# #...upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." ~Matthew 16:18



**September 25, 2016** 

#### **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	s.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

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

World Bible School

# Why I Want to Go to Hell

If there is no hell, we should live as we please. "If the dead do not rise, let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die!" (1 Cor. 15:32). If there is no resurrection, no afterlife we are foolish to live as Christians – There is no need to concern ourselves with righteous living if there is no hell.

On the other hand, if there is a hell, we need to chart a course which will keep us far from hell. We need to be sure that we are walking the narrow way which leads to life (Matt. 7:14). We need to be sure that we obey the Gospel, for when Jesus is revealed, he will execute vengeance on those who do not obey the Gospel (2 Thess. 1:8).

As hell is described in Scripture, it is a horrible place.

- Hell is a place of torment The rich man was in torment when he saw Abraham and Lazarus in his bosom (Luke 16:23).
- Hell is a place of fire At the end, the wicked will be cast into the "furnace of fire" (Matt. 13:50).
- Hell is an eternal place. Jesus said that the wicked would go "away into everlasting punishment" (Matt. 25:46). In Dante's Divine Comedy, the inscription above hell read, "Abandon all hope ye who enter here." Hell is a place without hope because it is eternal.
- Hell is a place of pain. Hell is described as a place of weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matt. 8:12) – That is a picture of individuals in pain.
- Hell is a place without rest Those in hell have no rest day or night (Rev. 14:11).
- Hell is a place of remembrance. The rich man could remember how he had good things and Lazarus evil things (Luke 16:25). Throughout eternity, those in hell will remember their lives. You will remember all the invitation hymns you heard. You will remember all the admonitions to do right. You will remember all of vour sins

But, that is only part of the picture – Hell can be a very good place! There are some very sound reasons for wanting to go to hell!

#### No Effort Is Required To Go To Hell

We generally think of horrible people going to hell (child molesters, murderers, and rapist, and they do! – unless, of course, they repent).

Yet, there is a much easier way to get to hell – do nothing. "To him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James 4:17). We know there are many things we need to be doing (putting away sin, letting our lights shine, telling our friends about Jesus, praying regularly, studying our Bibles, and so much more). Yet, do nothing and you will go to hell.

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"For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. So when this corruptible has put on incorruption, and this mortal has put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: 'Death is swallowed up in victory.' 'O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?'." **1 Corinthians 15:53-55** 

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If we want to go to hell, we can just turn a deaf ear to those who need us and do nothing (Matt. 25:41-45). In the Parable of the Talents, the man with one talent was lost because he did nothing (Matt. 25:24-30).

Someone has rightly said, "The road to hell was paved with good intentions." We might intend to do any number of good works, but never get around to them. If we do nothing at all, we can go to hell.

# You Can Associate Freely With Bad Company There

In this life, evil company can corrupt. "Evil company corrupts good habits" (1 Cor. 15:33). Scripture contains examples of those who were corrupted by evil company: e.g., when Solomon was old, his pagan wives turned away his heart from God (1 Kings 11:4), and Ahab sold himself to do wickedness, because Jezebel his wife "stirred him up" (1 Kings 21:25).

In hell, it won't matter with whom you associate; you will all be lost.

In fact, you will be able to associate with some well-known people. You can ask Judas why he killed himself instead of turning back to Jesus. You can ask Goliath about his battle with David. You can ask Jezebel about being eaten by dogs. And, you can associate with an endless list of well-known individuals.

# You Won't Have the Constant Watchful Eye of God over You

In this life, God watches over us and knows what we do. No one can hide himself in a secret place so that God will not see him (Jer. 23:23-24). For example, when Jesus met the Samaritan woman at the well, he knew she had been married five times (John 4:18).

But, God will not be in hell. Those who are lost will be punished "from the presence of the Lord" (2 Thess. 1:9). You can do whatever you want in hell – God won't see it.

# You Won't Be Expected to Attend Bible Study or Worship

Some become agitated that the preacher discusses the importance of Bible study and worship. Preachers discuss the importance of Bible study and worship, for in this life, Bible study and worship are vitally important. God has commanded that we come together (Heb. 10:25).

But, in hell, you won't be expected to attend Bible study or worship – ever!

## You Won't Be Expected to Give of Your Possessions

God has commanded that we give of our means (1 Cor. 16:2); Jesus told the rich young ruler to sell all that he had and give to the poor (Matt. 19:21). Some people don't like the idea of God expecting them to give of their possessions. I've heard people say, "If the preacher preaches on giving, I'm leaving" – In order to be biblical, the preacher must preach on giving.

Yet, in hell you won't be expected to give of your possessions – you won't have any! The rich man had nothing in hell (Luke 16:19-31). The rich fool had so much that he was going to take life easy, but his life was demanded of him. God asked, "Then whose will those things be?" (Luke 12:13-21).

