

4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."
~ Matthew 16:18



January 10, 2021

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service N/A
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class N/A
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

John Barnum

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
World Bible School

How Does God View Our Nation?

In Deuteronomy 7 we read where God commanded the Israelites to completely wipe out wicked nations. In verse 2 we read, "*and when the LORD your God delivers them over to you, you shall conquer them and utterly destroy them. You shall make no covenant with them nor show mercy to them.*"

My question for you to consider is this: If God's chosen people were about to enter our nation, would He command them to wipe us out?

I know some like to brag and say this country was founded on Christian beliefs by men who believed in God—and there may be some truth in that. But the nation I look around and see today does not even remotely resemble one that was founded on Christian principles.

Consider:

- We are the largest producer of pornography in the world.
- We have legalized (and some rejoice in) the killing of the unborn.
- We have desecrated God's institution of marriage and are now arguing over gender fluidity.
- We have legalized the premature deaths of our elderly in many states.
- We celebrate and give out awards to an entertainment industry that is debased.
- We idolize sports and particular teams, while their posters and logos fill our homes.
- We push for the legalization of drugs, while at the same time defund those who seek to uphold the law.
- We gather around television sets with our friends to watch immoral tv programs—and laugh.
- We use cuss words like they are the very breath we breath.
- We seek handouts and entitlements like we are owed something—and then spend it foolishly.

Moses continued in Deuteronomy 7 by saying: "*For they will turn your sons away from following Me, to serve other gods; so the anger of the LORD will be aroused against you and destroy you suddenly. But thus you shall deal with them: you shall destroy their altars, and break down their sacred pillars, and cut down their wooden images, and burn their carved images with fire.*"

God wanted His people to be holy. He wanted them to destroy any idols that might come between Him and them.

I wonder – would God have the Israelites totally wipe us out if the Exodus were happening today? Are you seeking to be holy and encouraging those around you to put God first?

Brad Harrub (focuspress.org)

Please practice COVID precautions,
for your own safety and the safety of your brethren.

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

Facebook Post by Philip Sanders

(Jan. 6)

It seems our nation is wounded, and respect for the views of others and the Constitution has left us uncertain and in chaos. We do not know what might happen in days to come. We have no regard for mob behavior and despise violence. Uncontained violence has reared its ugly head for a year.

It appears one party has taken control of the executive and legislative branches. They will likely lead this nation into what the other party considers unacceptable change. This may cause more challenges to a united nation.

America lost sight of God and Christ, and the irreligious began to speak out unrestricted.

America lost sight of morality and permitted the loss of millions of the unborn. They redefined marriage and gender. They threw out the notion of absolutes, and made truth relative and subjective.

In recent years many in America sold out truth and common sense for a selective collection of gripes that often are more imagined than real.

None of this is accidental. Our enemies with the craftiness of Satan himself plotted and planned to rob us of our godly values and replace them with a vindictive victimhood. Citing love as an excuse for evil, believing love justifies evil, our culture refused God's definition of morality and love.

If America is not dead, it is more than a little sick. Till the true faith found in God's holy Word is respected, America will not heal. There are still some who are righteous, and we hope and fervently pray their voices can speak God's truth unhindered.

Resolutions: How Many Have You Broken?

We've just passed that time of year when many people make resolutions, and many even write them down so they will remember them for the whole year. Things like losing weight, exercising more, eating less sugar, reading their Bible, having family devotionals, and many more changes in lifestyle are put on that piece of paper.

Here we are less than two weeks into the new year and I'm wondering how many of those resolutions have already been broken. They always sound so good when we are thinking about them and they even seem more doable when they are written on paper. However, as the new wears off and we begin to see how hard they really are to continue, most of us tend to go back to what we were doing before the new year began.

There is, however, one resolution that many of us made that does not need to ever "go by the wayside." This one resolution was probably not made at the beginning of a new year, although it could have been. This resolution is more important than any other one we may have ever made.

If you have ever been brought to a knowledge of the gospel of Christ and become obedient to Him by being baptized into His body, the church, you made a resolution that should never be broken.

