

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



April 5, 2015

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service 2:30 PM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class.10:00 AM
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

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

Kernels of Knowledge From our Daily Bible Reading

The Time of the Judges of Israel

With the Promised Land conquered and allotted to the respective tribes, a day God's chosen people had long anticipated was at hand. Six centuries earlier God had promised that Abraham's descendents would become a nation and possess this land. Now the fulfillment of that promise had been realized. While the people had been in Egypt, they no doubt had longed for the day when they would have their own land. In Egypt they had been foreigners and even slaves, and then in the wilderness they had been restless transients. But now they were in a land of their own. They could plan for the future and carve out their own manner of life.

It was also a day of great promise. In that Israel had been raised up by God to be His special people, and in that God would desire such a people to be a fine witness to His glory, there was reason for Israel to anticipate success and prosperity. God indeed had clearly promised unusual blessing, stating that if the people followed Him faithfully, they would be "*the head and not the tail*" in their world community and so "*you shall only go up and not down*" (Deut. 28:1-14; 30:1-10). All that the Israelites needed to do was obey their heavenly Ruler and the most attractive future ever enjoyed by a nation awaited.

This grand future did not come to pass, however, because the people did not meet the condition. They did not remain true to their God or obey His laws. These wonderful blessings, therefore, were forfeited.

While the Book of Judges is history, it is history of a particular type. Its point of view is that God rewards faithfulness to His covenant with peace and prosperity in the land, but punishes faithlessness with oppression by other nations. This basic theme must be understood if its message is to be appreciated. The key word for Judges is "*failure*"—the failure of Israel to live up to her God-given obligation.

A key verse, written twice (Judg. 17:6; 21:25), sounds this note: "*Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.*" The book shows how this was tragically true. The rationale for this type of historical report is found in the need to tell why Israel was not blessed by God as she might have been. She, who had owned such attractive prospects, did not realize them because she did not obey her God. The book depicts the many ways she failed.

Chapter 1 describes Israel's failure to drive the Canaanites from the land. Chapter 2 tells of her consequent acceptance of Canaanite Baal worship. Chapter 3 through 16 depict periods of oppression, brought as punishment, by Mesopotamians, Moabites, Canaanites, Midianites, Ammonites, and Philistines. Each period involved a cycle of Israel sinning, being invaded and severely oppressed, and then delivered by a judge raised up by God. Finally, chapters 17 through 21 narrate two sad episodes which illustrate the depths of religious, moral, and political degeneracy which generally characterized the period.

Even though this motif of failure dominates the book, it is not necessary to assume that the rebellious behavior described here was characteristic of all Israelites. It may not have been normative and certainly was not legally proper. We should be reminded that, while the depressing series of events recorded in Judges was taking place, at the same time the people of Bethlehem were living out apparently quiet lives governed by law. The idyllic account of Ruth, with the trust in God's providence that underlies it, provides the other side of the coin and reminds us that, at her worst, Israel still contained people for whom the Law and their relationship with God was important.

(Leon J. Wood, A Survey of Israel's History, revised by David O'Brien [Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1986] pp. 167-168.)

"When Joshua dismissed the people, the people of Israel went each to his inheritance to take possession of the land. And the people served the Lord all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had seen all the great works that the Lord had done for Israel.... And all that generation were gathered to their fathers. And there arose another generation after them who did not know the Lord or the work that he had done for Israel." **Judges 2:6,7,10**



Area Gospel Meetings This Week

TURN ON THE POWER:
A SERIES OF GOSPEL LESSONS

with Rick Popejoy

April 5-8, 2015



- | | |
|---------------|--|
| Sun. 9:00 AM | The Power of Daily (Acts 2:42) |
| Sun. 10:00 AM | The Power of Local (Acts 14:23) |
| Sun. 5:00 PM | The Power of Unity (Jho. 17:20-21) |
| Mon. 7:00 PM | The Power of the Gospel (Rom. 1:14-17) |
| Tues. 7:00 PM | The Power of Knowing Jesus (Phi. 3:10) |
| Wed. 10:00 AM | The Power of Godliness (1 Tim. 2:10) |
| Wed. 7:00 PM | The Power of Hospitality (1 Pet. 4:9) |

Granbury Street Church of Christ 817-517-7713 (Local) or 817-517-6515 (Metro)
1211 N. Granbury Street FAX: 817-556-3822
Cleburne, TX 76033 granburystreet@aol.com
www.granburystreetchurchofchrist.com

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND A
GOSPEL MEETING
AT THE PARK HEIGHTS CHURCH OF CHRIST

THEME: DO YOU KNOW...

Sunday, April 5
Bible Class - 9:30 a.m.
Old Testament History?

Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Inspiration?

Evening Worship - 6:00 p.m.
Jesus?

Monday, April 6 - 7:00 p.m.
The Apostles' Doctrine?

Tuesday, April 7 - 7:00 p.m.
**The New Testament Plan of
Salvation?**

Wednesday, April 8 - 7:00 p.m.
The Final Judgment?



