

# 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 23, 2014

## 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

### Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class..On Break  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

## Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

## Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... 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

## Loving the Truth Enough to Care

**P**aul tells us that some men are to perish because they love not the truth (2 Thess. 2:10). Since men are saved by the truth and the purifying process of truth (1 Pet. 1:22), these indeed will perish. One with no desire for truth will most certainly not be open to truth, and thus will not learn or obey truth. We in the kingdom of Christ have obeyed the truth and are in constant obedience to it. Loving truth means that we love all of it, and we wish to do all things to promote it.

In that regard, let us say some things about loving the truth and loving it enough to care. These points are significant:

(1) We should love the truth enough to study it. We are told to study, as one approved of God, and with such diligent care that we “*rightly handle*” the truth (2 Tim. 2:15). A readiness of mind should always be in us (Acts 17:11), and we should have a permanent and continual appetite for truth.

(2) We should love the truth enough to live by it. Faithfulness to the Lord’s will is seen as an adorning of the doctrine of God (Titus 2:10). We cannot add anything to the body of divine doctrine—we cannot add to the content of the Bible—but we can demonstrate to all what faithfulness to the truth can do in one’s life. That point on “adorning the doctrine” is set in contrast with unfaithfulness, which blasphemes the word (Titus 2:5). Truth is to be demonstrated in life, and we should love it enough to fashion our lives in keeping with the Lord’s wishes.

(3) We should love the truth enough to speak it. To the young preacher, Paul urged, “*teach what accords with sound doctrine...in your teaching show integrity*” (Titus 2:1,7). Whether in private conversation with one whom we would like to influence for God and for good or in a public proclamation of the truth, we should desire that the message flowing from our lips or our pen be in strict keeping with the word of truth. Paul warned against giving the “*indistinct sound*” (1 Cor. 14:8); and with every opportunity to speak, the servant of God may be addressing some who now are receiving their last opportunity to obey before their eternity begins. How all speakers should make sure they utter only truth! How much is that of brotherhood concern just now, when it is evident that some are getting their sermon material from sectarian sources rather than from the Bible! We should love the truth enough to take care that only the truth proceeds from our lips!

(4) We should love the truth enough to desire to hear only the truth. This moves us to consider the audience among the saints of God, and who should have a longing for truth to such an extent that nothing else will be tolerated! Sadly, things can be so bad, with so much apostasy unfolding, that men will turn from truth because they no longer will endure it (2 Tim. 4:3,4). That is the apostate. However, within the loyal body of saints, there must be a hungering for truth because of the value placed on it, and men who speak otherwise should speedily be informed that they have presented error and that there will be no toleration of such! Nothing would speed the shutting of the false teachers’ mouths like this response from the church.

Yes, the point is the love of truth, and the question: Do we love the truth enough to care? Love it enough to care for the word of truth, so as to study it continually? Love it enough to make sure that our lives are governed by it? Love it enough to make sure that our speech is biblical? Love it enough to raise our voices, in the congregations, in insistence that only the truth be set forth from the pulpit? Love the truth—so needed in a time of apostasy! Do we care? Indeed, “*Is it nothing to you, all you who pass by?*” (Lam. 1:12).

Bill Jackson (March 1988)

“*And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all.*”

Luke 4:14,15

Let us know if you want to study  
the Bible to know more about  
Christ and His Church.



# The Final Examination

You walk into the room. You are a bit confused and apprehensive—what is going to happen? You stand before the teacher, and he gives you the final examination.

Are you ready? Have you prepared yourself? How will you fare?

All of us who have gone through school remember final exams. They were never pleasant, and they often represented a significant part of our grade. The final exam was the last shot at redemption, the conclusion of a successful class, or the final failure. It all depended on our understanding of the class material, and the nature of the exam itself.

The Scriptures make it clear that we will all experience the ultimate final examination when the Lord returns: the Day of Judgment.

*“The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead”* (Acts 17:30,31)

Since the Day of Judgment is coming for you and me, it is good for us to understand all we can about the Judgment Day and the basis of the judgment!

We do not know when the Day of Judgment will come. Jesus’ return is described as being like *“a thief in the night”* (1 Thess. 5:2; 2 Pet. 3:10). Contrary to the view of many, Jesus’ return will not be heralded by a “rapture” then a “great tribulation,” and then a “millennium.” Instead, the Scriptures teach that Jesus could come at any moment, and when He does return, He will then immediately judge all mankind (Matt. 24:42—25:46). Either we will be ready for His return or we will not be ready. There is no other alternative!