- You resolved to live for Christ for the rest of your life in good times and in bad times.
- You resolved to become a servant to those around you, not so you could be recognized, but so that God would be glorified.
- You resolved to follow the New Testament teachings and live faithfully every day of your life, sharing those teachings with those who don't know Jesus.
- You resolved to help people see Jesus in you by the Christlike actions, speech, and reactions you put forth every day.

(Continued on page 3)

Television

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:00am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

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)

Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Reading Schedule

video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/

Jan. 10	Matt. 25—26; Ps. 10 (video)
Jan. 11	Matthew 27—28; Psalm 11
Jan. 12	Mark 1—3; Psalm 12 (video)
Jan. 13	Mark 4—5; Psalm 13 (video)
Jan. 14	Mark 6—7; Psalm 14
Jan. 15	Mark 8—10; Psalm 15 (video)
Jan. 16	Mark 11—12; Psalm 16
Jan. 17	Mark 13—14; Psalm 17

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

(2 Timothy 2:15)



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Last week **35** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ Thank you to Dr. Hall and all the others who helped out last week while Johnny and Cindy were gone.
- ◆ Due to the continued presence of the COVID virus within the congregation, we will continue to reevaluate our meeting schedule on a week by week basis. **We will continue to assemble for Sunday morning worship.** Our Sunday evening and Wednesday evening lessons will continue to be live streamed until further notice.
- ◆ **Please continue to practice common sense prevention measures.** (Wear mask, limit personal contact, social distance, use hand sanitizers, etc.)

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ March 14-17—Spring Gospel Meeting w/ Jon McCormack

(Continued from page 2)

- You resolved to be faithful in gathering with your brothers and sisters in Christ to worship God and build one another up.
- You resolved to remember the death Jesus suffered so that you might have eternal life which is symbolized by partaking of the Lord’s Supper each first day of the week.
- You resolved to be a light in this dark world in which we live by standing firm in your faith even if that means you lose friends, family, or your life.
- You resolved to communicate with the Father by reading daily His words that were written for us and going to Him daily with prayers of thanksgiving and need.

How many have you broken???

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers [and sisters], by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect” (Romans 12:1-2).

(faughnfamily.com)

Celebrate

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

January Birthdays: Kyle Duaine (11), Rachel Smith, (15), Bruce Blasingame (16), Bennie White (16), Tom Wilcox (17), Jaceten Evetts (20), Mattison Churchwell (25), Jacey Dennard (27), Charles White (30).

January Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Dec. 27, 2020	Jan. 3, 2021
Bible Class	—	—
AM Worship	15 + [25]	20
PM Worship	[16]	NA
Wednesday PM	{18}	NA
Contribution	\$829	\$2,227

	This Week: 1/10/21	Next Week: 1/17/21		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>January 2021 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Barnum Clean Building: Barnum</p> <p>February 2021 Make Announcements: Dex Dennard Prepare Communion: Duaine Clean Building: Duaine</p>	
Greeters	_____	_____		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Dex Dennard		
Communion	James Fuller*; Randy Huckaby	Ryan Rudloff*; Kyle Duaine		
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Don Smith		
Attendance Cards	_____	_____		
Sunday PM:	Online	TBD		
Opening Prayer				
Scripture Reading				
Communion				
Closing Prayer				
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 13 Online	January 20 TBD	January 27 TBD	February 3 Prayer Night

