

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 22, 2018

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
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:

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.

Worship

The great call to worship our God is one that spans the entire scope of scripture. Abel offered of the firstborn of the flock (Gen. 4:4), Abraham built an altar between Bethel and Ai and called on the name of the Lord (Gen. 13:4), and Moses sang praise to God on the banks of the Red Sea (Ex. 15). The Heavenly Hosts worship the Father without end (Rev. 4) and instruct all to "worship God" (Rev. 22:9). The Lord commands, "You shall not fear other gods, nor bow down to them nor serve them nor sacrifice to them; but the Lord...Him you shall fear, Him you shall worship, and to Him you shall offer sacrifice" (2 Kgs. 17:35-36). David said, "Give the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering and come before Him. Oh, worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" (1 Chron. 16:29). Over and over again the Bible emphasizes the command, beauty, and privilege of worshipping our loving God. Worship, then, is an action that we should love and desire to perfect.

If we are to sincerely appreciate and grow in our worship, then we must understand something about what it is. The Old Testament uses Hebrew terms such as *saha* (to worship, bow down, and pay homage), *halal* (to praise and exalt greatness or excellence), and *qarab* (to come near and bring an offering) to describe the worship of the Old Testament (see Gen. 24:52, 1 Sam. 15:25, Ps. 22:22, Lev. 1:2, etc.). The New Testament most often uses the word *proskuneo* to define worship. It refers to the action of "kissing toward, doing obeisance, prostrating before, and showing deep respect." It is found in passages like John 4:24, Acts 7:43, and Revelation 4:10.

Worship is defined by action. Read passages such as Genesis 22:5, Exodus 24:1, and Matthew 2:2 and note that worship has a definite beginning and ending point. In the Old Testament the actions of worship included a number of things from singing praise to God to offering sacrifices under the Levitical system. In the New Testament dispensation, worship is defined by 5 actions – singing (Eph. 5:19, Col. 3:16), praying (Acts 2:42, 12:15), giving (1 Cor. 16:1-2), preaching (Acts 2:42, 20:7ff), and observing the Lord's Supper (1 Cor. 11:17-34, Acts 20:7).

Care must be given to ensure that the actions of worship are observed in accordance with God's will. Jesus said, "God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth" (Jn. 4:24). There are two principles of note in this command – authority and disposition. Worshipping "in spirit" has to do with our heart. Jesus warned in Matthew 6:1-2, "Take heed that you do not your charitable deeds before men, to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven." Continuing through verse 18,

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If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen. **1 Peter 4:11**

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He provided three examples of piety, which the Pharisees observed but did so with the wrong attitude and motive. The application for us is that in worship, God is concerned with what we do, and also why we do it. "To obey is better than sacrifice" (1 Sam. 15:22) and so we must rend our hearts, not our garments (Joel 2:13). Worship must come from a heart that is sincere and full of joy, admiration, and appreciation for the great God of Heaven.

Truth has to do with method, or authority. In every age God has prescribed how He is to be worshipped. Abel offered a "more excellent" sacrifice by faith (Heb. 11:4), indicating that God had given some instruction in regard to worship. Nadab and Abihu disregarded the authority of God in Leviticus 10:1-7 by offering "profane fire" before the Lord, which resulted in their death. Jesus said that we are to worship in truth and truth is found in scripture (John 17:17, Col. 3:17). Therefore, when we engage in the actions of worship we must do so in accordance with what God has authorized in the pages of the New Testament. Additionally, we must remember that the rules of worship apply at all times and settings. Whether it's the Sunday morning worship assembly, a Thursday evening youth gathering, or an evening devotional with family, God's rules apply in every circumstance.

Our God is great and it is indeed an unparalleled privilege to come before Him in worship. May we all strive to grow in our desire to perfect our worship.

Cody Westbrook (Christian Worker, July 2018, 2-3)

Preaching As Worship

It not only is essential to restore the acts or elements of New Testament worship; it is crucial to restore the appropriate spirit and attitude as well (cf. Ps. 29:2; Jn. 4:24; Mt. 15:6-9). Worship ought to be the total engagement of those involved in savoring and expressing the greatness and glory of God through the divinely

authorized avenues found in the New Testament (cf. Mk. 12:30; Ps. 34:3). In worship we ascribe and attempt to describe the awe, adoration and appreciation we have for our God according to what is authorized and prescribed in Scripture.

Preaching is seen throughout the Bible in worship contexts (Cf. Neh. 8:1-13; Acts 2:14-47; 20:7). Tragically, preaching has fallen upon "hard times" – it frequently is downplayed and considered irrelevant. Negative connotations and bad jokes abound concerning it. What can be done to restore and revive preaching as part of worship? The following four considerations are humbly offered to all those who preach and who listen to sermons.