God does not leave us in doubt regarding the basis of the judgment; in fact, you could call it an “open book” exam. We will be judged on the basis of our works, whether we have obeyed Jesus and served Him and His righteousness, or if we have not obeyed Jesus and served evil (Rom. 2:5-11; Rev. 20:12,13). Those works will be judged by the standard of God’s Word, just as Jesus promised (John 12:48).

A day of judgment is coming, therefore, and on that day, each and every one of us will stand before God, give an account, and be judged on the basis of our obedience to God (Rom. 14:12)

What shall we do then? Some people live in continual fear, knowing that the Lord is coming, but not knowing exactly when. Yet God would not have us live in fear—instead, we ought to live in preparation (1 Thess. 5:1-10). If we believe that the Bible is true, that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and will return one day to judge the living and the dead, then we must live according to that conviction. We must constantly be busy in His Kingdom doing His will (Gal. 2:20; Rom. 6:16-19)! If we are faithful servants, it will not matter if the Lord returns today, tomorrow, or after our deaths. Let us be prepared for that final examination, and inherit eternal life!

*Ethan R. Longhenry*

## 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 117**

**Isaiah 18-23**

**& 1 John 3-4**

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)*



- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting @ Colleyville** “Come Let Us Reason Together” (Andy Baker)
- ◆ Apr. 25-27—**Lovelady Lectures @ Lovelady** “Lessons in Lyrics” (Various Speakers)
- ◆ Apr. 26—**Bible Bowl @ Stephenville**
- ◆ Apr. 26—**Ladies Day @ Deleon**
- ◆ May 3—**Cherokee Day @ Cherokee Home for Children** (see bulletin board for details and donation needs)
- ◆ 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**

### Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **34 contacts** were made.

### Ladies Get Together

- ◆ The ladies had a good time of study, food, and fellowship yesterday at the McCaghren’s. Nineteen ladies were able to attend.

### Special Announcements

- ◆ **Funeral services for Lloyd Leslie** this afternoon at 3:00 at Heartland Funeral Home Chapel. Visitation will begin at 2:00pm.
- ◆ The **90th birthday party for Julie Baker** planned for this afternoon has been **cancelled**, due to her move.

### In The Area

- ◆ Mar. 30—**Bible Bowl @ Hamilton** (2 Cor. 9-13)
- ◆ Apr. 5—**Ladies Day @ Highway 36** “Focus on the Unseen” (Valerie Crim)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton** “Getting at the Heart of Things” (Mike Vestal)
- ◆ Apr. 6-9—**Gospel Meeting @ Deleon** (Paul Shero)
- ◆ Apr. 12-15—**Annual Southwest Lectures @ Austin** “Equipping for Service: Lessons from the Pastoral Epistles” (Various Speakers)
- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting @ San Angelo** (BJ Clarke)
- ◆ Apr. 20-23—**Gospel Meeting @ Bangs** (Tyler Young)

## Premillennialism?

There are some variations to the false doctrine of premillennialism but most theories run like this: that Jesus intended to set up an earthly kingdom, but the Jews did not allow Him to do so by defeating His purpose. Can you imagine anyone being able to defeat the purpose of God where God would have to change His plans and try it all over again at some future date? According to this theory God apparently did not know this was going to happen. This is absurd. What does Isaiah 53 say? This false theory says that instead Jesus set up the church as a substitute and plans to return to earth at a later date, fight the war of Armageddon, set up his earthly kingdom in Jerusalem and rule for 1000 years on David’s throne. Many denominations are filled with this false theory. Let’s see what the Bible says.

When asked about His kingdom Jesus said in John 18:36, “My kingdom is not of this world. If My kingdom were of this world, My servants would fight so that I would not be delivered to the Jews.” Jesus never planned to have an earthly kingdom. The Lord is now reigning over His spiritual kingdom, the church, and we are now in it. Col. 1:13 says that God “has delivered us from the power of darkness and **has translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son.**” We are now in His kingdom. 2 Pet. 3:10 says, “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat: both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.” There is not even going to be an earth here to have a thousand year reign on.

The church of our Lord was not an accident, but was established according to the eternal purpose of God (Eph. 3:10-11). 1 Cor. 15:24 says, “Then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father.” When Jesus comes again He will not come to establish a kingdom, but to deliver His kingdom, the church, up to God.

