



Living By Faith

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

March 20, 2011

4th & Stewart Church of Christ

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..... 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
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

The Infallibility of the Bible

By Ron Boatwright

There have been many attacks on the Bible down through the ages because the Bible condemns too much of what men love to do. Without the Bible one can do virtually anything he wants to do. Man wants to live as he pleases without being accountable to God. Many want to live as though there is no God. Psalms 14:1 says, "The fool has said in his heart, "There is no God".

With many people, materialism and humanism have replaced God resulting in unbelief in the Bible. Today unbelief in the Bible is often seen as a badge of courage to be displayed openly and worn proudly. Satan plants seeds of doubt in the minds of people, which result in unbelief. Unbelief is a contagious disease, which causes one to depart from God. Hebrews 3:12 says, "Lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God". Unbelief will cause countless souls to be lost in eternity.

The Bible tells us from where all things came, why we are here, how we are to live while here, and where we are going. The Bible is the word of God, which is verbally inspired, infallible, inerrant, all sufficient, and authoritative. The Bible is "Not in words which man's wisdom teaches, but which the Holy Spirit teaches" (1 Corinthians 2:13). In the Bible, God has told us everything we need so we can please Him and go to Heaven. 2 Peter 1:3 says, "His divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness."

Each of us will make the choice to either accept the Bible as our authority in religion or reject it. But we will bear the consequences of our choice. God's word is the authority or standard by which all people will be judged on Judgment Day. Jesus says in John 12:48, "He who rejects Me, and does not receive My words, has that which judges him, the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day." People may ignore God's word now, but on Judgment Day they will not be able to ignore it. Happy will be the person who has shown his love for the truth of God's word and obeyed it. Because the Bible is the pure and inspired word of God it "is able to save your souls" (James 1:21). But woe is to those who have set it aside.

We must not neglect to follow God's authoritative word if we want to go to Heaven. Hebrews 2:3 says, "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation, which at first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him." There is no escape if one neglects to believe and obey God's authoritative and infallible word.

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



*He that walketh in his uprightness feareth the LORD:
but he that is perverse in his ways despiseth him.*

Proverbs 14:2

Love Is Helping

By Kevin W. Rhodes

Despite all of the teaching about biblical love that goes on among people today, it still seems that many think of this love as just an idea, theory, or doctrine. Even if we accept it as an attitude toward others, this falls far short of biblical love. Love is active—not passive. It not only focuses on others but also becomes active on their behalf. When the Good Samaritan found an injured man beside the road, he did more than feel for him, and he did far more than express compassion towards him. Luke says, “And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him” (Luke 10:34). Therefore, love is helping others when they need help. For love to be real it must become not firmly planted in our minds but also firmly practiced in our behavior.

Love requires taking the initiative. The Good Samaritan “went to him,” He did not wait for an invitation. None was required. His love caused Him to act without anyone else saying a word or making a request. God's love was thus presented to us. Therefore, we must journey beyond the comfortable road of *feeling* love or love creating good intentions until we reach the worthy destination of *doing* love. “For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich. And herein I give my advice: for this is expedient for you, who have begun before, not only to do, but also to be forward a year ago. Now therefore perform the doing of it; that as there was a readiness to will, so there may be a performance also out of that which ye have” (2 Cor. 8:9-11).

Love requires doing what is needed rather than the least you can get by on. The Good Samaritan applied far more than first aid; he nursed the man back to health. In

this way, we should never consider our love complete until we have helped to the degree that is needed instead of offering only a partial solution. Indeed, this was the love God Himself modeled for us: “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (Jn. 3:16). It may be that we are not always in a position to do all that we know someone needs. In this case, our love should compel us to find help or offer assistance in other ways in seeking not simply to satisfy a wounded soul but to fulfill the will of a loving God. “And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt” (Mt. 26:39).

Love also requires a personal investment of time and emotion—not superficial “token” participation. The Good Samaritan offered, his time and money for the benefit of another, but he also gave a bit of himself to the man in the process. This is important because of how often in today's society that we see people do something for someone else but then discover that they were really doing it to make themselves feel better rather than to give real help to a person in need. Our love should be much deeper than that, following the example of Jesus Himself: “A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another” (J n. 13:34-35).

