

# 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 2, 2014

## Contact Us:

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office@4thstreetcoc.org

## Meeting Times:

### Sunday:

Bible Study .....9:45 AM  
Worship .....10:40 AM  
Care, Inc. Service .... 2:30 PM  
Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### 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.

## Why You Need to Stop Dismissing the Apostle Paul

By Wes McAdams

I often hear Christians boast that they listen more to the words of Jesus than they do the words of Paul. It isn't that they necessarily deny Paul was an inspired apostle or that his epistles are Scripture, but they consider the gospel accounts to be first-class Scripture and the epistles to be second-class Scripture. "After all," they reason, "shouldn't we put more stock in what Jesus said than what Paul said?"

On the surface, I admit, this sounds like logical reasoning. However, this ignores several important facts. Let's ask a few questions to reveal the flaws in elevating one New Testament book over another:

### 1. What books did Jesus write?

The gospel accounts were not written by Jesus; they were written by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. If it were not for the apostles and first-century disciples, we would have no record of Jesus' words. These men – just like Paul – wrote by inspiration and recorded the words of Christ for our benefit. When you read the words in red, you are trusting that these men were actually inspired by the Holy Spirit and that the Holy Spirit brought to their remembrance the things Jesus said (John 14:26).

There is no other way to be a Christian than to believe the writers of the New Testament were "carried along by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:21), believe in Jesus "through their word" (John 17:20), and devote yourself to their teaching (Acts 2:42). You cannot believe Jesus' words and toss the words of the apostles because the words of Jesus came through the pens of the apostles.

### 2. Was Matthew more inspired than Paul?

If the book of Matthew (or any of the other gospel accounts) is the work of a man being carried along by the Holy Spirit, and Paul's epistles are the work of another man being carried along by the same Holy Spirit, why would we give more credit to one than the other? Peter confirmed Paul's writings were in deed "Scripture" (2 Peter 3:15-16), meaning every word in Paul's letters was "breathed out by God" (2 Timothy 3:16).

There is no such thing as greater and lesser books of the New Testament. Although each writer left his unique mark on the New Testament, each book was the work of God – NOT man. Therefore, when you read the words in red – you are not reading the words of Matthew – you are reading the words of Christ. And when you read the various epistles – you are not reading the words of Paul – you are reading the words of Christ.

### 3. What behavior are you trying to justify?

Often, it seems, when people try to dismiss or diminish Paul's epistles, it is because they don't like something he said. But again, the same God who gave us the words of Jesus, also gave us the words of Paul. The argument that Jesus said nothing against homosexuality, so He must not have a problem with it, is a bogus argument. The Spirit of Christ dwelt in Paul, so when Paul wrote about homosexuality (Romans 1:26-27; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10), Jesus was condemning homosexuality through Paul.

Many Christians also want to diminish Paul's writings to diminish the importance of the church. Since Paul – not Jesus – talked about things like the organization of the church (elders, deacons, etc.), they reason that it must not be too important. Again, this is nonsense. Jesus gave us the blueprint for His church *through* His apostles (including Paul).

### Stop Dismissing Paul

We all say, "Paul said..." or "Paul wrote..." and that is correct. But please remember that Paul was being carried along by the Spirit as he wrote those things; just as Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John were. I hope that this encourages us to devote ourselves more wholly to ALL of the apostles' teachings, that we might better know Christ and His will for us!



*"The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"*

Luke 3:4-6

# A Sound Church

A sound church is not merely a church that sounds good, but rather one that is firmly anchored in truth!



“That they may be sound”  
Titus 1:13

Sound in <b>DOCTRINE</b>	• Titus 2:1
Sound in <b>FAITH</b>	• Titus 1:13
Sound in <b>UNITY</b>	• John 17
Sound in <b>ORGANIZATION</b>	• Ephesians 4:11
Sound in <b>WORK</b>	• Titus 3:1
Sound in <b>WORSHIP</b>	• John 4:24
Sound in <b>TEACHING</b>	• 2 Timothy 4:1-4
Sound in <b>GIVING</b>	• 2 Corinthians 9:7-8
Sound in <b>ZEAL</b>	• 2 Corinthians 9:2
Sound in <b>LEADERSHIP</b>	• Acts 2:38

“But speak thou the things which become sound doctrine.” Titus 2:1

Barnes Bible Charts

## What is a “sound church”?

Sound means “Free from flaw, defect or decay; undamaged, unimpaired, healthy, founded in truth and rightness, not fallacious or faulty.” We use the word in phrases like “sound body,” “sound health,” “sound judgment,” sound advice,” “sound reasoning,” “sound sleep,” and may even give someone a “sound thrashing.” All of these carry the idea of a complete and unadulterated pattern (2 Tim. 1:13)

So a “sound church” is a church that follows the doctrine of Christ in a thorough, valid, uncorrupted, systematic pattern without any defect as to truth. Is a “sound church” perfect? No, because it is made up of fallible men. But it is a church that is ever striving toward perfection. Being “sound” takes great effort and constant vigilance. Satan never gives up.

May the 4th and Stewart congregation ever be known as a “sound church”!

Johnny

### 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

Sunday @ 6:30 am on Dish:267, DirectTV:376

### Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

### Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network

Gbntv.org and on Roku

### 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 114

**Song of Solomon 8—Isaiah 5  
& 1 Peter 5—2 Peter 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)



*In The Area*

- ◆ 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)
- ◆ May 11-14—**Our Gospel Meeting** with Loy Mitchell
- ◆ Jun. 29-Jul. 3—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ Jul. 20-25—**Senior Camp**

*Preach a Sermon, Preacher*

Preach a sermon, Preacher, but don't preach very long;  
 Just tell the love of Jesus Christ, but don't condemn the wrong.  
 Say not a thing of doctrines false, lest others be offended;  
 Then turn away from us today, and call us narrow minded.

