

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 24, 2016

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.

The Gospel Paul Preached

The book of Romans is Paul's defense of the gospel of Jesus Christ. Throughout the epistle, Paul details man's sin, man's need for justification, the conditions for justification, the effects of God's grace, and the assurances of the child of God. He makes several statements of his dedication to the preaching this gospel in the opening chapter:

*"For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son..." (1:9).
"I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to wise and to unwise. So, as much as is in me, I am ready to preach the gospel to you who are in Rome also. For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek" (1:14-16).*

Paul's dedication to the gospel was not by accident, nor was he easily removed from his task of preaching. He was convicted of the gospel, the power of God that was contained in it, and the salvation which it promised. His willingness to defend the gospel of Christ is impressive to any Christian.

Separated for the Gospel

"Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated to the gospel of God..." (1:1).

Paul, in particular, was called to become an apostle of Christ, and he was separated to preach the gospel. The Lord, in a vision unto Ananias, said of Paul: "...he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel" (Acts 9:15). The Lord appeared unto Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus with the purpose of using Paul as a chosen instrument.


Later as Paul stood trial before Agrippa, retelling his witnessing the resurrected Christ, we learn several things of Paul's purpose in life. Jesus told Paul that it was His purpose to make Paul a minister of the gospel (Acts 26:16). Paul was to go unto the Gentiles "to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins..." (Acts 26:18). The apostle Paul was divinely commissioned to go forth preaching and teaching the things which he had witnessed and had been told. His authority as an apostle of Christ was the same as the other apostles. Paul was called to be an apostle, separated to preach the gospel to the Jews and unto the Gentiles.

The Promise of the Gospel

"...which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures..." (1:2).

The gospel had been promised by the Old Testament prophets and their writings. The new covenant had been prophesied about by Jeremiah (Jer. 31:31-34). He also prophesied about the extension of the new covenant to all nations (Jer. 31:34). The prophet Amos also spoke of the gospel being extended to the Gentiles (Amos 9:11-12). This truth was affirmed by the apostles themselves (Acts 15:15-17). The condition of the gospel, i.e., a system of justification by grace through faith, was spoken of beforehand as well (Hab. 2:4; cf. Rom. 1:17). Knowing that the gospel was promised beforehand ought to reassure us of God's plan of redemption. The fact that God carefully planned and foretold of the gospel of His Son reveals to us the great love God has for mankind. Through a careful study of the Scriptures we learn and understand the plan of redemption, and we are able to gain insight into the great salvation which has been revealed through the gospel of Christ Jesus (Eph. 3:1-6).

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 "...if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."
2 Chron. 7:14

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The Object of the Gospel

“...concerning His Son Jesus Christ...” (1:3).

The gospel which Paul was proclaiming was about Jesus Christ. Paul said that He preached Christ and Him crucified (1 Cor. 2:2). Everything that Paul proclaimed was for glory and honor unto Christ. When we preach the gospel of Christ it honors Christ Himself. Did Paul only preach the facts of Christ's death, burial, and resurrection? No! Paul certainly preached the Lordship of Christ, His Sonship, and obedience unto Christ (Rom. 1:3-5). To not preach about the kingdom, rule, and Sovereignty of Christ is to not preach the gospel. Paul goes on through the Roman letter to affirm the grace of God, the necessity of faith, and obedience to the faith. When we neglect preaching any of these things then we fail to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through our preaching, just as in Paul's, the purpose is to honor the central object of the gospel – Jesus Christ.

The Purpose of the Gospel

“...for obedience to the faith...” (1:5).

The gospel has a purpose, and that purpose is to bring about obedience unto salvation. Paul said “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation...” (1:16). The goal that Paul had in mind was to demonstrate God's power through the preaching of the gospel so that it might achieve the salvation of those who would put their faith in it, and obey it. The salvation that is promised within the gospel is the righteousness that comes from God, being justified by Him through faith (Rom. 3:21-25). We are able to enjoy this salvation by repenting of sins (Rom. 2:4), confessing Christ as the Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10), and being baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3-6).

Conclusion

The gospel of Christ is the glorious revelation of salvation unto man. We learn how we might be justified from our sins, and enjoy eternal life with God through His Son (Rom. 5:21; 6:23). Will you believe the gospel and respond in faith to it? If you fail to obey the gospel then there is wrath and anguish that will be upon your soul (Rom. 2:8,9). However, through obedience then there is life and peace (Rom. 8:3).

Sean P. Cavender (lavistachurchofchrist.org)

Not Ashamed of the Gospel

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, ‘But the righteous man shall live by faith’” (Rom. 1:16-17).

When Paul wrote to the saints in Rome, he said he was “not ashamed of the gospel” (Rom. 1:16). Because of the confidence he had in Christ's message, he was “eager to preach the gospel” (Rom. 1:15) and do many other things in the cause of Christ.

We need to have the same confidence as Paul so that we can also say, “I am not ashamed of the gospel” (Rom. 1:16). Can we say this? To answer that question, we need to consider what we would be willing to do with and for the gospel.

Be Willing To...

