

# 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 17, 2013

## 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.

## Loving God as Father

By Tom Moore

"Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God, the Lord is one: 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" (Mark 12:29-30). Here we have a very pivotal command for every Christian, a command that is at the very heart of our love for our Father. If these verses are not engrained in our daily living, then we will never love the Father as we ought. It is indeed the pivotal command concerning our love for the Father.

We know these verses, we have heard them often, and we understand that they mean we are to love our Father with our total being. Many claim to love the Father. Many say they love Him. Many, though, do not really understand what it means to love the Father with our total being; thus, let us delve deeply into Mark 12:30-31 and see how the child of God can show his love for God the Father each and every day.

"Thou shalt LOVE the Lord thy God." First notice that this is not a request or an option; it is a command, an imperative. We are to love (*agape*)—the highest and original form of love. This is an intellectual love which always does the proper and best thing. We are to love God—this would exclude putting anything above the Father in importance. The expression "*with all thy*" indicates that there is to be no holding back with our love. We must give our best effort, not settling for second best.

We are commanded to love our Father with "*all thy mind.*" This has to do with the intellect or knowledge. To love the Father as we ought, it must be done through knowledge. Friends, the biblically ignorant really do not love God. "*For being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own, they did not subject themselves to the righteousness of God*" (Rom. 10:3). If we love the Father as we ought, we will study His words (Deut. 17:19; John 5:39; Acts 17:11). So "*give diligence [study; KJV] to present thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, handling aright the word of truth*" (2 Tim. 2:15). Our minds must be filled with the truth on how the Father wants to be loved.

We are to love the Father "*with all of thy heart.*" We must love God with emotion and affection. Because of the Pentecostal movement in the church in the 50s and 60s, many swung completely to the other side and are afraid to show any emotion. We can't please God on pure emotion, because people end up doing as they

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Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power,  
and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty:  
for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine;  
thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all.  
1 Chronicles 29:11

# Barabbas

By Sam Willcut

In 1951, a Swedish author named Par Lagerkvist wrote a novel that won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1951. He entitled it, “Barabbas,” fictionally portraying the days that followed one of the more interesting characters during the last days of our Lord. During the trial, Pilate offered to release either Jesus or a man named Barabbas. Since the Jews were prosecuting Jesus because of envy (Matt. 27:18), the chief priests and elders actually coerced the multitude of gathered citizens to request the offer of releasing this man in the place of Jesus. As far as Biblical record goes, we know nothing else of this infamous scoundrel. Yet, he provides a number of valuable lessons in the grand scope of redemption’s pinnacle.

First, he was a sinner. The gospel writers describe him with despicable language—he was a prisoner (Matt. 27:16), because he was convicted of murder (Luke 23:19), rebellion (Mark 15:7) and robbery (John 18:40). In fact, Matthew states that he was “notable” (Matt. 27:16). In other words, he would be compared today to an incarcerated criminal formerly on the FBI’s Ten Most Wanted List—a man everyone knew from his crimes. Thus, he represented the very one for whom Jesus died—he died for sinners (Rom. 5:6-10), and we are sinners (Rom. 3:10-11, 23). The great apostle John even declared, “If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us...If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us” (1 John 1:8, 10).

Second, Jesus substituted him in death. We ought to remember when Abraham was going to offer his beloved son Isaac as a sacrifice to God that God stopped him and substituted a ram [male lamb] (Gen. 22:13-14). Abraham named that place “*Jehovah-jireh*,” which means, “God will provide,” indicating, among other things, that God will provide a substitute. Thus, when we are worthy to die because of our sins, God substituted the Lamb of God (John 1:29) as a substitute for our sins.

Third, he was saved from death—he obtained a type of salvation in that his life was spared. No doubt, because of the severity of crimes he committed, he was likely on “death row.” Unexpectedly, he was “released” (Matt. 27:36), which indicates that he was pardoned. This is exactly what Jesus was doing as He was going to the cross—He was going to die to pardon our sins (cf. Matt. 6:12). Through His shed blood, we have forgiveness of sins (Eph. 1:7).

