

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 24, 2011

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
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.

The Enemy of Pride

It should come as no surprise that pride is an enemy of the mind. It is a deceitful sin that promises to exalt the individual but accomplishes just the opposite. Warnings abound throughout the word of God to avoid such an attitude as we are plainly told, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall" (Proverbs 16:18). So, one can be assured that when pride swells in our minds, destruction is not far behind.

Maybe one of the most tragic examples of the destructiveness of pride is seen in the account of Saul, the first king of Israel. Saul was a man of great potential. He was the vision of a king, "a choice young man, and a goodly: and there was not among the children of Israel a goodlier person than he: from his shoulders and upward he was higher than any of the people" (1 Samuel 9:2). Further, he displayed a humble attitude (at least early on). He would ask Samuel, "Am not I a Benjamite, of the smallest of the tribe of Israel? And my family the least of all the families of the tribe of Benjamin?" (1 Samuel 9:21). What a great start, a man of whom it could be said "there is none like him among all the people" (1 Samuel 10:24), a man willing to accept the charge given him by God, and a man of humility that did not exalt himself before the people. But sadly, Saul's great start was not a sign of things to come; instead the potential of this great king would be destroyed by pride. Both Saul's relationships with God and man would be forever altered by a haughty spirit.

First notice his **changed relationship with God**. When Saul was told that he would be king, Samuel told him, "God is with thee" (1 Samuel 10:7) and was assured He would be as long as Saul and the nation continued faithfully (1 Samuel 12:14-15). But within two years, Saul would begin to lift himself up against God. When trying times came, Saul became impatient in waiting on Samuel and "he offered the burnt offering" (1 Samuel 13:9). In doing so, Samuel rebuked him saying, "Thou hast done foolishly: thou hast not kept the commandment of the Lord thy God, which he commanded thee: for now would the Lord have established thy kingdom upon Israel for ever" (1 Samuel 13:13). Saul exalted himself before God by following his own will instead of God's; now would God choose a new king, one after His own heart (1 Samuel 13:14). On another occasion, he was told by God to go and utterly destroy the Amalekites (1 Samuel 15:3) but he kept alive the king and the best of all that was good (1 Samuel 15:8-9). He then dared to lie before the prophet of God saying, "I have performed the commandment of the Lord" (1 Samuel 15:13). His destruction was now complete as Samuel rebukes him, "When thou wast little in thine own sight, was thou not made the head of the tribes of Israel, and the Lord anointed thee king over Israel?... Wherefore then didst thou not obey the voice of the Lord?... Because thou has rejected the word of the Lord, he hath also rejected thee from being king" (1 Samuel 15:17, 19, 23). In humility he was ex-

(Continued on page 2)



*Thou art worthy, O Lord,
to receive glory and honour and power:
for thou hast created all things,
and for thy pleasure they are and were created.*

Revelation 4:11

(Continued from page 1)

alted, in pride he was debased. No longer could it be said that God was with him; in fact “the Lord repented that he had made Saul king over Israel” (1 Samuel 15:35). What a tragic end to a young man with such great potential, destroyed because pride set him against God. He, like Nebuchadnezzar, learned, “those that walk in pride [God] is able to abase” (Daniel 4:37). Sadly, many are still like Saul; their pride keeps them from following God and from pleasing Him. “The wicked, through the pride of his countenance, will not seek after God: God is not in all his thoughts” (Psalm 10:4).

Second, notice his **changed relationships with man**. Consider David, a man Saul loved greatly (1 Samuel 16:19), a man that saved Israel from Goliath and the Philistines (1 Samuel 17), and a man that became a great military leader for Saul. Yet, for all this Saul would allow pride to destroy this relationship. He became angry as he heard others chant “Saul hath slain his thousands, and David his ten thousands” (1 Samuel 18:7-8). Fearful David desired even the kingdom, “Saul eyed David from that day forward” (1 Samuel 18:9) and soon would be on a quest to take David’s life from him even though David would prove his continued love and respect for Saul. As if that was not enough, Saul’s pride would cause him to cast a javelin at his own son, Jonathan, when he tried to defend David (1 Samuel 20:32-34). If we are not careful, pride will do the same thing to our relationships as well. We should display the humble mind of Christ that would allow each to “esteem other better than themselves” and “look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others” (Philippians 2:3, 4). But pride would have us do just the opposite. Pride would have us promote ourselves, even to the harm of others, and in the end destroy both those we love and ourselves.

Indeed, pride is deceitful and destructive. It will destroy our relationships here and more importantly our relationship with God. Let us therefore guard our hearts that this enemy not defile us (cf. Mark 7:20-23).