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of January 10, 2021

Sunday Class **Cancelled**
 Wed. Class **Exodus 33:1**

<u>We Have Sinned. What Shall We Do? (Part 1)</u>	<u>The Sermon on the Mount: Salt & Light (Mt. 5:13-16) and The Relationship of the Messiah's Teaching to the OT and Traditions (Mt. 5:17-48; Lk. 6:27-36)</u>
<p>I. Grace.</p> <p>A. G-R-A-C-E: "God's Redemption At Christ's Expense." B. God's grace is a gift and not earned (Rom. 4:4-5; Eph. 2:1-10; 2 Tim. 1:9; Tit. 3:3-7). C. God's grace is undeserved (Rom. 5:6-8; 1 Tim. 1:12-16).</p> <p>II. Forgiveness (Ps. 32:1-2).</p> <p>A. Forgiveness is not forgetting, but "forgetting against" (2 Cor. 5:19-20). B. Forgiveness frees one from the bondage of sin (Jn. 8:34; Rom. 6:16; 7:14-20; 8:2; 6:3-7). C. Forgiveness releases one from the debt incurred by sin (Mt. 18:23-35). D. Forgiveness creates the opportunity for a new beginning (2 Cor. 5:17). E. Forgiveness is the means by which God reconciles the world (2 Cor. 5:19).</p> <p>III. God's Grace is Greater than Our Sins.</p> <p>IV. Meeting God's Conditions Does Not Negate the Grace of God.</p> <p>V. The Nature and Need for Repentance (Lk. 13:3, 5; Acts 3:19; 11:18; 17:30-31; 2 Pet. 3:9).</p> <p>A. What Repentance Is.</p> <p>B. What Repentance Is Not.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Repentance is not the same thing as regret. 2. Repentance is not merely being sorry for sin. 3. Repentance is more than stopping the wrongdoing. 4. Repentance is not pretense. <p>C. Repentance Begins by a Change of Heart toward Sin.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A penitent person is sorry for his sin against God. 2. A penitent person is sorry for his sin against others. 3. A penitent person is sorry for his sin against himself. <p>D. Repentance Continues in the Turning of the Heart toward the Right.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not only a turning away from sin; it is also a turning toward God. 2. A willingness to take up daily the cross of Christ and follow the Lord (Lk. 9:23). <p>E. Repentance Completes Itself in a Change of Life and Behavior.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John the Baptist: "bear fruits worthy of repentance" (Mt. 3:8). 2. Jesus does not leave us where He finds us. 3. No one is blessed who sees that he needs to change but fails to change. <p>F. Some People Harden Themselves and Refuse to Repent.</p> <p>G. Repentance is perhaps the Hardest of God's Commands to Obey.</p> <p>H. The Implications of Repentance.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Man is a free moral being, completely capable of obeying God. 2. The individual standing in need of repenting is personally responsible for his own sins and may not blame others for his own faults. 3. Repentance involves the whole heart: emotions, reasoning, and the will. 	<p>III. Salt and Light: Influence (and Responsibilities) of the Messiah's Subjects (Mt. 5:13-16).</p> <p>A. Jesus illustrates Christian influence with two items found in every home in Palestine: salt and light.</p> <p>B. Each Christian is called to move into the world and live in such a distinctly different way that the unredeemed person can catch a glimpse of God.</p> <p>IV. The Relationship of Messianic Teaching to the Old Testament and to Man-Made Traditions Concerning Old Testament Teaching (Mt. 5:17-48; Lk. 6:27-36).</p> <p>A. The Law is not abolished but fulfilled (Mt. 5:17-20).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sermon is "framed" with "the Law and the Prophets" (5:17, 19-20; 7:12). 2. Jesus is about to contrast His own application of the Law with the popular rabbinic interpretation (21-48). 3. Jesus' words have led some to believe we are still under the OT today. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Law/OT was a covenant, an agreement between God and the Jews. b. A fulfilled covenant/contract is no longer a binding covenant/contract. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Jesus fulfilled the Law, not by what He did, but by who He was. 2) He embodies the Mosaic code. 4. The purpose of the law was twofold. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. It declared the holiness of God. b. And it gave clear guidelines for social behavior. 5. At the time Jesus preached the sermon, the Law was still in force. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Thus, Jesus taught His disciples to honor its demands (5:19-20). b. His objection was not to the Law, but to Jewish misinterpretations of it. <p>B. Six Contrasts: "You have heard ... but I say." (Mt. 5:21-48; Lk. 6:27-36).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What was it they heard "heard"? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. The OT Scripture? b. The Pharisaic interpretation of the OT and not the Scripture itself? <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pharisaic interpretation tended to <i>relax the commands</i> of God and <i>extend the permission</i> of God. 2) The net result was that the Pharisees made God's law easier to keep whereas Jesus made it more difficult. 3) How? Jesus internalized the law. He got to the heart of the matter.