

# 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



June 11, 2017

## Contact Us:

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office@4thstreetcoc.org

## 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.

## DID JESUS DIE IN VAIN?

The entire Christian system centers around the death of Jesus on the cross. He "died for the ungodly" (Rom. 5:6, 8). He "laid down his life for us" (1 John 3:16). In spite of numerous like statements of Scripture, certain things, if true, would mean that Christ died in vain.

**If one can be saved by the Law of Moses:** Paul argued: "If righteousness is through the law, then Christ died for nought" (Gal. 2:21b). The Galatians had fallen victim to Jewish Christians who sought to bind at least parts of the law (i.e., circumcision, 5:2-4) upon the church. If Moses' law could have saved, the Word need never have become flesh (John 1:14), for men had had that law for 1,500 years by the time of Jesus' birth. The law was only a "tutor" that pointed to the Christ (Gal. 3:24). Its sacrifices were merely typical of the "Lamb of God, that taketh away the sin of the world" (John 1:29). Jesus slew the authority of Moses' law on Calvary (Col. 2:14). All who justify their religious practices by it (e.g., sabbath keeping, a priesthood, instrumental music in worship, et al.) render the death of Jesus worthless.

**If religious division is right:** Though such diversity is applauded by the masses, the Bible condemns it. Jesus built only one church (Matt. 16:18), and He prayed that its members be one, as He and the Father are one (which includes doctrinal unity) (John 17:20-23). He died to establish this one body (Eph. 2:16; 5:25). If Jesus is as pleased with the monstrosity of denominationalism as with the one church He established, then He died for nought in that regard.

**If the church is non-essential:** Jesus "bought" His church with His blood (Acts 20:28). "Jesus yes, the church no" is a common, albeit grossly mistaken, concept. If one is speaking of manmade counterfeits of Jesus' church, it is true; He died for none of them. However, to include His church in this concept implies that Christ paid the price for it in vain. His church consists of those who have been saved through His death (Rom. 5:10; cf. Acts 2:37-38, 41, 47).

**If I am lost:** Jesus' death will have been wasted, as far as I am concerned, if I am lost. This will not be the case for others, of course. He "gave himself a ransom for all" (1 Tim. 2:6), so all have the opportunity to be saved, but if I am lost, He may as well have spared Himself the misery of the cross.

It behooves each of us to obey His plan of salvation (Acts 2:37-38), whereupon He will add us to His church (v. 47). We thereby accept the salvation He offers. By this means alone may we attribute fitting value to His death for ourselves.

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"Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, "By what authority are You doing these things? And who gave You this authority?" But Jesus answered and said to them, "I also will ask you one thing, which if you tell Me, I likewise will tell you by what authority I do these things: The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?"

Matthew 21:23-25a



# Get Off the Fence: Evolution

Far too many Christians try to “ride the fence” in today’s world. They get caught between clear biblical teaching and what culture pressures them to believe and so they attempt to strike some sort of compromise. The same happened often in the Bible, and one such example came on the day of Elijah’s challenge against the prophets of Baal. In 1 Kings 18:21, as the people gathered near to see who would prevail between God and Baal, Elijah challenged each of them: “How long will you hesitate between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him.”

It’s time for true Christians to challenge those who are riding on the fence and ask them, how long will you hesitate between two opinions?

“Yeah, I’m a Christian, but I also believe in science so I don’t deny evolution.” The commonly proposed idea that a person can’t hold to the Genesis account of creation and still believe in science has led many Christians to utter that statement. But should they? Do we have to ride the fence between believing in the Bible and holding on to science? Absolutely not.

## Get off the fence because the evidence is on God’s side.

The message always seems to be something along the lines of “We have to get on the side that scientists are telling us to get on or the world will think we’re not cool.” Well, guess what: the Bible has never been socially acceptable. Jesus told us to expect that (John 15:18-25). But it’s intellectually dishonest for people to continue to propagate the “Bible vs. science” narrative. Science doesn’t have biases and therefore it doesn’t take sides. But scientists do, and that’s what is often forgotten. Creationists and evolutionists are provided the exact same evidence by science. They only differ in their interpretations, and people are going to see what they want to see. But the evidence remains neutral and there’s plenty of reason to believe that it sides with the Biblical account. One example would be polystrate fossils, fossils that pass through multiple layers of sediment, completely destroying the evolu-

tionary timeframe established by their belief in the geologic column. Another would be how evolution necessitates creatures literally living without working lungs or a working heart as they wait for those organs to transition from one type to the next. Or consider the utter lack of evidence of creatures in between stages of evolution in the fossil record. The list could go on, but the point remains that true science casts serious doubt on evolution.

Besides, why should we be worried about the opinions of those who don’t have any explanation where the universe came from? Why should we be worried about the opinions of those who refuse to budge on the date of dinosaur extinction when evidence continues to mount that they were alive much more recently than previously thought? Why should we be worried about the opinions of those whose explanation for everything is that “nothing” exploded and created an impossibly intricate universe? These people can’t even figure out how long humans have existed. I really don’t care if people who cling to such laughably stupid claims think I’m unintelligent for disagreeing with them.

