

# 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



August 30, 2015

## 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.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.

## Jesus, Our Savior

He was not born into the most prestigious family. He was not a particularly handsome man, neither was He very popular in His hometown. His closest friends were fishermen, and He spent much of His time with the sick and outcast of society. He was a sorrowful man who was rejected by His own people. He was loved by many but hated by most, and He was abused and brutally murdered by His enemies. Yet, He was the greatest man who ever lived. He was loving, kind, and generous. He fed the hungry and healed the sick. He was a servant to all, even those who mocked Him and harmed Him. He chose to leave the splendors of heaven to become God in the flesh. He chose to humble Himself and endure a most horrifying death, after which He arose from the grave and sat down on the throne at the right hand of God, where He rules His kingdom to this day. He is the Son of God. He is the Prince of Peace. He is the Lion of the tribe of Judah. He is Jesus, our Savior (cf. Isa. 53:1-12; Phil. 2:5-11; John 1:1-51, etc.).

Before Jehovah placed Adam in the Garden of Eden, He knew that man would sin. He knew that sin would drive a wedge between Himself and His creation (Isa. 59:1-2), and He knew that He would have to deal with it. Thus, in Genesis 3:15, God began to reveal His divine scheme of redemption. Paul referred to this plan as "*the eternal purpose*" of God in Ephesians 3:11. This divine arrangement included one very important component—blood. The Hebrews writer wrote, "*...and without shedding of blood there is no remission*" (Heb. 9:22). During the Mosaic dispensation, God required the blood of bulls and goats, but this was only a temporary solution. The Law of Moses was only a shadow of something better. Under that covenant, sacrifices were offered continually, year after year: "*For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sins*" (Heb. 10:1-4). The ultimate solution to the problem of sin was not the blood of a lamb, but it was the blood of The Lamb; thus, when John saw Jesus coming, he appropriately proclaimed, "*Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world*" (John 1:29).

Jesus was born to be our Savior. Before His birth, an angel said to Joseph, "*And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins*" (Matt. 1:21). Jesus was "*manifested to take away our sins*" (1 John 3:5). He gave His life for us (Eph. 5:25); He suffered for us (1 Pet. 3:18); He redeemed us and bought us back with His blood (Eph. 1:7); He bore our sins in His body (1 Pet. 2:24); He was made to be sin for us (2 Cor. 5:21); He "*loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood*" (Rev. 1:5). He did what we could not. We died when we sinned and had no power to restore life, but by His grace, God provided for us the perfect sacrifice by which we are reconciled and brought near to our Father (Eph. 2:13, 16). Paul said, "*For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God*" (Eph. 2:8). When wrath was owed, goodness was bestowed! "*The Lord laid on Him the iniquity of us all*" (Isa. 53:6), and He became our wrath-appeaser (1 John 2:2)!

Imagine being in a place of absolute darkness, a place of sorrowful torment in a burning flame that cannot be quenched. Imagine being there for all eternity. Without Christ, that is the destiny that awaits us all, but "*thanks be unto God for His unspeakable gift*" (2 Cor. 9:15). Peter said we are redeemed "*with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you*" (1 Pet. 1:19-20). Before God ever said, "*Let there be light*" (Gen. 1:3), He knew that I would sin and would need to be saved from its consequences. Because of His great love (Eph. 2:4), He provided that solution in the person of His only begotten Son, Jesus, the Christ. Even though He did not embody the human ideal of what a King or Savior should be, He accomplished more than any man could ever dream. Therefore, we may say with confidence that we "*know that this is indeed the Christ, the Savior of the world*" (John 4:42).

Coby Westbrook (Christian Worker, August 2015, pp. 1,7)

*"For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the first principles of the oracles of God; and you have come to need milk and not solid food. For everyone who partakes only of milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, for he is a babe. But solid food belongs to those who are of full age, that is, those who by reason of use have their senses exercised to discern both good and evil."* **2 Peter 2:22**



# God's Basic Math

We learned in grade school the basic operations of mathematics: addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. There is no doubt we use this knowledge every day of our lives. When we read the Bible we find that God also employs these functions as He deals with man.

