

# 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



January 26, 2014

## Contact Us:

3201 4th Street  
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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:

Johnny McCaghren

## 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 Bible Passes the Test

By Wayne Jackson

The Bible contains two kinds of information. Some of it can be checked, some of it cannot. For example, it is not possible "to check" scientifically the accuracy of Genesis 1:1: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." While the affirmation is not in any way inconsistent with scientific data that is available, at the same time the statement is one of pre-human history and does not lend itself to empirical investigation.

On the other hand, the scriptures contain hundreds of references that arise out of the background of human history. These may be tested for accuracy. If it is the case that the Bible is demonstrated to be absolutely precise in thousands of historical details, it is not unreasonable to conclude that its information in other matters is equally correct. One of the most amazing features of the Bible is its uncanny reliability in the smallest of details. Let us note a few examples of incidental biblical precision.

During His personal ministry, Jesus once passed through the region of Samaria. Near Sychar the Lord stopped for a brief rest at Jacob's well. He engaged a Samaritan woman in conversation, during which He suggested that He could provide the woman with water which could perpetually quench her thirst. Misunderstanding the nature of the Master's instruction, the woman, alluding to Jacob's well, declared: "Sir, you have nothing to draw with, and the well is deep" (John 4:11). The statement is quite correct, for even now, some twenty centuries later, Jacob's well is approximately eighty feet deep. That is the equivalent of an eight-story building.

Reflect upon another example. In Acts 10, there is the account of Peter's visit in the city of Joppa. Luke declares that Peter was staying in the home of Simon, a tanner of animal hides. Then the historian says, almost as an afterthought, "whose house is by the seaside" (Acts 10:6). Hugh J. Schonfield, a scholar who is certainly no friend to Christianity and author of the infamous book, *The Passover Plot*, has commented on this passage:

This is an interesting factual detail, because the tanners used sea water in the process of converting hides into leather. The skins were soaked in the sea and then treated with lime before the hair was scraped off.

Consider another interesting case of Bible precision. When Paul was en route to Rome for trial, the ship upon which he sailed became involved in a terrible storm. When it eventually became apparent that the vessel was in a very dangerous circumstance, the crew cast the ship's anchors into the water. At the same time, they "loosed the rudder bands," hoisted up the foresail, and aimed the ship towards the beach (Acts 27:40). There is an interesting and subtle point in the Greek text that is

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The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night.... Therefore,...what manner of persons ought you to be?

2 Peter 3:9-11

## Prayer For The Unborn

By Tyler Young



O Holy Father, O God of Mercy, God of Justice, Creator and Sustainer of Life,

We pray for an end to the slaughter of the innocents. Please hear the cry of the unborn, hear the cry of their blood, O God.

Open the eyes of our nation to see the horror that is happening in our midst. Humble us, break our hardened hearts and open them to your love, your truth, your Son. Open our eyes and our hearts to see the humanity, the personhood, the value, the preciousness of every life. Make us to fear you, to tremble before you, to love as you love, to love as your Son loves. Fill us with conviction for life, with compassion for the unborn, with sympathy for the women who are being deceived and exploited. Open our hearts to love them, and strengthen our hands to minister to them, O God.

Bless those who are informing us, who are warning us, who are giving themselves to defend the unborn. Thank you, Holy Father, for their labor of love, for the good they are doing, for the lives they have saved and are saving. Dear Lord, hold up our hands as we seek to save the children from the slaughter. Use us to speak for them, to be a voice for the voiceless—to cry out for them, to plead for them, to protect them.

Forgive us of our complacency. Forgive us when we're silent. Oh God, grant by your grace and power that we might do more to expose this brutality, to stop this evil, to turn men's hearts to you, to stand for the truth, to up-

hold the sanctity of life, to proclaim with renewed boldness and urgency that the worth and dignity of every human life is grounded in the reality that you have made us in your image, for your glory. Manifest your love and your truth through your people, move us to hold high the cross of Christ, to point men to the sacrificial death of your only Son as the ultimate demonstration of the worth of every human soul, so men might know that every person is created by you for a purpose, so all might understand that every child is a wanted child, desired by you for eternal fellowship.

