

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



November 18, 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 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:

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.

Respect For Authority

By Jim Faughn

"No!" – Some who will read this article will remember a time that now seems so long ago when that simple two-letter word put an end to misbehavior on the part of children. When that word was spoken by a parent, a teacher, or any other authority figure, it was typical for no further action to be necessary. On those occasions when further action was necessary, that action was carried out, usually without much delay.

How the tables have turned! In today's world, it is not uncommon to hear that word spoken loudly, defiantly, and forcefully by a child to a parent, teacher, and/or some other authority figure who is attempting [in vain, it seems] to guide or correct the child. While one Christian or one family may not be able to change an entire society, Christian parents are concerned about instilling in their children a healthy respect for authority. They recognize that many of the ills of our society can be traced to a lack of respect for authority. They further realize that this is a matter of eternal importance. If a child does not learn to respect earthly authority figures, how can he or she learn to respect the One before whom all of us will stand in judgment (cf. 2 Corinthians 5:10)?

Hopefully looking at some key words in the above title will be helpful to parents and others.

Authority – Whatever else one may say about the God whom we serve, it must be recognized that **order** is a fundamental concept. Fundamental to order is the concept of **authority**. We well remember the condition that existed in the days of the Judges when it was reported, "In those days there was no king in Israel: every man did that which was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25; see also 17:6).

Respect – Multiple citations could be given from the Scriptures to demonstrate God's desire for His people to honor the elderly, governmental officials, elders, and other faithful servants of the Lord, parents, etc. A good summary statement of this concept may be found in Romans 13:7: "Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour."

Children – While not inspired, there is more than a grain of truth in the statement, "As the twig is bent, so grows the tree." Proverbs 22:6 still advised the reader to "**Train up a child...**" [emphasis mine]. How sad it is for parents to recognize far too late that they should have been trying to instill in their children a respect for authority from the earliest months of their lives onward.

Your – One of the "life lessons" that some parents and all children need to learn is that it is irrelevant what other families are doing with regard to honoring God and obeying Him. Christian parents in today's society need to have the same attitude that Joshua of old had: "...as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord" (Joshua 24:15).

(Continued on page 3)



The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him.

Ezekiel 18:20

Can You Trust Your Bible?

By Luke Griffin

The evidence that the Bible is the word of God is overwhelming. Consider these few examples:

1. **Claims Inspiration** – Any claim of inspiration must be tested. However, an inspired book would acknowledge its source (2 Timothy 3:16–17).

2. **Unity** – The Bible contains 66 separate books written in three languages by approximately 40 authors from different locations and diverse backgrounds over a period of 1,500 years, yet there are no contradictions. Theme and doctrine are consistent that results in a rich harmony which is lacking in works by mortal man.

3. **Scientific Understanding** – While atheists attempt to pit science against religion, true science is the Christian's friend. The Bible demonstrates inspiration both by what it omits and what it includes. The Bible avoids errors about astrology, false medical cures, divination, omens, the Earth's shape and position, and many more which contemporary literature and culture contain. Yet it includes scientific information unknown at that time of writing such as ocean currents, logical dietary laws, the water cycle, seabed topography, and quarantine.

4. **Fulfilled Prophecy** – The Bible contains verifiable prophecies about nations (Daniel 2:37–45) as well as more than 300 prophecies regarding the Messiah, including predictions about His birth, death, and resurrection, which were fulfilled in the life of Jesus of Nazareth. One man could not have accidentally fulfilled all these prophecies. (Luke 18:31–34).

5. **Historical Reliability** – The Bible's historical accuracy has been proven. In Acts, Luke mentions 32 countries, 54 cities, and 9 Mediterranean islands. He also names 95 people.¹ These citations contain no mistakes. In fact, when scholars initially claim that the Bible is in error, diligent study proves its supreme accuracy. Sir William Ramsey was a skeptic, but after an on-site study of Luke's accounts, he concluded that Luke was "the very

greatest of historians." A book may be historically accurate without being inspired, but an inspired book must be historically accurate.

Despite the evidence, critics will claim, "Yes, but the Bible has been mishandled and corrupted through the years. Today's Bible is not anything like the ancient writing." Centuries of accumulated evidence dispute this claim. The Bible is the best-preserved book in history, with compelling manuscript evidence. Besides the Bible, the best preserved ancient work is Homer's *The Iliad*. Written around 900 B.C., only 643 known ancient copies exist. The earliest is from approximately 400 B.C., a full 500 years after it was written. Other well-known works have even less evidence. Only seven known ancient copies of Plato's work exist, and the first full copy is from 1,200 years after Plato wrote it.

