

# 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



October 28, 2012

## Contact Us:

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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

## The Wisdom of the World is Foolishness with God

By Mike Bonner

*There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death (Prov. 14:12)...O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps (Jer. 10:23)...Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto your own understanding (Prov. 3:5)...The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good (Prov. 15:3).*

Passage after passage could be cited in respect to contrasting the wisdom of the world and the wisdom of God. For the apostle Paul stated, "Hath not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?" (1 Cor. 1:20).

The careful student of the word of God understands His wisdom, thus understanding the wisdom of the world. There two types of wisdom: heavenly and earthly (James 3:17-18). The wisdom of the world can be easily identified as "earthly, sensual and devilish" (James 3:15). Wisdom is the knowledge and practice of godly and upright living; in other words, the ability to know right from wrong and applying information at the correct time. Unfortunately many philosophers in the time of Paul, and our time as well, reasoned among themselves to their detriment and sometimes demise. They attempted to argue against the resurrection of Jesus Christ, thus making redemption null and void. There are so many dangers in the wisdom of the world. It leads to utter ruin; it refuses to seek and know God as creator and sustainer of the world and many other things.

Paul sought to argue against those who exalted themselves above others because of their academia. The Greeks were always looking for the "wise ones" or debaters of the time. Paul demonstrated to the Corinthians that the power of God was in the message of the cross (1 Cor. 1:18). To the wise ones of the time, a man dying on a cross as the instrument of salvation was inconceivable and obnoxious. Paul therefore had to present to them the wisdom of the Lord, "**Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God**" (1 Cor. 1:24). It was the Christ who was prophesied to die for man and grant redemption through His atoning blood. Additionally, because of the power of the message preached, the gospel may have come across as strong and offensive. I'm reminded of what I read concerning the Greeks one time: "The Greeks were intoxicated with fine words; and to them the Christian preacher with his blunt message seemed a crude and cultural figure, to be laughed at and ridiculed rather than listened to and respected." Solomon said, "...there is no new thing under the sun" (Eccl. 1:9)—so ironic of the duplicate attitudes of our time. Many ridicule and belittle the man of God because of the message of truth.

Anytime a society wanders from the word of God and begins to champion its own way of living and course of life, the Lord will be displeased. Wandering from the

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*I will praise thee, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
I will shew forth all thy marvellous works.*

*Psalms 9:1*

Let us know if you want to study  
the Bible to know more about  
Christ and His Church.

Many understand that wisdom often incorporates knowledge and experience. Since the acquisition of knowledge takes time, and experience underscores time, then older adults often gain wisdom that our youth do not have as of yet. The Bible emphasizes that youth need to heed the wisdom from those who are older and more mature (1 Kings 12:1-15). This is why the book of Proverbs begins with instructions from a father to a son (Prov. 1-10) and ends with the virtue of a mother (Prov. 31). In other words, our youth need to listen more to the wisdom of their parents! Yet, it seems to this author that our current generations need this lesson more than ever. What is the relationship between wisdom and youth? Let us seek to answer this question by noting some things in Proverbs 8.

**First, we see the open cry of wisdom** (8:1-4). The fact that she cries and puts forth her voice indicates the openness of wisdom. Solomon then points out the variety of places where one may find her—high places, paths, gates and doors—illustrating that one may find wisdom everywhere! Therefore, our youth need to have their eyes wide open to the situations around them and be able to recall instruction from their parents and other wise adults to detect her open call. Usually, all it takes is the willingness to listen (1:5-6; 2:1-5). Thus, youth have no excuse when it comes to acquiring wisdom—her open call renders their excuse, “Oh, but this is just the way that I am!” useless!

**Second, we see the upright cry of wisdom** (8:5-9). Wisdom does not hide behind falsehood, but is always honest and righteous. Youth often face temptation from their peers and friends to join them in dishonest ventures (1:10-19), but youth need to learn the cautious wisdom from those who are older and wiser—“*Evil companionships corrupt good morals*” (1 Cor. 15:33, ASV).

**Third, we see the valuable cry of wisdom** (8:10- 11). As Solomon would often reiterate, wisdom is more valuable than silver, gold or any precious jewel (3:15; 16:16). Therefore, Solomon is able to place the acquisition of true wisdom as the principal object to gain in life (4:5-7).

## *The Cry of Wisdom* (Proverbs 8)

By Sam Willcut

**Fourth, we see the uncompromising cry of wisdom** (8:12-13). When it comes to the cry of wisdom, there can be no compromising between good and evil! “*The fear of the Lord,*” which is “*the beginning of wisdom*” (1:7; 15:33), dictates that I must hate and oppose all forms of evil. Youth need to learn this lesson early, as they will be tempted often with that which is ungodly.

**Fifth, we see the strong cry of wisdom** (8:14-16). Wisdom is not weak; doing that which is right is always strong! Youth may confuse that which looks weak in the worldly eyes to be such, but wisdom understands that godly strength is always strong, no matter how it appears in the public eye!