And we pray for the abortionists and their defenders in government, in the media, in the activist organizations, for those who are butchering babies for money and those who are upholding their blood-stained hands. We pray for those who are lying to the public, lying to women, who are deceiving and being deceived, who are defending this barbarism, who are promoting this atrocity, who are hiding the humanity of the unborn and the truth about what abortion is and the terrible devastation that it brings to women, to men, to all of us. We ask, O God, that you might grant them repentance, that they might find your mercy before they face your judgment.

And we thank you for assuring us that the mouths of the liars will be silenced one day, for the comfort you give us in the certainty that your truth will prevail, that the darkness will not overcome the light, that good will triumph over evil at last, that your Son reigns on high and the faithful will be victorious in him.

Our hearts are heavy for the unborn, O God. Hear our prayer, Most Holy Father, for we ask it in the name of our precious Lord, by whom you have given us life and hope.

May you be glorified, and may your will be done in all things, now and forever. Amen.

### 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 and on Roku  
TV: Sunday @ 6:30 am on  
Dish: 267, DirectTV: 376

### 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 109

#### Proverbs 21—26 & Hebrews 13—James 1

Study sheets are available at the back of the auditorium.

*“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

(2 Timothy 2:15)



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not apparent in the King James version. The original language actually says that they “loosed the bands of the rudders” (plural). This is amazingly precise, for in ancient times, ships actually possessed two paddle-rudders—not a single rudder as with modern vessels. In 1969, a submerged ancient ship was discovered in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Cyprus. An examination of the ruins gave evidence of dual rudder-oars by which the boat was steered (see *National Geographic*, November 1974), thus demonstrating the remarkable accuracy of Luke’s record.

The Bible can be tested repeatedly—historically, geographically, scientifically—and it always passes the test. Its incredible accuracy really can be explained only in light of its divine inspiration.

(January 2001)

### *A Thank You Letter from Cherokee Home for Children*

Dear Brethren,

Thank you for your gift of \$100.00 to our 2014 General Fund on 1/8/2014. We are beginning 2014 with excitement, both from last year’s treasured events and for this year’s approaching milestones.

Twelve of our children were baptized into Christ in 2013. Not only are they changed for eternity, but the kingdom here on earth will also grow due to their love for our Lord.

We graduated four from high school, and all are enrolled in college or trade school, as are four graduates from the previous year.

Our first group of children will move into the “Stability First” cottage in 2014. They will have more permanence in their home life not having to change cottages.

Your giving makes our work to improve their lives possible. We cannot thank you enough.

For the Children,

Delton R. McGuire  
Executive Director

### *Visitation Meeting*

- ◆ Each Sunday night following the evening worship. Last week **27 contacts** were made.

### *Special Announcements*

- ◆ **Gospel Meeting with Loy Mitchell: May 11-14, 2014.**

### *In The Area*

- ◆ **Today—Bible Bowl @ Dublin**
- ◆ Feb. 2—**Michael Shank** (*Muscle and a Shovel*) @ Hico—5pm & 6pm
- ◆ Feb. 9-12—**Equip Seminar** @ Oldham Lane in Abilene (Steve Higginbotham)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting** @ Hamilton (Mike Vestal)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting** @ Deleon (Paul Shero)
- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting** @ San Angelo (BJ Clarke)
- ◆ May 4-7—**Gospel Meeting** @ Gordon (Michael Light)
- ◆ Jun. 29-Jul. 3—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ Jul. 20-25—**Senior Camp**

## Celebrate

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

**February Birthdays:** Judie Turner (Jan 29), Charles White (Jan 30), Cindy McCaghren (2), Johnny McCaghren (2), Peggy Chism (3), Carol Wilcox (5), Lunday Maninger (8), Conner Vera (13), Patti Bannister (14), Jack Turner (22), Jonathan Fuller (28).