Preaching As Exultation and Praise. The word to remember here is theocentric (God-centered). Preaching ought to be more about God and His will. The word of God is all about the salvation of man to the glory of God through Christ Jesus our Lord. Too much preaching is man-centered, with a verse or two of Scripture thrown in as garnish! Preachers – do you really preach a great and glorious God? Is that what those who regularly hear you would say? Preaching is done in the context of worship, is an avenue or element of worship and is intended to arouse and to motivate even more worship and praise. Too little is said about and practiced relative to this matter in preaching. And it is little wonder that worship is negatively affected when there is little of the wonder of God consistently reflected in the pulpit!

Preaching As Obligation and Command. The word is to be preached (2 Tim. 4:2). The "whole counsel" of God is to be proclaimed (Acts 20:20, 27). The breathtaking story of Jesus is to be proclaimed in its amazing richness, variety and beauty. There should be a greater compulsion on the part of those of us who preach to preach this way, and we should be determined to hear preaching that way too (Lke 8:18; Heb. 2:1-3)! It is fitting to ask, "Am I handling God's word with love, accuracy and care by the way I preach and/or hear" (Cf. 2 Tim. 2:15)?

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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 @ 10:00am 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 22 Psalms 138—140

July 23 Psalms 141—144

July 24 Psalms 145—150

July 25 Proverbs 1:1—2:9 (video)

July 26 Proverbs 2:10—5:14

July 27 Proverbs 5:15—8:11

July 28 Proverbs 8:12—11:11

July 29 Proverbs 11:12—13:25

"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 **43 contacts** were made.

Announcements

- ◆ **Help for Allen and Linda.**
 - ◆ If you can provide **meals**, see **Glenda Milam.**
 - ◆ If you can provide **transportation**, see **Cindy Fuller.**
- ◆ **SYS Tuesday night at Hillcrest in Stephenville.**
Topic: *"Remember You Are Born Again."*
Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart
 - ◆ August 14—Host Summer Youth Series. Speaker: Ismael Berlanga. Topic: *"Remember You Are An Epistle."*
 - ◆ October 14-17—Fall Gospel Meeting with Jacob Rutledge. *"The Church Shaped by Scripture"*
 - ◆ November 3—Ladies' Day w/ Evelyn Bonner
Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow
 - ◆ July 28—VBS @ Hamilton
 - ◆ Aug. 3-5—Discipleship University (Dripping Springs)
 - ◆ Aug. 17-23—Polishing the Pulpit (Sevierville, TN)
 - ◆ Oct. 4-6—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat (Brady)

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Preaching As Proclamation and Communication.

Low views of preaching ultimately lead to low views of Scripture and of worship and vice versa. The foundation of preaching is that God has spoken and that people need to hear His joyous message of salvation in Christ. If not, judgment awaits. Real preaching has as its underlying foundation and content the holy and inspired word of God (2 Tim. 3:16-17). Preachers are men with a message, and God and His message are to be seen in our words, character and emotions (1 Thess. 1:5)! Preaching involves the effective communication and application of God's words to people. We better make sure the message of God does not get lost through our poor translation of it! And hearers must listen to and evaluate sermons on the basis of its Ultimate Source and in view of eternity.

Preaching As Transformation and Renewal.

When the word of God is faithfully preached souls are saved, Christians are strengthened and God is praised and magnified. Christ is "formed" in us (Gal. 4:19), we are more "conformed" to His image (Rom. 8:29) and our minds are "transformed" and "renewed" (Rom. 12:2). How fitting! Through the proclamation of Christ in worship, we become more like the One we lovingly adore. We come into the presence of God in worship and no one who thoughtfully enters will come out unchanged. How we should treasure the privilege of worship and the taking in of God's word that goes with it, for on such occasions we anticipate the day we will forever be in the presence of our great and glorious God!

Mike Vestal (Christian Worker, July 2018, 4-5)

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).**

June Anniversaries: Mike and Ginger Adams (2).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	July 8, 2018	July 15, 2018
Bible Class	53	56
AM Worship	66	82
PM Worship	43	38
Wednesday PM	44	44
Contribution	\$1,814	\$2,112

