

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



June 12, 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 On Break
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.

Love the Lord, Thy God

Kevin W. Rhodes

After Jesus had silenced the Sadducees on the matter of the resurrection, several Pharisees saw the strength of His arguments and found in Christ a possible ally. One of them, a scribe or lawyer well versed in the Old Testament scriptures, tested Jesus' knowledge and understanding by asking Him which commandment was greatest.

And Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second is like, namely, this, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. There is none other commandment greater than these. (Mark 12:29-31)

Love, for God or for one's neighbor, is quoted frequently and understood rarely. However, in Christ's answer to this scribe, He has demonstrated the depth of true biblical love; and this begins and centers on the love we should have for God. Jesus' answer to this Pharisee came from what is known as the Shema (Deut. 6:4-5). By this particular reference, Jesus showed how this love, rather than being a detached type of care, should affect us in every part of our being.

First, we should love God emotionally. The heart came to stand for the center of man's being as well as his body. The heart, then, was where man is affected most by his circumstances. It could thus refer to the physical heart, the emotional part of man as he deals with people and happenings, or the will of man as he decides how to interpret and handle these things. It particularly referred to the combination of emotions and the will, the inner man (Eph. 3:16-17). Therefore, our love for God should be touched by what God has done and moved to react with these things in mind. "We love him because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19).

Second, we should love God with our whole being. The word "soul" (psyche is used of that which animates or gives life to a person. It can refer to what gives life to a person physically, such as "breath" or life-force"; what gives life to a person mentally, the "mind"; or what gives life to a person spiritually, the "soul." Its emphasis here is in its animating our love for God so that it goes beyond simply existing in theory or in some theological vacuum but instead takes on life by being active and visible in life. A real love for God does not sit still but must be carried out in the life which we live (Gal. 2:20).

Third, we should love God intellectually. This is a specific word for "mind," noting the intellect, which denotes complete and thorough consideration. Our love for God should never amount to spiritual hoopla. Love for God is reasonable and requires thought and contemplation concerning what God has done for us (2 Cor.

(Continued on page 3)



*Shew me thy ways, O LORD; teach me thy paths.
Lead me in thy truth, and teach me:
for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day.
Psalm 25:4-5*

During Jesus' earthly ministry, the Jews were constantly challenging His authority. The Jews **claimed** to believe the Old Testament Scriptures, and yet they rejected and refused to follow the very One (Messiah) for whom they looked. There was no reason for Jewish believers not to recognize the Son of God. Jesus observed,

These are my words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must needs be fulfilled, which are written in the law of Moses, and the prophets, and the psalms, concerning me. (Luke 24:44)

Sufficient information regarding the Christ had been revealed in the Law of Moses, the psalms, and by the prophets. It did no good to claim to honor Moses and then refuse to believe what Moses said about the Christ.

The Jews asks Jesus, "By what authority doest thou these things? Or who gave thee this authority to do these things?" (Mark 11:28). Jesus knew that these Jewish rulers would not believe His claim of Deity or being the Messiah. A debate or further dialogue would be useless. If Christ claims His authority comes from heaven, the Jews will accuse Him of blasphemy. If the Lord claims Rome as His source of authority, the Jews will have to turn Him over to the Roman authorities. Such being the case, Jesus says to these rulers, "I will ask of you one question, and answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or from men? answer me" (Mark 11:29-30). This question caught the Jewish rulers by surprise and caused them quite a dilemma. Thus, "they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; He will say, Why then did ye not believe him? But should we say, From men; they feared the people: for all verily held John to be a prophet" (Mark 11:31-32).

Think about this question as you ponder the Jewish ruler's dilemma, "Tell me, have you stopped beating your wife?" A "yes" or "no" answer to this question simply points to one's guilt. If the Jews said John's baptism was from Heaven, then why had they not obeyed God? If they said John's baptism was of men, they feared the people

The Challenge to Jesus' Authority

By Marvin L. Weir

(even being stoned to death, Luke 20:6). Thus, these Jewish leaders who took great pride in their knowledge answered, "*We know not*" (Mark 11:33). What an answer! They presume to sit in

judgment on Jesus, and yet cannot reach a simple conclusion regarding John the Baptizer and his baptism. Failure to accept the undeniable truth of God's Word does not change the facts.

