

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



March 15, 2020

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
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

John Barnum

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children
Gospel Broadcast Network
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)
Mission Printing
Rohan Jones, Africa
World Bible School

Gospel Meeting

March 15-18, 2020

“The Kingdom of Christ”

Gospel Meeting held at the building of the
4th & Stewart church of Christ

3201 Fourth Street
Brownwood, Texas

Service Times & Topics

Sun.	9:45am	“The Establishment of the Kingdom”
	10:40am	“The Entrance Into the Kingdom”
	6:00pm	“The Laws of the Kingdom”
Mon.	7:00pm	“The Life in the Kingdom”
Tues.	7:00pm	“The Purpose of the Kingdom”
Wed.	7:00pm	“The Destiny of the Kingdom”

Lunch will be provided after services Sunday Morning.
Snacks & fellowship after Monday & Tuesday evening services.

Our speaker is **Richard Massey**. Richard is the preacher for the Windmill church of Christ outside of Weatherford, where he has served for 14 years. He also serves the congregation as an elder. In addition to his local work, Richard has taught at the Brown Trail School of Preaching for 15 years, and, earlier, he taught in the Oklahoma School of Biblical Studies for 3 years. He has done overseas evangelism in England, Jamaica, and the Philippines. He is in demand as a speaker on lectureships and gospel meetings.

Richard and his wife Cathy have been married for 40 years. They have three sons.

Please join us as we explore this important subject: “The Kingdom of Christ.”



Simon Peter answered and said, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Jesus answered and said to him, “Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” **Matt. 16:16-19**

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

The Church Is the Kingdom

Within the past twenty years much has been written and spoken about the "church phase of the kingdom" in connection with premillennialism. For the most part the influence of those who would deny the "eternal purpose" of God in and through the church has been curbed. A few years ago there arose a school of thought not identified with premillennialism but nevertheless denying that the church and the kingdom are the same. Though by no means agreed among themselves on all points, some exponents of the idea take the old Missionary Baptist position that the church began during the personal ministry of Jesus and contend likewise that the kingdom is more comprehensive and inclusive than the church or that the church does not include the kingdom in its entirety.

The Essential Elements of a Kingdom

Destroy the necessary elements of any person, thing, or institution and that person, thing, or institution is destroyed. The thing itself cannot exist without its necessary elements. An element may exist yet have no significance in relation to some other person or thing unless connected or united with that other person or thing. Hydrogen and oxygen unite to form water. Either of these chemical elements may exist separate from the other but water cannot exist without both. Each has its peculiar qualities but when united in water these qualities are lost in the liquid formed. Hydrogen alone cannot slake thirst but as an essential element of water it makes physical life possible.

A kingdom cannot exist without a king, subjects, laws, and territory. Remove or destroy any one of these essential elements and the nature of the institution itself is changed. It is possible to use metonymy and speak of a part and mean the whole or speak of the whole and mean a part or parts, but the whole cannot be considered actually and literally in the absence of any of its parts. A king may make a decree, for example, and men say, "It is the kingdom's decree that such and such be done," but all understand that "kingdom" as here used refers only to the king (the whole put for a part). Again, "The kingdom declares so and so," and men speak of what the king says, yet everybody know that law, subjects and

territory are involved in that declaration (a part put for the whole). Metonymy occurs frequently in the Bible, was often employed by Jesus and the apostles, and sometimes was used with reference to the kingdom, but in no instance is the kingdom of Christ on earth contemplated as existing with all its essential elements prior to Pentecost and nowhere is this same kingdom contemplated with its same essential elements following the second coming of Christ and the judgment of the world.

No kingdom can exist in reality without a king, subjects, law and territory. Remove any one of these elements and no kingdom can exist in fact. One may be called a king, but unless he rules subjects by law over a given territory he is no part of a kingdom in fact. Men may be called subjects, but without statutes to declare the king's will within certain boundaries they are no part of a kingdom in fact. Statutes may be written, but with no subjects to heed them, and no territory over which they extend they are no part of a kingdom in fact. Likewise, territory may exist without a king to subdue it, citizens to honor it, or laws to define its borders. It takes all of these—king, citizens, statutes, and territory—to constitute a kingdom in the complete sense of the word, and this is as true of the kingdom "*not of this world*" as it is of "*the powers that be of the world.*"

In any kingdom authority must reside somewhere and in an absolute monarchy it is vested always in the king. The king is the source of all authority or power. It is his prerogative to will and decree. Laws or statutes are the means by which he declares his will. Subjects are the recipients of his will through the laws he makes known in words. Territory is properly the area which the king rules.

