-6; Romans 1:18-32
Monday... Psalm 7-12; Romans 2
Tuesday... Psalm 13-17; Romans 3
Wednesday... Psalm 18-21; Romans 4
Thursday... Psalm 22-24; Romans 5
Friday... Psalm 25-29; Romans 6
Saturday... Psalm 30-33; Romans 7
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

Congratulations and Prayers

Meredith Carlene Hooper and Benjamin Allen Griffith will be married tomorrow 8/9/10 in Shelby, Alabama. We knew that it was too far for anyone to attend but ask that you remember them in your prayers. ~Allen & Linda

Summer Youth Series

This Tuesday, August 10, we will be hosting the final session of the **Summer Youth Series** at 7PM. Thanks to all who have signed up to bring food for that event; please bring it with you or drop it off earlier in the day Tuesday. We hope you can attend to encourage the young people (and be encouraged yourself) but also we need help setting up before, serving food during dinner, and cleaning up afterwards. Thanks for your help.

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marriage are limited to those with whom they are presently acquainted. God has promised to bless those who seek Him with the whole heart (Psalm 119:2), and they will be blessed who decide to wait for a spouse who will help them to serve God rather than accepting one who may hinder them from serving God.

“If I don’t compromise some of my Christian principles, I won’t have any friends.”

Those who stand for the truth and stand with the Lord will drive some people away, just as happened with the Lord Himself (John 6:66). Friends intolerant of those who insist on living by the moral principles found in the word of God are not really friends at all. The Lord has provided us with a body of Christians to encourage each other. The Psalmist wrote, *“Princes also did sit and speak against me: but thy servant did meditate in thy statutes”* (Psalm 119:23). Even if a Christian were to have no friend left in the world but the Lord, what greater friend could he have?

“I can take care of myself.”

To some, this might sound like the voice of confidence; however, it is actually the voice of one with little confidence in God. God needs to be included in every aspect of our lives. *“Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall”* (I Cor. 10:12).

Zacharias came to know that he was wrong to doubt God, and his five faithless words cost him his speech for forty days. The five faithless phrases above could cost one his soul for eternity. Let us each have the faith and trust in God to put Him first in all that we do.

Thank You...

Megan Teague sends her thanks for the birthday card from the Sunday night workers. ~ Keep up the good work.

Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following the evening worship services**. Last week **17 contacts** were made. Also remember that next Sunday is the **3rd Sunday** so plan on staying after the meeting if you can for a finger-food potluck.

Food Pantry Needs:

We need some help restocking the pantry; suggested items include: Rice, Dry Beans, Pasta, Spaghetti & Sauce, Peanut Butter, Can corn, Tuna/Canned Meat, Soup/Stew, Can Fruit.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

August Birthdays: Michael Fuller (10), Don Smith (14), Betty Bailey (28), Roy Dodson (29).

August Anniversaries: Kaci & Matthew Churchwell (15), Pam & Terry Teague (16), Darlene & Don Smith (29).

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

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Recent Records	July 25, 2010	August 1, 2010
Bible Class	73	60
AM Worship	92	74
PM Worship	53	51
Wednesday PM	50	48
Contribution	\$1934	\$1842

Privileged to Serve	08/08/10 - AM	08/08/10 - PM	08/015/10 - AM	08/15/10 - PM
Greeters	Ken Makuta, Hank Wheeler, And Peggy Luker		Jim & Peg Moore	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		James Fuller Philippians 2:1-4		Michael Fuller
Opening Prayer	Paul McClung	Michael Bickford	Hank Wheeler	Billy Chism
Wait on Table	James Thomas*, John Barnum Gene Bannister, Hank Wheeler	James Thomas	Allen Griffith*, Don Smith Tom Wilcox, Garrett Barnum	Allen Griffith
Closing Prayer	Ken Makuta	Matthew Churchwell	Jim Moore	Gene Bannister
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	August 11 Don Smith	August 18 James Fuller	August 25 Ken Makuta	September 1 Michael Bickford

Studies For The Week of August 8th:

Sunday Class1 Corinthians (Chap. 11-12)

Wednesday Class *Hosea*

<p>Fidelity to God's Word (Jeremiah 34-36): <i>Jeremiah shows three common responses to God's word, which fits you?</i></p> <p>1. Lip-Service (Jeremiah 34)</p> <p>a. They promised to do God's Will (v9-10) and then turned back on their word (v11) showing themselves to be like their fathers in rejecting God's Word (v14-16) and so would bear the consequences (v17-22).</p> <p>b. We too must learn that it does not matter that we say we will follow God, if we don't do it (Matt. 21:28-31), such is deceitful and meaningless (James 1:22, 26; Luke 6:46).</p> <p>2. Obedience (Jeremiah 35)</p> <p>a. The Rechabites are shown as an example of some who were faithful to the will of their earthly father (v2-13), but the Jews were not faithful to God, their Heavenly Father, who had not ceased pleading with them.</p> <p>e. Do we show more fidelity to our earthly fathers than God (Heb. 12:9)? Or do we follow God, the choice and its consequences are up to us (Heb. 5:9; 2 Thess. 1:8).</p> <p>3. Rejection (Jeremiah 36)</p> <p>a. Jehoiakim showed his contempt for God's Word by cutting it up and burning it, even against good advice (v21-26); but he could not destroy/change God's Word, instead he and the city would be destroyed (v28-31)</p> <p>b. Many still try to reject and alter God's Word but such does not change it (Matt. 24:35; John 12:48; Rev. 22:18-19; Gal. 1:9).</p>	<p align="center">The Church: A Community</p> <p><i>Ways in which the church should be like an old-time community:</i></p> <p>1. Security/Safety:</p> <p>a. Used to be able leave doors unlocked without fear.</p> <p>b. We should be able to feel safe and loved in the church.</p> <p>c. Fulfilled when we truly love one another (John 15:12; Eph. 4:1-3; 1 Pet. 3:8-9); 1 Cor. 13:4-7; Luke 15:32).</p> <p>2. Accountability/Concern:</p> <p>a. All helped raising children and watched out for one another.</p> <p>b. Not in the sense of judge (Rom. 2:16), priest (1 Pet. 2:5), or mediator (1 Tim. 2:5); but in helping each get to heaven.</p> <p>i. Requires proper judgment (Matt. 7:1, 15-16, John 7:24; Titus 1:10-11; Rom. 16:17).</p> <p>ii. Requires love and compassion (Gal. 6:1; James 5:16; James 5:19-20; Heb. 10:24).</p> <p>3. Dependability/Care:</p> <p>a. People helped one another and provided for their needs.</p> <p>b. Concern for one another should exist among members of the church especially towards one another (Acts 2:44-25; 4:32, 34-35; Rom. 12:10-16; Luke 10:27; Gal. 6:10).</p> <p>4. Reliability/Trustworthiness:</p> <p>a. People used to be able to take one another at their word.</p> <p>b. Requires that we extend trust to others and that we show ourselves worthy of that trust (1 Cor. 13:5, 7; Matt. 5:37; Rom. 12:17; 2 Cor. 8:21; 1 Pet. 2:12).</p>
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Return Service Requested