The authority of Christ is challenged today just as it was by the Jews of Jesus' day. The Scriptures make it clear that Christ has **all** authority "*in heaven and on earth*" (Matt. 28:18). Although Christ has ascended back to the Father (Col. 3:1), His Word remains as our guide (Col. 3:16). The Lord reminds all today of the power of His word in saying, "*He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my sayings, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I spake, the same shall judge him in the last day*" (John 12:48). No one has the right to add to or take from the Word of God (Prov. 30:5-6; Rev. 22:18-19).

Neither must the gospel be ignored (2 Thess. 1:8-9) or perverted (Gal. 1:6-9). Let us now observe how many today who claim to believe in Christ and His Word challenge His authority. People say:

1. I believe in Christ, but I don't believe I have to attend church services to be saved. Answer: One does not believe the Lord who **willfully forsakes** assembling with the saints (Heb. 10:25; 1 Cor. 11:18-20).
2. I believe in the one Christ, but I do not believe in just one body. Answer: Christ, as Head of the church, has **only** one body (Eph. 1:22-23; Eph. 4:4).
3. I believe the blood of Christ saves me, and it does not matter which denominational church I attend. Answer: Christ promised to build **only** His church (Matt. 16:18), and to save **only** His church (Eph. 5:23) [the one blood-bought body, Acts 20:28].
4. I believe in Christ, but I feel that I can worship as I please. Answer: One **must** worship "*in spirit and truth*" (John 4:24) if such worship is acceptable to God. God's Word is true (John 17:17) and not nec-

(Continued on page 3)

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Daily 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 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 style="text-align: center;">Radio</p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</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 style="text-align: center;">Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)</p>	<p><i>"...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;" (1 Pet. 2:2)</i></p> <p>Sun: 1 Chron. 3-5 John 15</p> <p>Mon: 1 Chronicles 6 John 16</p> <p>Tue: 1 Chron. 7-8 John 17</p> <p>Wed: 1 Chron. 9-10 John 18:1-24</p> <p>Thu: 1 Chron 11-12 John 18:25-40</p> <p>Fri: 1 Chron 13-15 John 19:1-16</p> <p>Sat. 1 Chron 16-17 John 19:17-42</p>



Summer Youth Series

We had a great start to our Summer Youth Series in Hico last week with over 102 that were present. This Tuesday **Park Heights in Hamilton** will be the host starting at 7 PM. The topic will be: *Ready To Listen Like Samuel* (1 Sam. 3:10) with Eric Henry as the speaker. Again, let Jim or Ryan know if you need a ride. **Next Week:** *Ready to Serve Like Mary* (Luke 1:38) at Gordon.

(Continued from page 1)

5:14), concerning God Himself (1 John 4:8), concerning what loving God requires (Luke 14:28-30), and concerning what must then be done (1 Thess. 5:21).

Finally, we should love God without measure (exceedingly, in the Hebrew). It means we do not set limits or conditions on our love for Him or place impediments in its way (Luke 14:26-27). Strength indicates the level and ability whereby our love may be acted out. It is one thing to claim to love God and another to carry out what love requires. *“My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth”* (1 John 3:18).

If we would but give our energies to getting our love for God right—loving Him, appreciating what He has done for us, obeying His will at every turn—everything else in life would fall into place. When you truly give yourself to God, you will have given Him your heart, your soul, your mind, and your strength. You will have given Him your all; and, therefore, you will have no problem giving Him your all (Rom. 12:1).

(Continued from page 2)

essarily what man thinks.

5. I believe in Christ, but I do not believe baptism is necessary for salvation. Answer: The Lord said, “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned” (Mark 16:16).
6. I believe in Christ, but I believe that women can serve as elders or leaders in the Lord’s church. Answer: Only men (1 Tim. 3:1) who are “the husband of one wife” (1 Tim. 3:2) can serve as elders. Women are not to teach men or assume a leadership position in the church (1 Tim. 2:12; 1 Cor. 14:34).

To **profess** to believe in Christ and then reject and ignore His authority never honors the Lord!

Responses

We rejoice in the decision of **Charles and Bennie White** to be restored to the Lord’s Church and express their desire to place membership with the congregation here. We look forward to working and worshipping with them. Contact information and a new directory page for them will be coming soon.

Thank You

Thank you so very much for the prayers on behalf of my sister, Ruth Coffee. After 9 days in the hospital, she has been moved to rehab. I would appreciate if ity you will keep her in your prayers for a while longer. I know she would be grateful as well.