## THE LORD ADDS

Jesus taught His disciples to put the kingdom of God first with the promise that every necessity will be added to one's life (Matt. 6:31-33). The Lord adds saved souls to the church (Acts 2:41,47). At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were performed "and believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women" (Acts 5:12-14). When Barnabas came to Antioch a great number of people were added to the Lord (Acts 11:21-24).

The Bible makes mention of "the book of life." This book contains the names of faithful Christians (Phil. 4:3). How did their names get there? The answer is not stated explicitly. However, it is obvious to conclude that names are added to this magnificent ledger when a person is baptized (obeys the Gospel, becomes a Christian). Hebrews 12:23 in the KJV (King James Version) speaks of "the firstborn, which are written in heaven." The ASV (American Standard Version) says "enrolled" while the NKJV (New King James Version) says "registered." To be enrolled or registered means a person's name was added to the list in writing.

There is another sense in which the Lord speaks of addition. It is not a pleasant thing for the one on the receiving end. Four verses from the end of God's word (Rev. 22:18) the reader is warned that, "If any man shall add unto these things (what is written in the book of Revelation in particular and the whole Bible in general, — gmr), God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book."

## THE LORD SUBTRACTS

To subtract means to take away or remove. Paul spoke of the new covenant as the time when God takes away sins (Rom. 11:27). Jesus "was manifested to take away our sins" (1 John 3:5). One of the greatest blessings of the new covenant is having one's sins blotted out (Acts 3:19). This is subtracting, not a part, but the whole. It is zeroed out! Thus, there is no condemnation to those whose sins have been forgiven (Rom. 8:1,2; 1 John 1:7,9).

The Lord told the church at Ephesus that He would take away their candlestick (lampstand) if they did not repent (Rev. 2:5). Those who do not overcome sin in their life, but is overcome by it, will have their name blotted out of the book of life (Rev. 3:5).

When will this subtraction (blotting out) happen? Ultimately and finally it will be on the day of Judgment. Overcoming (faithfulness) requires making it to the end of the race. It is there that one will receive the crown of righteousness that fadeth not away (2 Tim. 4:7,8). Those whose names are not written in the book will be cast out (Rev.

20:15). Revelation 22:19 warns that "if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life." This indicates a final subtraction at the Judgment.

## THE LORD MULTIPLIES

God told Adam and Eve to be fruitful and multiply (Gen. 1:27,28; cf. 9:1,7). However, it is the Lord who gives conception (Ruth 4:13; cf. Gen. 29:31; 30:22). Adam and Eve had their part in reproduction but it was God who blessed them to have children (Ps. 127:3). Multiplication occurs as God and man do their respective parts (Gen. 6:1).

In like manner the church has been given the task of preaching the Gospel to a lost world. This is spiritual reproduction that brings forth souls that have been born again (John 3:3-7; 1 Peter 1:23). When sinners hear and obey God's word, it accomplishes a great work (Rom. 1:16,17).

It is the power of the Gospel and obedience to it that leads to the multiplication of souls being saved (Rom. 1:16; Rom. 10:8-17; John 6:44-45). The early church went about preaching the word and reaped the harvest of multiplied souls (Acts 5:42; 9:31; 12:24). "And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied. ... And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith" (Acts 6:1,7).

The Lord was behind all this growth as Paul explained, "I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase" (1 Cor. 3:6; cf. 2 Cor. 9:10).

## THE LORD DIVIDES

Students often struggle with long division. The Lord, on the other hand, has no difficulty dividing the sheep from the goats (Matt. 25:31-33).

Generally speaking, the Lord hates division (Prov. 6:16-19). Yet Jesus foretold that His disciples would experience division. He taught, "Suppose ye that I am come to give peace on earth? I tell you, Nay; but rather division" (Luke 12:51).

Unity in the church is the divine ideal (Eph. 4:1-6). But Satan works hard against that end. He loves to divide the kingdom of God knowing such leads to its downfall (Matt. 12:25). When Paul learned of division in the church at Corinth (1 Cor. 1:11), that issue was the first thing he addressed in his first epistle to them. The first four chapters are devoted to resolving the problem of division by addressing the underlying cause.