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said, “Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy” (Mt. 5:7). We ought to care about people in a real way, but that also means that reach out to help in a real way. Love helps others in their time of need. “A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity” (Prov. 17: 17).

Television	God’s Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Reading Schedule
<p>The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB</p> <p>In Search of the Lord’s Way (Mack Lyon) Sunday @ 7:30 am on KTAB</p> <p>Gospel Broadcasting Network Online: 24/7 @ gbntv.org</p> <p>Good News Today: Sunday @ 6:00 am on Dish: 259, DirectTV: 364, Harris: 208</p>	<p>Hear Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p>Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p>Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p>Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</p>	<p>Sunday...Deut. 3-4; Mark 15:21-47</p> <p>Monday...Deuteronomy 5-6; Mark 16</p> <p>Tuesday...Deut. 7-9; Luke 1:1-25</p> <p>Wednesday..Deut. 10-11; Luke 1:26-56</p> <p>Thursday...Deut. 12-14; Luke 1:57-80</p> <p>Friday...Deut. 15-17; Luke 2:1-24</p> <p>Saturday...Deut. 18-20; Luke 2:25-52</p>
<p>Radio</p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p>Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being baptized for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)</p>	<p><i>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)</i></p>

News & Notes

Six Reasons I Don't Play the Lottery

By Tom Wacaster

Just because the government may sanction something, that does not make it right. I do not play the Lottery because:

- (1) **It is addictive:** The evidence is overwhelming-5 million gambling addicts, "Compulsive Gamblers Hotline," "Gamblers Anonymous," and "Your 1-800 toll free number" all attest to the addictive nature of this vice.
 - (2) **It seeks to gain at the expense of others:** Do your math. Cost of ticket = \$1; Jackpot = \$1 million; Number of winners = 1; Number of losers = 999,999. The majority of participants come from the poor and impoverished.
 - (3) **It violates Matthew 7:12:** "All things therefore whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, even so do ye also unto them." The gambler hates these words of Christ because he does not desire that others do to him what he seeks to do unto others.
 - (4) **It is bad stewardship:** God's gracious gifts are not to be squandered. "Every good gift. . . is from above, coming down from the Father of lights" (James 1:17). We are stewards of what God has given us, and "it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:2).
 - (5) **It violates the work ethic:** God's instruction to us is that we labor with our hands in order that we may have whereof to give to him that hath need (Ephesians 4:28).
 - (6) **It fails the "fruit test" of our Lord:** "Every good tree bringeth forth good fruit" (Matthew 7: 17). Everywhere gambling has gone, organized crime is not far behind. Heartache, addiction, loss, misery, poverty, and divorce are just a few of the undesirable fruits associated with gambling.
- Beloved, let us "abstain from every form of evil" (1 Thessalonians 5:22).

Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following** evening worship services; last week 25 contacts were made.

Ladies Bible Class

The Ladies Bible Class will be traveling to Bangs this week to participate in their gospel meeting. If you want to ride together, plan on leaving the building at 9:30 AM.

Thank You...

Mother and I want to thank each member her for all the prayers, cards, and visits through mother's trials. We truly believe her strong recovery is due to the prayers of you the righteous. May God bless each of you for your Christian friendship.
~Jessica Stultz & Earlene Burge

Upcoming Events...

(check bulletin board for flyers)

- ◆ Today—Vicksburg devotional at 3:30 PM; finger-food supper following the Visitation meeting tonight.
- ◆ March 27—Bible Search at Hamilton at 2:30 PM
- ◆ March 20-24—Meeting at Bangs with Ronnie Hayes.
- ◆ March 27-30—Meeting at Rising Star with Darwin Hunter
- ◆ April 3-6—Meeting at Hico with Tyler Young

Every word of God is pure:

he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Proverbs 30:5

HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY TO:

March Birthdays: Ken Maninger (04), John Green (07), Wayne Kahlich (09), Susan Ford (17), Howard King (18), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kahlich (21), Micahel Bickford (23), James Thomas (23), Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29).

March Anniversaries: Cindy & James Fuller (02), Billie & Clarence Ford (11), Carol & Tom Wilcox (23).

