

# 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



September 24, 2017

## 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.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.

## Daily Renewal

Have you noticed that we are getting older every day? Most of us can't help but notice that what we used to do is getting harder to do, we are carrying more weight and struggle to get rid of it, and when we look in the mirror there are more lines and grey than there used to be! Growing older is a part of life.

When many see these things happening to them they start to despair. What is happening to me? Or maybe – how can this happen to me?! Usually the despair is because we are seeing only what is happening to our physical bodies as we are faced more each day with our earthly mortality.

But there is more to life than our physical body and what we are able and not able to do. The secret to facing growing older is in what we see as being important to us. The apostle Paul expressed it this way.

*"Therefore we do not despair, but even if our physical body is wearing away, our inner person is being renewed day by day. For our momentary, light suffering is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison because we are not looking at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen. For what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal"* (2 Cor. 4:16-18 NET).

If we are in Christ, if we have made our life in him as we *"walk in the light as he himself is in the light"* (1 John 1:7 ESV), then we should be looking at life differently from those around us. Most people only look at what they can see – the physical, what is here now. But there is so much more to life than what is wearing out around us. These things are only temporary – they will pass away because they are not designed to last forever. Our bodies are not designed to last forever! As we get older we see (and feel) the truth of this each day.

We have an "inner person" – the spiritual side of us – that will live forever. Although our physical body may get older each day our spiritual self can be renewed every day. We renew this side of us by spending time on those things which are eternal and help prepare us for eternity: reading and studying God's word and talking to him in prayer. If our focus is on preparing for eternity, there is no reason to despair because we will be growing stronger everyday spiritually.

We may have suffering that we have to go through in this life, the aches and pains that we face as we grow older, or possibly even more severe problems such as cancer, heart disease, or dementia. Yet put into the perspective of eternity, these are "light suffering" because what we look forward to, our "eternal weight of glory" is "far beyond all comparison." If this is our perspective in life, why should we worry about those things that happen to us here which are only short-term?

The problem too often is we forget about those things which we can't see and touch. So we become absorbed in what happens to us physically. We need to look at what we can't see, those things that are spiritual and eternal, rather than worrying about what we can see, those things that are physical.

Because *"we know that the one who raised up Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus and will bring us with you into his presence"* (2 Cor. 4:14), *"we do not despair"* (2 Cor. 4:16). There is no reason to despair! Concentrate on the eternal. We can be renewed every day as we spend time with God.

Jon Galloway (forthright.net)

# Nashville Statement on Sexuality: A Loving Appeal to Truth

On August 29, 2017, prominent religious leaders from across the country signed their names to and issued one of the most powerful affirmations of God's truth about human sexuality that we have seen in our generation. It is called the Nashville Statement, and I would encourage everyone to read it carefully and repeatedly. You can access it from this Web site: <https://cbmw.org/nashville-statement?ncid=edlinkushpmsg00000313>. It contains such powerful statements as:

**We affirm** that God has designed marriage to be a covenantal, sexual, procreative, lifelong union of one man and one woman, as husband and wife, and is meant to signify the covenant love between Christ and his bride the church. **We deny** that God has designed marriage to be a homosexual, polygamous, or polyamorous relationship. We also deny that marriage is a mere human contract rather than a covenant made before God.

And:

**We affirm** that it is sinful to approve of homosexual immorality or transgenderism and that such approval constitutes an essential departure from Christian faithfulness and witness. **We deny** that the approval of homosexual immorality or transgenderism is a matter of moral indifference about which otherwise faithful Christians should agree to disagree.

Sadly, many people who call themselves Christians are actively denouncing the truths found in the statement and contending that homosexuality and transgenderism are God-affirmed behaviors. Brandan Robertson, an LGBTQ activist and "pastor" helped put together a re-

sponse to the statement called "Christians United." That response, endorsed by hundreds of people calling themselves Christians, states:

**We affirm** that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God and that the great diversity expressed in humanity through our wide spectrum of unique sexualities and gender identities is a perfect reflection of the magnitude of God's creative work.

It includes other statements that claim that active participation in homosexual behavior is in-line with God's will.

As could be expected, the Nashville Statement is being slammed by those in the LGBTQ community, along with many "religious" people who approve of such behavior, as being hate-filled, vicious, mean-spirited, evil, and unloving. These accusations, however, could not be further from the truth. The Nashville Statement is saturated with sentiments about God's love and acceptance of all people, but not sinful behavior. Article 11 of the statement reads:

**We affirm** our duty to speak the truth in love at all times, including when we speak to or about one another as male or female. **We deny** any obligation to speak in such ways that dishonor God's design of his imagebearers as male and female.