Later in the same letter Paul once more touches on the trouble of division within the congregation. He said, "...I hear that there be divisions among you; and I partly believe it. For there must be also here-

(Continued on page 3)

## 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

**Aug. 30** Ezekiel 13-15

**Aug. 31** Ezekiel 16-17

**Sept. 1** Ezekiel 18-19

**Sept. 2** Ezekiel 20-21

**Sept. 3** Ezekiel 22-23

**Sept. 4** Ezekiel 24-27

**Sept. 5** Ezekiel 28-31

**Sept. 6** Ezekiel 32-34

"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)



*(Continued from page 2)*

sies among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you” (1 Cor. 11:18,19). Clearly, some were approved while others were not. In this case, man’s sin was the cause of the division but the Lord recognized one of the factions as being right regarding the matter.

The Lord tells us to separate (divide ourselves) from sinners. *“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? and what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols”* (2 Cor. 6:14-16)? *“Blessed [are] they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without [are] dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie”* (Rev. 22:14-15).

Christians have the responsibility to “rightly divide” the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15). What does this mean? The ASV says “handling aright.” It literally means to make a straight cut, that is, to dissect. The imagery conveys the idea of correctly expounding and understanding God’s word.

Young students may struggle to learn basic math. Sometimes they do not understand the concepts and therefore get wrong answers. However, the Lord has none of those problems. He knows exactly when and how to add, subtract, multiply and divide. He always gets the proper results too.

Has your name been added to the Lamb’s book of life (Rev. 21:27)? If not, obey the Gospel to be saved (Acts 2:38). Then, live faithfully to the Lord and His word and you will receive the crown of life (Rev. 2:10). This requires adding certain qualities to our faith (2 Peter 1:5-11).

*Douglas Hoff* (Seek The Old Paths, August 2015, pp. 60-61)

## Celebrate

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

**September Birthdays:** Jean Hamann (3), James Fuller (6), Emily Ochoa (11), Gene Bannister (16), Billie Ford (17), Frank Alexander (19), Matthew Ochoa (20), Allen Bland (23), Cindy Proud (26), Garret Barnum (27), Matthew Howell (28), Jimmy Seal (29).

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...*



## Records

	Aug. 16, 2015	Aug. 23, 2015
Bible Class	48	53
AM Worship	63	68
PM Worship	52	47
Wednesday PM	36	39
Contribution	\$1,855	\$1,778

This Week: 8/30/15		Next Week: 9/6/15		August 2015	
<b>Sunday AM:</b>		Song Leader: Mike Bannister		Song Leader: Mike Bannister	
<b>Greeters</b>	Tom & Carol Wilcox	Allen & Linda Griffith		<b>Make Announcements:</b> Joe Dennis	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Gene Bannister		<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Randy & Laura Huckaby	
<b>Communion</b>	James Thomas*, James Fuller Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell Allen Bland, Hank Wheeler		<b>Clean Building:</b> Dennis / Guthrie	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Randy Huckaby	Allen Griffith		<b>Hostess Committee:</b> Laura Huckaby's group	
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Chase Churchwell	Caleb Dennis		<b>September 2015</b>	
<b>Sunday PM:</b>		Song Leader: Ken Maninger		Song Leader: Joe Dennis	
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Mike Bannister	James Fuller		<b>Make Announcements:</b> John Barnum	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Tom Wilcox	Don Smith		<b>Prepare Communion:</b> Lisa Greer	
<b>Communion</b>	James Thomas	Ken Maninger		<b>Clean Building:</b> Huckaby / Bland	
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Billy Chism		<b>Hostess Committee:</b> Laura Huckaby's group	
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	September 2 Prayer Night	September 9 Don Smith	September 16 Joe Dennis	September 23 Allen Griffith	

