

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 9, 2017

Contact Us:

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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.

Fulfill Ye My Joy!

Walking recently through the streets of Jerusalem, I was again reminded of the enormous task that lies before the church – reaching the world with the gospel. The world is terribly divided. A war continues over competing religious views. Islam, Judaism, and the religions of the Far East continue to be pervasive, and even among the many religious groups who profess to follow Jesus, there is a rancorous spirit of division and sectarian doctrine rooted in human philosophy and shades of paganism. Both at home and abroad, the word of life and the precious good news of Jesus and His love are often thwarted by enemies of the cross and the ever-present problem of a perverse and crooked people laden by sin. Idolatry in various forms is marring the image of the invisible God, and we are living in a time where the creature is served instead of the Creator (Rom. 1:25). All of this is both disturbing and sad, but what robs me of my joy even more is when members of the Lord's body are divided, suspicious of one another, and fail to strive together for the faith of the gospel (Phil. 1:27), all while the world is destroying itself in a maelstrom of sin and controversy.

Few things are as disturbing to me as those who profess to follow Jesus, but yet are factious, censorious, and seemingly so callous in condemning a brother in Christ with whom they disagree, especially in condemning a man who has spent his life preaching the gospel of the Kingdom. The church must defend the faith (Jude 3) and confront a brother who is in error (Gal. 6:1-2), but the church must also strive to be a place of harmony and peace. Our world is filled with hatred and anger, but the church must abound in love (Phil. 1:9), preach Christ in love (Phil 1:17), and work together in love (Phil 2:2; 1 Cor. 13). It truly is a pleasant and wonderful thing when brethren dwell together in unity, working together in harmony, as did Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus, and the Philippian brethren.

When Paul wrote the book of Philippians, his world was not unlike ours. All of the issues mentioned in my opening paragraph were in many ways faced by the early church. Thus, Paul wanted brethren to "*stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel*" (1:27) because souls were at stake. The church then and today was to be a light to a dark world, leading sinners to confess Jesus as Lord (2:11), but when division and discord are present among brethren, this task becomes all the more difficult.

To help the church in Philippi to fulfill her mission, Paul stressed in his letter what some of us seem to have forgotten – that the preaching of the cross not only conveys God's love for sinful man, but also reveals a message of humility, service, sacrifice, and an attitude of deference to our brethren. If Jesus emptied Himself, came to wash the feet of sinful men, and suffered and died on their behalf (2:5-8), how much more should we – as servants to our Master – seek to care for and love the church (His people) for whom He died? Shouldn't we seek to exhibit the blessings of the gospel as revealed in Philippians 2:1, namely "*comfort in Christ*", "*encouragement of love*", "*fellowship of the Spirit*", and "*compassion and pity*"? Indeed we should and must, but also it must be remembered that our brethren might not always share the desire for

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Then the King will say to those on His right hand, "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...." And the King will answer and say to them, "Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."

Matthew 25:34, 40



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unity and fellowship.

In 2 Timothy 4, it appears as though Paul was struggling internally over those who had not listened to his admonitions about “*striving together.*” As he neared the end of his life, Paul found himself suffering because of his brethren. He was for the most part alone and forsaken by many, and yet Paul continued to practice what he had preached. Even though others were contentious and “*seeking to add afflictions to his bonds*” he meant them no harm (1:15-18). When thinking of those who had forsaken him, he prayed that God would not “*lay this their charge*” (2 Tim. 4:16). When speaking of the enemies of the cross, Paul’s reaction was tearful, not hateful (Phil. 3:18). Paul truly possessed a magnanimous spirit. A spirit devoid of rivalry and selfishness, and yet filled with humility, love, and a desire to work in one accord and with one mind among his brethren.

Today, we can likewise become discouraged and be robbed of our joy when others or we become prideful and contentious. The remedy for such discouragement and the way to happiness is revealed within the context of Philippians, but especially in chapter two. By rejecting a selfish attitude and a contentious spirit, we will find room for the God-honored traits of humility and service (2:2-3). In other words, we must busy ourselves in the work of the Lord, as did Paul, Timothy, and Epaphroditus. Looking every man on the things of others (as opposed to focusing on self) will not only bring us closer to the heart of God as revealed in the example of Jesus (2:5-9), but it will also bring about joy in others. If we stay focused on seeking the Lord’s will and not our own (2:21), and if we regard not our own life but seek rather to serve and assist others (2:25-30), then we will be on the path toward exalting Jesus and be reminded of the central theme of His work – to seek and save those who are lost (Luke 19:10).

The world is a big place and there are many enemies of the cross. We are truly in a battle over world views both in the United States and abroad. Like never before in my lifetime, Christians are being persecuted and marginalized. The Bible is viewed by many as mythological and irrelevant. So let us fight the good fight of faith rather than fighting one another. Let us strive *together* for the faith of the gospel as we seek to bring glory and praise to God.