Compare these examples to the Bible. More than 5,000 manuscripts of the New Testament exist. Earliest fragments are from a mere 35 years after the books were written.

In addition, many early Christians wrote defenses, sermons, and commentaries that contain more than 86,000 direct quotations from the scriptures. Over 99.86 percent of the New Testament could be reconstructed from these quotations.

This conclusive evidence demonstrates the impossibility for anything that should be in the Bible to have been left out, and for anything that should have been left out to be included. New finds and continuing research show that no one has corrupted the Bible text since the earliest days of Christianity.

Carefully handed down through the centuries, the Bible is the accurate, complete, trustworthy, and all-sufficient word of God (2 Peter 1:3).

¹Metzger, Bruce, *The New Testament: Its Background, Growth, Content*.

Television	God's Plan for Redeeming Man	Bible Study Schedule
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 and on Roku TV: Sunday @ 6:30 am on Dish: 267, DirectTV: 376	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)	Week 47 2 Samuel 10-15 & Acts 4-5 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)



(Continued from page 1)

In – Our Lord told us that thoughts, attitudes, and actions come “from the heart” (Matthew 15:18). It is to be remembered that true conversion takes place when one obeys “from the heart” (Rom. 6:17). Respect for authority must be instilled.

Building – Just as there are certain things that are helpful in building a physical structure, there are similar things that are helpful in building a respect for authority in children. It is hoped that the ones discussed here will serve as a “springboard” for further study and discussion. While the following are not presented as being comprehensive, they are some of the things that are necessary.

Time – No building of any significance is built in a day or two. Respect for authority begins to “take shape” over days, weeks, months, and years of effort.

Blueprint – We have the perfect blueprint. It has the words Holy Bible on its cover. Every parent needs to strive for consistency in applying its teaching.

Teamwork – Fathers and mothers [often with the help of some good brothers and sisters in the Lord] should work together—not pull in opposite directions—to achieve the worthy and eternally important goal of building respect.

Example – In human relations, a popular term today is “mentoring.” In the building trades, a similar term and concept is that of being an “apprentice.” Responsibilities are gradually “handed off” to the next generation which has learned much of what it knows from observation. We need to make sure we are “handing off” a healthy and proper respect for authority.

Foundation – None of the other things mentioned or any of the others that could be mentioned are of any value without a proper foundation. While we primarily think in terms of the church, it should be true as well with regard to families and individual lives that “other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ” (1 Corinthians 3:11).

Purpose – Why is the proposed structure being built? That will go a long way in determining **how** it is built. Parents should “build” respect in their children because they realize that the purpose for our existence is to bring glory and honor to our Father and to our Savior.

May God help all of us to strive for that in our own lives and to do all we can to instill that desire in those who are coming along after us.

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 **23 contacts** were made. **Also remember today is the 3rd Sunday and time again for finger foods after the meeting.**

Upcoming Events

- ◆ Today: **Bible Bowl** hosted at Dublin at 2 PM.
- ◆ Please note: there will be **no Ladies Class this week** due to Thanksgiving. We will resume next week, Nov. 28.
- ◆ Dec. 1: Blood drive here for David Harris.

Areas of Service

I will soon be making up schedules for the next year that includes the monthly assignments of those who will clean the building, care for the yard, fix communion, and make announcements as well as the weekly assignments of greeters, prayers, scripture reading, song leading, serving communion, and Wednesday night invitations. If you are currently not serving in one of these areas and would like to, please let me know. Likewise if there is some area you no longer feel you can serve in let me know and we can plan around that. Thank you all for the work you do for the Lord in this area.

Celebrate

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

November Birthdays: Linda Jimenez (08), Emilee Evetts (13), Juanita Barnum (15), Xavier Martinez (28).

November Anniversaries: Barbara & Gene Bannister (06), Bennie & Charles White (19).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Ryan know...