## 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 August 30, 2015

Sunday Class ..... Acts 11:25ff  
Wednesday Class ..... Ezekiel 18:1ff

<p><b>Dealing with Grief &amp; Loss (Pt. 1 – The Process)</b></p> <p>Ps 147:3 <i>He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.</i> All of us suffer loss at one time or another. We need to begin by understanding grief and the process that surrounds it.</p> <p><b>I. What Is Loss &amp; Grief?</b></p> <p>A. "Loss is the absence of something we were once attached to." B. "Grief is the rope burns left behind when that which we held is pulled beyond our grasp." (Stephen Levine, <u>Unattended Sorrow</u>.)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The idea is – pulled away from us against our will</li> <li>As a result – we suffer involuntarily.</li> </ol> <p>C. We experience <b>acute grief</b> when our grief becomes entangled with all sorts of previous traumas we can't shake.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Then our grief becomes <b>chronic grief</b>.</li> <li>Best described as "a persistent ache of the heart."</li> </ol> <p><b>II. Bible Examples &amp; Explanation.</b></p> <p>A. Death of Sarah. (Gen. 23:1,2) B. Death of Stephen. (Acts 8:2) C. Death is described as an enemy and an intruder. (Rom. 5:12)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Death is "a tool of Satan used to break hearts and to enslave men." (Heb. 2:14,15)</li> <li>Death is <b>inevitable and beyond our control</b>, but we can choose to respond appropriately, and be ready for it. (Rom. 3:23; Heb. 9:27)</li> </ol> <p>D. Grief enables us to heal so we can handle losses in a healthy way.</p> <p><b>III. Stages of Grief.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shock and denial.</li> <li>Followed by emotional outpouring and fear.</li> <li>Followed by guilt and anger.</li> </ol> <p><b>IV. Symptoms of Unattended Grief.</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Avoidance of mourning and counseling.</li> <li>Isolation and withdrawal from religious services.</li> <li>Minor losses trigger major grief.</li> <li>Inability to talk about loss without breaking down.</li> </ol> <p>Ps 147:3 <i>He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.</i> "God can heal a broken heart, but you must be willing to give Him all the pieces."</p>	<p><b>John Ch. 11 – Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead (Pt. 3 – 38-57)</b></p> <p><b>I. The Wondrous Work by Jesus (1-44).</b></p> <p><b>D. The summons to Lazarus (38-44)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>The preparation by Jesus</u> (38-40).             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>The Savior's request</u> (38,39a): He tells some men to remove the stone covering the cave where Lazarus is buried.                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jesus is still filled with emotion, and John uses the same word as he did in v. 33 (<u>groaning</u>).</li> <li>He finds Lazarus buried in a cave, perhaps one that was hewn out of the rock (or merely a hole in the ground).</li> </ol> </li> <li><u>The sister's reluctance</u> (39b): Martha is hesitant – telling Jesus her brother's body had been in there four days already!</li> <li><u>The Savior's reminder</u> (40): "Did I not say to you that if you would believe you would see the glory of God?"</li> </ol> </li> <li><u>The prayer of Jesus</u> (41,42): Jesus thanks His Father for what is about to happen!</li> <li><u>The power of Jesus</u> (43,44).             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>The order</u> (43): "Lazarus, come forth!"</li> <li><u>The obedience</u> (44): Lazarus comes forth!</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>II. The Wickedness against Jesus (45-53).</b></p> <p><b>D. The problem (45-48).</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>The council</u> (45-47): The Pharisees call a meeting to discuss the attention Jesus is receiving because of His miracles.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>"Some – were deeply impressed and yet who did not have the courage to break away from the rabbis w/o consulting them. It was a crisis for the Sanhedrin" (Robertson, 207).</li> <li>A quickly convened council finds the chief priests questioning the effectiveness of their previous attempts in comparison to what is being done by Jesus.</li> <li>The Jews recognized that Jesus performed signs.</li> </ol> </li> <li><u>The concern</u> (48): They are afraid this will bring the wrath of the Romans down upon them.</li> </ol> <p><b>E. The prophecy (49-52):</b> The high priest Caiaphas says, "It is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish."</p> <p><b>F. The plot (53):</b> From that day on, they plot to kill Him.</p> <p><b>III. The Withdrawal by Jesus (54):</b> Jesus and His disciples leave Judea briefly and retire to a village called Ephraim.</p> <p><b>IV. The Watch for Jesus (55-57):</b> Many people at the Passover feast wonder if Jesus will attend.</p>
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