When the kingdom of Christ is analyzed in view of the foregoing considerations it is found to coincide in every detail. Jesus Christ Himself is the king claiming and possessing all authority. He has made know His will through words supplied directly by the Holy Spirit; hence, His law. Those who willingly yield their hearts and lives to the Spirit's law (Rom. 8:2) are His subjects. This earth is the territory of the kingdom or, to be more explicit, wherever a willing subject of the king is found

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Television

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

video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/

Mar. 15 1 Thess. 1—2; Ps. 75 (video)
Mar. 16 1 Thess. 3—5; Psalm 76
Mar. 17 2 Thessalonians; Psalm 77
Mar. 18 1 Tim. 1—3; Psalm 78 (video)
Mar. 19 1 Tim. 4—6; Psalm 79
Mar. 20 2 Timothy; Psalm 80 (video)
Mar. 21 Titus; Psalm 81
Mar. 22 Hebrews 1—2; Ps. 82 (video)

"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

- ◆ Last week **49** contacts were made.

Announcements

◆ Gospel Meeting Notes

- Invite people!
- Fellowship Meal following services this morning.
- We will need snack foods for fellowship following Monday and Tuesday evening services.
- Richard is driving back and forth, so we will not have our usual lunch and dinner meals.
- Song leaders:
 - ⇒ Monday: Mike Bannister
 - ⇒ Tuesday: Foy Forehand
 - ⇒ Wednesday: Joe Dennis

- ◆ CARE, Inc. has temporarily cancelled our Sunday afternoon worship service there due to health concerns.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 11-14—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Denny Wilson

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

- ◆ March 21-22—“*The Gospel Is For All*” series w/ Kevin Rhodes at 5th & Grape (Abilene). Flyer on board.
- ◆ March 23-26—Seminar @ Colleyville w/ John Haffner, “*Journey Through the Bible: How it all fits together*”. Flyer on board.
- ◆ March 29-April 1—Gospel Meeting @ Lake Shore Drive (Waco) w/ Jeff Jenkins, “*Glorify Him!*”
- ◆ April 5-8—Gospel Meeting @ Hamilton w/ Kerry Clark
- ◆ April 12-15—Gospel Meeting @ Bangs w/ Ross Haffner
- ◆ April 18—Ladies Day @ Colleyville w/ Kathy Pollard & Jennifer Webster, “*Broken but Mended*”. Flyer on board.
- ◆ April 25—Ladies Day @ Comanche w/ Evelyn Bonner
- ◆ April 25-26—Lectureship @ Hico
- ◆ May 3-7—Focal Point @ University (San Marcos)
- ◆ June 21-25—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 12-17—Senior Camp

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on earth there the scepter of the kings holds sway.

The Kingdom and the Church

Because the word “church” and the word “kingdom” do not mean the same it does not necessarily follow that they are not the same thing. Words may signify different meanings yet refer to the same institution. The words “church” and “body” have different meanings, yet the church is called “the body” of Christ (Eph. 1:22). The church is also called the “house of God” (1 Tim. 3:15), a “temple” (1 Cor. 3:17), “building” (Eph. 2:21), and “household” (Eph. 2:19). These various terms emphasize different features of the church—its family, worship, fellowship features, etc. Likewise when the church is called a kingdom its governmental feature is brought into prominence.

When the church and kingdom are studied they are found to agree in the following particulars: 1) The source of authority or the Head, 2) the laws, 3) the subjects, and 4) the territory. As observed above each of these is an essential element to the kingdom's existence. It can also be seen that the church has these same essential points.

A study of the above passages reveals that the church and the kingdom are identical in the chief executive, His laws, His subjects, and His territory or realm of influence. It is impossible for one to be in the kingdom and not be in the church and equally impossible for one to be in the church and out of the kingdom. Members of the church are citizens of the kingdom and vice versa. Christ does not have one institution on earth called the “kingdom” and another called the “church.” The law of admission into both is the same and the laws governing conduct of subjects are identical. Both are confined to earth while their chief executive is in heaven and the heart of the subject is the realm of influence in this world.