## Get off the fence because the Bible doesn’t offer both options.

If you deny the creation story and Adam as the first man, you’re making some bold claims. You’re saying that Jesus and the Bible’s inspired writers were all mistaken when they referenced Adam and the creation story. If you believe in Jesus as God incarnate and that the Scriptures were inspired by God, and at the same time that creation was a myth, you’re claiming that God Himself was unaware that Genesis 1-3 was just a myth. Additionally, you’re saying that Adam and Eve did *not* introduce sin and death to the world, and that death was a natural occurrence long before mankind ever existed. That means that God, not man, would be responsible for death and suffering, which completely destroys the Gospel. Do you see now why these compromises hurt our foundation of faith and damage the church’s influence? One side of the fence or the other has to be chosen.

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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

**June 11** Psalms 6-8; Acts 24-25

**June 12** Psalms 9-11; Acts 26-27

**June 13** Ps. 12-14; Acts 28, Romans 1

**June 14** Psalms 15-17; Romans 2-3

**June 15** Psalms 18-20; Romans 4-5

**June 16** Psalms 21-23; Romans 6-7

**June 17** Psalms 24-26; Romans 8-9

**June 18** Psalms 27-29; Romans 10-11

“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”



**Visitation Meeting**

- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **39 contacts** were made.

**Announcements**

- ◆ **Vacation Bible School this week at Dublin.** 6:00pm. Monday-Thursday. Classes for all ages, including adult.
- ◆ **Summer Youth Series at Hamilton,** Tuesday at 7:00pm.

**Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart**

- ◆ August 8—Summer Youth Series
- ◆ August 12—Back to School Family Game Night
- ◆ October 15-18—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Dave Rogers
- ◆ November 4—Ladies’ Day w/ Lasha Dennis

**Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow**

- ◆ June 25-29—Junior Camp
- ◆ June 30-July 2—Gospel Meeting @ Meridian w/ D.J. Stucky, “The Great High Priest”
- ◆ July 1—Youth Day @ Meridian
- ◆ July 9-13—“Shine” camp (girls, incoming 7th-12th grade) @ Oldham Lane (Abilene).
- ◆ July 10-13—VBS @ Rising Star (through 6th grade)
- ◆ July 16-21—Senior Camp
- ◆ August 2-4—VBS @ Hamilton (All ages)
- ◆ August 4-6—Discipleship U @ Dripping Springs. “EXILES—Holy Faith in a Hostile World.” 6th grade and up. Registration deadline—July 28th.
- ◆ August 6-9—Gospel Meeting @ North Main (Weatherford) w/ Wade Webster
- ◆ August 18-24—Polishing the Pulpit

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I’m not saying that a Christian can’t go to heaven if they believe in evolution, but those who would trade the account given by Genesis and held by Jesus to line up with the ever-changing standard the world tells us we have to believe are walking a dangerous path. We can’t let those who deny God’s very existence interpret the Bible for us, particularly when the evidence isn’t even on their side.

Don’t believe the idea that the Bible and science are incompatible. “Getting off the fence” on theistic evolution doesn’t mean choosing between the Bible and science, it means choosing between the Bible’s scientific evidence and evolution’s embarrassing lack of scientific evidence. Do the research with an open heart and open mind and you’ll find that the inspired Genesis account is reflected and confirmed by science in countless ways, with more evidence emerging all the time. Don’t be caught sitting on the fence between God and evolution. It’s already collapsing under you.

*Jack Wilkie (focuspress.org)*

**DECEPTION**

**I. THERE ARE THREE WHO CAN DECEIVE**

**A. Satan (Rev. 12:9; 2 Cor. 11:14).**

**We can be deceived.**

**B. False Teachers (2 Cor. 11:13-15;**

**Rom. 16:17-18; 2 Pet. 3:16-18).**

**Our ignorance & neglect make us more susceptible to deception.**

**C. Self (1 Cor. 3:18; Prov. 21:2).**

**But we can also DECEIVE OURSELVES!**

**Celebrate**

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

**June Birthdays:** Mike Bannister (4), Caleb Dennis (6), Loutrell Dobbins (8), **Shannon Dennis (13)**, Tiffany McCaghren (22), Donnie Evetts (24), David Greer (26), Stormy Barnum (27), Ashley Kahlich (29).

**June Anniversaries:** James & Laverne Thomas (5), Johnny & Cindy McCaghren (8), Wayne & Mileen Kahlich (19), David & Lisa Greer (28).

