

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



July 8, 2012

Contact Us:

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325-646-7102
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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.

Water's Amazing Properties

By Tom Wacaster

I never cease to be amazed at the overwhelming evidence of design that so engulfs our world. Only the fool would say there is no God. I recently came across this little tid-bit of information regarding water. It serves as a constant reminder that "God hath not left Himself without witness."

"Water is one of the most plentiful and, at the same time, most necessary substances on earth. Obviously, we know that it is necessary to drink six to eight glasses of water per day to have good health. We need water for cooking, for cleansing and many other essential daily functions. However, water has many more essential properties and necessary functions beyond what we normally think. Water has the property of absorbing vast quantities of oxygen at low temperatures. This makes life possible for the creatures of the seas and the lakes. Water has the unusual property that its maximum density is at four degrees centigrade, just above freezing. All other elements and compounds continuously expand when heated and contract when cooled. Water expands when heated and contracts when cooled down to four degrees centigrade. At four degrees centigrade, however, water begins to expand again. Frustratingly, this is what causes our pipes to burst in freezing weather. Thankfully, however, this is what causes ice to float, thus, our rivers, lakes and oceans freeze at the top, but the water does not freeze at the bottom. This enables sea creatures to live and not be killed by being frozen in the water. If ice sank, the rivers and lakes would freeze from the bottom up and in their entirety. A related property that helps keep the water beneath the ice liquid is water's property of releasing great quantities of heat as it freezes. Normally, it requires one calorie of heat to raise one gram of water one degree centigrade. However, at the point of changing states from ice to water and from water to vapor or gas hundreds of additional calories of heat are involved. When water goes from liquid to ice eighty calories of heat must be extracted per gram to cross the zero degree mark. This property alone saves many pipes from bursting, but it also means that ice serves as an insulation, hence protecting the water beneath it and the life in the water and protecting those who live in igloos. 597.2 calories per gram are required to vaporize ice. To move water from the liquid state to the vapor state or gaseous state requires over 500 degrees of heat to cross the 100 degree centigrade mark. This property retains adequate heat in our universe to keep the whole earth from freezing and becoming one great glacier leaving no place for man and beast to live. These unusual properties of water are not characteristic of all other elements and compounds as one might normally think. It is these properties of water that make life as we know it on this planet possible."

The complex operation of this world, yea even the universe, has no adequate

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*And in that day there shall be a root of Jesse,
which shall stand for an ensign of the people;
to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.*

Isaiah 11:10

What Will You Leave Behind?

by David R. Ferguson

Our deeds upon this Earth most assuredly will follow us, even into death, according to the beloved Apostle John in Revelation 14:13. Tabitha Dorcas was a much-loved servant of the Lord by the people of Joppa. When she passed away she was mourned greatly by the disciples who remembered the tunics she had made so lovingly for them, and the widows tenderly displayed these garments Tabitha had made by hand to the Apostle Peter as the tears streamed down their faces in mourning (Acts 9:36-40). Today, while our minds are centered upon death, I want you to ask yourself, "What will I leave behind at my own death? What do I want people to remember about me?"

First of all, you will leave every worldly possession behind. We brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we will carry nothing out (1 Timothy 6:7). Since we can take nothing with us, why should we get so wrapped up with worldly "things"? Jesus said, **"If anyone will come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?"** (Matthew 16:24-26) If you gained the whole world for your own, what would you really have? You would have nothing that would be of any value in eternity.

In the hour of death, those of us who are married will also leave our spouse behind. What will they have left? Pictures and memories. Please do not wait until your spouse is sick or dying to express your love. Flowers are sent as an expression of sympathy to let the family of the deceased know that our thoughts and prayers are with them, even at this time of death. But for those of you who are husbands, your wife would appreciate flowers now more than at her death. For those of you who are wives, your husband will appreciate a few words of kindness

now far more than rivers of tears shed by his tombstone. It was in the Book of Proverbs that we find Solomon admonishing his son to **"...rejoice in the wife of his youth"** (Proverbs 5:18). Let us not wait until it is too late to express our love for our spouse, for none of us are guaranteed another moment.