Further identity of the church and kingdom as one and the same is revealed in Matthew 16:18,19 where the Lord declares, “*I will build My church*” and said to Peter, “*I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*” In one breath He calls it “My church” and in the next “the kingdom of heaven.”

Confine the reign of Christ to the abode of men and it is impossible to distinguish between the kingdom of Christ

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Celebrate

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

March Birthdays: Kevin Ross (1), Ken Maninger (4), Wayne Kahlich (9), Ann Walker (10), Susan Ford (17), Allen Griffith (20), Mileen Kahlich (21), Jessica Stultz (28), Dru Wilson (29).

March Anniversaries: James & Cindy Fuller (2), Randy & Laura Huckaby (23), Tom & Carol Wilcox (23).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Mar. 1, 2020	Mar. 8, 2020
Bible Class	46	38
AM Worship	58	44
PM Worship	43	38
Wednesday PM	28	32
Contribution	\$2,169	\$2,695

	This Week: 3/15/20	Next Week: 3/22/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>March 2020 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Barnum Family Clean Building: Barnum Family</p> <p>April 2020 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren</p>	
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	Joe Dennis	Gene Bannister		
Communion	John Barnum*, Ken Maninger Caleb Dennis, Ryan Rudloff	Don Smith*, Coyce Reed Tom Wilcox, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Allen Griffith		
Attendance Cards	Ian Barnum	Aaron Smith		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	James Fuller		
Scripture Reading	Allen Griffith	Vernon Zier		
Communion	John Barnum	Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	Ryan Rudloff		
Wednesday Devotionals:	March 18 Gospel Meeting	March 25 Don Smith	April 1 Prayer Night	April 8 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 March 15, 2020

Sunday Class **Gospel Meeting**
 Wed. Class **Gospel Meeting**

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and the church of Christ except as to the feature emphasized in each term. To further emphasize this point the duration of both may be considered. So far as the writer knows, none argues that the church will continue beyond the second coming of Christ and judgment, for men will cease to be "called out" from the world "by the gospel" with that event (2 Thess. 1:7-10), but at that point shall also come Christ's delivering up of the kingdom to God the Father (1 Cor. 15:24-26); thus the church ceases on this earth at the same time the kingdom comes to an end on this earth.

It is objected that Peter speaks of "the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 1:11). True enough, but that is not the "kingdom" under consideration here for the context shows that kingdom is one that shall be entered as a result of adding the so-called "Christian graces" (2 Pet. 1:3-10). That kingdom will not have the same laws nor the same territory nor men in the flesh as subjects, nor will Christ reign in that kingdom in the same relationship to the Father as He reigns now (1 Cor. 15:24-26).

Different Kingdoms

No careful Bible student takes the position that every time the word "kingdom" occurs in the Bible it refers to the kingdom of Christ on earth or the church. It was pointed out by H. Leo Boles in the Boles-Boll Debate

that "as applied to God's power or dominion" ... the "kingdom of God" may have five applications:

1. God's physical kingdom. His natural laws govern all animal and vegetable life.
2. God's ethical or moral kingdom. Moral government in the world argues a moral governor (Ps. 103:19; Dan. 4:25, 32, 34-36; Ps. 22:28; 93:2).
3. God's kingdom of fleshly Israel (2 Sam. 5:12; 1 Kgs. 9:3-7; 11:11).
4. God's eternal kingdom—heaven (Acts 14:22; 2 Tim. 4:18; 2 Pet. 1:11).
5. God's kingdom of Christ—the church.

For premillennialists to deny that the "kingdom" of Daniel 2:44; 7:13,14; Colossians 1:13; Hebrews 12:48; Matthew 16:19 is the same institution as the "church" of Matthew 6:18; Ephesians 1:22,23; 5:23,25; Colossians 1:18,24; 1 Timothy 3:15 is nothing new, but for persons who deny anything in common with the "future kingdom on earth" advocates, likewise to deny that these and other passages identify the church with the kingdom is doctrine that cannot long go unnoticed and unchallenged. It will behoove lovers of "the house of God which is the church of the living God," the kingdom of Jesus Christ our Lord, and His only kingdom peculiar to this earth, to be "set for the defense of the gospel!"

James R. Cope (The Preceptor, Vol. 1, No. 11, Sept. 1952)