“A man's pride shall bring him low: but honour shall uphold the humble in spirit.” (Proverbs 29:23)

~Ryan Smithey

See this and other articles on the topic of **Enemies of the Mind** in the current issue of Seek Ye First at the back of the auditorium.

Indispensable Man

Sometime when you're feeling important;
Sometime when your ego's in bloom
Sometime when you take it for granted
You're the best qualified in the room,

Sometime when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole,
Just follow these simple instructions
And see how they humble your soul;

Take a bucket and fill it with water,
Put your hand in it up to the wrist,
Pull it out and the hole that's remaining
Is a measure of how much you'll be missed.

You can splash all you wish when you enter,
You may stir up the water galore,
But stop and you'll find that in no time
It looks quite the same as before.

The moral of this quaint example
Is do just the best that you can,
Be proud of yourself but remember,
There's no indispensable man.

-Saxon White Kessinger

This poem reminds me of the following words that Paul penned to the saints at Rome: "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith" (Romans 12:3).

-Wade Webster, *Riches from My Reading*



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)

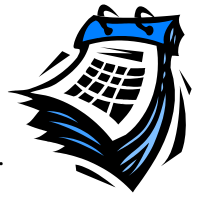
Daily Bible Reading Schedule

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

Sun: 1 Samuel 1-3 Luke 16
Mon 1 Samuel 4-6 Luke 17:1-19
Tue: 1 Samuel 7-9 Luke 17:20-37
Wed: 1 Sam. 10-12 Luke 18:1-17
Thu: 1 Sam. 13-14 Luke 18:18-43
Fri: 1 Sam. 15-16 Luke 19:1-27
Sat. 1 Samuel 17 Luke 19:28-48



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.

Upcoming Meeting

Remember our own upcoming meeting with Tyler Young, "Are We In The End Times?" which runs May 1-4 — that's just 1 week 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.

Also, please remember that there will be a class on **Wednesday, May 3 @ 11 AM with a baked potato and salad lunch follow...**we hope you can join us for that time as well.

Other Events... (check board for more information)

- ◆ April 30—Birthday Party for Lu Whittset in Abilene from 2-4; invitation with details is on the bulletin board.
- ◆ May 1st—Bible Search at Rising Star covering Acts 25-28 as well as an overview of the whole book.

Stewardship

By Tom Moore

The word "steward" in the Bible carries the idea of "one who is over, or one to whom something has been entrusted." In practically every instance the English word "steward" conveys the idea of responsibility to another. In fact, almost every English word ending in "ship" implies relationship. God is the Master and Owner, and man is the servant and steward. Stewardship, then, implies and demands accountability.

Paul said, "Let a man so account of us, as of ministers of Christ, and stewards of the mysteries of God. Here, moreover, it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful" (1 Cor. 4:1-2). Peter said we are to be "good stewards of the manifold grace of God" (1 Pet 4:10). How is your stewardship? Remember we will be held accountable for what the Lord has given us (Mt. 25:14-30).

Visitation Program

Remember our **visitation meeting following** evening worship services; last week 30 contacts were made.

Thank You...

I want to thank you all for the wonderful card that you sent...it came at the perfect time and made my day. Thank You!

~Freda Cox (Priscilla's mother)

Also thank you to all who helped with the building clean-up; it looks great. Your hard work is greatly appreciated.

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:

Paper Goods (toilet paper, paper towels, paper plates), **Cleaning Items** (liquid laundry soap, fabric softener, spray & wash), **Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant**

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Barbara Bannister (10), Nita Karla Boyd (14), Kami Hardy (14), Pam Teague (14), Caitlin Barnum (15), Billy Chism (15), Peg Moore (17), Randy Brubaker (23), Ryan Smithey (23), Peggy Luker (28), Gracen Hardy (30).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	April 10, 2011	April 17, 2011
Bible Class	61	65
AM Worship	80	72
PM Worship	48	45
Wednesday PM	46	41
Contribution	\$1742	\$1364

		This Week: 4/24/11	Next Week: 5/1/11		
Sunday AM:					
Greeters	Billy & Peggy Chism		Jack & Joyce Hill		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith		Gene Bannister		
Communion	Hank Wheeler*, Tom Wilcox Don Smith, John Barnum		Jim Moore*, James Fuller Michael Bickford, Garrett Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Michael Bickford		Hank Wheeler		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		
Sunday PM:					
Opening Prayer	Ken Makuta		Billy Chism		
Scripture Reading	Garrett Barnum Psalm 66:16-20		Michael Fuller		
Communion	Hank Wheeler		Jim Moore		
Closing Prayer	Jim Moore		Tom Wilcox		
Wednesday Devotionals:	April 27 Don Smith	May 4 Gospel Meeting	May 11 Ken Makuta	May 18 Michael Bickford	