And article 14 reads as follows:

**We affirm** that Christ Jesus has come into the world to save sinners and that through Christ's death and resurrection forgiveness of sins and eternal life are available to every person who repents of sin and trusts in Christ alone as Savior, Lord, and supreme treasure. **We deny** that the Lord's arm is too short to save or that any sinner is beyond his reach.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## 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

Sept. 24 **Isaiah 53-54; Luke 19-20**

Sept. 25 **Isaiah 55-56; Luke 21-22**

Sept. 26 **Isaiah 57-58; Luke 23-24**

Sept. 27 **Isaiah 59-60; John 1-2**

Sept. 28 **Isaiah 61-62; John 3-4**

Sept. 29 **Isaiah 63-64; John 5-6**

Sept. 30 **Isaiah 65-66; John 7-8**

Oct. 1 **Jeremiah 1-2; John 9-10**

*"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 **42 contacts** were made.

**Announcements**

- ◆ **Our Gospel Meeting is only three weeks away!** Flyers are available at both exit doors.
- ◆ **Gospel Meeting** this week at **9th & Main** in San Angelo with Keith Mosher. See flyer on bulletin board.

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

- ◆ October 15-18—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Dave Rogers
- ◆ November 4—Ladies’ Day w/ Lasha Dennis

**Other Opportunities to Learn and Grow**

- ◆ Oct. 5-7—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat @ Brady.
- ◆ Oct. 8-11—Lubbock Lectureship (Southside). *“Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth.”* See flyer on bulletin board.
- ◆ Oct. 14-15—Back to the Bible Lectures @ Hamilton
- ◆ Oct. 21—Ladies’ Day @ 9th & Main (San Angelo) w/ B. J. Rollo & Jennifer Webster. *“Vessels of Honor and Sanctification”*
- ◆ Nov. 5-8—Gospel Meeting @ Bangs w/ Foy Forehand

*(Continued from page 2)*

In truth, the Bible explains that homosexual and transgender behaviors are sinful. Since that is the case, the only truly loving approach is to kindly and gently, yet boldly and clearly, explain to our culture that such behaviors are sinful. Jesus Himself gave us this very example. In Mark 10:17-22, we read the story of the rich young ruler. He came to Jesus wanting to know how to be saved. Unfortunately, the young man loved money. The Bible explains, *“then Jesus, looking at him, loved him.”* Our society would claim that means Jesus must have changed His message to accommodate the young man’s behavior and accepted him regardless of his actions. That is not at all what Jesus did. He told the young man that if he wanted to be right with God, then he would have to give up his sinful behavior. The young man left Jesus with a sorrow-filled heart because he was not willing to give up his sin.

The story gives us a clear picture of the only truly loving approach. When people involve themselves in sinful behavior, if we love them, we will explain to them what God’s Word says they must leave behind in order to be right with God. If we really love people, we will gently tell them what the Bible says is right and wrong, regardless of how they respond. This was Jesus’ approach and He hung on the cross for it. We should expect to experience the same types of negative responses He experienced when we follow His example. As He said, *“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, therefore the world hates you”* (John 15:18-19).

Kyle Butt (apologeticspress.org – sources cited in original)

**Celebrate**

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

**September Birthdays:** Jean Hamann (3), James Fuller (6), Emile Ochoa (11), Gene Bannister (16), Matthew Ochoa (16), Allen Bland (23), **Glenda Milam (24), Cindy Proud (26), Garrett Barnum (27), Matthew Howell (28).**

**September Anniversaries:** None.

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



**Records**

	Sept. 10, 2017	Sept. 17, 2017
Bible Class	41	48
AM Worship	56	64
PM Worship	37	46
Wednesday PM	47	34
Contribution	\$1,647	\$2,357

	This Week: 9/24/17	Next Week: 10/1/17		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p><b>September 2017</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      Ken Maninger  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Maninger Family  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      Fuller / Stultz</p> <p><b>October 2017</b>  <b>Make Announcements:</b>                      Gene Bannister  <b>Prepare Communion:</b>                      Tom &amp; Carol Wilcox  <b>Clean Building:</b>                      M. &amp; P. Bannister / Greer</p>	
<b>Greeters</b>	Maninger Family	Fuller Family		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Allen Griffith	Gene Bannister		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger*, Chase Churchwell Jack Turner, Randy Huckaby	Allen Griffith*, John Barnum Ryan Rudloff, Hank Wheeler		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Joe Dennis		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	Aaron Smith	Ian Barnum		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: James Fuller		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Gene Bannister	Don Smith		
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Hank Wheeler	Rafe Smith		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger	Allen Griffith		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Mike Bannister	James Fuller		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	September 27 Rafe Smith	October 4 Prayer Night	October 11 Don Smith	October 18 Joe Dennis

