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



April 10, 2011

Contact Us:

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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 Study7:00 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
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
House to House, Heart to Heart
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.

MARY—WHO DID WHAT SHE COULD

by Wayne Jones

The Lord's compliment of this woman was not extravagant or excessive. In fact, His words were very simple. Mary was a woman who did what she could (Mark 14:8). Mary humbly anointed the feet of Jesus with a costly ointment, and her efforts received mixed reactions from those around her. Some obviously did not understand the magnitude of her sacrifice. Others, apparently, did not understand the unique treasure that she had in knowing Jesus face to face and being able to serve Him personally. Despite the confusion surrounding this event, the lessons we can learn some two thousand years later ring loud and clear. In the remaining space allowed, we will consider three important truths from this one event. When we do what we can...

God Is Pleased With Our Work.

It is possible to please the Lord. The wise man of old penned these informative words, "When a man's ways please the Lord..." (Prov. 16:7). Paul encouraged the brethren at Thessalonica that they "ought to walk and to please God" (1 Thess. 4:1). Through Paul's pen, the Spirit made known that "no one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier" (2 Tim. 2:4). In the case of Mary, the good work she did was enough for Jesus to compliment and defend her actions.

It is interesting that this is one of the three occasions that we read of expensive gifts being given to Christ. In Matthew 2:11 we read of the wise men bringing gifts to the young Christ. In John 19:39 we have record of Nicodemus providing a costly gift that Jesus might receive a proper burial. On each of these occasions, the gifts given were practical in nature; but Mary's was motivated purely out of love. It was the demonstration of her love that garnered the approval of her Savior.

Next, I Will Influence Others.

It is possible for a servant of God to be a positive, powerful influence for good. Paul commended the brethren in Rome because of their worldwide influence (Rom. 1:8). Those living godly lives in Philippi had "become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation," shining as lights in a very dark world (Phil. 2:15). Even this one act of kindness would serve as the foundation of Mary's influence. Listen to the Messiah's assessment of this situation: "Assuredly, I say to you, wherever this gospel is preached in the whole world, what this woman has done will also be told as a memorial to her" (Mark 14:9). Dear reader, do you know what that means? Mary would be a spoken illustration to crowds of unbelievers so that

(Continued on page 2)



What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.
In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust;
I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

Psalm 56:3-4

they might be motivated to know the Christ of Calvary and be obedient to His will!

We, too, can be an influence if we will just do what we can! We can send a card or make a call to one who is sick. We can fix a meal for someone who is hurting. All of us can give a tract to someone who is searching. We can make that difficult decision for right when those doing wrong are in the majority. Such actions and such decisions will provide a positive Christian influence to those who may be searching for just such a thing.

Probably Others Will Criticize.

As a result of this loving, influential action, "they criticized her sharply." (Mark 14:5). Another translation renders this word "criticized" as "scolded." The leader of this rebuke is revealed in John's account: "But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son,

who would betray Him, said, "Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" (John 12:4-5). Yet, others were apparently influenced and joined in: "But when His disciples saw it, they were indignant, saying, 'Why this waste?'" (Matt. 26:8)

There will come a time when we do what we can and we will be "sharply criticized." In fact, we should expect it. Judas' motive was clearly revealed in the Word, but the motivation for our modern-day critics may vary. Some will criticize because they are jealous of the attention our good deeds my garner. Some may criticize because they feel guilty that they are not more active in doing good deeds. Some may criticize because they have a personal grudge against us. Consequently, if such is the case, nothing we do will be approved in their eyes. Some will criticize because they do not know any better and are ignorant of

the situation. Regardless of the "why," we can rest assured that when we do what we ought, criticism—sometimes "sharp" criticism—will come our way. But remember, "so they persecuted the prophets who were before you" (Matt. 5:12).

Conclusion

There are many "major" events that took place before and after the one we have considered together. Jesus had already triumphantly entered the city of Jerusalem; the Passover supper was about to be observed; the betrayer was soon to be identified; Jesus' prayer in the garden would soon be uttered. Even the single most important event in history was merely hours from taking place—the death of Christ on Calvary's cross. Yet, the Spirit sees fit to stop and give us detailed insight into this act of generosity, love, humility and devotion. Praise be to God for this woman who simply did what she could.

There's A Chapp For That!

