

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



July 10, 2016

Contact Us:

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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.

Our country is currently being torn apart by prejudice of every kind. May it never be so in the church! May the following article remind us that we are all one in Christ, and that ALL SOULS MATTER. - Johnny

Can A Christian Be Prejudiced And Still Go To Heaven?

What an odd question. Obviously, an alien sinner (i.e., non-Christian) will not go to heaven even if he or she is *not* prejudiced. One must render obedience to the gospel to enjoy eternal salvation (Heb. 5:9). It is unfortunate that a Christian would treat another Christian differently because of the color of one's skin, the level of income one makes, or one's physical attributes and appearance. Yet, some things seem to prove that prejudice is alive and thriving in some places in the Lord's church. Borrowing a phrase from James, "My brethren, these things ought not to be so" (cf. Jas. 3:10).

First, consider the presence of "black congregations" and "white churches." With what authority do such segregated bodies exist? In fairness, when it is decided by all races in a multi-racial area to meet separately to more effectively further efforts of evangelism, that would seem fair and acceptable (so long as no one is refused or mistreated who wishes to worship at one of the other congregations). Sadly, however, in churches which are predominantly one race, visiting minorities have been ostracized and avoided. In the days before the civil rights of black Americans were improved, a "mixed" congregation was a rare exception. While strides have been made, there are still congregations who would be quite uncomfortable having an African-American preacher preach at the congregation they attend or participating in any public way in the assembly.

Also, think about the strategy of "taking the gospel to the community." Evangelism can be the greatest weakness of a congregation anyway. When a church does seek to reach out to the community, minorities seem to be passed over frequently. Why is the "black community" or the "Hispanic community" at the bottom of the strategy list? It would be dangerous to make judgment, but, *could* it be fear for our personal safety? *Could* it be fear of having success in that community? *Could* it be an unwillingness to reach out to someone "different" from us? These are not legitimate excuses in God's eyes.

Finally, ponder the need for equality in the Lord's Kingdom. A common phrase is, "There are no 'second class citizens' in the Kingdom." Amen! So wrote James, inspired by the Holy Spirit. He penned, "My brethren, hold not the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, [the Lord] of glory, with respect of persons. For if there come into your synagogue a man with a gold ring, in fine clothing, and there come in also a poor man in vile clothing; and ye have regard to him that weareth the fine clothing, and say, Sit thou here in a good place; and ye say to the poor man, Stand thou there, or sit under my footstool; Do ye not make distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?" (Jas. 2:1-4 ASV). Would we be willing to serve under an elder or with a deacon who is financially poor, who is of different ethnic background, or who has "only a high school education"? Remember, "God is no respecter of persons..." (Acts

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"I will extol You, my God, O King; and I will bless Your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless You, and I will praise Your name forever and ever. Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable." **Psalm 145:1-3**



Why Strong Families are Important

It is clear from the beginning of scripture that God designed the home. It is one of God's institutional foundations. The Bible affirms God's plan, which was established universally for all times, even in our modern culture (Matt. 19:8-9).

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed. (Gen. 2:21-25)

This was God's plan from the beginning and He has not changed it. Who can improve upon God's perfect plan for the home? How could anybody dare to tamper with it? Of course, we are all aware that in the last forty or so years, there has been a gradual assault on God's original intention for the home. But in reality, the hope of our nation requires well-ordered homes. The hope of America is found in the sanctity of the home. Family life is an indicator of how strong and stable any nation is. When family life breaks down, the nation will eventually collapse. The author Gibbons stated that one of the reasons Rome fell was a rapid increase of divorce and an undermining of the sanctity of the home. There is a growing contempt toward the traditional family, and it is directed against what the Bible teaches about it. Thus, we see the root of the problem, which is a rejection of the Bible teaching on this subject. I grew up watching Ozzie and Harriet and Leave It To Beaver, which represented a traditional biblical view of the family. We are told that these home styles are a relic of the past. We are told in a scornful way that it is a

non-realistic standard for today's home. Dr. James Dobson and Gary L. Bauer were correct when they said, "along with sneering references to Norman Rockwell's America, the cultural elite frequently reminds us that the model of the traditional family-homemaker mother and breadwinner father is virtually extinct, and they are obviously glad it is gone." Today, in our politically correct nation, we are told that we should accept same sex marriages and homosexuality. The biblical home is being destroyed.

