

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 17, 2021

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
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 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

Triumphs of the Cross

The cross of Calvary is precious in what it accomplished.

The cross, a curse for all mere humans, was a triumphant moment in the life of Jesus Christ. Having died on Calvary's cross, it can now be said that Christ "...disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it" (Col. 2:15). The devil did not win a victory when Christ was crucified. Neither was a victory won by him when the Lord arose from the dead. Men did all within their power to keep Jesus in the tomb, but to no avail (1 Cor. 15:4; Luke 24:1-6). The Lord's greatest triumph over Satan now comes by way of the cross.

The cross of Calvary is precious in what it accomplished. It should hold a special place in the heart of one who is concerned about his soul. Let us never forget that....

The Cross Of Christ Was A Triumph Over Sin. Satan never advertises sin for what it really is. "*The sting of death is sin; ... But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ*" (1 Cor. 15:56-57). The brethren at Rome were reminded that "*the wages of sin is death*" (Rom. 6:23). Since all of accountable age have sinned (Rom. 3:23), all were (are) hopelessly lost, had not Christ triumphed over sin on the cross.

Of Christ it is said, "...but now, once in the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself" (Heb. 9:26). What the blood of bulls and goats could not do (Heb. 10:4), Christ, "...with His own blood ... entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption" (Heb. 9:12).

Those who have "*put on Christ*" (Gal. 3:27) by obeying the Gospel have access to the blood of Christ and the forgiveness of their trespasses "*according to the riches of His grace*" (Eph. 1:7). Repentance always precedes forgiveness (Luke 13:3) and the sins one has repented of will be remembered against him no more (Heb. 8:12). This is quite a contrast to the old law where there was "*a reminder of sins every year*" (Heb. 10:3).

The Cross Of Christ Was A Triumph Over The Old Law. The Bible teaches that "...if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for the second" (Heb. 8:7). Though many today advocate that "Christians" are subject to **part** of the Law of Moses, such could not be farther from the truth! Paul reminds the brethren at Colossae that Christ forgave their trespasses, saying, He blotted "...wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailing it to the cross" (Col. 2:14). Ever consistent in his teaching, Paul tells the brethren at Ephesus that Christ, "*having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace*" (Eph. 2:15).

(Continued on page 2)

**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.

(Continued from page 1)

The inspired writer to the Hebrews says, “*And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance. For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has power at all while the testator lives*” (Heb. 9:15-17). Yes, at His death on the cross, Christ triumphed over the Old Law of Moses.

The Cross Of Christ Was A Triumph Over Death.

Christ’s death put an end to the fear of death for all who “*die in the Lord*” (Rev. 14:13). Paul, writing to Timothy, says that Christ “*abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel*” (2 Tim. 1:10). Isaiah prophesied this truth some 750 years before the cross. Isaiah proclaimed, “*He will swallow up death forever, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; the rebuke of His people He will take away from all the earth; for the LORD has spoken*” (Isa. 25:8). Homer Hailey comments: “Having made provision for the great spiritual feast and having removed the covering or veil of ignorance and unbelief, the Lord makes a third provision: He hath swallowed up death forever. This was achieved through Jesus Christ. In Christ’s victory over death our victory is guaranteed, for death will be swallowed up in victory (1 Cor. 15:54). He will wipe away tears from the faces of His people and provide them comfort in the midst of affliction (Heb. 13:5-6). And, in their victory over all forces by the strength which He gives, their reproach is taken away. Isaiah’s seal of certainty is now stamped upon the promise: for Jehovah hath spoken it. There can be no higher guarantee.”

Salvation (eternal life) is located **IN** Christ Jesus (2 Tim. 2:10). This is why Jesus could say to Martha, “*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?*” (John 11:25-26)

The Cross Of Christ Was A Triumph Over Satan. It is true that Satan bruised Christ’s heel (the effort to de-

stroy Him on the Roman cross), but the good news for Christians is that Christ bruised Satan’s head (cf. Gen. 3:15). The Lord’s atonement and triumphant resurrection were for the purpose of destroying “*the works of the devil*” (1 John 3:8).

It is sin that separates man from God (Isa. 59:2). Christ was willing, however, to empty Himself of some of the glory that was His (Phil. 2:6-7) and become flesh and dwell among us (John 1:14) to defeat Satan and the stranglehold of sin. The Savior was willing to partake of flesh and blood “*...that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil*” (Heb. 2:14).