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



**Records**

	May 28, 2017	June 4, 2017
Bible Class	40	47
AM Worship	57	57
PM Worship	40	45
Wednesday PM	43	39
Contribution	\$2,250	\$1,770



# Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 6/11/17		Next Week: 6/18/17		<b>June 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> John Barnum <b>Prepare Communion:</b> James & Cindy Fuller <b>Clean Building:</b> Randy & Laura Huckaby Karen Bland  <b>July 2017</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> James Fuller <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren <b>Clean Building:</b> Johnny & Cindy McCaghren
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
<b>Greeters</b>	Tom & Carol Wilcox	Allen & Linda Griffith		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith	James Fuller		
<b>Communion</b>	Rafe Smith*, Jack Turner Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell	Allen Griffith*, Larry Petty Allen Bland, Hank Wheeler		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	John Barnum	Gene Bannister		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Jaceten Evetts	Aaron Smith		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Rafe Smith		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Don Smith	John Barnum		
<b>Communion</b>	Rafe Smith	Allen Griffith		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Ryan Rudloff		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	June 14 Rafe Smith	June 21 Tom Wilcox	June 28 Don Smith	July 5 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 June 11, 2017

Sunday Class ..... **Romans 6:14ff**  
 Wed. Class ..... **Prayer**

#### By What Authority: Heaven or Men? – Matthew 21:23-27

While exposing the hypocrisy of those questioning His authority, Jesus revealed that all religious practices come from one of two sources: either heaven or men.

##### I. To Be from Heaven.

###### A. It Must Come from Jesus.

1. He has been given all authority, both "in heaven and on earth" (Mt. 28:18).
2. If Jesus commanded it, it is from heaven!

###### B. It Must Come Through His Apostles.

1. For Jesus delegated His authority to His apostles (John 13:20; 2 Cor. 5:20).
2. Jesus promised the Spirit to remind them of what He taught, and to guide them into all the truth (John 14:26; 16:12-13).
3. If the apostles of Christ taught it, it is from heaven!

###### C. It Must Come Only from the Apostles.

1. The apostles were given, and taught, the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:27).
2. They were given all things that pertain to life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3).

##### II. It Is from Man:

###### A. If Based Solely Upon What the Majority Thinks.

1. Jesus warned against following the majority (Matt. 7:13-14).

###### B. If Based Solely Upon What Parents Taught Us.

1. Christ must take priority over our parents (Matt. 10:37).

###### C. If Based Solely Upon What Preachers Tell Us.

1. Paul warned of how we can easily be misled (2 Cor. 11:13-15).
2. Jesus warned about the "blind leaders of the blind" (Matt. 15:12-14).
3. Our attitude needs to be like that of the Bereans (Acts 17:11).

###### D. If Based Solely Upon Creeds and Traditions of Men.

###### E. If Based Solely Upon What Your Conscience Tells You.

###### F. If Based Solely Upon What Is Human Wisdom.

1. But God's thoughts and ways are not always our own (Isa. 55:8-9).
2. God has chosen to save man in a manner specifically designed to confound those who depend solely upon human wisdom (1 Cor. 1:18-29).

###### G. If Based Solely Upon Feelings.

###### H. If Based Solely Upon the Old Testament.

1. The OT was designed to be temporary (Gal. 3:19, 24-25).
2. God has made a "new covenant" to replace the "first" (Heb. 8:7-13).

#### The Explicit Warning of Apostasy – 1 Timothy 4:1-9

##### I. Warning of Apostasy (1-2).

- A. In v. 1, Paul gave a prediction made by "the Spirit".
- B. He said that the predicted event would take place, "in latter times".
- C. The predicted event was that some would "depart from the faith".
- D. Those who fell away from the faith would be "giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons".
- E. They would be "speaking lies in hypocrisy".
- F. They would have "their own conscience seared with a hot iron".

##### II. Doctrines of Apostasy (3-5).

- A. Paul gives two examples of erroneous teaching which were a part of this apostasy.
- B. These false teachers would forbid to marry.
- C. They would command to abstain from (i.e., avoid eating) certain foods.
  1. Every creature God created to be eaten is good and shouldn't be refused.
  2. None of these creatures is to be refused if received with "thanksgiving"!
  3. Such food is "sanctified" by the word of God and prayer.

##### III. Prevention of Apostasy (6-9).

- A. A good minister will instruct his brethren, "in these things".
- B. A good minister will make sure that he is, "nourished in the words of faith".
- C. A good minister will be nourished by, "the good doctrine".
  1. Paul commended Timothy because he had "carefully followed" that good doctrine.
- D. The good minister must "reject profane and old wives' fables".
- E. Instead of spending time on such stories, the good minister must exercise himself spiritually to develop godliness.
  1. The word translated "exercise" is the one from which we get "gymnasium" – to train one's body or mind.
  2. Thus, the good minister continually exercises his mind with God's word, with the goal of developing godliness.
  3. Bodily exercise profits a little – however, by contrast, godliness is profitable in "all things".
- F. Paul closes with the familiar statement that what he had just said was a faithful saying worthy of all acceptance (cf. 1:15; 3:1; 2 Tim 2:11; Titus 3:8).