What can the righteous do (Ps. 11:3)? The answer to this question lies in another divine institution, the church. There is only so much we can do politically. We can try to vote into political office men or women who have a respect for God, but that is becoming a diminishing number. Those of us who still believe in a traditional home must lend an influence for the benefit of the church. It is important that homes in the Lord's church awaken to our responsibilities. How can the home lend its influence to the profit of the church? Brother Wendell Winkler had some good suggestions that I would like to mention:

- By instilling wholesome basic attitudes toward authority
- By teaching and practicing disciple
- By establishing and maintaining the proper priorities
- By developing the proper attitudes toward those who fill special capacities in the Lord's church
- By developing a love and respect for the local church
- By cultivating an appreciation for worship
- By establishing high moral standards
- By motivating and training our children for service in the kingdom of God.

We are facing the same situation today that the early church had to face. They lived under an empire in decline, and we live under a government in decline. As the disciples in Acts 4:29 stated, may we always obey God rather than man when there is a conflict between man's law and God's law.

Ben Moseley (Christian Worker, June 2016, pp. 1,7)

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

July 10 **Matthew 27-28**

July 11 **Mark 1-3**

July 12 **Mark 4-6**

July 13 **Mark 7-9**

July 14 **Mark 10-12**

July 15 **Mark 13-14**

July 16 **Mark 15-16**

July 17 **Luke 1-3**

*"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 **25 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Summer Youth Series** Tuesday evening at **DeLeon**.
- ◆ **Teachers**—you are highly encouraged to reserve **Sept. 10th** on your calendar to attend the **Teacher's Workshop in Cleburne**. This for all teachers—men and women—all ages.
- ◆ There were 33 in attendance yesterday at the class James Fuller taught on how to react in an emergency situation. It was very informative. Thank you, James!

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 9—We host area Summer Youth Series.
- ◆ October 16-19—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge.
- ◆ October 29—2nd Annual Ladies Day.

Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ July 15-17—Gospel Meeting @ Smithfield (Ft. Worth)—“Cross Examination: Examining the Testimony of the Witnesses” Tavaris Armstrong.
- ◆ July 16—Ladies' Day @ Smithfield—“A Study of Psalm 51” Sandi Smith.
- ◆ July 17-22—Senior Camp
- ◆ August 5-7—Discipleship U.—Dripping Springs, TX.
- ◆ August 19-25—Polishing The Pulpit—Sevierville, TN.
- ◆ Sept. 10—Teacher's Workshop @ Cleburne.
- ◆ Sept. 16-18—5th & Grape Lectureship
- ◆ Oct. 1—Ladies Day @ Dublin.
- ◆ Oct. 6-8—Texas Ladies for Christ Retreat [Brady]
- ◆ Oct. 9-12—Lubbock Lectures
- ◆ Oct. 9-12—Homecoming Lectureship @ Rising Star
- ◆ Oct. 27-29—ACS Class: “The Bible and Archaeology” (Dewayne Bryant)—Dripping Springs, TX

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10:34,35; Rom. 2:11). Despite racial, economic, and geographical differences, all faithful Christians are “*the* body of Christ, and severally members thereof” (1 Cor. 12:27). Paul reminds us that “there is *one* body” (Eph. 4:4). The Bible reveals only one heaven and one hell, not one for each race and social strata.

Christians who do not get along with all races and labor as equals in the Kingdom with faithful brethren on earth should not expect to bask in the glory of an unprejudiced Father throughout eternity. It is hard to fathom that our soul could be red, yellow, black, or white or that one's soul would “appear” differently because of the model car he drives, the size of her bank account, or the kind of house in which one lives. As we “press on unto perfection” (cf. Heb. 6:1), let us “put away” the besetting sin of prejudice (cf. Heb. 12:1) so that God can fully bless our labors for Him!

Neal Pollard (Fulton County Gospel News, October, 1995)

Celebrate

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

July Birthdays: Laura Huckaby (6), Jason Warman (6), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26).