**Finally, we see the blessed cry of wisdom** (8:17- 36). This chapter of wisdom closes with various statements made as to the by-product of wisdom, or the effect in the life of one who acquires wisdom. Parents need to model this wisdom so that youth can see such and learn by it.

Therefore, the relationship of youth and wisdom can be gleaned from this cry of wisdom—it is open, upright, valuable, uncompromising, strong, and blessed. No wonder this book of wisdom stresses the importance of the attitude that youth have towards their parents. One of the most basic and fundamental lessons of life for young people is to learn to develop the right attitude towards their parents, because parents are to teach and model these cries of wisdom in the home. Godly parents will develop a right relationship with God, and form this within the life of their children. How our youth respond to their parents (and other wise adults) will determine how they develop in their own lives as adults, and whether they glean from wisdom early in their lives. Usually, selfish children become selfish adults and do not prosper from wisdom. A child who thinks that everything belongs to them will develop into an unhappy adult. A child who chooses bad relationships hinders their acquisition to wisdom. Unless youth hear the cry of wisdom early in their lifetime, they could forget about God when they leave home (cf. Eccl. 12:1).

Television	God’s Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Study Schedule
<p>The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson) 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;"><b>Radio</b></p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Hear</b> Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Believe</b> Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Confess</b> Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Repent</b> of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)</p> <p>Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being <b>baptized</b> for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Live faithfully</b> (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Week 44</b> <b>1 Samuel 23-28</b> <b>&amp; John 19-20</b></p> <p>Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.</p> <p>Also anyone interested can join us at 5 PM each Sunday in the fellowship hall to discuss the questions and answers.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;” (1 Pet. 2:2)</i></p>



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ways of the Lord is a sign of disobedience, arrogance, deceit and spiritual blindness. Our brother James stated, **“But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble”** (James 4:6). God’s people were to be immeasurably different from the world and their way of thinking. There should be a stark contrast between the world and the people of God. Our thinking and reasoning should derive from the scriptures and not human logic alone. God wants us to reason with Him and others (Isa. 1:18; Acts 19:8).

In our society where many are saying things contrary to the word of God, we must be equipped to reason with people. Many are speaking lawless things such as, “Homosexuality is sanctioned by God” or “Our government needs to run our very lives, even the church.” These ideas are far from the truth and must be shunned. Homosexuality and all Humanism (man’s thinking over God’s) are rooted in the foolishness of the world. Paul told the Corinthians, concerning these things, that they would forfeit heaven if they did not repent of this (1 Cor. 6:9). The church must stand for morality in all arenas of life. Our media has so much influence on us that it is unbelievable. We must abstain from all appearances of evil (1 Thess. 5:22). We must not be conformed to the world of media when it is in direct opposition of God. Our society sees nothing wrong with immodesty, drunkenness, perjury and the like. The wisdom of the world specializes in altering the minds of men through politics and other venues that should be subservient to Christianity. However, God is seeking to conform His people to the image of His Son (Rom. 8:29). Paul was right in practice and principle when he said, *“be not conformed [molded] to this world...”* (Rom. 12:1-2).

The wisdom of the world is foolishness to God. As a matter of fact, it ought to be foolishness to us as well. When the world’s wisdom trumps a society, it begins to tear the very fiber of the community asunder. Let us be mindful to have a spiritual worldview, instead of a worldview. Let’s encourage Christians to be spiritual first and American second. Let’s teach the world, one soul at a time, to *“seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness”* (Matt. 6:33). *“Righteousness exalts a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people”* (Prov. 14:34). **Rejoice evermore.**

**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.

**Upcoming Events**

- ◆ Oct. 28: Bible Bowl hosted here at 2 PM. Remember to bring cookies/brownies/etc. by that time and those who can come encourage, help grade, etc. would be appreciated as well.
- ◆ Dec. 1: Blood drive here for David Harris.

Last Sunday afternoon we had a ladies get together and we invited the ladies from Bangs. There were 11 ladies from Bangs and 1 from Austin Avenue who came to be with us. We had good food provided by our ladies and then singing, led by Kristie. The fellowship room rang out with song. We had a lesson about Mary choosing the good part and then ended with a song and prayer by Priscilla. We had time to visit a little afterward. My thanks to all the ladies who came and helped to make it a good day. Thanks to all who helped set up the room, and take it down, brought the food and drinks and helped in other ways. Thanks to Peg for the special table decorations. **WEDNESDAY the 31st we will begin our weekly Ladies Bible Class.** We are going to talk about some of the women of the Bible. We would like to invite all ladies to join us for this class. We will be going to lunch after this first class ( not mandatory) . So, please come and study the Word of God with us....choose the good part.  
Thanks again, Linda Griffith

**Celebrate**

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

**October Birthdays:** Jim Moore (03), Lisa Greer (05), Matthew Churchwell (07), Jo Maninger (12), Seth Smithy (13), Hank Wheeler (13), Tina Barnum (14), Cassie Freeman (23), Peggy Dudley (25).