John Moore (Christian Worker, July 2017, pp. 1,7)

There Is No Peace Where the Prince of Peace Was Born and Lived

Isaiah prophesied, “*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulders: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace*” (9:6). The Bible informs us that Jesus, the “*Prince of Peace,*” was born in Bethlehem of Judea (Matt. 2:1). When He was born, an angel and a multitude of the heavenly host praised God by saying, “*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men in whom he is well pleased*” (Luke 2:14 ASV). However, we know that practically all the news we are receiving from that part of the world where the Lord was born is wholly negative because it centers on the carnal warfare being waged between the Israelis and the Palestinians. On one occasion, some of the Palestinians were holed up in the Church of the Nativity, a site where it is claimed that Jesus was born.

How is it that God sent forth His Son, Jesus Christ, the “*Prince of Peace*” and such discord and killings are taking place right in the area where He was born of the virgin Mary? Did not the heavenly host praise God and speak of peace among men? I believe that the key regarding peace is found in the expression as translated in the American Standard Version when it reads, “*in whom he is well pleased.*” In other words, true peace is only to be experienced and enjoyed by those who are pleasing to God. Further, those who are pleasing to God are men and women who accept Jesus Christ as being the Son of God. Jesus stated, “*I am the way, and the truth, and the life: no one cometh unto the Father, but by me*” (John 14:6). It is sad to note that neither of the participants in the war in the Middle East believe that Jesus is the Son of God. They only elevate Him to be a good man and a prophet. It is in the kingdom (the church) of the Lord that people will “*beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more*” (Isa. 2:4).

Paul taught in Ephesians 2:13-18 that peace can be found in Christ and in His body, which is the church. Man alone will not insure worldwide peace because of greed, hatred and lust for power that fill the heart. The more people who obey the Gospel of Christ, the less likely there will be carnal warfare among men and nations. Without Jesus, the “*Prince of Peace,*” there cannot be true peace among men.

It is common for man to think that peace is only to be found when there is the absence of carnal warfare; however, the peace of which Jesus often spoke and promised to His disciples is to be found in

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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 2 Psalms 69-71; 2 Cor. 6-7

July 3 Psalms 72-74; 2 Cor. 8-9

July 4 Psalms 75-77; 2 Cor. 10-11

July 5 Psalms 78-80; 2 Cor. 12-13

July 6 Psalms 81-83; Galatians 1-2

July 7 Psalms 84-86; Galatians 3-4

July 8 Psalms 87-89; Galatians 5-6

July 9 Psalms 90-92; Ephesians 1-2

“*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 **38 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ Today is the last day to register for the **Central Texas Bible Teacher's Workshop in Austin, July 21-22**. All of our teachers are encouraged to attend. See Cindy Proud to register or for more information.
- ◆ The **Wedding Shower for Garrett & Megan** will be a **brunch at 11:00am, Saturday, July 29th**. This will be a joint effort of our ladies and the ladies at Bangs, and will be at the Bang's church building. Selections are at Pampered Chef, Bed Bath & Beyond, Wal-Mart and Target.
- ◆ **VBS at Rising Star** this Monday—Thursday evenings, 6:00—8:00. 2 yr. old through 5th grade.
- ◆ **SYS Tuesday evening at Deleon.**

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 8—We host 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

- ◆ 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
- ◆ September 15-17—Marriage & Family Seminar @ Granbury Street (Cleburne) w/ John & Carla Moore
- ◆ October 5-7—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat @ Brady. See bulletin board for registration information.

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Him, the "Prince of Peace." Jesus spoke these encouraging words to a group of discouraged disciples as recorded in John 14:27, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be fearful." This is "the peace of God, which passeth all understanding" (Phil. 4:4-7). The apostle Paul knew this peace in his heart, and it gave much comfort to his spirit when he faced physical death for his faith in Jesus Christ and in God the Father. He knew that "the Lord, the righteous judge" would give to him "the crown of righteousness" "at that day." Paul was not afraid of men who were able to "kill the body" (Matt. 10:28). The circumstances and physical surroundings in which we find ourselves do not insure that we have peace in our hearts. Only the "Prince of Peace" can bring comfort and consolation to the troubled soul. Without the Christ, mankind will continue to experience warfare within and without. In the beautiful hymn, "Prince of Peace! Control My Will," it is clearly taught that in order to enjoy the peace of God in our hearts, we must submit our wills to His will and permit Him to control our lives.

Prince of peace! Control my will,
 Bid this struggling heart be still;
 Bid my fears and doubtings cease,
 Hush my spirit into peace.
 May Thy will, not mine, be done;
 May Thy will and mine be one;
 Peace I ask, but peace must be,
 Lord, in being one with Thee.

Let Thy happy servant be One for evermore with Thee.

[Editor's Note: The carnal spirit persists among Christians, too, when they fail to realize that they ought to be submissive to Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, rather than promoting themselves and their notions. Subsequently, division and discord arises among Christians (1 Corinthians 1:10-13) in interpersonal relationships, within congregations and throughout the brotherhood. Brethren, this circumstance is repulsive to Almighty God (Proverbs 6:16-19) and shameful. ~ Louis Rushmore, Editor]

Raymond Elliott (Gospel Gazette Online, June 2017)

Celebrate

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

July Birthdays: Laura Huckaby (6), Jason Warman (6), Chase Churchwell (11), Cindy Fuller (12), Tre' Rayon (24), John Barnum (26), Jack Hill (26).