In Biblical record, we have no idea whether this had any impact on his life or not, but we can only hope that the influence of Jesus from that day changed the heart of this cold criminal into a constructive citizen in the community, as well as in the kingdom of God.

*[Sam is the preacher for the Southwest congregation in Austin, TX, home of the Southwest School of Biblical Studies. He is conducting a gospel meeting this week in San Angelo at the 9th & Main Congregation.]*

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 and on Roku TV: Sunday @ 6:30 am on Dish: 267, DirectTV: 376</p> <p><b>Radio</b></p> <p>Preaching the Word (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3</p>	<p><b>Hear</b> Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).</p> <p><b>Believe</b> Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)</p> <p><b>Confess</b> Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)</p> <p><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><b>Live faithfully</b> (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)</p>	<p><b>Week 64</b> <b>2 Chronicles 12-17</b> <b>&amp; Romans 10-11</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><i>“...desire the sincere milk of the work, that ye may grow thereby;” (1 Pet. 2:2)</i></p>



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please. But the Bible is filled with emotion (Luke 10:20; Rom. 12:15; Phil. 4:4). We must have emotion under control and guided by knowledge.

We must love our Father *“with all thy soul.”* This means loving our Father with our very life. The Greek word is translated as “life” in many verses, and can also be translated as “breath.” This involves the willingness to give over our whole life to the Lord. In doing so we must live a sacrificial life. *“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service. And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, and ye may prove what is the good and acceptable and perfect will of God”* (Rom. 12:1-2). To love God with all of our soul we must be willing to give our whole life over to Him, to devote our whole life to His service, and even be willing to die for Him.

We must love our Father *“with all thy strength.”* This we do using our abilities, our money, and our time. We must use our abilities for the Lord (Matt. 25:14-30). So many talents are never used for the Lord. Many talents are never developed. Giving shows our true love for the Father (2 Cor. 8:2, 5; 9:7, 12). Giving of our time shows our true love for the Father. *“Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil”* (Eph. 5:15-16).

We must understand that we really cannot love God with all of soul and strength without first loving Him with all of our mind and heart. Loving God is more than just lip service—it is giving over our all! We must love the Father with all of our mind, all of our heart, all of our soul, and all of our strength every day!

### 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 **31 contacts** were made.

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Remember the Ladies class each Wednesday at 10 AM in the high school classroom.
- ◆ March 17-20: Gospel Meeting at 9th & Main in San Angelo with Sam Willcut.
- ◆ March 24: Bible Bowl at DeLeon at 2 PM.
- ◆ March 30: 90th Birthday Party for Ethel Adams here in the fellowship hall from 2-4.
- ◆ March 31-April 3: Gospel Meeting at Bangs with David Baker
- ◆ Continue to remember our meeting on April 21-14 with Jeff Rollo and the blood drive held here on May 11.

### Thank You:

Linda Griffith wanted to thank everyone for the cards, calls, prayers, food, etc. that were sent her way during her recently bout with the flu. Also the Griffiths thank every one for thier prayers and concern for Luke during his tests.

## Celebrate

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

**March Birthdays:** Ken Maninger (04), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kahlich (21), James Thomas (23), Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29).

**March:** Cindy & James Fuller (02), Carol & Tom Wilcox (23).

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



## Records

	March 3, 2013	March 10, 2013
Bible Class	57	49
AM Worship	74	71
PM Worship	57	45
Wednesday PM	53	46
Contribution	\$1797	\$1880

This Week: 3/17/13		Next Week: 3/24/13		March 2013	
<b>Sunday AM:</b>		James Fuller		Gene Bannister	
<b>Greeters</b>	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich		John Barnum Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	John Barnum		Ken Maninger		
<b>Communion</b>	Gene Bannister*, Tom Wilcox Ken Maninger, Don Smith		Joe Dennis*, John Barnum Allen Griffith, Hank Wheeler		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum		Don Smith		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis		Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>					
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Thomas		Jim Moore		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Hank Wheeler <i>Psalms 119:33-40</i>		Garrett Barnum		
<b>Communion</b>	Gene Bannister		Joe Dennis		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith		Billy Chism		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	March 20 Allen Griffith		March 27 Tom Wilcox		April 3 Garrett Barnum
				April 10 Joe Dennis	

