

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



November 1, 2015

Contact Us:

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325-646-7102
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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.

There Shall Be Mockers

Webster's On Line Dictionary defines mockery thus: *"behavior or speech that makes fun of someone or something in a hurtful way: mocking behavior or speech."* Unfortunately, when men find themselves on the wrong side of an argument, or when the evidence implicates someone who has obviously committed a wrongdoing, rather than "fess up" (as one country fellow used to put it), they mock those who oppose them. I had a debate more than a decade ago with a denominational preacher who refused to bow to the word of God. His arguments were weak; the Scriptures overpowering. Rather than admit his error, he began to mock the very idea that sins were forgiven at the point of baptism. In one of his negative speeches he mocked me and God's word: *"Mr. Wacaster believes that salvation is in the water. That you meet Jesus in a tub of water. Pull the plug and, 'swoosh,' Jesus goes down the drain!"* When I stood to respond I warned him, *"Before you mock a doctrine you should first determine if it is the truth. If baptism is for remission of sins, as I affirm, then you are mocking God; you are ridiculing a divine ordinance."*

Jude had this to say concerning mockers: *"In the last time there shall be mockers, walking after their own ungodly lusts. These are they who make separations, sensual, having not the Spirit"* (Jude 18). Peter weighed in thus: *"knowing this first, that in the last days mockers shall come with mockery, walking after their own lusts, and saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for, from the day that the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willfully forget, that there were heavens from of old, and an earth compacted out of water and amidst water, by the word of God"* (2 Pet. 3:3-5). In both cases it is evident that those who did the mocking were in rebellion against God; and in both cases inspiration says they will face the judgment for their ridicule of God.

Through the years the Lord's church has received more than its share of ridicule. In the early days of the restoration movement those who opposed the effort would call us *"Campbellites."* That mockery would extend into successive generations of New Testament Christians. Some years back I wrote a series of articles in the local paper on the subject of baptism. A local denominational preacher attempted to answer. But as is often the case, his answer was not an appeal to the Bible, but to emotion. His attacks were against the "man," void of any Scripture, sound reasoning, or simple logic. He called my position on baptism a *"doctrine right out of the pits of hell."* No doubt many of us have been the recipients of those funny little jokes that tell of members of the church of Christ who, at a latter time have finally arrived in heaven and are living off in some little corner by themselves, while those who pass by do so quietly because we think we are *"the only ones in heaven."* All such efforts fall under the category of mockery. They may arouse the emotions but

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Love *"bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never fails."*

1 Corinthians 13:7-8a



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they do not address the issues. The mockery of Tobiah and Sanballat did not seek to question the authority of Nehemiah, the vision he had, or the determination to build. Why is it that so many religious "errorists" [if there is such a word] think they establish their case by ridiculing the truth? Atheists, evolutionists, humanists, and the immoral gay community may ridicule, but their mockery is but a weak response to truth.

This is not to say that ridicule is not effective, nor is it always wrong. When one is on the side of truth and has established his case, an occasional mockery may be effective. Take the case of Elijah when he mocked the prophets of Baal. After every attempt was made on the part of the idol worshippers to have Baal answer their cries, Elijah "mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked" (1 Kings 18:27). One of the most effective preachers and debaters of the past century was G.K. Wallace. He could use mockery effectively, but only because he was on the side of truth, and he "answered a fool according to his folly" (Proverbs 25:5). In his debate with Ray Vaughn, brother Wallace was addressing Vaughn's misunderstanding of the use of a dictionary. He first asked Vaughn and his moderator, "Do you fellows know the difference between a history and a dictionary?" When they did not answer, brother Wallace responded: "Some of you boys in the fifth reader get him off tomorrow and tell him the difference between a history and a dictionary."

