



Contact Us:

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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..... Mike Bannister

Billy Chism... Johnny McCaghren

Deacons:

John Barnum Don Smith

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

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

The Night Before the Crucifixion

It is the darkest night that has ever been experienced in the history of man. The only positive to be found in that night is the fact that God's plan of redemption was executed.

First Corinthians 11:23, a verse I've heard many times, caught my attention lately. Paul is writing to the church at Corinth about the establishment of the Lord's supper. "For I have received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread." Most of the time, my mind is focused on the words "took bread." For some reason, the last time this verse was read, I heard the words: "...the same night in which He was betrayed." The thought that came to my mind was "the night of betrayal." From there, many other descriptions of the night before the Lord's crucifixion came to mind. Let's take a look at them.

First, let's begin with Paul's description, **a night of betrayal**. Judas, an apostle and friend of the Christ, had betrayed his Lord to the chief priests and scribes for thirty pieces of silver (Matt. 26:14-16). After he left the upper room where Jesus and the apostles partook of the Passover, he went to the Jewish leaders and informed them of Jesus' whereabouts. He then led them to Jesus. "And while He was still speaking, behold, Judas, one of the twelve, with a great multitude with swords and clubs, came from the chief priests and elders of the people. Now His betrayer had given them a sign, saying, 'Whomever I kiss, He is the One; seize Him.' Immediately he went up to Jesus and said, 'Greetings, Rabbi!' and kissed Him" (Matt. 26:27-49). The actions of Judas that night were shameful. He had allowed a covetous heart to lead him to betray an innocent man. A friend had lifted up his heel against his friend (See Psalm 41:9).

Second, the night before the crucifixion was **a night of deep sorrow**. Prior to Judas' coming to the garden, Jesus experienced a profound sense of agony and sorrow. "The Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, 'Sit here while I go and pray over there.' And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, 'My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death'" (Matt. 26:36-38). Jesus knew what He was about to experience. He understood the pain of crucifixion. He was aware of the hurt of rejection. He fully realized the weight of sin He was to bear. All of this brought heaviness and sorrow. Dear reader, Jesus fully understands what it means to be a man. He was a man just as we are. He hurt and suffered in like manner as we all do (See Heb. 4:15).

Third, this Thursday night was **a night of prayer**. Jesus knew how to handle inner affliction. He cast it upon His heavenly Father. "He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, 'O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will'" (Matt. 27:39). Three times He offered up this same prayer. It was intense and fervent. It was the expression of a sincere heart. He did not hold back His request from God. However, He was willing to yield Himself to His Father's will. Jesus prayed in faith. After He prayed, we never read of any anguish of spirit within Him again. Jesus did not

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waver and doubt when it came to His prayer life. He knew His heavenly Father would take care of Him. He knew the Father would always do the right thing.

Fourth, this was **a night of arrest**. The multitude that followed Judas came with one intent. They were going to arrest Jesus and try Him that very night. *“Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him”* (Matt. 26:50). It is “telling” when authority figures exercise great strength against one individual. They try to display strength, but their “muscle” only covers their weaknesses and fears. It also shows the lengths to which they will go to get rid of anyone who threatens their position and power.

Fifth, the night before Jesus’ execution was **a night of flight** by His disciples. Matthew 26:56 tells us: *“Then all the disciples forsook Him and fled.”* These men had been with Jesus for over three years. They had experienced His teaching, His works, and His miracles. He had proven He loved each of them. They acknowledged He was the Messiah. Peter had confessed that He was the Son of the living God. Yet, when matters grew dire, these men preserved themselves. Courage is not an easy thing to manifest. We want to believe we still stand. We want to believe we will fight. However, when push comes to shove, many, like Jesus’ disciples, choose flight instead of fight.

Sixth, when Jesus was taken before the Jewish counsel, the night turned into **a night of injustice**. The rulers of the Jews broke many laws that night attempting to rush this trial to its end. They refused to look at the evidence of Jesus’ works that proved His claims. They even brought in false witnesses to testify against Him. They listened to every word He spoke hoping to find just one thing against Him. When Jesus acknowledged that He was the Christ the Son of God, that was all the council needed to hear. *“Then the high priest tore his clothes, saying, ‘He has spoken blasphemy! What further need to we have of witnesses? Look, now you have heard His blasphemy! What do you think?’ They answered and said, ‘He is deserving of death’”* (Matt. 26:65-66). The Jews had made their decision. Jesus was to die. All they had to do is get Pilate to issue the order of execution.

Laws, justice, evidence, and right and wrong did not matter to these men. They had one agenda. This would be the night they would destroy this man who brought so much controversy into Jerusalem.