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



	Recent Records	March 6, 2011	March 13, 2011
Bible Class		57	45
AM Worship		80	73
PM Worship		53	48
Wednesday PM		32	45
Contribution		\$1908	\$1640

Privileged to Serve	03/20/11 - AM	03/20/11 - PM	03/27/11 - AM	03/27/11 - PM
Greeters	Gene & Barbara Bannister		Mileen & Ashley Kalich	
Scripture Reader Scripture Reading		Michael Bickford 1 Peter 5:8-9		James Fuller
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	Billy Chism	Ken Makuta	Gene Bannister
Wait on Table	James Fuller*, John Barnum James Thomas, Michael Fuller	James Fuller	Allen Griffith*, Jim Moore Garrett Barnum, Michael Bickford	Allen Griffith
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Ken Makuta	Tom Wilcox	Billy Chism
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell Seth Smithey	
Wednesday Devotionals	March 23 James Fuller	March 30 Ken Makuta	April 6 Michael Bickford	April 13 Allen Griffith

Studies For The Week of March 20th:

Sunday Class *2 Corinthians (Chap. 10-11)*

Wednesday Class *Nahum (Chap. 1-2)*

Life's Lessons: What We Learn From Japan

- 1) Uncertainty of Life:**
 - a) Problems of life, even death, will come, often unexpectedly (Job 14:1; Matt. 5:25, 27; James 1:2; 4:14).
 - b) Such reminds us of the need to use time wisely (Ps. 90:12; Eph 5:15-16; 2 Cor. 5:10).
- 2) Certainty of God:**
 - a) God Is! He created the world and continues to rule over it (Rev. 1:8; Gen. 1:1; Mark 4:41; Ps. 46:1-3, 10).
 - b) His promises still stand and there are greater things for His people (Matt. 24:36-37, 41; 1 Pet. 5:7; Heb. 13:5; 2 Cor. 5:1; Matt. 6:20; Matt. 11:28).
- 3) Weakness of Man:**
 - a) Our wisdom and works are not match for God (Obad. 3-4; Jer. 7:4, 14; 2 Pet. 3:10-12; etc.)
 - b) Should remind us to trust in God, not ourselves (Jer. 10:23; 9:23-24; 1 Cor. 1:20-2:2).
- 4) Sacrificial Love**
 - a) We are reminded of the needs others face (Matt. 14:14; John 13:34; James 2:16).
 - b) We also see selfless love shown to others that some would give their lives for others; a reminder of the great sacrifice of Christ (John 15:13, 13:34; Eph. 5:25; Phil. 2:3-5; Rom. 5:8-10; John 15:14; 1 John 5:3; Gal. 2:20)

Seeds of Sin

Identifying sins source to stop it before it blooms

- 1) Satan – A Problem of Pride**
 - a) Little known about Satan's origin but seems he was an angel that sin against God, sealing his eternal punishment (1 Tim. 3:6; 2 Pet. 2:4; Jude 1:6; Matt. 25:41).
 - b) His case also seems to remind us that pride will always lead to a downfall is at the root every sin (Prov. 16:18).
- 2) The Garden – Sin Enters the World**
 - a) Deception (Gen. 3:1-5; 2 Cor. 11:3): Satan sought opportunity (Matt. 4:1-11; 1 Pet. 5:8), planted doubt in God's Word (Ps. 119:11; 1 Jn 2:1), raised suspension against God's regulations (Deut. 6:24; 2 Tim. 3:16) and watered with lies (John 8:44).
 - b) Appeal (Gen. 3:6): Shows not the end of sin but the appeal of it (1 Jn 2:15-17; Heb. 4:15; 1 Cor. 10:13).
 - c) Fall: Man heard, believed, and obeyed a lie (the opposite is the way back to God – hear, believe, and obey the truth!).
- 3) James – The Birth of Sin Described (James 1:13-15)**
 - a) Reminds us where sin begins within us, not God, nor born with it (1 John 3:4; Eccl. 12:7; Eze. 18:20).
 - b) It begins with our lusts which seduces our will to follow a path of improper fulfillment bringing forth sin and death.
- 4) Achan – The Path of Sin Shown (Josh. 7:20-21):** He admits he SAW, then COVETED, and then TOOK which brought DEATH.

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Return Service Requested