Speaker:
Foy Forehand, Evangelist
APRIL 5-8, 2015

Park Heights Church of Christ
1300 East Boynton St.
Hamilton, Texas 76531
(254) 386-3953 ... dspoppy@yahoo.com

APRIL 5-8, 2015

YOU ARE INVITED TO COME AND HEAR

PHIL MCINTOSH

IN A SERIES OF GOSPEL LESSONS

APRIL 5—8, 2015

The Book of Ephesians

DE LEON CHURCH OF CHRIST
316 E. NAVARRO AVENUE
P.O. BOX 365
DE LEON, TEXAS
(254) 893-5842



"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

Service Times & Topics

- | | | |
|-----------|---------|---|
| Sunday | 9:45am | An Introduction to Ephesians |
| | 10:45am | Predestined to Salvation (Chapter 1) |
| | 6:00pm | The Grace of God That Saves (Chapter 2) |
| Monday | 7:00pm | The Mystery of the Kingdom (Chapter 3) |
| Tuesday | 7:00pm | A Church Knit Together (Chapter 4) |
| Wednesday | 10:00am | A Loving Home (Chapter 5) |
| | 7:00pm | How To Stand Against Satan (Chapter 6) |

Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:30am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

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 Reading Schedule

April 5 Judges 16-18

April 6 Judges 19-21

April 7 Ruth 1-4

April 8 1 Samuel 1-3

April 9 1 Samuel 4-8

April 10 1 Samuel 9-12

April 11 1 Samuel 13-14

April 12 1 Samuel 15-17

*"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)*



Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **26 contacts** were made.

Special Announcements

- ◆ **Monthly fellowship meal and elders/deacons/preacher's meeting today** after morning worship.
- ◆ **Ladies**—remember to get back with Cindy on Ladies Day topics and/or if you plan to attend Hwy 36's Ladies Day this Saturday.

Upcoming Events In The Area

- ◆ This week—see opposing page for flyers.
- ◆ This Saturday (April 11)—**Ladies Day @ Hwy 36**
- ◆ April 11-14 **Southwest School of Biblical Studies Lectureship** (Austin), "God's Help with Life's Struggles".
- ◆ April 19-22 **Gospel Meeting @ Windmill Road** (Weatherford). Various speakers.
- ◆ April 24-25 **Heart of Texas Ladies Retreat @ Brady**. Preregistration required. (See Cindy for registration)
- ◆ April 25 **Ladies Day @ Comanche**, "Footprints of Jesus"
- ◆ April 25 **Marriage Seminar @ Oldham Lane** (Abilene), "His Shoes, Her Shoes"
- ◆ May 17-20 **Gospel Meeting @ Gordon** w/ Jason Rollo

Can We Handle Our Blessings?

Since Satan is always putting obstacles in our way, we should pray that the Lord will be with us in our challenges because the Christian life is very difficult (Matt. 6:34).

While it may seem an unexpected question, should we pray for our blessings in the same way?

God blesses us immeasurably if we're in Christ (Ezek. 34:26; Eph. 1:3). He wants to open the windows of heaven for his faithful children (Malachi 3:10). But with blessings come responsibility.

Hezekiah was a godly man who expelled idols and brought God's will to the land (2 Kings 18:1-8). Years later, he was near death and he begged God for more time and the Lord granted him fifteen more years (2 Kings 20:1-6).

However, Hezekiah repaid the Lords' grace and mercy by refusing to give God credit for his wealth and God brought a curse on his household (Isaiah 39).

Earlier in their history, Israel had God's guidance and protection in the wilderness but they rejected it (Numbers 11:1-14).

Blessings are a challenge, as well. Not everyone can handle them.

We allow the flesh to bring in vanity, ingratitude, selfishness and a host of other sins. God provides for us but he won't do it by the standards of the wealthy and ungodly.

Therefore, brethren, let us constantly pray that we will develop the proper attitudes about our blessings.

How can we do that?

- ◆ Allow the gospel to transform our expectations (Romans 12:1-2).
- ◆ Develop spiritual vision by focusing on heaven (John 14:1-6).
- ◆ Develop a humble spirit (James 4:10).
- ◆ Develop a less materialistic mindset (Matthew 6:33).

We can easily take God's gifts for granted and think that God owes us for our allegiance. However, that is absurd (Acts 17:25). God hates ingratitude so we must always pray that we will be attentive and grateful for the blessings God gives us because he can always take them away.