## 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 24, 2017

Sunday Class ..... **Romans 8:6**  
 Wed. Class ..... **Old Testament History: Genesis 1:24**

#### Jesus, our High Priest – Hebrews 4:14-16

- I. **Priesthood.**
    - A. The concept of priesthood is evident in every period of Bible history.
    - B. The distinguishing feature of priesthood is the idea of **mediation**.
    - C. The right of appointment: *"And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was"* (5:4).
    - D. The shedding of blood is also an integral part of acting as a priest.
  - II. **High Priesthood.**
    - A. Confined to Aaron, and his descendants – held as a lifelong appointment.
    - B. Possessed duties and qualifications above and beyond the other priests.
    - C. He was uniquely a symbol and representative of life.
  - III. **The Day of Atonement.**
    - A. One activity that was confined to the high priest alone, and set him apart from all others – entrance into the Holy of Holies on the Day of Atonement.
    - B. This annual event took place on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of the 7<sup>th</sup> month.
    - C. The activities centered on the tabernacle – in the middle of the camp – *"in the midst of their uncleanness"* (Lev. 16:16).
  - IV. **Jesus, Our High Priest.**
    - A. The ultimate and final High Priest.
    - B. The comparison of the Mosaic high priest with Jesus is rich.
    - C. The writer of Hebrews emphasizes two activities of the high priest.
      1. First, the high priest offers sacrifices (5:1).
      2. Second, there is the high priestly role of entering into the Holy of Holies once a year in behalf of the entire nation of Israel (9:24-28).
    - D. The role of blood in Jesus' atoning work.
      1. Life is in the blood (Gen. 9:4; Lev. 17:11, 14; Deut. 12:33).
      2. Blood is required to accomplish forgiveness of sins (9:11-14).
    - E. The Mosaic high priest had his own sins to reckon with – not so with Jesus.
    - F. Since we have all sinned, **access to God was terminated.**
      1. Jesus' as our High Priest **reopening access to God** by blotting out the guilt of sin (4:16; 7:18-19, 24-28; 10:19-22; Eph. 2:18; 1 Pet. 3:18).
      2. This opening of access to God on our behalf enables our spiritual **reconnection with God – peace** (Rom. 5:1-2; 8:34; 1 Jn. 2:1-2).
- Praise be to God and to His Glorious Son, Jesus – our High Priest.

#### Some Duties of a Faithful Gospel Preacher (4) – 2 Timothy 2:20-26

- V. **Live a Pure Life and Avoid Ignorant Disputes (20-23).**
  - A. Paul has mentioned some false teachers and some had lost their faith (17-18).
  - B. He also mentioned some faithful ones who departed from such iniquity (19).
  - C. Here, Paul continued his description of the different kinds of Christians in the Lord's church – as different kinds of vessels in a *"great house"*.
    1. Vessels of gold and silver (honorable) – faithful, valuable Christians.
    2. Vessels of wood and clay (dishonorable) – unfaithful Christians.
    3. Paul's point – every Christian should depart from iniquity (19b), but not every Christian is willing to do that!
  - D. In v. 21, we see the free moral agency of each responsible person.
  - E. God revealed three more results of a Christian cleansing himself of iniquity.
    1. We will be, *"sanctified"*.
    2. We will be, *"useful for the Master"*.
    3. We will be, *"prepared for every good work"*.
  - F. Another thing we must do to as vessels of honor is to *flee youthful lusts*.
  - G. A good way to stay away from such youthful lusts is to *pursue* good things: *righteousness, faith, love, and peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart*.
  - H. We must avoid *foolish and ignorant disputes* because they generate strife.
- VI. **Be a Gentle, Patient Servant of the Lord (24-26).**
  - A. In these verses, Paul gave a description of some of the qualities of a true, faithful servant of the Lord.
    1. First of all, a servant of the Lord, *"must not quarrel"*.
    2. Second, a faithful servant of the Lord is *"gentle to all"*.
    3. Third, a faithful servant of the Lord is, *"able [skillful] to teach"*.
    4. A fourth quality of a faithful servant of the Lord is that he is, *"patient"*.
    5. A fifth quality of a faithful servant of the Lord - the ability to *humbly correct those who are in opposition* to the Lord and His word.
      - a. *"If God perhaps will grant them repentance"*.
      - b. *"So that they may know the truth"*.
      - c. *"They may come to their senses"*.
      - d. To help them, *"escape the snare of the devil"*.
      - e. These people have been, *"taken captive by him to do his will"*.