We will also leave our children behind. As God tells us in His holy word, our **"...children are a heritage from the Lord..."** (Psalm 127:3). What are you going to leave your kids? Money? There are a lot of things that all the money in the world just can not buy. One million dollars will not dry a single tear from your children's eyes once you are gone. Money can not buy your children new parents who love them. The most valuable things you can give your children are your time and a love and desire for the Lord. Psalms 90 contains the prayer of Moses who bids us to **"...number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom."** We need to do that numbering when our children are young, for it will be too late when they leave home for good.

All of your friends will also be left behind. What will they think when they read your obituary in the paper? Will they be surprised to learn that you were a Christian? Will the name of the church be harmed because of how you lived your life? Romans 14:7-8 tells us that none of us live to ourselves, and no one dies to himself. Our actions have a great deal of bearing upon other people, and our influence is much greater than we believe it is. A line from one of my favorite hymns reminds us that, **"We are the only Bible the careless world will read, we are the sinners' gospel, we are the scoffers creed; we are the Lord's last message, given in deed and word, what if the type is crooked, what if the print is blurred?"**

What do you want the preacher to say at your funeral? What do you want him to say to your family? **Will** he be able to comfort them with the hope of a future reunion?

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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 28

**Deuteronomy 10-15
& Luke 11-12**

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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ion in that glorious abode of the soul? Like Joshua of old, I know not what course others might take, but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord (Joshua 24:14-15).

As the wise King Solomon reflected upon his own life, he said, *"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is the whole duty of man. For God will bring every work into judgment, including every secret thing, whether it is good or whether it is evil."* (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Yes, the Lord knows all about each and every one of us. It is only natural at the time of death to consider one's own mortality. I would encourage and implore each and every one of you to examine your own life, crack open your dusty Bibles, and if you find that you are not living your life in service to the Lord, then you should begin to do so now, for life is fleeting. As James, the brother of the Lord, said in James 4:13-14, *"Come now, you that say, 'Today or tomorrow we will go into this city, and spend a year there, and trade, and get gain': whereas you do not know what shall be on the morrow. What is your life? For you are a vapor, that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away."*

Please, for your own sake, do not wait until it is too late for you to choose to serve the Lord.

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 **33 contacts** were made. Please note we won't have our 3rd Sunday finger-foods next week.

News & Notes

- ◆ **Camp Notes:** Well it was a wonderful week at the Heart of Texas Bible Camp in Brady for Jr. Camp. We could not have asked for much better weather with slightly cooler temperatures and a pleasant breeze all week. But better than that we had a great week of Bible study, worship, fun, and good food. Studies centered around Bible Characters all week. I am happy to report that seven young people made the decision to be baptized into Christ for the remission of their sins! Of particular interest to this congregation this number included **Morgan Vaughn**, Jim and Peg Moore's granddaughter, and **Canda Makuta** from Bangs. Please keep these new Christians in your prayers and pray that the work done last week in teaching will continue to do much good in the lives of all of these young people. And finally, thank you all for you had a part in making this possible. This congregation supports the camp sessions each year in sending kids and staff but also financially you contribute generously to help make the two weeks of camp (Jr. and Sr. sessions) possible. I certainly count this past week a success and look forward to next week.
- ◆ The **Summer Youth Series** will be hosted by Hico this week. It starts at 7 PM on Tuesday night; let us know if you need a ride.
- ◆ Thank you to all who provided food for the Bickford family yesterday before the memorial service. Just a reminder that if you have dishes, they should be in the kitchen.

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explanation separate and apart from Divine Creation. Before we close this little article we will point out yet one more characteristic of water not readily visible to those who disbelieve, or who do not study their Bibles. Water has played a major role in God's separation of the righteous and the wicked, from the universal flood of Noah to the watery grave of baptism by which men are separated from a sinful world today. Men may be ignorant of water's physical properties and suffer no ill effects. But if we do not learn and apply this last most single property pertaining to water, it will have eternal consequences. Think about it.

Celebrate

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

July Birthdays: Mariah Martinez (08), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), Steven Martinez (13), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26).