# There Will Be No Elders, Preachers, and/or Church Members Nagging You to Be Faithful to the Lord

Some individuals resent being encouraged to be faithful to the Lord. If you resent being encouraged to be faithful, hell is just the place for you. There will be no encouragement to do right in hell.

This is not to say that there will be no elders, preachers, and church members in hell. But, they will not have the time or reason to bother you!

# There Will Be No Worry over Judgment

Judgment Day is coming! God has appointed a day on which he will judge the world through Jesus (Acts 17:31). All nations will be gathered before Jesus and he will separate the sheep from the goats (Matt. 25:32). Many get nervous thinking about Judgment Day – As

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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

<u>Preaching the Word</u> (Michael Light) Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

#### **Internet**

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbntv.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**

Sept. 25 Revelation 10-12 **Sept. 26** Revelation 13-14 Sept. 27 Revelation 15-16 Sept. 28 **Revelation 17-18 Sept. 29** Revelation 19-20 Sept. 30 Revelation 21-22 Oct. 1 Matthew 1-3 Oct. 2 Matthew 4-6

"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.

#### Announcements

- Thank you to everyone who helped with the meal for the Barnum family on Friday.
- Our teachers and all who help with our education program were honored by the elders with a special meal Tuesday evening. Thank you to the elders! Thank you for all who help make our education program a success!
- ◆ This coming Saturday, there will be two area events—Ladies' Day at Dublin & Developing Church Leaders Conference at Baker Heights in Abilene.
- A note of thanks was received from the Whitsett family and is posted on the bulletin board.
- Fliers are now available at the back for our upcoming Gospel Meeting.

## Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 16-19—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge. "The Christ Centered Church: The Beauty of Christianity from the Book of Ephesians"
- ◆ October 29—Ladies' Day with Becky Blackmon. "Making Christ the Lord of Your Life in Every Situation of Your Life"
- March 26-29—Spring Gospel Meeting with Russell Bell.

#### Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ♦ Oct. 1—Ladies Day @ Dublin.
- ♦ Oct. 1—Developing Church Leaders Conference—Baker Heights (Abilene).
- ♦ Oct. 2-5—Gospel Meeting @ Stephenville with Jim Nash.
- ◆ Oct. 6-8—Texas Ladies for Christ Retreat (info on board)
- ♦ Oct. 9-12—Lubbock Lectures
- ◆ Oct. 9-12—Homecoming Lectureship @ Rising Star
- ♦ Oct. 22—Ladies Day @ San Angelo with Cathy Iverson
- ◆ Oct. 27-29—ACS Class: "The Bible and Archaeology" (Dewayne Bryant)—Dripping Springs, TX
- ◆ Dec. 9-11—"Family Matters" Seminar @ Lake Shore Drive (Waco).

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Paul reasons about Judgment, he made Felix afraid (Acts 24:25).

There will be no worry over judgment in hell – that day will be history.

## You Won't Be Lonely

The majority of people will be lost (Matt. 7:13).

Your family and friends who followed your example will be there, too. Those who love family more than Christ won't obey (Matt. 10:37). Parents have influence over their children; a little leaven leavens the whole lump (Gal. 5:9). If you haven't lived the Christian life, you have influenced your children not to live the Christian life. If you haven't put the Lord first in your life, you have influenced your children to do the same.

After the 1933 earthquake that struck Southern California, W. C. Fields said, "We're crazy to live here, but there sure are a lot of us." The same thing is true about hell.

If you want to go to hell, you have some sound reasons for doing so. But, don't go to hell!

Justin Imel (drjustinimelsr.com)

# Celebrate

# "Rejoice with those who rejoice..." [Romans 12:15]

Sept./Oct. Birthdays: Cindy Proud (9/26), Garrett Barnum (9/27), Matthew Howell (9/28), Lisa Greer (10/5), Matthew Churchwell (10/7), Sarah Evetts (10/12), Jo Maninger (10/12), Hank Wheeler (10/13), Tina Barnum (10/14), Cassie Freeman (10/23).