Records

	Nov. 4, 2012	Nov. 11, 2012
Bible Class	48	44
AM Worship	58	58
PM Worship	53	40
Wednesday PM	51	43
Contribution	\$1889	\$1483

	This Week: 11/18/12	Next Week: 11/25/12	November 2012	
Sunday AM:	Lead Singing: Tom Wilcox	Lead Singing: Gene Bannister	Make Announcements: Gene Bannister	
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Billy & Peggy Chism	Prepare Communion: Jim & Peg Moore	
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Joe Dennis	Clean Building: John Barnum Family	
Communion	Ken Maninger*, Don Smith Jim Moore, Gene Bannister	Allen Griffith*, Garrett Barnum John Barnum, Tom Wilcox	Keep Grounds: Ryan Smithey	
Closing Prayer	Allen Griffith	Ken Maninger	December 2012	
Attendance Cards	Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez	Make Announcements: Garrett Barnum	
Sunday PM:				
Opening Prayer	Hank Wheeler	Billy Chism	Prepare Communion: Don & Darlene Smith	
Scripture Reading	James Fuller <i>Ezekiel 1:26-2:1</i>	Hank Wheeler	Clean Building: Cindy Fuller	
Communion	Ken Maninger	Allen Griffith	Keep Grounds: James Fuller	
Closing Prayer	Garrett Barnum	Don Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	November 21 James Fuller	November 28 Jim Moore	December 5 Don Smith	December 12 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 November 18, 2012	Sunday Class <i>Colossians (Chap. 3)</i> Wednesday Class <i>Redemption Through The Bible</i>
<p>Acts—A History of the Kingdom</p> <p>1. This Same Jesus (Acts 2:36, 1:11): We have a history account that shows us how to link the events of the past and the hope of the future.</p> <p>a. Ties to the history of the past as this is the same Jesus that dwelt among us, the Messiah, God in the flesh, the one we read of in the prophets and the gospel accounts; the one who died, rose again, and now reigns (Acts 2).</p> <p>b. Also looks forward that this Jesus is the same they have known and that will one day come again. (John 14:1-3; Rev. 1:8; 1 Thess. 4:16-17).</p> <p>2. The Kingdom of God — this is the theme that “bookends” the whole account (Acts 1:3 & 28:31)</p> <p>a. The kingdom, which is the church, is now being established (Acts 2)—prophecies and promises are now coming to pass; this is not something new or surprising but ties in to all that God purposed (Isa. 2:2-3; Dan. 2:44; Matt. 3:2, 4:17, 10:7; 16:18; Mark 9:1, Luke 24:46-49, Acts 1:8; 2:16, 23; Eph. 3:10-11 ; Col. 1:13).</p> <p>b. The Church then spread to all people—that which starts with the Jews in Jerusalem spreads to all people with its account ending in Rome (Acts 1:8, 2:47, 5:4; 5:14; 8:1; etc.; Matt. 28:19; Gal. 3:28).</p> <p>c. The Church grew by way of conversions—this is a book of conversions, it is the account of those who were converted by the gospel message and added to the church (Acts 2:38, 41, 47; ...; 26:18).</p>	<p>Lessons From Ezekiel</p> <p>1. Knowledge of God—Ezekiel is able to see the glory of god and then goes forth with a message of God that (as is mentioned numerous times) when it comes to pass, the people would know that He is the Lord. (6:10, 14; 7:27; 12:15...).</p> <p>2. Terrible Nature of Sin—sin had led to Israel and Judah’s downfall (7:9; 11:12); they disregarded their sin and thought God took no note (8:12, 17; 14:4). They would listen to God’s Word but not act on it (33:30-33).</p> <p>3. Individual Responsibility—They were to blame for their own sin and would suffer for their own sin; they could not blame their ancestors nor God (18:1-4, 20, 32; 14:14ff)</p> <p>4. Set As A Watchman—Ezekiel had a responsibility to warn and speak forth the word of God whether or not the people would listen (2:3-8; 3:1-21; 33:1-20).</p> <p>5. God’s Way is the Way of Salvation—In a book of gloom and despair there is a shining light of hope as well. God had not abandoned His people. God could and would restore them and bring about better days...even days of far greater glory! There is the prophecy of a new shepherd (chap 34); their hopelessness would be changed (chap 37); God’s cause would triumph (chap 38-39); and the temple would be built again (chap. 40-48), both the physical and the promise of a greater spiritual one, and God’s glory that had departed from the temple (chap 8-11) would return (chap 43; 48:35).</p>