Preach a sermon, Preacher, but don't preach very plain;  
 Let others guess at what is meant, don't ever call a name.  
 We'll sing your praises long and loud, we'll keep you many a day,  
 But make it clear, and you'll hear, "Brother, be on your way!"

Preach a sermon, Preacher, but say nothing of our sins;  
 Let us keep on as though we have none, perhaps we'll make amends.  
 Please, let us dance, gamble, wear shorts, and take in every show,  
 Make us secure and very pure, we're humans, don't you know?

Preach a sermon, Preacher, but speak not to us of duty,  
 Just preach about the grace of God, and picture heaven's beauty.  
 Leave out the things that we must do, we're busy making money;  
 We haven't time, can't spare a dime, won't even be there Sunday.

Preach a sermon, Preacher, when it come mine to die,  
 Tell all my kith and kin about my home beyond the sky.  
 Preach the sermon, make strong, preach me straight to heaven;  
 That's my only way to get to stay, where Christ's reward is given!

*Author Unknown*

*Visitation Meeting*

- ◆ Each Sunday night following the evening worship. Last week **24 contacts** were made.

*Special Announcements*

- ◆ **First Sunday Fellowship** meal today after services.
- ◆ **Elders, Deacons, & Preacher's Meeting** today.
- ◆ **Time change** next Sunday, **March 9th**. Spring Forward!
- ◆ New **House to House, Heart to Heart** on table at back. We get plenty so take them and hand them out!

*Celebrate*

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

**March Birthdays:** Ken Maninger (4), John Greer (7), Wayne Kahlich (9), Susan Ford (17), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kahlich (21), James Thomas (23), Jessica Stultz (28), Ethel Adams (29).

**March Anniversaries:** James & Cindy Fuller (2), Billie Ford (20), Tom & Carol Wilcox (23).



*Records*

	Feb. 16, 2014	Feb. 23, 2014
Bible Class	47	50
AM Worship	61	64
PM Worship	46	50
Wednesday PM	42	44
Contribution	\$2366	\$1793

# Privileged To Serve

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

	<b>This Week: 3/2/14</b>	<b>Next Week: 3/9/14</b>		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<b>March 2014</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Gene Bannister <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Tom & Carol Wilcox <b>Clean Building:</b> Cindy Fuller <b>Keep Grounds:</b> James Fuller  <b>April 2014</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Garrett Barnum <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Gene & Barbara Bannister <b>Clean Building:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren <b>Keep Grounds:</b> Tom Wilcox	
<b>Greeters</b>	Gene & Barbara Bannister	John Barnum Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	James Thomas		
<b>Communion</b>	Garrett Barnum*, James Thomas James Fuller, Kevin Wilcox	Don Smith*, John Barnum James Fuller, Kevin Wilcox		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Ken Maninger	Hank Wheeler		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: James Fuller		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Garrett Barnum		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Joe Dennis	Allen Griffith		
<b>Communion</b>	Garrett Barnum	Don Smith		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Billy Chism	John Barnum		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	March 5 Don Smith	March 12 Tom Wilcox	March 19 Jim Moore	March 26 Kevin 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 March 2, 2014</b>	<i>Sunday Class ..... Identity of the New Testament Church Wednesday PM ..... Mark: Chapter 6</i>
<p><b>Studies in Luke—Preparing the Way—3:1-22</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ In Ch. 1 we learned of John's birth and purpose                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A miraculous birth, as "Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years" (1:6)</li> <li>◆ His task—"to make ready for the Lord a people prepared" (1:17)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Note the following facts about John's ministry from Chapter 3                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The Sitting                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Historical Sitting (1,2)</li> <li>◆ Geographical Sitting (3)</li> <li>◆ Theological Sitting (4-6)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ John's boldness as a preacher (7-14)</li> <li>◆ Was John the Christ? (15-17)</li> <li>◆ John's purpose for preaching                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ To baptize people for the forgiveness of sins (3)</li> <li>◆ To prepare the way of the Lord   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ To fill the valleys</li> <li>◆ To level the mountains and hills</li> <li>◆ To straighten the crooked</li> <li>◆ To smooth the rough</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ To identify the Christ   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Note the testimony of Chapters 1&amp;2</li> <li>◆ Note the testimony at Jesus' baptism (21,22)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ John played a very important role in Jesus' ministry</li> <li>◆ Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he" (Matt. 11:11)</li> <li>◆ Are you one of the "greater"? Are you a part of the "kingdom"?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Unleashing God's Word In Your Life</b> <b>Lesson 12—The Word Shows God's Will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:3-8</li> <li>◆ Many people want to know God's will concerning which house to buy, which job to take, who to marry, etc.                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Does God actually have a will for my life? Can we know it?</li> <li>◆ Scripture reveals five principle for knowing God's will in our life.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Principle #1: Be Saved                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 2 Peter 3:9; 1 Timothy 2:4</li> <li>◆ Salvation is where the will of God begins.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Principle #2: Be Spirit-Filled                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Ephesians 5:15-18</li> <li>◆ How? By studying His Word!</li> <li>◆ "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly" (Col. 3:16)</li> <li>◆ God's will is not lost—it is there in plain sight in His Word</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Principle #3: Be Sanctified                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Deals with our purity and holiness</li> <li>◆ 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Principle #4: Be Submissive                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 1 Peter 2:13-15</li> <li>◆ Christians should be good citizens—the "salt" and "light" of the world</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Principle #5: Suffer for Christ's Sake                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ 1 Peter 4:12-16,19</li> <li>◆ Suffering for good— for living a godly life in an ungodly society</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ There is a lot of concern and confusion about God's will, but it need not be a mystery—simply look in His Word</li> </ul>