Teach – As we noted above, Paul was “eager to preach the gospel” (Rom. 1:15). This did not just include part of it, but all of it (Acts 20:27) – even those parts that may not have been popular. Paul told Timothy, “Preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction” (2 Tim. 4:2). Though not all will publicly proclaim the gospel (Jas. 3:1), all of us “ought to support” those who do “so that we may be fellow workers with the truth” (3 John 8). Our desire must be for the word of God to be proclaimed in its entirety. But if we are ashamed of the gospel, we will be unwilling to help teach others the gospel.

Confess – When Jesus taught, not everyone who believed His message wanted others to know about it. John recorded: “Nevertheless many even of the rulers believed in Him, but because of the Pharisees, they were not confessing Him, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue” (John 12:42). Christ will either confess or deny us before the Father based upon whether we confess or deny Him before men (Matt. 10:32-33). Timothy was willing to make “the good confession in the presence of many witnesses” (1 Tim. 6:12). We must be willing to affirm our faith publicly as well. But if we are ashamed of the gospel, we will be afraid to confess our faith before others.

Answer – Peter wrote, “But sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence” (1 Pet. 3:15). Others will try to intimidate us (1 Pet. 3:14) and silence us through their “speculations” that are “raised up against the knowledge of Christ” (2 Cor. 10:5). Though the world might label the gospel as “foolishness” (1 Cor. 1:18), we must be willing to take a stand and be “ready to make a defense” (1 Pet. 3:15). But if we are ashamed of the gospel, we will be reluctant to give an answer for our hope.

Exemplify – Jesus said, “Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven” (Matt. 5:16). If we believe in the Lord and follow His word, that should be apparent to others by our actions. Paul told Timothy, “In speech, conduct, love, faith and purity, show yourself an example of those who believe” (1 Tim. 4:12). While others will look for a reason to “slander [us] as evildoers,” we must “keep

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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 24 Luke 22-24

July 25 John 1-3

July 26 John 4-6

July 27 John 7-9

July 28 John 10-12

July 29 John 13-15

July 30 John 16-18

July 31 John 19-21

“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 **33 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Summer Youth Series** Tuesday evening at Hamilton.
- ◆ There is a signup sheet on the back table for when we host the SYS in a couple of weeks. Please sign up!
- ◆ Johnny will be speaking at Bangs Wednesday evening.
- ◆ We are in need of 66 **small, individual cereal boxes**.

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

- ◆ August 3-5—VBS @ Hamilton (flyer on board)
- ◆ August 5-7—Discipleship U.—Dripping Springs (flyer on board)
- ◆ August 12-14—Creation vs. Evolution Seminar @ Cleburne with Eric Lyons of Apologetics Press (flyer on board)
- ◆ August 19-25—Polishing The Pulpit—Sevierville, TN.
- ◆ Sept. 10—**Teacher's Workshop @ Cleburne** (flyer on board—**all teachers strongly encouraged to attend**)
- ◆ Sept. 16-18—5th & Grape Lectureship
- ◆ Sept. 18-22—Gospel Meeting @ San Angelo with Omari French
- ◆ Oct. 1—Ladies Day @ Dublin.
- ◆ Oct. 6-8—Texas Ladies for Christ Retreat (info on board)
- ◆ 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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[our] behavior excellent" so that "they may because of [our] good deeds, as they observe them, glorify God in the day of visitation" (1 Pet. 2:12). We are called to be different (Rom. 12:2), so we must be different. But if we are ashamed of the gospel, we will not want others to see us living according to the gospel and differently from the world.

Submit – Paul told the brethren in Colosse of the importance of submitting to the authority of Christ: "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Col. 3:17). This does not mean that everyone who claims to perform deeds for Christ is accepted by Him (Matt. 7:21-23). Instead, it means we must do those things that are commanded and authorized in His word. Jesus said, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth" (Matt. 28:18). Because of this, disciples are to "observe all that [He] commanded" (Matt. 28:20). We should be content with this standard (2 Tim. 1:13). But if we are ashamed of the gospel, we will follow a different standard of authority.

Suffer – Paul told Timothy, "Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord or of me His prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel according to the power of God" (2 Tim. 1:8). Persecution will come against the faithful (2 Tim. 3:12) and we must be willing to endure it. Peter wrote, "If anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name" (1 Pet. 4:16). We are to be "faithful until death" (Rev. 2:10), even if it means being put to death for the cause of Christ. But if we are ashamed of the gospel, we will compromise and/or deny the faith in order to avoid persecution.

Why We Should Not Be Ashamed

We should not be ashamed of the gospel for the same reason Paul was not ashamed of it: "It is the power of God for salvation" (Rom. 1:16). In the end, this is all that matters. It could be that by refusing to teach, confess, answer for, exemplify, submit to, and suffer for the gospel, our lives on earth might be better. But is that worth giving up "the power of God for salvation"? Notice what Jesus said: "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:26). Even if we could gain the whole world, it would not be worth it to lose our soul. Therefore, we must hold fast to the gospel and not be ashamed of it.