Ron Boatwright

## Celebrate

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

**March Birthdays:** Ken Maninger (4), John Greer (7), Wayne Kahlich (9), Brian Leftwich (14), 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

	Mar. 9, 2014	Mar. 16, 2014
Bible Class	33	46
AM Worship	50	69
PM Worship	35	56
Wednesday PM	32	57
Contribution	\$1719	\$2144

# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 3/23/14		Next Week: 3/30/14		<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>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
<b>Greeters</b>	Billy & Peggy Chism	Ken, Jo, Kristi, Lunday Maninger		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Garrett Barnum		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger*, Gene Bannister Don Smith, Chase Churchwell	John Barnam*, Hank Wheeler Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum	James Fuller		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell	Caleb Dennis		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Thomas	Don Smith		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	John Barnum	Garrett Barnum		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger	John Barnum		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Kevin Wilcox	Billy Chism		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	March 26 Garrett Barnum	April 2 Don Smith	April 9 Joe Dennis	April 16 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 March 23, 2014</b>		Sunday Class ..... The Organization of the New Testament Church Wednesday PM ..... Mark: Chapter 7
<p><b>Studies in Luke—Jesus' Work in Galilee—4:14-9:50</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Jesus shows His power and authority over every aspect of life: nature, disease, death, the spirit realm, the natural world, and sin.</li> <li>◆ There are a variety of responses to His power and authority.                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The most common response is fear (5:8-10; 5:26; 7:16; 8:37).</li> <li>◆ The Scribes and Pharisees respond with anger (5:21; 5:30; 5:33; 6:2; 6:11; 7:29,30).</li> <li>◆ Sprinkled throughout are hints of Jesus' coming fate in Jerusalem (2:34,35; 9:22; 9:44; 9:51).</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ A tragic story of the nation of Israel.                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Because of Israel's rejection of Christ, the Gospel is preached to the Gentiles (Acts 13:46; Rom. 11:11-15).                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Seen in Jesus' judgment against Nazareth (4:16-30).</li> <li>◆ Seen in Jesus' dealing with the Centurion (7:1-10)</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Israel's lack of faith is what provoked them to crucify Jesus, and, as a nation, to reject Him to their own demise.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Characteristics of a tragedy.                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Tragedy, in literature and theater, consist of: dilemma, choice, catastrophe, suffering, perception, and death (in that order).                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The classic tragedy is Genesis, chapters 1-3.</li> <li>◆ Another classic example is the reign of King Saul.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ "The one common denominator in all tragedies is the downward movement of the plot from positive experiences to catastrophe" (Ryken, <i>Words of Delight</i>, p. 145)</li> <li>◆ This accurately describes the history of the nation of Israel in its rejection of Jesus Christ.                                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The resulting chain of events ends with Israel's death in 70 AD.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ How will your life be characterized?</li> </ul>	<p><b>Unleashing God's Word In Your Life</b>  <b>Lesson 15—The Word Equips You For Battle</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Text: Ephesians 6:11-18 (especially verse 17)</li> <li>◆ Most of us prefer to win and not to lose—in our battle against Satan it is imperative that we win.</li> <li>◆ In our text, Paul describes the Christian soldier's armor, which finishes with "the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God."                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ The "sword" Paul describes is the <i>machaira</i>, a small, easily handled sword used for accurate, precise work.</li> <li>◆ The "word" Paul describes is <i>rema</i>, specific statements, as opposed to <i>logos</i>, God's word in general.</li> <li>◆ Paul is saying that as a Christian soldier we must be able to use the specific statements from God's Word appropriate for the given situation, and be able to use them accurately and precisely.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ How Is Your Defense?                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ A sword is used as much to ward off a blow (defense), as it is to deliver one (offense).</li> <li>◆ We must first learn to use the Word defensively, or we will be struck down before having the opportunity to use it offensively.</li> <li>◆ Jesus gives the perfect example of using the word defensively in His temptations by Satan (Mt. 4; Lk. 4)</li> <li>◆ Satan will always attack at our weakest point.</li> </ul> </li> <li>◆ Don't Forget to Go on the Offensive                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ Every time we teach someone the gospel, teach our families, teach a Bible class, speak to a friend or co-worker about Christ, etc., we are taking the battle to Satan.</li> <li>◆ Just like on defense, our offensive moves must be specific and precise.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	