While ridicule may intimidate the weak, the faithful will not be moved by mockery. To be shaken by the mockery of our enemies will prove disastrous. Peter was moved by the mockery of those about the campfire and he ended up denying his Lord. Israel listened to the mockery of the ten spies who said, "We are like grasshoppers in their sight," and it cost them 40 years of wandering in the desert. If we are moved by mockery it will be because we love this world more than our Father in heaven. If we are

moved by mockery fear will invade our hearts and ridicule will rule our action. The key to overcoming cowardice in the face of mockery is to die to self.

The following item will serve as a fitting close to these thoughts:

Dying To Self

When you are forgotten, or neglected, or purposely set at naught, and you don't sting and hurt with the insult or the oversight, but your heart is happy, being counted worthy to suffer for Christ, that is dying to self.

When your good is evil spoken of, when your wishes are crossed, your advice disregarded, your opinions ridiculed, and you refuse to let anger rise in your heart, or even defend yourself, but take it all in patient, loving silence, that is dying to self.

When you lovingly and patiently bear any disorder, any irregularity, any impunctuality [sic], or any annoyance; when you stand face-to-face with waste, folly, extravagance, spiritual insensibility -- and endure it as Jesus endured, that is dying to self.

When you are content with any food, any offering, any climate, any society, any raiment, any interruption by the will of God, that is dying to self.

When you never care to refer to yourself in conversation, or to record your own good works, or itch after commendations, when you can truly love to be unknown, that is dying to self.

When you can see your brother prosper and have his needs met and can honestly rejoice with him in spirit and feel no envy, nor question God, while your own needs are far greater and in desperate circumstances, that is dying to self.

When you can receive correction and reproof from one of less stature than yourself and can humbly submit inwardly as well as outwardly, finding no rebellion or resentment rising up within your heart, that is dying to self.

Tom Wacaster (4/20/2015)

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

Nov. 1	Matthew 20-21
Nov. 2	Luke 18:15—19:48
Nov. 3	Mark 11; John 12
Nov. 4	Matthew 22; Mark 12
Nov. 5	Matthew 23; Luke 20-21
Nov. 6	Mark 13
Nov. 7	Matthew 24
Nov. 8	Matthew 25

"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)



YOU'RE INVITED TO A
GOSPEL MEETING AT
BANGS CHURCH OF CHRIST
WITH KERRY CLARK
(ATHENS, TX)

NOVEMBER 01-04, 2015

"JESUS WHO IS OUR LIFE"

Sunday 9:45 AM - *The Church Hell Can't Stop*
 10:45 AM— *No Room for Jesus*
 6:30 PM— *Colors of the Cross*

7:00 PM
 Monday— *Man Shall Not Live by Bread Alone*
 Tuesday— *The Lost Christ*
 Wednesday— *Things Morally Right but Religiously Wrong*

Bangs Church of Christ 306 Fifth Street PO BOX 41 Bangs, TX 76823	Please Contact Us For More Information Phone: 325-642-2102 E-mail: mclight4@verizon.net
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"We seem fine fanning the flames of aspiration our young men have to play professional sports (though they likely never will). But shouldn't Christian parents teach their boys from a young age, 'You need to prepare yourself to lead the church someday. The church needs elders, deacons, preachers, missionaries, etc. You need to figure out how you want to serve and lead someday'? The world wants their kids to aspire to greatness, but Christians should want their kids to aspire to service."

Wes McAdams Facebook post

Celebrate

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

October Birthdays: Susan Bridges (1), Emilee Evetts (13), Juanita Barnum (15), Randy Huckaby (15), Marcia Turnbull (24), Kevin Wilcox (27).