July Anniversaries: Allen & Karen Bland (27).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	June 26, 2016	July 3, 2016
Bible Class	38	50
AM Worship	55	72
PM Worship	35	49
Wednesday PM	40	39
Contribution	\$1,802	\$2,111

This Week: 7/10/16		Next Week: 7/17/16		July 2016 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Hostess Committee: Jessica Stultz's group August 2016 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Randy & Laura Huckaby Clean Building: Joe Dennis Family Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	Allen & Linda Griffith	Maninger Family		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	James Fuller		
Communion	Tom Wilcox*, Ryan Rudloff Don Smith, Randy Huckaby	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis		
Closing Prayer	James Thomas	James Thomas		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Jaceton Evetts		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Allen Bland	Randy Huckaby		
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler	Don Smith		
Communion	Tom Wilcox	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	Hank Wheeler		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 13 Don Smith	July 20 Joe Dennis	July 27 Allen Griffith	August 3 Prayer 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 July 10, 2016

Sunday Class **Romans 1:15ff**
 Wed. Class **How can we identify the NT church today?**

A Misunderstood God

While there are a great number of misunderstandings about God we might examine, we will look at 3 major sources of confusion.

I. Love as Sentimentality Rather Than Affection.

- A. One of the most popular of God's attributes is love.
- B. How the world defines God's love is a different story.
- C. What pleases some people is a sentimental love like the kind offered by romance novels and Hallmark Channel movies.
- D. On the other hand, sometimes love claims to tell the truth when it is nothing more than cruelty in disguise.
- E. God provides a perfect balance of love and truth.

II. Righteousness as Control Rather Than Concern.

- A. Imagine a world in which justice and punishment did not exist.
- B. The Hebrew term is צדקה *tsadaq*, meaning "righteous."
 1. It refers to God's quality of being morally right.
 2. This is offensive to moderns, who do not like the idea of the kind of absolute standard for right that God provides.
- C. The Mosaic Law has often been seen as a source of legalism.
 1. Proper obedience ("law keeping") means that a person will win God's acceptance and approval.
 2. Failure to maintain strict obedience means that God will judge the individual as a failure at best or reject him or her outright at worst.
 3. But God intended the law to be a source of life.

III. Perfection as Intimidation Rather Than Beauty.

- A. Anything found in a perfect or near-perfect degree of quality will be admired by some and feared by many.
- B. We find superiority threatening because we do not want to look bad.
- C. As the only perfect being in the universe, it should come as no surprise that people would dispute God's perfection.
- D. Though He holds humanity to that standard (perfection), we can never forget that He also provides the means through which we can meet it.

Understanding God is essential for strong Christians and a strong church. Our neighbors in the world desperately need to know who created them, why they are here on earth, and what eternity has in store for them.

Do we know Him—really know Him—and do we care enough to share Him with others?

Commonly Held False Doctrines Concerning Final Things (4)

I. Heaven.

- A. Mormons teach there are three heavens – the top one with three tiers.
- B. The Jehovah's Witnesses teach that paradise is here on earth. They believe that only the elect (144,000) will get to go to heaven.

II. Hell.

"The doctrine of a burning hell where the wicked are tortured eternally after death cannot be true, mainly for four reasons: (1) Because it is wholly unscriptural, (2) Because it is unreasonable, (3) Because it is contrary to God's love, and (4) Because it's repugnant to justice" (JW's)

A. The description of hell:

1. Everlasting fire (Matt. 25:41).
2. Everlasting punishment (Matt. 25:46).
3. Everlasting destruction (2 Thess. 1:8-9).
4. Lake of fire (Rev. 20:14-15).
5. Place of torment (Luke 16:23).
6. Place of outer darkness (Matt. 25:30).
7. Place where the fire is never quenched (Mark 9:43).
8. Place of fire and brimstone (Rev. 20:10).

B. The inhabitants of hell:

1. The devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41).
2. Those who do not obey the gospel (2 Thess. 1:6-9).
3. Those who practice wickedness (Rev. 21:8).
4. The disobedient (Rom. 2:8-9).
5. Unfaithful Christians (2 Pet. 2:20-22).
6. Those who practice lawlessness (Matt. 7:21-23).

C. Objections to hell:

1. God is too loving to send anyone to hell.
2. If there is a hell, then Christ went to hell (Acts 2:31).
3. There cannot be a hell because one would burn up.

D. The Greek words translated hell:

1. γέεννα *Geena* – the eternal torment.
2. ᾗδης *Haidēs* – the unseen world, the state or place of the dead.
3. τάρταρος *Tartaroo* – to cast down.

III. The earth will not be destroyed. (2 Peter 3:10-12)

IV. Purgatory.