April 2011
Make Announcements:
 Ken Maninger
Prepare Communion:
 John Barnum Family
Clean Building:
 Ryan & Priscilla Smithey
Keep Grounds:
 Allen Griffith

May 2011
Make Announcements:
 Jim Moore
Prepare Communion:
 Gene & Barbara Bannister
Clean Building:
 Billy & Peggy Chism
Keep Grounds:
 James Fuller

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 24, 2011		Sunday Class Galatians (Intro./Chap. 1)	Wednesday Class.....Habakkuk (Chap. 3)
<p>Jesus: Lion, Lamb, and Savior (Revelation 5)</p> <p>1.A Lion (v1-5)</p> <p>a. A scroll is in the right hand of God which no one can open, a fact that grieves John.</p> <p>b. But One is worthy – the Lion of the tribe of Judah (Heb. 7:14; Gen. 49:9-10); this image reminds us of regal authority, power, victory – speaks of the divine nature and power of Christ who conquered over sin and death (Acts 2:23; Heb. 1:3; 1 Cor. 15:20, 57).</p> <p>2.A Lamb (v6-10) - that lion is now seen as a lamb</p> <p>a. When he looks John sees a small lamb (a reminder of meekness, compassion, and sacrifice).</p> <p>b. This lamb had been slain (sacrificed – 1 Pet. 1:18-19, 2:24) but was standing (alive again and forever – Matt .28:5-6; Acts 2:32; Rom. 1:4; Rev. 1:18).</p> <p>c. He was infinite in power (7 horns; Matt. 28:18), wisdom and knowledge (7 eyes; Heb. 4:13), presence (7 spirits; Ps. 139:7), and goodness (Heb. 2:9; John 10:15,18).</p> <p>d. He is praised for His work in purchasing a people unto God that was open unto all (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 2:5; Matt. 11:28; Mark 16:15-16; Rev. 22:17).</p> <p>3.A Savior (v11-14)-the Lion/Lamb is the Savior of the World</p> <p>a. Now all things around the throne of God and all things in heaven and earth praise the lamb.</p> <p>b. Surely for all He has done in the redemption of mankind but also all He would do in the events to come, ending in the salvation of those in the Lamb's Book of Life (Eph. 1:7; Rev. 7:13-14; Rev. 21:27).</p> <p>"...Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." (John 1:29)</p>		<p>The Beauty Of The Forgiveness Of Sin</p> <p><i>Sin indeed is vile, but we rejoice that sin can be forgiven</i></p> <p>1. God is a forgiving Father: He pardons (Micah 7:18; Isa. 43:25) readily (Neh. 9:17); and abundantly (Isa. 55:7); pictured in the prodigal son (Lk. 15:11-32); indeed His mercy is great (Ps. 103:8-11; 2 Cor. 1:3; Eph. 2:4).</p> <p>2. God is willing to forgive all: no one is excluded from His offer of forgiveness (1 John 1:9); no matter how low one has sunk, He will forgive (Isa. 1:18; 1 Tim. 1:15; Eph. 3:17-19).</p> <p>3. Understanding Forgiveness:</p> <p>a. What God does: removes notation of offence (Acts 3:19), remembers it no more (Heb. 8:12), restores the offender (Lk. 15:11-32).</p> <p>b. What God does with our sins: covers (Ps. 32:1); casts behind His back (Isa. 38:17); removes as far as the east from the west (Ps. 103:12); obliterates from His memory (Heb. 8:12); blots from his record (Isa. 44:22); does not impute (Rom 4:8); never mentions again (Eze 18:22).</p> <p>c. Synonyms: Remission (Acts 2:38); Cleansing (Acts 22:16; 1 Cor. 6:11); Justification (Rom. 3:24); Pardon (Ps. 25:11); Blotting (Acts 3:9); Healing (Matt. 13:15); Freedom (Col. 1:13-14; Rom. 6:18); Reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:19).</p> <p>4. What brings about this forgiveness?</p> <p>a. Not time (2 Pet. 3:8); not good works (Eph. 2:8-10; Titus 3:3-5); not money (Zeph. 1:18; Acts 8:20); not distance (Ps. 139:7-12).</p> <p>b. Only the blood of Christ (Acts 4:12)—it provides for remission (Matt. 26:28); redemption (Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:12); reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:19); washing (Rev. 7:14); cleansing (1 John 1:7-10); justification (Rom. 5:9); sanctification (Heb. 10:10); purging (Heb. 9:14).</p> <p>5. But it is conditional:</p> <p>a. Alien sinner (Matt. 7:21; Heb. 5:8-9; Rev. 22:14) – obey the gospel.</p> <p>b. Christian – must repent and confess (Acts 8:23-24; 1 John 1:9; To God and others – Matt 5:23-24; Luke 17:3-4; James 5:16).</p>	