By Dustin Forthun

With the proliferation of smart phones, it's pretty common to hear, "There's an App for that." Well, consider this slight twist from the Bible. For all of our many daily spiritual needs, *There's a Chapp* (i.e. chapter) for that!

- When you're feeling alone and discouraged, there's a Chapp for that--Psalm 23.
- When you're not quite sure which way to go, there's a Chapp for that-- John 14.
- When considering the way of the wicked, there's a Chapp for that--Psalm 15.
- When you're being tempted, there's a Chapp for that--James 1.
- When you want to know how it will all end, there's a Chapp for that--Revelation 23.

Please do yourself the favor of spending more time with God's Word.

Television

The Truth In Love (Eddie Parrish) Sunday @ 7:00 am on KTAB In Search of the Lord's Way 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)

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

Daily Bible Reading Schedule

"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)

Sun: Joshua 19-20 Luke 9:28-45 Mon Joshua 21-22 Luke 9:46-62 Tue: Joshua 23-42 Luke 10:1-20 Wed: Judges 1-2 Luke 10:21-42 Thu: Judges 3-4 Luke 11:1-28 Fri: Judges 5-6 Luke 11:29-54 Sat. Judges 7-8 Luke 12:1-21



Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following** evening worship services; last week 32 contacts were made.

Heart of Texas Bible Camp—Bangs Session

As previously reported, the decision has been made to move summer camp this year from Cisco to Brady. It will be here before you know it so mark your calendars now. Staff registration forms are now available on the back table of the auditorium and camper applications will be out soon. Complete and return as soon as possible as spaces will be limited this year.

Jr. Camp will be July 3-7 and Sr. Camp will be July 17-22

Upcoming Events...

Ladies Bible Class

Remember the **Ladies Bible Class** each Wednesday at 10 AM in the fellowship hall. We are studying the Life of Christ.

Also the ladies plan on going out to eat following class this coming week...hope you can join us.



Baby Shower

Remember the baby shower for the Barnum's next Sunday, Today at 3 PM in the fellowship hall. Invitation/details on the bulletin board.

Area Events...

(check board for more information)

- ◆ April 10-13—Lectureship at Dublin
- ◆ April 17—Bible Search at Rising Star (tentative)
- ◆ April 21—Skating party in Stephenville
- ◆ April 30th—Birthday party for Lu Whitsett (waiting on details/invitation-please note change in date)

Upcoming Meeting
Remember our own upcoming
meeting with Tyler Young,
"Are We In The End Times?"
which runs May 1-4 — that's just
3 weeks from today!



Flyers are still available to use in inviting others to come; please use as many as you can, we have plenty available. Continue to keep this effort in your prayers and make sure that you have marked your calendar to make every effort to be here each day.

Work Day—April 23

With the arrival of Spring and the meeting quickly approaching, we have scheduled a work day to accomplish a number of things around the building. Please mark Saturday, April 23rd on your calendars and also let Don or one of the elders know if you know of anything that needs to be taken care of on that day.

Cherokee Day is fast approaching once again. This is their annual food drive and will be on **May 7** this year. A pantry request list is provided on the bulletin board and you can drop items off in the main entry.



Suggested items for this week: Ketchup, Mustard, Mayonnaise, Salad Dressing, Coffee, Tea Bags, and Kool-aid

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

April Birthdays: Julie Baker (01), Lu Whitsett (06), Ginger King (08), Kristi Maninger (09), Darlene Smith (10), Ken Makuta (13), Earlene Burge (17), Birdie Reynolds (17).

April Anniversaries: Tina & John Barnum (08).

Records March April 27, 2011 3, 2011 Bible Class 59 60 AM Worship 74 86 PM Worship 51 49 Wednesday PM 41 42 Contribution \$1579 \$1861

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...

