

# 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



June 09, 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 ..... 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.

## The Voice of the Lord

By Marvin Weir

Jeremiah, spokesman of God, said, "They shall not deliver thee. Obey, I beseech thee, the voice of Jehovah, in that which I speak unto thee: so it shall be well with thee, and thy soul shall live" (Jer. 38:20).

Many people are convinced that God speaks directly to them as He did to fathers, prophets, and people during the Patriarchal, Mosaic, and miraculous age of the early church. I recall attending a funeral where an apostate preacher who claimed to be a member of the Lord's church said: "I was driving home when I learned of the tragic accident. I had no idea what I was going to say or do and God spoke to me before I reached home, saying, 'I'll tell you what to say and what to do.'" I am sure that some attending that funeral service **believed** what the apostate said — but I surely did not. I have been attempting to preach the gospel for 48 years and have conducted many funeral services, but I have not had God speak directly to me a single time. This man who made such a claim was a liar because the apostle Peter said, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons..." (Acts 10:34). God reveals Himself today to **all** in the same way — through His inspired Word!

"The voice of Jehovah" in Jeremiah 38:20 stands for **the word of God**. God speaks to people today through His Son (Heb. 1:1-2). His Son speaks to us through the apostles and inspired writers who recorded His words (John 16:13; 1 Cor. 2:13). Let us now profit by studying the Word of the Lord. It is:

**A Warning Voice!** "Thus saith Jehovah, This city shall surely be given into the hand of the army of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it. Then the princes said unto the king, Let this man, we pray thee, be put to death; forasmuch as he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them: for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt" (Jer. 38:3-4).

One definition of warning is "a threat or a sign that something bad is going to happen." Another definition is "a piece of advice given to somebody to be careful or to stop doing something" (Encarta Dictionary). Is it not wonderful that God desires for us to be careful and safe as we journey through this life? Is it not because of His love that God warns us of all that is hurtful to our life and soul? A warning is not bad if one's house is on fire, if a bridge has collapsed on a foggy night, if water is several feet over a highway, or if a bear is on the prowl. Could it

(Continued on page 2)



Finally, *be* all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, *be* pitiful, *be* courteous: Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing.

1 Peter 3:8-9

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be that most people think more of their physical life than they do of their spiritual life? God wants us to go to Heaven, so He warns us that continuing to practice sin will cost us our soul (1 Cor. 6:9-11; Gal. 5:19-21; Rom. 6:23).

**A Humbling Voice!** *“Thus saith Jehovah, He that abideth in this city shall die by the sword, by the famine, and by the pestilence; but he that goeth forth to the Chaldeans shall live, and his life shall be unto him for a prey, and he shall live”* (Jer. 38:2).

There are times when pride must be swallowed, and the action that is taken is less than desirable. Sin has a way of humbling people, and those who refused Chaldean captivity would die. Had it not been for sin and disobedience God’s people would have been spared captivity by the cruel Babylonians. Such an incident clearly shows the high cost of sin and foolish pride!

**A Hated Voice!** *“Then the princes said unto the king, Let this man, we pray thee, be put to death; forasmuch as he weakeneth the hands of the men of war that remain in this city, and the hands of all the people, in speaking such words unto them: for this man seeketh not the welfare of this people, but the hurt. And Zedekiah the king said, Behold, he is in your hand; for the king is not he that can do anything against you. Then took they Jeremiah, and cast him into the dungeon of Malchijah the king's son, that was in the court of the guard: and they let down Jeremiah with cords. And in the dungeon there was no water, but mire; and Jeremiah sank in the mire”* (Jer. 38:4-6).

Even though the words were from the mouth of God, the people did not want to hear them from the prophet. Nothing has changed today! Let a gospel preacher preach against sin and warn against hell and

brethren want to dispense with the preacher. They get to where they hate his presence and hate his voice. It is as the Lord said, *“If the world hateth you, ye know that it hath hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love its own: but because ye are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you”* (John 15:18-19).

**An Assuring Voice!** *“But Jeremiah said, They shall not deliver thee. Obey, I beseech thee, the voice of Jehovah, in that which I speak unto thee: so it shall be well with thee, and thy soul shall live”* (Jer. 38:20).

Zedekiah was afraid for his life and ask Jeremiah to hide nothing from him. Jeremiah assures Zedekiah that if he surrenders to the Babyonians he will live and the city will not be burned. God has always sought to assure mankind through His Word. More often than not, however, men have chosen to reject the blessed assurance they could have had!