**October Anniversaries:** Frank & Anita Alexander (4), Stormy & Juanita Barnum (25), Mike & Patti Bannister (27).

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	Records	Sept. 11, 2016	Sept. 18, 2016	
l	Bible Class	51	48	
-	AM Worship	75	71	
)	PM Worship	N/A	N/A	
	Wednesday PM	N/A	N/A	
	Contribution	\$1,937	\$1,984	

	This Week: 9/25/16		Next Weel	x: 10/2/16	S	eptember 2016		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannis	ter	Song Leader: Mike Bannister			Make Announcements:		
Greeters	Dennis Family		Mileen & Ashley Kahlich  Ken Maninger  Tom Wilcox*, Allen Bland Ryan Rudloff, Hank Wheeler  Randy Huckaby		Pr	James Fuller Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Fuller / Stultz Hostess Committee:		
Opening Prayer	Don Smith							
Communion	John Barnum*, James Ful Allen Griffith, Larry Pett				П			
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister					Ctober 2016  Make Announcements:     Don Smith  Prepare Communion:     Tom & Carol Wilcox     Clean Building:     M&P Bannister/Greer     Hostess Committee: Laura Huckaby's group		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Caleb Dennis		Chase Churchwell					
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Joe Denni	s	Song Leader: James Fuller  John Barnum  Don Smith  Tom Wilcox  Joe Dennis		Ma			
Opening Prayer	Mike Bannister				Pr			
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler				T			
Communion	John Barnum							
Closing Prayer	James Thomas							
Wednesday Devotionals:	September 28 Joe Dennis		October 5 Prayer Night	October 12 Allen Griffi		October 19 Tom Wilcox		

# 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 September 25, 2016

Sunday Class ...... Romans 2:9ff
Wed. Class ...... Things Associated with being a Member of the Body

## The Resurrection - The Basis of our Hope - 1 Corinthians 15

The Heart of the Gospel (1-11).

A. "I declare to you the gospel... that Christ died for our sins... that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day..." (1-4).

B. Christ's resurrection was verified by many eyewitnesses (5-10).

II. The Hope of the Gospel (12-19). A logical argument.

A. "If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ is not risen" (13).

- B. "And if Christ is not risen, then our preaching is empty", etc. (14-19).
- C. However, the Corinthians knew these things to be true!
- D. Therefore, Christ was raised!
- E. Therefore, there is a general resurrection.

#### III. The Sequence of the End (20-34).

A. Christ's resurrection constituted the "firstfruits" (20).

- A prototype and precursor to all subsequent resurrections.
- in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive" (21-22).
- 3. When Christ returns, the general resurrection will occur (23).
  - At that time, all people will be called to account at the Judgment.
  - b. "Then comes the end...He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death" (24-27).
  - c. "...when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him... (28).
- B. Paul then advanced two questions. If the resurrection is not to occur...
  - 1. What will they do who are baptized for the dead?, and
  - 2. Why do we stand in jeopardy every hour? (29-30).

#### IV. The Resurrection Body (35-50).

- A. "How are the dead raised up? And with what body do they come?" (35).
  - 1. Three illustrations to conceptualize the resurrection body for us (36-41).
  - Several contrasts to expound the distinction further (42-44).
  - Compares Adam's physical body with Christ's life-giving spirit (45).
  - We, too, must bear the image of the natural, dust, the earthy before we can bear the image of the spiritual and the heavenly (46-49).
- B. "...flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God" (50).

#### V. The Final Victory (51-58),

- A. "The trumpet will sound (51; 1 Thess. 4:16).
- B. "The dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed" (52).
- C.Death will be finally vanquished (54).
- We can be certain of the victory we have through our Lord Jesus Christl

# Psalms of Praise - Psalm 46 - "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

This Psalm was for two reasons:

- 1. It is A Psalm of the sons of Korah;
  - it is a Psalm that seems to have been written during a time of a significant national crisis – thus, giving us an opportunity to look into how people of faith dealt with difficult times.
- A beautiful psalm of confidence in God.

The background of the psalm may well be God's miraculous deliverance of Jerusalem from Sennacherib, king of Assyria (2 kgs. 18,19; 2 Chron. 32; tsa. 36,37).

- I. Turmoil All Around (1-3).
  - A. God is both His people's defense and offense their "refuge" and their "strength."
  - B.He will be "a very present help."
  - C.Even in the most violent disasters, God will be a gracious, almighty help to those who trust in Him – "Therefore we will not fear."
  - D.Nothing that happens to the sea, the land, or the mountains should shake our faith in God.
  - E. Implied in this first stanza is the truth that individually and collectively God's people will experience turmoil in the world.
- II. God Is Your Only Real Refuge (4-7).
- A. Surrounded by an unpredictable world God's people are set apart as God's possession and the object of His tender care.
- B.We can be assured that His people will never fall.
- C.God will be ever ready to deal with any enemy that approaches His people – "God shall help her, just at the break of dawn."
- D. "The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

#### III. He Is Our Refuge (8-11).

- A.A special appeal to observe the works of God is made "Come, behold the works of the LORD, who has made desolations in the earth."
- B.God has defeated the enemy of His people.
- C.God's people are told to relax "Be still, and know that I am God."
- D.The writer closes his psalm with the same refrain that he used in v. 7 "The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."

A magnificent celebration of the believer's strength and security in God. God alone is our protection from the hardships and difficulties of life.

We rest in God - the mighty fortress!