**Make Announcements:**  
Don Smith

**Prepare Communion:**  
Gene & Barbara Bannister

**Clean Building:**  
Jim & Peg Moore

**Keep Grounds:**  
James Fuller

**April 2013**

**Make Announcements:**  
Joe Dennis

**Prepare Communion:**  
Billy & Peggy Chism

**Clean Building:**  
John Barnum Family

**Keep Grounds:**  
Ryan Smithey

## 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 March 17, 2013</b>		Sunday Class ..... <i>Philippians (Chapter 4)</i>	Wednesday Class ..... <i>Redemption Through The Bible</i>
<p><b>Victory in Christ (Romans 8)</b></p> <p><i>Paul has moved from showing all under the condemnation of sin (Rom. 1-3) to showing there is a solution that God has provided. Through an active, obedient faith (Rom. 4) we can be justified (Rom. 5), sanctified (Rom. 6), and glorified (Rom. 7-8) in Christ. Chapter 8 is the celebration of that victory.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>No Condemnation</b> — Sin ended in death (Rom. 6:23), even the law showed the horrible nature of sin but could not provide for salvation (7:11-13). But in Christ we find no condemnation (8:1), rather salvation and life (8:2-4; Eph. 2:1; John 10:10) to those who walk after the Spirit—a reflection back to Rom. 6 that we are servants of God, not sin.</li> <li><b>Children of God</b> — Further we are reminded that we have become sons of God (8:14; Eph. 2:19; 5:1; 2 Cor. 6:17-18), by means of adoption (8:15; 1 Cor. 6:19-20; Mark 14:36), and as children of God, heirs—indeed joint-heirs with Christ (v16-17; Matt. 16:24; 25:21; Rev. 3:21; 21:7). What a glorious inheritance we anticipate, one that is greater than anything we can image and worth any necessary cost (8:18, 24-25; 2 Cor. 4:8-10, 16-18).</li> <li><b>Super-Conquerors</b> — God is for us! What greater joy can there be? The Spirit is interceding for us (v26-27), God is working for the good of His people (v28-33), and Christ also intercedes for us (v34). No external force can separate us from Him (8:35ff). Victory for those in Christ (v39)! <i>But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. (1 Cor. 15:57)</i></li> </ol>		<p><b>Receiving The Word Of God (James 1:19-20)</b></p> <p><i>Having shown God as sinless, giving, powerful, and wise, James shows our responsibility to Him as His creation.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Swift To Hear</b> — Man should be quick to hear the things of God (Matt. 5:6). He has spoken through His Son (Heb. 1:1-3; Matt. 17:5) and subsequently through the revelation of the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:26; 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:9-13) with words that should be heeded (Heb. 2:1-3, John 12:48; Rom. 2:16; 1:16). Indeed James reminds us we should be quick to hear and do the things of God (James 1:21-25).</li> <li><b>Slow To Speak</b> — While one should be quick to listen to the things of God, he must be slow to speak (particularly concerning the things of God, James 3:1) because of the power of the tongue/speech (James 3:3-6). While it cannot be tamed, it must be controlled (James 3:7-12), this shows true, godly wisdom (James 3:13). The tongue can be used powerfully for good or evil, so be slow to ensure it is used properly in speaking concerning the things of God.</li> <li><b>Slow To Wrath</b> — Used of anger, vengeance, judgment; particularly used of God's judgment against others which is not ours to make (Rom. 12:19). Considering the context, James is warning us of not growing angry at the reception of God's word as some did (Matt. 14:3-4; Acts 7:54, 58), such wrath does not work the righteousness of God (James 1:20) for it nether displays the attitude of a Christian nor humbles oneself to God and His Will. It is not our place to argue with God, but to meekly receive His Word (1:21).</li> </ol>	