Seventh, this was **a night of sleeplessness**. Jesus would not sleep at all that night. He would be moved from one court to another until His guilt was “established” and His sentence was set forth. Both His mind and His body must have been tired. Add to this the brutal treatment he received by the Roman soldiers and Jesus was exhausted by the time the sun rose over Judah. Many men could not have endured the loss of sleep Jesus experienced much less the brutal treatment He received. How He was able to carry the cross part of the way to Calvary is remarkable. This carpenter’s son must have been an extremely strong man.

Eighth, this was **a night of prophetic fulfillment**. The Old Testament prophets had foretold Jesus’ death. Jesus Himself had told His disciples He would be crucified in Jerusalem. That night prophecy after prophecy was fulfilled. Had these doctors of the law been watching closely, they could have seen the prophetic words coming to pass right before their eyes. But, they saw nothing. Their wisdom and understanding was clouded by their hatred and envy toward Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus had told them to search the Scriptures because they testified of Him. They had no desire to test His words. Their neglect, though, did not keep the words of the “seers of old” from coming to pass.

“Oh what a night!” It is the darkest night that has ever been experienced in the history of man. The only positive to be found in that night is the fact that God’s plan of redemption was executed. The Lamb of God was about to be slain for the sins of the world. Then, early on the first day of the week following Jesus’ death, darkness was turned into light. Jesus arose victorious over death and the hadaan realm. He crushed the head of the serpent in His resurrection. Since that day, there has been no more night. The Light of the world has shined brightly calling men to come to Him and find rest for their souls (Matt. 11:28-30).

Victor M. Eskey (Seek the Old Paths, May 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/

May 16	Exodus 13—15; Psalm 135
May 17	Exod. 16—18; Ps. 136 (video)
May 18	Exod. 19—21; Ps. 137 (video)
May 19	Exodus 22—24; Psalm 138
May 20	Exodus 25—27; Psalm 139
May 21	Exodus 28—30; Psalm 140
May 22	Exodus 31—33; Psalm 141
May 23	Exodus 34—36; Psalm 142

“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 27 contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ This afternoon at 4:00 is our **Congregational Meeting**. Please be here if at all possible.
- ◆ Next Sunday, Dr. Charles Hall will be teaching Bible class and bringing both the morning and evening lessons.

Upcoming Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 10—We host Summer Youth Series
- ◆ October 17-20—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Ross Haffner

Upcoming Area Events

- ◆ June 8—**Summer Youth Series** begins (Each Tuesday evening through the summer [except camp weeks]; see flyer on bulletin board for schedule and topics)
- ◆ June 27—July 1—**Junior Camp** (applications available)
- ◆ July 18-23—**Senior Camp** (applications available)

Christ in Hebrews

The letter to the Hebrews was written to encourage Jewish Christians to remain faithful to Christ. The author did not want them to return to the Law of Moses. Numerous names and designations are attributed by the author for Christ. All of these are used to demonstrate how superior and better Christ and His Covenant are.

“**Christ**” is used in 3:1 and 3:6. This word means “anointed.” The Father anointed Him above all others.

“**Son**” is used in 1:2 and several other verses. Christ came to Earth and lived as a human. He was the Son of God and the son of Mary. He lived a perfect life and then died for our sins. He was resurrected. His Father then called Him “Son” for another reason.

“**Heir**” is used in 1:2. At His ascension, the Father made Him heir of all things. This means He has been given all authority and power to reign over all things. His title of “Son” became more significant as the Heir. All Christians are called sons of God, but Christians do not have the power and authority of Jesus.

He is called “**God**” in 1:8. This lets us know that He is the same as the Father and the Holy Spirit. He is divine. He is eternal. He is holy.

“**Lord**” is used in 1:10. This word means “King.” He sits on the throne. As King, He created everything, and thus has authority over everything.

“**Man**” is used in 2:6. It is important that Christ left Heaven and came to Earth to live as a man. It was by this that He is able to say He fully understands us. He experienced trials, frustrations, temptations and sufferings just like we do. It helped Him to demonstrate why God was mindful of man.

I am so glad that Christ is our God. I am so glad He became man. I am so glad He is our Lord. I am so glad that through Him we can also be heirs of Heaven. Study your Bible. Learn all you can about what Christ wants us to do. If any of this is hard to understand, ask an adult to help you.

Mark McWhorter (Gospel Gazette Online, Jan. 2021)

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (5), Rosa ShaeLynn Fuller (6), David Milam (7), Pam Teague (14), Billy Chism (15), Gracen Hardy (30)..