July Anniversaries: Allen & Karen Bland (27).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	June 25, 2017	July 2, 2017
Bible Class	46	44
AM Worship	64	59
PM Worship	34	44
Wednesday PM	38	35
Contribution	\$2,248	\$1,945

Privileged To Serve

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

This Week: 7/9/17		Next Week: 7/16/17		July 2017 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren August 2017 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Randy & Laura Huckaby Clean Building: Dennis Family
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	Mileen & Ashley Kahlich	John Barnum Family		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	John Barnum		
Communion	James Thomas*, Ryan Rudloff Larry Petty, Jack Turner	Allen Griffith*, Allen Bland Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	Randy Huckaby		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Jaceten Evetts		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Randy Huckaby	Gene Bannister		
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	Don Smith		
Communion	James Thomas	Allen Griffith		
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Ryan Rudloff		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 12 Joe Dennis	July 19 Rafe Smith	July 26 Tom Wilcox	August 2 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 9, 2017

Sunday Class *Romans 7:1ff*
 Wed. Class *Christian Morals*

<u>The Judgment of the Nations – Matthew 25:31-46</u>	<u>False Teachers and Fleeting Treasures – 1 Timothy 6:3-10</u>
<p>I. The Judgment of the Nations Theme.</p> <p>A. As Found in the Book of Joel.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The coming day of the Lord is depicted. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Following the outpouring of God's Spirit (2:28-29). A great and terrible day is coming (2:30-31). Yet salvation is available to those who accept it (2:32; Acts 2:16). A "judgment of the nations" is then described. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The nations gathered in the Valley of Jehoshaphat (3:1-2, 12-16). Nations judged on the basis of their treatment of God's people (3:2-8). <p>B. As Found in the Olivet Discourse (Matt. 24-25).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus foretold the coming day of the Lord (24:1-51). A judgment of the nations is then described (25:31-46) – judgment based upon their treatment of God's people. <p>C. This is a Common Theme in the Scriptures.</p> <p>D. Jesus May Be Using the Same Theme.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Describing a judgment upon the nations. Employing figures reminiscent of the Judgment at the Last Day. For such judgments foreshadowed and typified the Final Judgment. <p>II. Lessons from the Judgment of the Nations.</p> <p>A. There Will Be a Day of Judgment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus often spoke of the Judgment (Mt. 12:36-37, 41-42; Jn. 12:47-48). Paul (Acts 17:30-31; 24:25; Rom. 2:3-6; 14:19; 2 Cor. 5:10; 2 Tim. 4:1). Others (Heb. 9:27; 1 Pet. 4:5; 2 Pet. 2:9; 3:7; 1 John 4:17, Jude 6). <p>B. One Issue Will Be How We Treated Jesus' Brethren – every deed, word, and thought will be judged, but our text reminds us how Jesus takes the treatment of His brethren (40, 45).</p> <p>C. There Are Places Prepared for After the Judgment.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> One is for prepared people (34; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:2-7; 20:11-15). One is for unprepared people (41; Rev. 20:10; 21:8; 20:15). Both places are prepared to last for eternity (46). <p>May we all walk in the grace and mercy of the Lord with an obedient faith and love, so that we may hear Him say: "Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of world" (34).</p>	<p>I. Description of False Teachers (3-5).</p> <p>A. A description of some of the actions and characteristics of false teachers.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They teach "otherwise" – other than the pure word of God. They do "not consent to wholesome words" – healthy, sound words. They do not even consent to "the words of our Lord Jesus Christ". They do not consent to "the doctrine which accords with godliness". They are "proud" – puffed up with false pride. They "knowing nothing" – rejecting the only knowledge of importance. They are "obsessed with disputes and arguments over words", from which come "envy," "strife," "reviling," "evil suspicions" and "useless wranglings". They have "corrupt minds" – corrupted with doctrines of men. They are "destitute of the truth" – the word of God (John 17:17). They "suppose that godliness is a means of gain". <p>B. God told Timothy (every Christian) to "withdraw" from such false teachers.</p> <p>II. A Discussion of Fleeting Treasures (6-10).</p> <p>A. Building on the false notion that "godliness is a means of gain", Paul pointed out what was truly gain or profitable.</p> <p>B. What is truly profitable is "godliness with contentment".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> True godliness is sincere religious devotion and dedication to God. Contentment has to do with a person's state of mind – being satisfied and happy with what one has in life. <p>C. One of the best reasons why godliness with contentment is great gain - "we brought nothing into this world and it is certain we can carry nothing out".</p> <p>D. We should be content with "food and clothing" – the necessities of life.</p> <p>E. In contrast with those who are content, some have a "desire to be rich".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> They "fall into temptation". They "fall into...a snare". They "fall into...many foolish and harmful lusts". <p>F. "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil".</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Does not say money is a root of all kinds of evil – but the love of money. As a result, "some have strayed from the faith in their greediness". Also, "some have...pierced themselves through with many sorrows".