**An Infallible Voice!** *“...when Zedekiah the king of Judah and all the men of war saw them, then they fled ... and he went out toward the Arabah. But the army of the Chaldeans pursued after them, and overtook Zedekiah in the plains of Jericho: and when they had taken him, they brought him up to Nebuchadrezzar king of Babylon ... and he gave judgment upon him. Then the king of Babylon slew the sons of Zedekiah in Riblah before his eyes: also the king of Babylon slew all the nobles of Judah. Moreover he put out Zedekiah's eyes, and bound him in fetters, to carry him to Babylon. And the Chaldeans burned the king's house, and the houses of the people, with fire, and brake down the walls of Jerusalem”* (Jer. 39:4-8).

The voice of the Lord was correct — it **always** is! Only fools reject God’s Word and steadfastly march to their own destruction. May we learn, and heed the voice of the Lord!

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 76</b> <b>Job 15-20</b> <b>&amp; 2 Corinthians 2-3</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;”</i> (1 Pet. 2:2)</p>



### Upcoming Events:

Mark your calendars in advance:

- ◆ June 10-13: VBS at Dublin
- ◆ June 11: **Summer Youth Series** starts at Bangs. Every Tuesday night through the summer begins at 7 PM. There is a schedule on the bulletin board. The Theme this year is: "Significant Lessons from 'Insignificant' People".
- ◆ June 22: VBS at 5th & Grape in Abilene
- ◆ June 24-28: VBS at Ranger
- ◆ June 30– July 4: Jr. Camp at Brady
- ◆ July 14-19: Sr. Camp at Brady
- ◆ August 7-9: VBS at Hamilton
- ◆ August 14: We will be hosting the final Summer Youth Series here at 4th & Stewart.
- ◆ October 20-23: Our Spring Meeting with Rick Popejoy

## Do What Is Right

By Tom Moore

When King Hezekiah came to the throne, he inherited a bad situation. His father, Ahaz, had reigned for 16 years. The Bible says that Ahaz "did not that which was right in the sight of the Lord his God..." (2 Kgs. 15:38).

Because of his wickedness, God allowed other nations to afflict Israel. All of the silver and gold from the temple was taken and given to the king of Assyria. So when Hezekiah rose to lead Israel, the nation was bankrupt financially and morally. In spite of the things his father had done, the Bible tells us that Hezekiah "did that which was right in the sight of the Lord" (2 Kgs. 18:3). As a result, "The Lord was with him; and he prospered whithersoever he went forth" (2 Kgs. 18:7).

Now that's what God wants from us. He wants us to do what is right. And how do we know what's right? Well, we read God's handbook for life, the Bible. In its pages you'll find answers to life's most difficult questions. So if you're facing a tough situation today, do what King Hezekiah did, trust the Lord and do what's right - be obedient. Read God's Word and discover how God can turn your troublesome circumstances into blessing.

### Visitation Meeting

Remember our visitation meeting each Sunday night following the evening worship to sign cards and discuss the work going on. Last week **26 contacts** were made.

**Response...** We appreciate the attitude of Phyllis Hooper who has been visiting with us and recently expressed her desire to be restored to the Lord's Church and work and worship with this congregation. I will try to get her contact information out to you all soon.

**Thank You...** more than I can say. We deeply appreciate all the kindness you've shown! Thank you so much for the wonderful lunch you prepared for our family. I'm so thankful for all of you! ~In Christian Love, Ginger King & Family

## Celebrate

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

**June Birthdays:** Hannah Smithey (03), Mike Bannister (04), Caleb Dennis (06), Loutrell Dobbins (08), Shannon Dennis (13), David Greer (26), Stormy Barnum (27), Ashley Kahlich (29).

**June Anniversaries:** Lasha & Joe Dennis (05), Laverne & James Thomas (05), Mileen & Wayne Kahlich (19), Lisa & David Greer (28).



## Records

	May 26, 2013	June 2, 2013
Bible Class	58	54
AM Worship	78	79
PM Worship	62	61
Wednesday PM	50	46
Contribution	\$1593	\$1910

# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 6/9/13		Next Week: 6/16/13		<b>June 2013</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Jim Moore <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Don & Darlene Smith <b>Clean Building:</b> The Smithey Family <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Tom Wilcox  <b>July 2013</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Gene Bannister <b>Prepare Communion:</b> The Smithey Family <b>Clean Building:</b> Jessica Stultz <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Tom Wilcox		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>		Song Leader: Ken Maninger			Song Leader: Joe Dennis	
<b>Greeters</b>	Allen & Linda Griffith		Billy & Peggy Chism			
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Thomas		Allen Griffith			
<b>Communion</b>	Don Smith*, James Fuller Gene Bannister, Jim Moore		Hank Wheeler*, Garrett Barnum Ken Maninger, Don Smith			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Hank Wheeler		John Barnum			
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell/Xavier Martinez		Seth Smithey/Caleb Dennis			
<b>Sunday PM:</b>						
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Garrett Barnum		Billy Chism			
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Allen Griffith <i>1 Peter 2:9-13</i>		Garrett Barnum			
<b>Communion</b>	Don Smith		Hank Wheeler			
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum		Gene Bannister			
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	June 12 Jim Moore	June 19 Don Smith	June 26 Allen Griffith	July 3 Tom Wilcox		

# 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 June 9, 2013</b>		Sunday Class .....Titus (Chap. 1-2) Wednesday Class .....Joe Dennis teaching
<p><b>What Job Longed For, We Have Assurance Of (Job 9)</b>  <i>Job, though he trusted God, was confused about a number of things during his suffering; thankfully we have a more complete picture of God during the New Testament age.</i>  <i>Some of what he loved for, we have the assurance of...</i></p> <p><b>1. A powerful, but also loving God</b></p> <p>a. Job spoke of the greatness of God and the humility of man; almost as if God was unapproachable (9:2-12); he fell short in failing to see or understand that God was for him.</p> <p>b. We know both the greatness of God, but also His love towards man in reaching out to save him (Ps. 8:4; Rom. 5:8; Jn 3:16; 1 Pet. 5:7; 1 Tim. 2:4; 2 Cor. 1:3-4; Heb. 13:5-6).</p> <p><b>2. A Daysman, or mediator, with God</b></p> <p>a. Job lamented there was no umpire/arbitrator between him and God for he felt his case was unjust. (9:33)</p> <p>b. We know we have a mediator with God (1 Tim. 1:15; 2:5), one who lays His hand on both God and man to unite them (Heb. 2:17-18; 5:9; 10:12, 14; 1 John 2:1-2; Rom. 8:1).</p> <p><b>3. A life that has meaning and hope in Christ</b></p> <p>a. A number of times Job speaks of wishing he had not been born and longs for death (see Job 3); even here he speaks of the brevity and toil of life (9:25-26; 10:1, 18-22; 14:1-2); it seems odd to him that God created him for such difficulty.</p> <p>b. Yet, we can have a greater sense of purpose in life (Ecc. 12:13-14; Acts 17:27; Matt. 5:16; Phil. 1:21; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:10) and joy in knowing more of the life to come that has been assured by God (2 Cor. 1:19-22, 4:17, 5:1; 1 Cor. 15:58, 16:13; John 14:1-3; Rev. 14:13; 21:4; James 5:11).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Love Yourself</b></p> <p><i>It seems odd to speak of loving yourself when so often we think of the need for humility and the danger of pride; yet to be the person God desires us to be, there must be a healthy love for self.</i></p> <p><b>1. Healthy love for self is not egomania.</b></p> <p>a. Such is pictured in 2 Tim. 3:1-5 where we would put ourselves and our best interest above all else.</p> <p>b. Such is contrary to many passages of scripture (Matt. 5:1-8; Luke 9:23; Phil. 2:3ff; etc.).</p> <p><b>2. Healthy love for self is opposed self-hatred</b></p> <p>a. Self-hatred fails to appreciate that we are special in the sight of God (Prov. 11:17; Gen. 1:26-27; Ps. 8:4)</p> <p>b. Self-hatred seeks to destroy that which God sees as special.</p> <p><b>3. Healthy love for self is right and even necessary</b></p> <p>a. Allows us to see ourselves as God does; His special creation whom He loves (Gen. 1:26-27; John 3:16; Rom. 5:8; 1 Pet. 1:18-19).</p> <p>b. Allows us to deal with others properly (Matt. 19:19; Eph. 5:28; Matt. 7:12).</p> <p>c. Allows us to view our responsibilities as stewards correctly (1 Cor. 4:1-2; Ps. 8:6; 1 Cor. 12:12ff; Matt. 25:14-30; 1 Tim. 1:12-16). Not worthless but entrusted servants of God!</p> <p>d. Allows us to appreciate who we are and what we have (James 2:5; Rom. 8:17; 2 Pet. 2:5, 9; Rev. 5:10; 7:9).</p> <p><b>4. Healthy love for self seeks our souls best interest by following God (James 1:21-22) thus bringing peace with God and man (Phil. 4:9; Matt. 22:27-40) and sets an example for others (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:15-16).</b></p>	