April Anniversaries: Ryan & Tammy Rudloff (7).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	May 2, 2021	May 9, 2021
Bible Class	37	37
AM Worship	40	52
PM Worship	39	42
Wednesday PM	31	33 + [10]
Contribution	\$1,873	\$1,783

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work," (Titus 3:1)

	This Week: 5/16/21	Next Week: 5/23/21		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	May 2021 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Randy & Laura Huckaby June 2021 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: John Barnum Family	
Greeters	_____	_____		
Opening Prayer	Don Smith	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Ken Maninger*, Kyle Duaine Ryan Rudloff, Coyce Reed	Dex Dennard, Chase Churchwell Daniel Edwards, Ryan Settles		
Closing Prayer	Randy Huckaby	Rafe Smith		
Attendance Cards	_____	_____		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
Opening Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Mike Bannister		
Scripture Reading	_____	_____		
Communion	Ken Maninger	Dex Dennard		
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	James Fuller		
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 19 Rafe Smith	May 26 Don Smith	June 2 Prayer Night	June 9 John Barnum

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 May 16, 2021

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 15:15*
 Wed. Class *Leviticus 15:1*

Our Purpose

If there is some end of the things we do ... will not knowledge of it, have a great influence on life? Shall we not, like archers who have a mark to aim at, be more likely to hit upon what we should? If so, we must try, in outline at least, to determine what it is. – Aristotle

Have the circumstances of life ever provoked you to ask, "Why am I here?" Maybe more desperately, "Why was I ever born?" or "Is this all there is to life?"

I. **The Purpose of Life.** The purpose of all creation is to glorify God.

II. **Missing the Mark.**

- Has anyone ever taken one of your good tools and used it for some purpose other than the purpose for which it was designed?
- Likewise, Christians were created in Christ Jesus for good works (Eph. 2:8-10), and those good works will be the cause of others glorifying God (Mt. 5:16).

III. **Glorifying God.**

- What is your concept of God? From where has your concept of Him come? Do your problems influence how you think about God?
- All correct thinking about God begins with the Scriptures.
- What does the purpose of life have to do with our problems?}
 - God is able to use the trials and troubles we face to test our faith.
 - How can God be glorified by your life?
 - Obedience is equated with good works, for which we have been created.

IV. **Stumbling Blocks.**

- A common problem for many of us is being so wrapped up in gratifying our own wants and needs that we forget it is God we are to serve.
- The belief that happiness is the highest goal to be obtained.
- Another stumbling block may be a person's attitude.

V. **Knowing that your ultimate purpose in life is to bring glory to God, resolve:**

- To be more concerned about God's reputation than your own.
- To work in a way that you bring glory to Him and not attention to yourself.
- Not to frustrate God's will for your life by establishing your own selfish purposes contrary to His plan for your life.
- Not to act in such a way as to detract from the glory that is rightfully His.
- To serve the Lord with your whole house (Josh. 24:15).

VI. **Things to Consider.**

Two Blind Men and a Demoniac Healed, and a Visit to Nazareth

I. **Healing Two Blind Men and a Demoniac (and Being Criticized)** (Mt. 9:27-34).

- Considering how pushy the crowds are, and these men's blindness, they show considerable determination to make their way to Jesus.
- After healing them, Jesus "sternly warned" them to tell no one.
- After Jesus heals the Demoniac, we see two reactions.
 - "The multitudes marveled, saying, 'It was never seen like this in Israel!'"
 - "[T]he Pharisees said, 'He casts out demons by the ruler of the demons.'"

II. **Visiting Nazareth (and Being Rejected)** (Mt. 13:54-58; Mk. 6:1-6a; Lk. 4:16-30).

- "So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up."
- "And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day."
- He "stood up to read. And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah."
- When Jesus finished reading, "He closed the book ... and sat down."
 - "And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him."
 - "And He began to say to them, 'Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.'"
 - How did they respond?
 - At first, "all bore witness of Him, and marveled at the gracious words which proceeded out of His mouth."
 - Then, doubt crept into their minds.
 - Their familiarity with Jesus kept them from seeing who He really was.
 - They were "offended," insulted, upset.

E. Jesus' response.

- "You will surely say this proverb to Me, 'Physician, heal yourself!'"
 - "Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country."
 - "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country."
- F. How did the people react to Jesus' examples?
- "All those in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath."
 - They "rose up and thrust Him out of the city; and they led Him to the brow of the hill on which the city was built, that they might throw Him down over the cliff."
- G. Whatever they intended, He "passing through the midst of them" and "went His way."