Richard Mansel (www.forthright.net)

Celebrate

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



Records	Mar. 22, 2015	Mar. 29, 2015
Bible Class	45	49
AM Worship	66	72
PM Worship	44	47
Wednesday PM	42	51
Contribution	\$2,399	\$1,973

	Next Week: 4/5/15	Next Week: 4/12/15		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	April 2015 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: McCaghrens Clean Building: Cindy Fuller & Jessica Stultz Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox May 2015 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Tom & Carol Wilcox Clean Building: Jack & Judy Turner Keep Grounds: James Fuller	
Greeters	John Barnum Family	Tom Wilcox & Hank Wheeler		
Opening Prayer	Tom Wilcox	James Fuller		
Communion	Joe Dennis*, Don Smith Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell	James Thomas*, Allen Griffith Gene Bannister, John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Allen Griffith	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	Caleb Dennis	Chase Churchwell		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Don Smith		
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler	Mike Bannister		
Communion	Joe Dennis	James Thomas		
Closing Prayer	Billy Chism	Hank Wheeler		
Wednesday Devotionals:	April 8 Prayer	April 15 Joe Dennis	April 22 Allen Griffith	April 29 Singing Night

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)

Studies for the week of April 5, 2015	Sunday Class Acts 4:1ff
	Wednesday Class Ezekiel 3:1ff
<p style="text-align: center;">Jesus' Death, Burial & Resurrection</p> <p>The death, burial & resurrection of Jesus Christ is the focal point of history. The crucifixion of Jesus is the very basis of all we hold as our faith. The death, burial & resurrection of Jesus was necessary for the salvation of man.</p> <p>I. The Manner of Jesus' Death, Burial & Resurrection.</p> <p>A. The physical aspect of Jesus' death.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We cannot even begin to imagine the pain and horror of the cross. 2. But we can, and must, understand this – without the physical death of Jesus Christ on the physical cross of Calvary, the world would still be wallowing, helplessly, in the sea of sin, "having no hope and without God in the world" (Eph. 2:12). <p>B. The prophetic aspect of Jesus' death.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The condemnation of satan and the penalty of sin upon man (Gen. 3), marked the need for a Savior to redeem man from sin. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. God's prophetic statement to the serpent implied the fact of Jesus' death – but the manner was yet to be revealed. b. Passages such as Ps. 22, Isa. 53, Num 21, etc. reveal the manner. 2. The death of Jesus was absolutely necessary for the perfect sacrifice for sin. <p>II. The Meaning of Jesus' Death, Burial & Resurrection.</p> <p>A. The <u>completion</u> of God's preparation for the coming of the Messiah.</p> <p>B. The <u>completion</u> of God's plan for man's salvation.</p> <p>III. The Message of Jesus' Death, Burial & Resurrection.</p> <p>A. The great message of God's love for sinful man.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The greatest story that has ever been told is God's great love for his ultimate creation – man – you and me. <p>B. The great message of Christ's love for sinful man.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Because Jesus refused to assume an earthly throne, and wear an earthly crown, the Jews rejected him and crucified him in spite of all the signs he performed to prove his deity – How foolish! 2. He refused their throne and crown because he had a greater kingdom to establish. <p>C. The great message of the necessity of obedience through love.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Every principle Jesus taught, every command he gave, every example he left comprises the "perfect law of liberty" (Jas. 1:25). <p>D. The great message of the promise of salvation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">John 1:35-51 – The Witness of Andrew, Philip & Nathanael</p> <p>³⁵"Two of his disciples" We later learn this is Andrew and probably John.</p> <p>³⁶"Behold, the Lamb of God!" Compare v. 29. Focuses attention on Jesus.</p> <p>³⁷John wants the readers to follow Jesus.</p> <p>³⁸"What are you seeking?" The disciples probably did not know at this point. "Rabbi" = "my great one" in Hebrew. John interprets it into Greek.</p> <p>The verbal exchange carries a deeper meaning than the words being said. By asking, "where are you staying?," they asked, "can we follow you?" "Come and you will see," an acceptance of their desire to follow.</p> <p>⁴¹Witness #2: Andrew, says Jesus is the Messiah.</p> <p>⁴²"He brought him to Jesus" – this is what Jesus wants us to do! "You shall be called Cephas" (which means Peter). Petros, stone.</p> <p>⁴³Third time for "the next day" – a definite structural break.</p> <p>"Philip" – means "horse lover"</p> <p>⁴³"Jesus decides to go to Galilee"</p> <p>⁴⁴Philip, along with Peter and Andrew, is from Bethsaida.</p> <p>⁴⁵Witness #3: Philip, "We have found Him, of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote".</p> <p>Philip finds Nathanael. (The key to Christianity – one finds another, etc.) Philip further identifies the Messiah, "Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph"</p> <p>⁴⁶Nathanael is skeptical, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip answers Nathanael's skepticism, "Come and see."</p> <p>⁴⁷"Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom there is no deceit!" (Rom. 2:28,29)</p> <p>⁴⁸"How do you know me?" God always knows us! We need to know God!! "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you".</p> <p>⁴⁹Witness #4: Nathanael, "You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" A true Israelite here recognizes at once his true King.</p> <p>⁵⁰"You will see greater things than these." A preview of the rest of the book.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "Heaven opened" 2. "The angels of God ascending and descending" 3. "On the Son of Man." <p>Witnesses of John, chapter 1:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John the Baptist – "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (29) 2. Andrew – "We have found the Messiah" (41) 3. Philip – "We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote" (45) 4. Nathaniel – "You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" (49)