**February Anniversaries:** Steven & Mariah Martinez (4), Billy & Peggy Chism (26).



## Records

	Jan. 12, 2014	Jan. 19, 2014
Bible Class	45	49
AM Worship	60	63
PM Worship	43	57
Wednesday PM	47	40
Contribution	\$1874	\$1934

# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 1/26/14		Next Week: 2/2/14		<b>January 2014</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Ken Maninger <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Don & Darlene Smith <b>Clean Building:</b> Jim & Peg Moore <b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller  <b>February 2014</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Jim Moore <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren <b>Clean Building:</b> John Barnum Family <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Tom Wilcox
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
<b>Greeters</b>	Allen & Linda Griffith	Billy & Peggy Chism		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Jim Moore	Gene Bannister		
<b>Communion</b>	Joe Dennis*, Ken Maninger John Barnum, Chase Churchwell	Don Smith*, Kevin Wilcox Garrett Barnum, Caleb Dennis		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Hank Wheeler	Tom Wilcox		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell	Caleb Dennis		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Mike Bannister	Garrett Barnum		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Garrett Barnum	Jim Moore		
<b>Communion</b>	Joe Dennis	Don Smith		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	James Thomas	Billy Chism		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	January 29 Kevin Wilcox	February 5 Garrett Barnum	February 12 Don Smith	February 19 Jim Moore

# 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 January 12, 2014</b>		Sunday Class ..... Identity of the New Testament Church	Wednesday PM ..... Mark: Chapters 4-5
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Why Study Doctrine?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Is doctrine really important?                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Should we just "agree to disagree," lay our differences aside, and openly fellowship other religious groups?</li> <li>◆ What does the Bible say about doctrine?</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ There is absolute truth and we can know it.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Jesus declared that people can know the truth (Jn. 8:32).</li> <li>◆ Jesus declared that the words which He spoke were truth.</li> <li>◆ Truth is of God and He has revealed it to man.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ God requires that man learn His truth.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Knowing the truth is essential to salvation.</li> <li>◆ Knowing the doctrine is essential to maturing in the faith.</li> <li>◆ Those who follow Christ must be willing to learn.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ God's truth must mold man's character and conduct.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The word is only of value if we live it (James 1:21-25).</li> <li>◆ Doctrine limits what we can do, say or believe.</li> <li>◆ Doctrine limits who we can fellowship.</li> <li>◆ Some of Paul's last words to Timothy (2 Tim. 4:1-4)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ God instructs that His people be unwavering in doctrine.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The doctrine that we are given is complete, we need no more (2 Peter 1:3).</li> <li>◆ The doctrine which was once delivered must be taught and defended.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Yes, it is important to study the doctrines of the Bible, because it is only in obedience to God's teaching that one can be saved!</li> <li>◆ "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free"</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Unleashing God's Word In Your Life</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lesson 7—Grasping the Big Picture</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Bible has <b>one constant theme</b> from beginning to end—<b>God for His own glory has chosen to create and gather to Himself a group of people to be the subjects of His eternal kingdom; to praise, honor, and serve Him forever; and through whom He will display His wisdom, power, mercy, grace, and glory.</b></li> <li>◆ Within this one constant theme <b>five recurring themes</b> are constantly emphasized.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ <b>The nature of God</b>—Above all else, Scripture is God's self revelation.</li> <li>◆ <b>The curse for sin and disobedience</b>—Scripture repeatedly deals with the matter of man's sin, which leads to divine judgment.</li> <li>◆ <b>The blessing for faith and obedience</b>—Scripture repeatedly promises wonderful rewards in time and eternity to people who trust God and seek to obey Him.</li> <li>◆ <b>The Savior and the sacrifice for sin</b>—Jesus as Savior is the heart of both the OT, which Jesus said spoke of Him in type and prophecy, and the NT, which gives the biblical record of His coming.</li> <li>◆ <b>The eternity and glory</b>—This crucial component of Scripture brings the whole story to its God-ordained consummation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ May the magnificent theme of the redemption of sinners for the glory of God captivate your interest in this great book.</li> </ul>		