

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



March 18, 2012

Contact Us:

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325-646-7102
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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:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
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.

VOICES By Tom Moore

The world is getting noisier. So many voices compete for our attention. The result is that many people are getting the wrong instructions. It is important that we have discernment in a noisy world filled with misinformation. Beloved, we need the truth. We need the truth that God have given us in the sacred writings – the Bible.

We need to differentiate the four voices of **Psalm 2**. The first is the voice of disobedience – The Psalmist declared, “Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set them-selves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the Lord, and against his anointed, saying, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us” (*Psa. 2:1-3*). It is amazing that the nations would defy Almighty God. Why do the nations rebel? They seek freedom without God.

Someone once said, “The purpose of life is not to find your freedom. The purpose of life is to find your Master.” My friends, authority demands submission!

The world is a mess morally, intellectually, socially, politically, and economically because it has defied God. Man is made in God's image. The irony is that when man rebels against God, he rebels against himself – because we made in the image of God.

Second, we have the voice of mockery– “He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath, and vex them in his sore displeasure.

Yet have I set my king upon my holy hill of Zion” (*Psa. 2:4-6*). While there is commotion on earth, there is tranquility in heaven. God laughs because the Kingdom is secure; the King has been established. Jesus is God's King. Though the nations rebel, we don't need to worry, for the King is already enthroned in heaven.

Listen to the voice of God as He has recorded for us in the pages of the Bible. He is laughing at the world's rebellion, and you can laugh with Him if Jesus is your King through your obedient submission to His holy precepts.

The world often tries to drown out the truth. Its voice of defiance is clear. The world's corruption is a result of its defiance. Take inventory of the voices you listen to. Are you part of the voice of defiance, or can you laugh with God at the world's rebellion?

A third voice we hear in the world is the voice of assertion – “I will declare the decree: the Lord hath said unto me, Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten

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*Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me,
bless his holy name.*

Psalm 103:1

After-Birth Atrocities

By Brad Harrub, Ph.D.

There are certain things that you never expect to see during your own lifetime. These are things either so technologically advanced or maybe so insanely godless that you assume they will not be a reality while you still walk this earth. Well, one of those has happened. On February 23, 2012 the *Journal of Medical Ethics* published an article titled “After-Birth Abortion: Why Should the Baby Live?” In this article, the authors want to get rid of the term *infanticide* and begin using the term *after-birth abortion*. In the introduction of this article, the authors state: “The authors argue that what we call after-birth abortion (killing a newborn) should be permissible in all cases abortion is, including cases where the newborn is not disabled” [parenthesis in orig.].

While the thought of killing newborns may be something you never thought would happen during your lifetime, consider how desensitized Americans have become to abortion. Will our children and grandchildren become desensitized to the killing of newborn babies? The authors state: “This means that many non-human animals and mentally retarded human individuals are persons, but that all the individuals who are not in the condition of attributing any value to their own existence are not persons. **Merely being a human is not in itself a reason for ascribing someone a right to life**” (emp. added). Being human is special! Man was created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26), and we possess souls that will go on into eternity.

Why would men suggest we kill innocent babies? The authors declare: “The alleged right of individuals (such as fetuses and newborns) to develop their potentiality, which someone defends, is over-ridden by the interests of actual people (parents, family, society) to pur-

sue their own well-being because, as we have just argued, merely potential people cannot be harmed by not being brought into existence. **Actual people’s well-being could be threatened by the new (even if healthy) child requiring energy, money, and care which the family might be in short supply of**” [emp. added]. In other words, if the baby is an inconvenience in any way, you should be able to kill it. Consider the words found in Proverbs 6:16, “These six things the Lord hates. Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood.”

Currently our children are sitting at the feet of instructors who are teaching that man evolved from ape-like creatures. Textbooks have replaced God with naturalism and humanism. Our nation and courts have tried their best to outlaw and silence Jehovah God. Killing children is just the next logical step for a nation that has no absolute standard for right and wrong. While Christians must stand up and fight the atrocity of killing newborns, we must also rise up and address the root of the problem—the reality that God exists and our nation will not stand without Him. The inspired psalmist stated, “The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God” (Psalm 9:17). We need to remind our communities, coworkers, friends and family, “Righteousness exalts a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people” (Proverbs 14:34). It is time we teach our children they were created by God, humble ourselves, and seek Him. “If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land” (2 Chronicles 7:14).

Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)
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)

Bible Study Schedule

Week 12

Exodus 17-22 & Matthew 23-24

Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.

Also anyone interested can join us at 5 PM each Sunday in the fellowship hall to discuss the questions and answers.

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



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thee. Ask of me, and I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession. Thou shalt break them with a rod of iron; thou shalt dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel" (*Psa. 2:7-9*).

He runs the universe by decree, not by democracy. He knows everything, is everywhere and can do anything that is within His character of Deity. God's decrees will succeed. Frail, foolish men with their godless living will not eradicate or hinder His decrees.

God decrees that Jesus Christ is His Son. Jesus is God, and He is King by nature, by conquest and by His Resurrection. He is reign-ing today, and we can reign in life through Him (*Rom. 5:17*). God also decrees that He will break the rebellious nations with "a rod of iron."

When His scepter of righteousness goes forth in judgment, the nations will cry out, not in repentance but in rebellion. God already has given the nations to His Son (*Mat. 4:8-10*).

The fourth voice is the voice of decision – "Be wise now therefore, O ye kings: be instructed, ye judges of the earth. Serve the Lord with fear, and rejoice with trembling. Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and ye perish from the way, when his wrath is kindled but a little.