May it never be said of us that we are “*enemies of the cross of Christ*” (Phil. 3:18)! Rather, let our attitude be that of Paul, “*But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world*” (Gal. 6:14). May we ever be grateful for and treasure the triumphs of the cross!

Marvin L. Weir (Seek The Old Paths, Jan. 2021)

This World Is Not My Home

The world has not gone crazy. It has been that way for 6,000 years, and it shows no sign of changing. So, what are we as Christians supposed to do when the world is in such a mess? First of all, remember that God’s kingdom is not going anywhere (Daniel 2:44). The Christian’s citizenship is in Heaven. Therefore, do not get too discouraged with what goes on down here. Secondly, our duty as Christians does not change with the shape of the world. We are called to be the lights of the world and the salt of the earth (Matt. 5:13-16). We are sowers tasked with sowing the seed (Matt. 13:1-9). We are to care for widows and orphans (James 1:27). We are to clothe the naked, feed the hungry, take care of the sick and visit those in prison (James 2:14-26; Matt. 23:31ff). Regardless of the state of the world, never forget that this world is not our home. Never stop loving God, and never stop loving your neighbor as yourself.

Thomas Baxley (Gospel Gazette Online, Jan. 2021)

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. 17	Mark 13—14; Psalm 17
Jan. 18	Mark 15—16; Psalm 18
Jan. 19	Luke 1—2; Psalm 19 (video)
Jan. 20	Luke 3—4; Psalm 20 (video)
Jan. 21	Luke 5—6; Psalm 21
Jan. 22	Luke 7—8; Psalm 22 (video)
Jan. 23	Luke 9—10; Psalm 23
Jan. 24	Luke 11—12; Psalm 24

“*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

- ◆ **Heritage Christian University** is offering two classes (*Biblical Interpretation* and *New Testament Letters & Apocalypse*) this spring **that you can audit online for free!** (You will need to purchase the textbook[s].) Go to <https://www.hcu.edu/resources/community-resources/spring-special-classes-2021/> to register. You can take one class or both. Classes begin next week. A great opportunity!
- ◆ It has been decided to **stay with our current schedule** (Sunday morning only assembly) **for the time being.** We will continue to evaluate. We will, of course, continue the Sunday evening and Wednesday evening lessons online.
- ◆ **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

Pointing People to Jesus

“Again, the next day, John stood with two of his disciples. And looking at Jesus as He walked, he said, “Behold the Lamb of God!” The two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. Then Jesus turned, and seeing them following, said to them, “What do you seek?” They said to Him, “Rabbi” (which is to say, when translated, Teacher), “where are You staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where He was staying, and remained with Him that day (now it was about the tenth hour). One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, “You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas” (which is translated, A Stone).” (John 1:35–42)

It is interesting to see how people came to know Jesus in the days before He started His full ministry. They did not hear His sermons or see His miracles, but they simply were introduced by those who already knew Him.

Andrew learned of Jesus from John the Immerser; Peter learned of Him from Andrew his brother. In the following verses, Jesus found Philip (sometimes thought to be the other of the two disciples mentioned here), who afterward found and told Nathaniel of the Christ. Those who came to know Who Jesus was in the early days were led to him by others.

The same holds true today. For the overwhelming majority of people, if they are led to the knowledge of Christ, His church and His covenant, it is by friends and family members. Occasionally, it will be by sheer will and purpose of an individual’s heart, but often it is because someone who knows that person took the time to teach him or her and point that one to Jesus. **Who are you pointing to Jesus?**

Adam Cozort (Gospel Gazette Online, Jan. 2021)

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

	Jan. 3, 2021	Jan. 10, 2021
Bible Class	—	—
AM Worship	20	15 + [18]
PM Worship	NA	[30]
Wednesday PM	NA	[20]
Contribution	\$2,227	\$1,315

	This Week: 1/17/21	Next Week: 1/24/21		
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	Dex Dennard	James Fuller		
Communion	Ryan Rudloff*; Kyle Duaine	John Barnum*; Randy Huckaby		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	_____	_____		
Sunday PM:	Online	Online		
Opening Prayer				
Scripture Reading				
Communion				
Closing Prayer				
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 20 Online	January 27 Online	February 3 TBD	February 10 TBD