| | This Week: 4/10/11 | | Next Weel | k: 4/17/11 | | April 2011 | |
|---------------------------|--|-------|--|--------------------------|--|---|--|
| Sunday AM: | | | | | Make Announcements: | | |
| Greeters | Tom & Carol Wilcox | | Allen & Lin | da Griffith | Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family | | |
| Opening Prayer | Ken Maninger | | Garrett I | Barnum | | | |
| Communion | Jim Moore*, Don Smith Michael Fuller, John Barn | | Ken Makuta*, Michael Bickford Allen Griffith, Matt Churchwell | | Rya | Clean Building: Ryan & Priscilla Smithey Keep Grounds: Allen Griffith May 2011 | |
| Closing Prayer | Hank Wheeler | | James Thomas | | | | |
| Attendance Cards | Chase Churchwell/Seth Sm | ithey | Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey | | | | |
| Sunday PM: | | | | Make Announcements: | | | |
| Opening Prayer | Billy Chism | | Don Smith | | Pr | Jim Moore Prepare Communion: Gene & Barbara Bannister Clean Building: Billy & Peggy Chism Keep Grounds: James Fuller | |
| Scripture Reading | Michael Bickford Psalm 51:9-15 | | James Fuller | | Gen | | |
| Communion | Jim Moore | | Ken Makuta | | B | | |
| Closing Prayer | Tom Wilcox | | Jim Moore | | | | |
| Wednesday Devotionals: | April 13 Allen Griffith | | April 20 Jim Moore | April 27 Don Smith Go | | May 4 Gospel Meeting | |

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 April 10, 2011

Jesus' Extraordinary Appeal

What drew people to Jesus? It was not what many value today:

- 1. **Looks:** Many look on outward appearance as an indicator of how successful one will be. Jesus did not appeal based on physical appeance (Isa. 53:2); such is vanity to a spiriutally minded person (1 Tim. 2:8-10; 1 Pet. 3:1-4; 1 Sam. 16:7).
- 2. Wealth: Many think you cannot be successful without 2. Expose It Rather than minizie it. wealth and use weath as a measure of success. But Jesus was poor from birth to death (Matt .13:54-55; Lk 2:21-24: Lev. 2:2-8; Matt. 8:20; 27:35, 49-50); wealth is not required for spiritual success (1 Tim. 6:10, 17—19).
- 3. **Education:** Society says we must be well-educated to have success and be respected; yet Jesus and His disciples were not (John 17:14-15; Acts 4:13). In fact, the most educated of them did not overly value it (1 Cor. 2:1-5; Phil. 3:8).
- Social Standing: Popularity is a measure of success for some, yet by it Jesus failed. He associated with the lowclass (Mark 12:37; Matt. 9:10-11); the "elites" despised Him (John 12:42-43; Matt. 26:3-4); many turned from Him (John 6:66); and multitudes called for His death (Mark 15:12 -14). What matters is God's commendation (2 Cor. 10:18).

What we do see in Jesus is a proclaimer of truth (John 6:63; 8:30-32); a servant of God (John 4:34; 5:36); and a savior of souls (Matt. 20:28; Luke 19:10; John 14:6). Let us be drawn to that man and draw others to Him with that same appeal today.

Sunday Class2 Corinthians (Chap. 12-13)

Proper Attitudes Towards Sin (Part 2)

Continue from last week to examine attitudes the Christian needs to develop towards sin...

- **1. Resist It** Rather than dismiss or ignore it.
 - a. Yes, avoid sin, but one must also resist it (James 4:7; 1 Pet. 5:8; Eph. 6:13; Matt. 16:23).
 - b. Requires diligence, determination, and devotion to God.
- - a. Sin must be attacked and taught against, not ignored.
 - b. God did (Rom. 8:3), Jesus did (Mark 7:9-13; Luke 20:45-47; John 4:17-18; Luke 13:3), and the Holy Spirit did (John 16:7-8; John 16:13; Acts 2:37-38).
 - c. John the Baptist did (Matt. 14:3-4; Luke 3:3; Mark 1:5) and the apostles did (Acts 2:22-23; 5:1-3; 8:20-23; 13:6-10; 17:22, 30-31; Gal. 2:11).
 - d. Preachers are to (Acts 20:27; 2 Tim. 4:1-2; 1 Tim. 5:20; Titus 1:13; 2:15), as are elders (Acts 20:28; Heb. 13:17); and all chrisitians (Eph. 5:11; Gal. 6:1-2; James 5:19).
- **3.** Conquer It rather than dismiss it and give in to it.
 - a. Not to suggest that we ever become sinlessly perfect but that should not be an excuse to continue in it.
 - b. We see this in Romans 6:1-7 die to sin and walk in newness of life, now servants of righteousness not sin.
 - c. Worth drastic measures (Mark 9:4-48; Heb. 12:4); not self-mutilation but self-denial for greater joy (Rom. 8:18).
 - d. The reward is great for one who overcomes through Christ (Rev. 2:7, 11, 17, 26; 3:5, 12, 21; 7:14; 12:11).