Conclusion

Paul said the gospel is "the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes" (Rom. 1:16). He was not teaching salvation by faith alone (Jas. 2:24), but was using belief in the comprehensive sense – an obedient trust in God (cf. Rom. 1:5). Jesus is "to all those who obey Him the source of eternal salvation" (Heb. 5:9). To obey Christ, we must be "baptized into Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:3; cf. Mark 16:16), become "slaves of righteousness" (Rom. 6:18; cf. Matt. 28:20), and remain "faithful until death" (Rev. 2:10).

Examine yourself in light of the Scriptures and see if you can echo Paul's words: "I am not ashamed of the gospel" (Rom. 1:16). If you cannot, now is the time to make the necessary corrections in your life.

(plainbibleteaching.com)

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

	July 10, 2016	July 17, 2016
Bible Class	51	55
AM Worship	67	71
PM Worship	55	38
Wednesday PM	47	41
Contribution	\$2,061	\$1,946

Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 7/24/16		Next Week: 7/31/16		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: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	Joe Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	John Barnum		
Communion	Allen Griffith*, Randy Huckaby Ryan Rudloff, Allen Bland	Gene Bannister*, Hank Wheeler Don Smith, Tom Wilcox		
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	Larry Petty		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Caleb Dennis		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	Song Leader: Joe Dennis		
Opening Prayer	Joe Dennis	James Fuller		
Scripture Reading	Tom Wilcox	James Thomas		
Communion	Allen Griffith	Gene Bannister		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Ken Maninger		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 27 Allen Griffith	August 3 Prayer Night	August 10 Tom Wilcox	August 17 Don Smith

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 24, 2016

Sunday Class **Romans 1:19ff**
 Wed. Class **How can we identify the NT church today?**

<u>Will You Not Revive Us Again?</u>	<u>Commonly Held False Doctrines Concerning the Miraculous (2)</u>
<p><i>Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You? (Ps. 85:6)</i> <i>O Lord, revive Your work in the midst of the years! (Hab. 3:2)</i> Revival! It is needed again and again.</p> <p>I. Men and Nations Have Often Needed Revival.</p> <p>A. Jacob needed revival. B. Israel needed revival often in her history. 1. King Solomon (2 Chron. 7:14). 2. Things were dark and dismal in Judah when Josiah began to reign.</p> <p>II. The Church's Beginning.</p> <p>A. The book of Acts reveals what it was like in the beginning. B. The gospel was taken from Jerusalem to Rome. C. Great churches like Ephesus and Laodicea flourished – but by the close of the century many of those churches needed revival.</p> <p>III. Where We Stand.</p> <p>IV. It Is Time for Revival.</p> <p>V. Where Do We Being?</p> <p>A. Revival begins with me. B. We need a revived faith in the message. C. The need revived faith in our mission.</p> <p>VI. What Revival Entails.</p> <p>A. Revival never comes easy. B. Revival demands reflection. C. Revival necessitates a desire for the "old paths" (Jer. 6:16). D. Revival requires a right spirit (Psalm 51:10).</p> <p>VII. A Formula for Revival (Isa. 6:1-9).</p> <p>A. First, an upward look. B. Second, an inward look. C. Third, an outward look.</p> <p>VIII. The Fruits of Revival.</p> <p>A. Revival will bring change in our lives. B. Revival will enhance our joy. C. Revival will bring a sense of belonging. D. Revival stirs a richer, deeper assurance of our salvation.</p> <p>Are we ready for a revival?</p>	<p>I. Miracles still occur.</p> <p>A. What is a miracle?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Not just something unusual or unexplainable. That which supersedes the laws of nature. False miracles: Acts 8:9-10; Matt. 8:21-23; "Miracle Workers" today. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Did Christ or the apostles ever fail in performing a miracle because of the lack of faith on the part of the one being healed? How much faith did Lazarus have (John 11)? The man at the gate of the temple (Acts 3)? <p>B. What was the purpose of miracles?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm the word: Mark 16:20. Show one was worthy of the gospel: Acts 10, 11. Reveal the perfect message: John 16:13. Prove that Jesus was the Christ: Acts 2:22. <p>C. How did one receive power to perform miracles?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Directly from Christ by the Holy Spirit. Matt. 10. Holy Spirit baptism. Acts 1:5. Laying on of an apostle's hands. Acts 8:13-17. <p>D. What miracles were to be performed?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Limited commission: Matt 10:6-8. Great commission: Mark 16:17-18. <p>E. How long were miracles to last?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Cor. 13:8-10. James 1:25; John 20:30-31. <p>F. Do all miracle workers teach the same thing? No! (see 1 Cor. 14:37; 1:10-13).</p> <p>G. Did the ability to perform miracles in the 1st century show the strength of one's character? No! (Ex. Simon Peter; Judas Iscariot; church at Corinth)</p> <p>H. If one should show a sign, but teach something contrary to God's word, should we believe him? No! (see Deut. 13:1-5; Gal. 1:6-9)</p> <p>I. Objections.</p> <p>II. Modern day revelation.</p> <p>A. 2 Tim 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:3; Acts 20:27. B. Whose modern day revelation are you going to believe?</p>