	This Week: 7/22/18	Next Week: 7/29/18		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p align="center">July 2018 Make Announcements: Ken Maninger Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren</p> <p align="center">August 2018 Make Announcements: Gene Bannister Prepare Communion: Randy & Laura Huckaby Clean Building: Dennis Family</p>	
Greeters	Maninger Family	James & Cindy Fuller		
Opening Prayer	James Fuller	Gene Bannister		
Communion	Don Smith*, Coyce Reed Ryan Rudloff, Hank Wheeler	Randy Huckaby*, Larry Petty Joe Dennis, Caleb Dennis		
Closing Prayer	John Barnum	James Thomas		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Jaceten Evetts		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Tom Wilcox		
Scripture Reading	Mike Bannister	Ryan Rudloff		
Communion	Don Smith	Randy Huckaby		
Closing Prayer	James Thomas	Ken Maninger		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 25 Don Smith	August 1 Prayer Night	August 8 Joe Dennis	August 15 Rafe 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 22, 2018

Sunday Class **Romans 13:2**
 Wed. Class **Genesis 28:14**

A History Lesson: The Restoration Plea

The Church of the New Testament was built by Jesus Christ (Mt. 16:18), not by men; it was purchased with His blood (Acts 20:28; 1 Pet. 1: 18-20), not with material goods; Jesus Christ is its head (Eph. 1:22-23; 5:23; Col. 1:18), not a man nor a group of men; and Jesus Christ is its king (Ps. 110:1; Acts 2:32-36), not man. During the lifetime of Jesus, even before the church was established on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2), our Lord foretold the coming of "false prophets" (Mt. 7: 15) and "anti-Christ's" (Mt. 24:24) whose work would be to lead men away from the truth. Paul spoke of "wolves" (Acts 20:29) among the flock; of a departure from the faith (1 Tim. 4: 1-3); and of a "falling away" (2 Thess. 2:3). Church history verifies this departure from the faith in teaching and in practice.

I. The Validity of the Restoration Plea.

- A. We are well acquainted with the restoration of cars, houses, and furniture.
 - 1. Due to the deterioration caused by use and time, restoration can demand much time, work, expense, patience and knowledge.
 - 2. Considerable research may be required to learn its true original state.
- B. The validity of the Restoration principle is found in the Old Testament examples of two kings of Judah, Hezekiah (2 Kgs. 18:1-19; 2 Chron. 29:1-32:33) and Josiah (2 Kgs. 22:1-23:8; 2 Chron. 34:1-35:24).
- C. Just as Hezekiah understood the divine requirements of true worship by the reading of God's Word, and Josiah learned from the things "written in this book", we understand what God wants His church to be by reading the NT.

II. The Bible: The Source of Authority for The Restoration Plea.

- A. Leaders of the Restoration realized that only the Bible could be their guide.
- B. The Bible, and the Bible alone, became their standard.

III. Tests of the Unity of the Restoration Plea.

- A. The 1st severe test: the American Christian Missionary Society (1849).
- B. The 2nd major test: use of the mechanical instrument of music in worship.
- C. In 1906, the division of the Restoration movement was formally acknowledged with the pro-society/pro-mechanical instrument worshippers composing one group and opponents of these making up another.
- D. During the 20th century, the Restoration movement faced numerous tests of faith and unity.

We must continue the spirit of the Restoration Plea for it is a wholly biblical plea.

God's Eternal Purpose of Salvation – Ephesians 2:4-10

II. The Purpose of the Glorious Church (1:3 – 3:21).

D. God's Eternal Purpose of Salvation (2:4-10).

1. A Purpose of Love (4).

- a. After declaring that the Ephesians had been dead in sin and living in lusts, Paul gave them hope and comfort: *But God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us.*
 - 1) The phrase "but God" marks a clear contrast between what the Ephesians had once been and what they had become.
 - 2) "Because of His great love with which He loved us" explains the reason God extended His mercy to those who were dead in sin.
- b. Agree is the motivation for all that God has done for sinners.

2. A Purpose of Life (5).

- a. The state of spiritual death (v. 1) = *dead in trespasses.*
- b. What did He do with these sinners? *Made us alive together with Christ.*
- c. God's mercy and love come to man because of His *grace.*
- d. *You have been saved* (a perfect passive participle), indicates the result of an action in the past with outcomes in the present and in the future.

3. A Purpose of Legacy (6-10).

- a. God made us "alive together with Christ" (5) and raised us up together.
- b. God made His saints alive that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.
- c. *For* (v. 8) connects what Paul said next with what he had just written.
 - 1) While "grace" summarizes God's part in man's salvation, "faith" summarizes man's response to God.
 - 2) In spite of the requirement of obedient faith, we do not save ourselves: *And that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.*
 - 3) V. 9 further emphasizes that salvation is a gift of grace, *not of works.*
- d. In v. 10, *for* connects the flow thought with what had just been said.
 - 1) While man can never earn salvation by his meritorious works, Paul reminded the Christians that they were God's workmanship, *created in Christ Jesus for good works.*
 - 2) Paul was speaking of "good works" which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.