October Anniversaries: Gene & Barbara Bannister (6), Jack and Judie Turner (18).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Oct. 18, 2015	Oct. 25, 2015
Bible Class	48	56
AM Worship	63	64
PM Worship	51	53
Wednesday PM	55	56
Contribution	\$1,959	\$2,003

Next Week: 11/1/15		Next Week: 11/8/15		November 2015 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: M. & P. Bannister / L. Greer Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group December 2015 Make Announcements: Joe Dennis Prepare Communion: Churchwell Family Clean Building: J. & T. Barnum / J. Barnum Hostess Committee: Cindy McCaghren's group
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	Maninger / Churchwell Families	Jessica Stultz / Hank Wheeler		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Randy Huckaby*, Don Smith Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell John Barnum, Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	James Thomas		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell	Gene Bannister		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Allen Bland	Randy Huckaby		
Scripture Reading	Tom Wilcox	Don Smith		
Communion	Randy Huckaby	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Hank Wheeler		
Wednesday Devotionals:	November 4 Prayer Night	November 11 Don Smith	November 18 Joe Dennis	November 25 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 November 1, 2015	Sunday Class Acts 15:6ff
	Wednesday Class Ezekiel 24
<p><u>A 1 Corinthians Love – What Love Chooses To Do</u></p> <p>Love... "bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things" (13:7).</p> <p>What would a church look like if every one of its members was a 1 Corinthians 13 Christian?</p> <p>I. It would be... A Church That Protects and Supports One Another.</p> <p>A. Love... "bears all things."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bears – stego – to roof over. 2. Love moves us to do whatever it takes to protect each other from sin – and the consequences of sin. <p>B. "If I love you – I will care about your spiritual welfare."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elders who love – shepherd (1 Pet. 5:1-2). 2. Deacons who love – serve (1 Tim. 3:10). 3. Preachers who love – strengthen (2 Tim. 4:1-5). 4. Members who love – sustain (Gal. 6:1-2). <p>II. It would be... A Church That Trusts One Another.</p> <p>A. Love... "believes all things."</p> <p>B. "If I love you – I will not be impulsively critical of you."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A heart full of love has no room for harsh, unfounded judgments. 2. Love has absolutely no tolerance for gossip or the cowardly slander of hearsay. <p>III. It would be... A Church That Encourages One Another.</p> <p>A. Love... "hopes all things."</p> <p>B. "If I love you – I will lift you up."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We can lovingly edify one another. 2. We can lovingly exhort one another. 3. We can lovingly comfort one another by attending to each other. 4. If we truly love one another – we will be able to say with Paul: "We do all things, beloved, for your edification" (2 Cor. 12:19). <p>IV. It would be... A Church That Gets Along With One Another.</p> <p>A. Love... "endures all things."</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Endures – hupomeno – to stay under a burden. 2. Love moves us to take the mistreatment of others and positively shape the consequences of it into something beautiful. <p>B. "If I love you – even if you hurt my feelings, I will do my part to promote peace between us."</p>	<p><u>John 16:1-15</u></p> <p>I. The conflict that will come to the apostles from the world (1-4).</p> <p>A. The review of this persecution (1-2).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They will be put out of the synagogue (1-2a). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. These things I have spoken to you. b. That you should not be made to stumble – cf. 14:1,27; 15:11. c. They will put you out of the synagogues. 2. They will be killed (2b). 3. They will be looked upon as enemies of God (2c). <p>B. The reason for this persecution (3-4): Their persecutors do not love the Father or the Son.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. They have not known the Father nor Me. 2. When the time comes – the time of the apostles' persecution (2). 3. These things I have told you... I did not say to you at the beginning. <p>II. The Helper who will come to them from the Father (5-15).</p> <p>A. The prerequisite (5-7): Unless Jesus goes away, the Holy Spirit will not come.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I go away to Him who sent Me – cf. 14:12,28. 2. Sorrow has filled your heart. 3. It is to your advantage that I go away. <p>B. The purpose (8-15): The Helper will come to accomplish a fourfold purpose.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To convict sinners (8-10). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He will convict the world. b. Of sin... of righteousness... of judgment. 2. To condemn Satan (11). 3. To counsel saints [the apostles] (12-13). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He will guide you – hodos – one who leads a blind man. b. Into all truth – past, present and future. c. He will tell you things to come. 4. To champion the Savior (14-15). <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. He will glorify Me – How? Through the apostolic ministry. b. He will take what is Mine and declare it to you. c. All things that the Father has are Mine... He will take of Mine and declare it to you.