In Christian Love, Juanita & Stormy Barnum

Visitation Meeting

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Please join us each time. Last week 34 contacts were made. Remember too that next Sunday night is our 3rd Sunday fellowship meal following the meeting; hope you can join us.

Celebrate

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

June Birthdays: Hannah Smithey (03), Mike Bannister (04), Paul McClung (06), Loutrell Dobbins (08), Freda Womack (14), David Greer (26), Stormy Barnum (27), Ashley Kahlich (29).

June Anniversaries: Laverne & James Thomas (05), Mileen & Wayne Kahlich (19), Lisa & David Greer (28).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	May 29, 2011	June 5, 2011
Bible Class	56	52
AM Worship	74	75
PM Worship	47	42
Wednesday PM	47	42
Contribution	\$1728	\$2320

Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 6/12/11		Next Week: 6/19/11		June 2011	
Sunday AM:				Make Announcements: Tom Wilcox Prepare Communion: Michael & Diana Bickford Clean Building: Jim & Peg Moore Keep Grounds: Ryan Smithey	
Greeters	Gene & Barbara Bannister	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich			
Opening Prayer	Jim Moore		Jim Moore		
Communion	Ken Makuta*, Michael Fuller James Thomas, James Fuller	Hank Wheeler*, Tom Wilcox Ken Makuta, Ken Maninger			
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler		Michael Bickford		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		Chase Churchwell/Seth Smithey		
Sunday PM:				July 2011 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: Jessica Stultz Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Opening Prayer	Don Smith		Allen Griffith		
Scripture Reading	John Barnum Proverbs 3:5-8		Garrett Barnum		
Communion	Ken Maktua		Hank Wheeler		
Closing Prayer	Matthew Churchwell		Don Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	June 15 James Fuller	June 22 Ken Makuta	June 29 Michael Bickford		

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)

<i>Studies for the week of June 12, 2011</i>		Sunday Class Galatians (Chap. 3)	Wednesday Class..... Zechariah (Chap. 1-2)
The Tree Of Life		The Home As God Would Have It	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Tree Removed (Genesis) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Part of the wonderful garden God created and placed man in that supplied his every need (Gen. 2:8-9); there were no restrictions to his partaking of this tree (Gen. 2:15-16). But the tree was removed in that access to it was guarded following the sin of Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:22-24). No longer could they partake of it and so would die. The Tree In Abstract (Proverbs) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> I don't believe the writer speaks directly of the tree of life but does use the phrase in reference to that which prolongs and enhances life. Possibly serves both as a reflection on the blessedness of life in the garden as well as a foreshadowing of eternal life which was to come. References are found in Proverbs 3:18, 11:30, 13:12, and 15:4; certainly one lesson might be that these things are possible only when man seeks after wisdom from God. The Tree Restored (Revelation) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> That which was once physically in the garden is now spiritually in heaven for the redeemed. Rev. 2:7 – access to the tree is promised to those who overcome (cf. Rev. 7:14; 12:11). Rev. 22:1-2 – again pictured in this wonderful depiction of heaven, a paradise in which man's every need for eternal life is met – water, food, and healing. Rev. 22:14, 19 – right to the tree granted to those who walk faithfully with God. It's a promise or an invitation... 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizes God Has A Pattern For The Home <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Psalm 127:1; Prov. 3:5-6 – Must be directed by God. Yet that pattern is constantly under attack; have to make sure we continually evaluate our homes by God's Word. Honors the Relationship Between Husbands and Wives <ol style="list-style-type: none"> God designed marriage; it is the very basis for the home; this design has not changed (Gen. 2:18-24; Matt. 19:4-8). Eph. 5:22-24 - Wives must submit to their husbands. Recognize him as the head/leader of the home; this is a willing submission that places her under the loving care and direction of her husband. Eph. 5:25-33 – Husbands must love their wives. He has a heavy responsibility as the head of the household and he does so in love, seeking the best for his family. It is a sacrificial love exemplified in Christ's love for the church. Enforces the Relationship Between Parents and Children <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Eph. 6:1-3 – Children are to honor and obey their parents. It serves as an example of our relation to God. Honor their parents with esteem and respect that extends beyond childhood (cf. Matt. 15:4-6). Eph. 6:4 – Parents must be nurturing and instructing. This is done in love and compassion, not to incite anger. They have the responsibility of instruction, discipline, and example. A child cannot follow a parent that will not lead. <i>Only when all are fulfilling their obligations is the home what God would have it to be.</i> 	