July Anniversaries: Priscilla & Ryan Smithey (26).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	June 24, 2012	July 1, 2012
Bible Class	46	59
AM Worship	62	81
PM Worship	47	27
Wednesday PM	41	28
Contribution	\$1613	\$1653

	This Week: 7/8/12	Next Week: 7/15/12		
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: James Fuller	Lead Singing: Ken Maninger	July 2012 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Tom & Carol Wilcox Clean Building: Cindy Fuller Keep Grounds: James Fuller August 2012 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: Smithey Family Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox	
Greeters	Jack & Joyce Hill	The Maninger Family		
Opening Prayer	Jim Moore	John Barnum		
Communion	Gene Bannister*, Allen Griffith James Thomas, Don Smith	Allen Griffith*, Garrett Barnum Jim Moore, Hank Wheeler		
Closing Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Don Smith		
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Matthew Ochoa	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		
Sunday PM:				
Opening Prayer	Billy Chism	Gene Bannister		
Scripture Reading	Garrett Barnum <i>1 Peter 4:12-16</i>	John Barnum		
Communion	Gene Bannister	Hank Wheeler		
Closing Prayer	Matthew Churchwell	Billy Chism		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 11 Jim Moore	July 18 Don Smith	July 25 James Fuller	August 1 Allen Griffith

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 July 8, 2012	Sunday Class <i>Responding To Unpopular Decisions</i> Wednesday Class <i>Redemption Through The Bible</i>
<p><i>He Steadfastly Set His Face To Go To Jerusalem (Luke 9:51)</i> <i>Jesus begins here a journey He will not complete until Luke 19; He knows the end of this journey will lead to His death and yet He is determined to complete it and fulfill His purpose.</i></p> <p>1) We See His Determination—He is steadfastly set (v51) a) Jesus is committed to His mission in heading toward Jerusalem, this is not just a passing intention; He will keep going until He reaches His destination (9:53, 13:22, 17:11, 18:31, 19:11). b) There was no question about where He was going in spite of rejection (9:22, 22:48, 23:21) and the cross (18:31-33).</p> <p>2) We See His Purpose—He is come to save (v56) a) We see too why He was set on heading to Jerusalem—to fulfill His mission as the compassionate savior (9:56, 19:10, 24:44-49). b) He was set on giving His life (John 4:34, 10:17-18).</p> <p>3) We See His Charge—Will we do the same? (V57-62) a) Will we take up our cross and follow Him (9:23)? b) Recorded in this section are those who made excuses for not following Jesus; who, unlike the example of Jesus, would not do what they should because of misplaced priorities. c) We might do well to remember the words of the song, <i>"Must Jesus bear the cross alone, And all the world go free? No, there's a cross for every one, And there's a cross for me."</i></p>	<p><i>Letter To Sardis (Revelation 3:1-6)</i> <i>A church should finish its work & not grow complacent.</i></p> <p>1. God Knows Our Pulse (3:1-2) a. He tells this church they are spiritually dead; they had a name but no longer the works to back up that name. b. What life was present was fading; their pulse was weak. c. They needed to awaken once again to spiritual life and alertness (Rom. 13:11-14; 1 Thess. 5:1-8, 11; Heb. 12:12-13).</p> <p>2. God Knows What Is Lacking (3:2-3) a. He clearly sees what needs to happen (Dan. 5:27-28). b. They have begun a good work but not completed it, they needed to be reminded of what they were to be doing, and spurred on to watchfulness (2 Thess. 3:13; 2Pet. 1:12; Matt. 24:42). c. Perhaps their ease, like the city, has made them lax; a reminder that hardship is not always a bad thing (James 1:2-4).</p> <p>3. God Knows Us Individually (3:4-6) a. The church is under condemnation, but there are a few that have not been defiled — a reminder that we must strive to remain unspotted from the world (James 1:27). b. These must have confessed Christ with their life for Christ would confess them (Matt. 10:32-33). c. Also a reminder of individual accountability as there would be those who remain faithful even as other fall (John 1:48; Rom. 2:16, 14:12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Rev. 20:13).</p>