Blessed are all they that put their trust in him" (*Psa. 2:10-12*). God wants us to learn - to be wise, to be instructed. Many depend on philosophy, psychology and history. These disciplines are helpful, but Christians must rely first and foremost on the Scripture to reveal truth. God wants us to be willing to serve. We are to serve the Lord, not sin. God also wants us to be reconciled to Him.

Are you listening to the right voices? The Psalmist said, "Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him."

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 **29 contacts** were made.

Bible Search

We will be hosting the last **Bible Search** next week, Sunday, March 25 at 2 PM. We will need some help with graders and other tasks if you can help and also will need cookies/brownies/etc...there is a sign-up sheet at the back of the auditorium.

Upcoming Meetings:

- ◆ Bangs—March 18-21 with Rick Popejoy
- ◆ Gordon—Ladies Day at Night March 20 @ 6 PM
- ◆ 5th & Grape—March 25-28 with Mike Vestal
- ◆ Hillcrest/Stephenville—March 25-28 with Carl McCann

New Materials Available

New editions of the **Spiritual Sword and House to House** are available at the back of the auditorium. Please use these materials for your own study and also consider passing them along to others who will benefit from them as well.

Celebrate

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

March Birthdays: Ken Maninger (04), Billy Graham (07), John Greer (07), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kalich (21), James Thomas (23), Kaitlyn Graham (28), Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29)

March Anniversaries: Cindy & James Fuller (02), Billie & Clarence Ford (20), Tom & Carol Wilcox (23)

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	March 4, 2012	March 11, 2012
Bible Class	50	48
AM Worship	71	62
PM Worship	52	39
Wednesday PM	36	35
Contribution	\$1830	\$1809

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 3/18/12	Next Week: 3/25/12		
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: Gene Bannister	Lead Singing: James Fuller	March 2012 Make Announcements: Jim Moore Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: The Smithey Family Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox April 2012 Make Announcements: Gen Bannister Prepare Communion: Jim & Peg Moore Clean Building: Jim & Peg Moore Keep Grounds: Charles White	
Greeters	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich	John Barnum Family		
Opening Prayer	Garrett Barnum	Hank Wheeler		
Communion	James Thomas*, Tom Wilcox John Barnum, Hank Wheeler	Allen Griffith*, Tom Wilcox Don Smith, Garrett Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	Jim Moore		
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		
Sunday PM:				
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	Billy Chism		
Scripture Reading	Jim Moore <i>Psalms 103:8-18</i>	Hank Wheeler		
Communion	James Thomas	Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	Matthew Churchwell	Gene Bannister		
Wednesday Devotionals:	March 21 Allen Griffith	March 28 Tom Wilcox	April 4 Garrett Barnum	April 11 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 March 18, 2012		Sunday Class Romans 9-10	Wednesday Class Bible/Redemption Survey
<p>The Triumphant Entry (Matthew 21:1-11)</p> <p>1) A Reminder of Jesus' Humility</p> <p>a) The people viewed Jesus as the hope of their physical nation but he did not come in a horse, a symbol of war and victory, but a lowly colt!</p> <p>b) He did not demand a grand parade and force men to bow before Him, but He accepted the praise of men. This event fulfilled the prophecy of His meekness (Zech 9:9).</p> <p>c) See Matt. 11:28-30; 26:39; John 4:34; Phil. 2:6-8; etc.</p> <p>2) A Reminder of Jesus' Authority</p> <p>a) The colt upon which Jesus rode was one "whereon never man sat" and yet it submitted to Jesus (Mark 11:2).</p> <p>b) Oh that all would submit to His authority in like manner. Yet sadly, rather than accept and follow, the people recognized Him only as the "prophet from Nazareth", the leaders continued their attempts to trap and kill Jesus, and many would soon call out for His death.</p> <p>c) See Matt. 28:18; John 14:6; Col. 3:17; Eph. 1:22-23; etc.</p> <p>3) A Reminder of Jesus' Compassion</p> <p>a) He had come here to die, but also Luke records that He came near the city and "wept over it" (Lk. 19:41).</p> <p>b) He could see their true spiritual condition and knew the end this city would face and so had pity on them. Here was the shepherd they desperately needed but rejected.</p> <p>c) Jesus would still have us recognize our spiritual condition before it is everlasting too late.</p> <p>d) See Matt 9:36-38; Lk 19:10; 2 Pet 3:9; Rev 3:14-22; etc.</p>	<p>Balanced Christianity (Part 2)</p> <p><i>Avoiding extremes by using the proper standard, God's Word</i></p> <p>1) Balance & Family: Husband lead and love (Eph. 5:23, 25); wife submit to husband (Eph. 5:22; 1 Pet. 3:1-6); children obey parents (Eph. 6:1-3); parents discipline and love (Eph. 6:4; Prov. 13:24; Heb. 12:7-10); and all must put God first (Matt. 10:37; 1 Cor. 7:15).</p> <p>2) Balance & Evangelism: Certainly a great work of the church that can't be neglected (Matt. 28:19-20), but not the only work. We need to remember edification (Eph. 4:12-16; Heb. 10:24-25) as well as benevolence (Gal. 6:10; James 1:27). And not be overbearing (1 Pet. 3:15; 1 Pet. 3:1).</p> <p>3) Balance & Time: God, family, work, and recreation all have a part in our lives; each are necessary but have to be properly balanced (Matt. 6:33; Eph. 5:22-6:4; 2 Thess. 3:10; Prov. 6:6; Matt. 14:23; 1 Tim. 4:8; etc.).</p> <p>4) Balance & The World: Constantly live a life that is in the world but not of the world (John 17:15-17) Must be in the world to be an example but remember our citizenship is in heaven (1 Cor. 5:10; 2 Cor. 6:17-18; Rom. 12:1-2; Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15-16; 1 Pet. 2:9, 11-12; Phil. 3:20; Col. 3:1-2).</p> <p>Notes _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>		