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 17, 2021

Sunday Class **Cancelled**
 Wed. Class **Exodus 34:11**

<u>We Have Sinned: What Shall We Do?</u> (Part 2)	<u>The Relationship of Messianic Teaching to the Law and to Man-Made Traditions Concerning the Law</u> (Mt. 5:17-48; Lk. 6:27-30, 32-36)
<p>I. Who is a New Testament Christian? Only Jesus has a right to determine who is and is not a Christian. Our task is to ask if Jesus has spoken on such matters and to find out what He has said.</p> <p>A. What Does Jesus Say about Who Will Enter the Kingdom of Heaven?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mt. 7:21-23 - "he who does the will of My Father in heaven." Jn. 3:1-7 - "Unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." <p>B. How People Fulfilled These Requirements Of Jesus.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Acts 2:14-41 - Pentecost - repent, baptized. Acts 8:5-13 - Samaritans - believed, baptized. Acts 8:35-39 - Ethiopian Eunuch - believed, confessed, baptized. Acts 9:3-6, 15-19; 22:12-16 - Saul of Tarsus - believed, repented, baptized. Acts 10:34-38 - Cornelius' household - baptized. Acts 16:13-15 - Lydia's household - believed baptized. Acts 16:25-34 - Philippian jailer's household - believed, repented, confessed, baptized. Summary: They heard the word, believed it, loved the Lord, repented, confessed faith, and were baptized for the remission of sins. <p>C. What Is Baptism?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>What does man teach in regard to baptism?</u> <u>What does the New Testament Teach in regard to baptism?</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "βαπτίζω" - to dip, plunge, or immerse. Mt. 3:16; Jn. 3:23; Acts 8:38-39; Rom. 6:4-7; Col. 2:12-13, etc. <u>Are Infants To Be Baptized?</u> We have no New Testament command or record of any infant being baptized. <p>II. Is Baptism Necessary to Salvation? Jn. 3:3-7; Acts 2:37-41; 9:1-9; 22:12-16; Rom. 6:3-7; Tit. 3:3-7; 1 Pet. 3:21; Acts 2:38; Rom. 6:3-4/Gal. 3:27; 1 Cor. 12:13.</p> <p>III. What Will Happen To Good But Unbaptized People?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> There are good moral people that have not been baptized; however, that does not change God's law. No matter what mercy some may have in the day of judgment, that mercy will not be extended to one who knows God's law on baptism and who refuses to obey (Jas. 4:17; 1 Jn. 2:4-5). 	<p>II. Six Contrasts: "You have heard ... but I say." (Mt. 5:21-48; Lk. 6:27-30, 32-36).</p> <p>A. Murder - and Anger (Mt. 5:21-26).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "You shall not murder" is the 6th commandment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Pharisees stressed only the action of murder. Jesus extended punishment to the motives/emotions behind the murder. Jesus gives two illustrations: a brother (23-24) and an adversary (25-26). Both illustrations have a single message: The urgency of reconciliation. <p>B. Adultery - and Lust (Mt. 5:27-30).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus moves to the 7th commandment: "You shall not commit adultery." <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Again, the Pharisees dealt only with the act; Jesus extends the prohibition to the motive behind the act - lust. Satan is attacking the church through our sexual appetites and gaining much ground. Jesus uses hyperbole to illustrate that we should be willing to take whatever measures necessary to save our souls. <p>C. Divorce - and Reason (Mt. 5:31-32).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The issue of divorce naturally follows the discussion of adultery. Jesus allows divorce, not for any reason, but only for "sexual immorality." <p>D. Oaths - and Integrity (Mt. 5:33-37).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Pharisees used oaths to weasel out of promises they made. Jesus said simply, "Do not swear at all" (34). <p>E. Retaliation - and Nonresistance (Mt. 5:38-42; Lk. 6:29-30, 34).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Law permitted a tit-for-tat retaliation (Exod. 21:24; Deut. 19:21). Jesus moves from retaliation to selfless sacrifice - giving three illustrations of nonresistance. <p>F. Love - and Enemies (Mt. 5:43-47; Lk. 6:34-35).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Law said "You shall love your neighbor," but never said to "hate your enemy." As God's people, we are to love like He loves. <p>Mt. 5:48 <i>Therefore you shall be perfect [merciful^{Lk. 6:36}], just as your Father in heaven is perfect [merciful].</i></p>