**October Anniversaries:** Juanita & Stormy Barnum (25), Patti & Mike Bannister (27).

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...*



**Records**

	Oct. 14, 2012	Oct. 21, 2012
Bible Class	45	54
AM Worship	73	69
PM Worship	57	57
Wednesday PM	42	42
Contribution	\$1651	\$1591

# Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 10/28/12	Next Week: 11/4/12		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Lead Singing: Ken Maninger	Lead Singing: Jim Moore	<b>October 2012</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Jim Moore <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Billy & Peggy Chism <b>Clean Building:</b> Jessica Stultz <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Jim Moore  <b>November 2012</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Gene Bannister <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Jim & Peg Moore <b>Clean Building:</b> John Barnum Family <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Ryan Smithey	
<b>Greeters</b>	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich	John Barnum Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Ken Maninger		
<b>Communion</b>	Don Smith*, John Barnum Joe Dennis, Hank Wheeler	John Barnum*, Garrett Barnum Don Smith, Jim Moore		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Tom Wilcox	James Thomas		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez	Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>				
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Billy Chism		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Jim Moore <i>1 Peter 1:3-5</i>	Joe Dennis		
<b>Communion</b>	Don Smith	John Barnum		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Garrett Barnum	Gene Bannister		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	October 31 Tom Wilcox	November 7 Garrett Barnum	November 14 Joe Dennis	November 21 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)

<b>Studies for the week of October 28, 2012</b>		Sunday Class ..... Colossians (Chap. 2-3)	Wednesday Class ..... Redemption Through The Bible
<p><b>My Kingdom Is Not Of This World (John 18:36)</b>  <i>Jesus is now led before Pilate, before whom He will have opportunity to speak concerning His kingdom:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The <b>Source</b> of His kingdom is not of this world. It was not set up of men but rather by the God of Heaven (Dan. 2:44-45; John 6:15; Acts 2:23-24, 36). This is shown in the course of prophecy (Isa. 2, Dan. 2; Joel 2), preparation (Matt. 3:2; 4:17; 10:7; 16:18; Mark 9:1; Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:4-5, 8), and proclamation/establishment (Acts 2; Col. 1:13).</li> <li>The <b>Nature</b> of His kingdom is not of this world. It is not an earthly kingdom (Rom. 14:17; Luke 17:20-21; 2 Cor. 10:3-4; Eph. 6). Earthly kingdoms would come and go but this kingdom will stand forever (Dan. 2:44; 7:13-14; Luke 1:31-33).</li> <li>The <b>Authority</b> of His kingdom is not of this world. Its authority comes from above (Isa. 2:3; Matt. 28:18; Acts 1:8; Col. 3:17, 1:18; Eph. 1:22-23).</li> <li>The <b>Constituents</b> of His kingdom are not of this world. They are in the world but not of the world (John 15:19; 17:15-16); their citizenship is in heaven, where their affections and treasures lie (Phil. 3:20; Col. 3:1-4; Matt. 6:19-24) and where they have hope of an eternal inheritance (1 Pet. 1:3-5).</li> </ol> <p><i>Pilate had the same problem many others had (John 3, 4, 6) - they were looking for the physical and missed the spiritual.</i>  <i>Jesus was indeed a king, not of a physical kingdom, but of a spiritual kingdom, His Church.</i></p>	<p><b>A Living Hope (1 Peter 1:3-5)</b>  <i>Peter praises God for the hope that we have as Christians:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The Ground of Hope: God's Abundant Mercy.</b> It was not by our merit (Titus 3:5-7; Eph. 2:8-10), but by His mercy we are His children and therefore heirs (1 John 3:1; Rom. 8:16-17). One must respond to this mercy however (Titus 2:11-14; 1 Pet. 1:22-23).</li> <li><b>The Nature of Hope: It is a Living Hope.</b> It knows no death, rather is full of life and lays hold on life eternal (Rom. 6:23; Heb. 6:19-20).</li> <li><b>The Assurance of Hope: Christ's Resurrection.</b> Our future hope is based on the historic reality of Christ's resurrection by which He secured life for us and assures us of our resurrection (Rom. 1:4; 2 Tim. 1:10; Heb. 2:14-15; 1 Cor. 15:20).</li> <li><b>The Object of Hope: An Inheritance.</b> We have something to look forward to, beyond our present suffering.                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Described: incorruptible, undefiled, and fades not away.</b> Unlike things of this earth and the hopes thereof, this inheritance is secure and everlasting (1 Pet. 1:23-25; 1 Cor. 9:25; 2 Pet. 3:11-13; Rev. 21:27; 22:5).</li> <li><b>Certainty: reserved, kept, and ready to be revealed.</b> We have a place prepared for us (John 14:1-3) which only we can deprive ourselves of (Heb. 13:5-6; John 10:28-29; Rom. 8:38-39) for we are guarded/kept by the power of God through faith (Rom. 1:16; 2:6-7; 1 Tim. 1:19; 1 Pet. 1:9; Heb. 6:10-20; 2 Pet. 1:5-11).</li> </ol> </li> </ol>		