

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



May 17, 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

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

Eternal Life

Man was made for eternal life. This life was his in the beginning, but when man chose sin, the life he had in Eden was taken from him and spiritually, he was dead (Gen. 2-3). The life that was lost in the garden is restored in Christ. "In him was life" John said (John 1:4), and Jesus said "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (John 10:10).

There is a sense in which eternal life is spoken of as a future reward for "the righteous" (Matt. 25:46) that they will receive "in the world to come" (Mark 10:30), and therefore "he that soweth of the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:8). In this sense the righteous have eternal life in promise. Jesus died that "they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance" (Heb. 9:15). "This is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life" (1 John 2:25). Therefore we have eternal life in hope. Paul wrote to Titus "in hope of eternal life, which God that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (Titus 1:2) and told him that being justified by grace we are made "heirs according to the hope of eternal life" (Titus 3:7).

But there is more to eternal life than eternal existence. Having been made spiritual beings in the image of God we will all exist eternally, but for some, this will be "eternal punishment" (Matt. 25:46). The eternal life Christ brings to us is not just eternal in duration, but it is also eternal in its qualities. The eternal qualities of eternal life are the qualities of the spiritual life we now have in Christ. That is why some passages speak of eternal life as a present possession. "God hath given to us eternal life," John wrote, "and this life is in his Son" (John 5:11). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life" (John 3:36). Jesus himself said, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life" (John 5:24).

God hath blessed us with "All spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ" (Eph. 1:3). These spiritual blessings include the fellowship we have with God (1 John 1:3), the love of God that is shed abroad in our hearts (Rom. 5:5), the joy unspeakable and full of glory that comes by love and faith (1 Peter 1:8), the peace of God which passeth understanding (Phil. 4:7), the love of the brethren (1 John 3:14), and all the fruits of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). These blessings are eternal in nature and they constitute the eternal qualities of our spiritual life in Christ.

Someday we will physically die and leave all our temporal earthly blessings behind, but the eternal spiritual blessings we have in Christ will remain ours in eternity. This is what Jesus was speaking of when he said to Martha, "He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" (John 11:26); and, this is what Paul was writing about when he wrote in 1 Timothy 4:8, "Godliness is profitable unto all things, having the promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

Bill Boyd (Seek the Old Paths, Feb. 2020, p. 13)

Broken-Hearted Because of Lost Souls

Maybe it is a life of unbridled immorality. It might be a fellow defiantly refusing to accept the Lord's authority. Perhaps it is a person who has been swept away by false teaching. For others, it could be that indifference has taken root in their heart. Regardless of what the reason(s) might be, when a soul is lost, it is an immeasurable tragedy.

Sin stains the soul. Sin slays those who practice it. Sin separates its participants from the Lord. Sin slams shut the door to heaven. Yes, sin stains, slays, separates, and slams. Sin is one hundred per cent detrimental.

As we think about the horribleness of sin, we are reminded that our Father calls on all of His children to be tenderhearted (Eph. 4:32). Each of us has his/her own unique personality/character/makeup. Some Christians rarely show their emotions outwardly, but they have a tender, caring heart. Others among us tear up, blubber, and sob at the slightest provocation. Surely we all have this in common, though: we are saddened by the fact that people live and die outside the Lord.

The God of heaven is devastated when humans refuse to submit to Him and accept His salvation. In speaking about the rebellious Jews of Ezekiel's generation, God said, "...I am broken with their whorish heart, which hath departed from me, and with their eyes, which go a whoring after their idols: and they shall loathe themselves for the evils which they have committed in all their abominations" (Ezek. 6:9). Man's sin crushes God's heart.

Do you recall how Jesus wept over the city of Jerusalem because its inhabitants would not accept Him as the Messiah, and by rejecting Him brought condemnation on their souls? As He approached the city in what some call His "Triumphant Entry," despite the excitement of some, His heart was broken. Luke's concise record says, "And when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it" (Luke 19:41). A few days later, as He was drawing ever closer to the cross, the sadness in His heart

sounded forth in these words: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not" (Matt. 23:37).

God's servants are broken-hearted too, when people are lost. Jeremiah is labeled as "the weeping prophet" because we read about how his tears flowed due to the Jews' choice not to obey the Lord God (Jer. 9:1).

Have you ever paid attention to the following statement which the writer of the book of Psalms made to God? "Rivers of waters run down mine eyes, because they keep not thy law" (Ps. 119:136). It is not revealed whom "they" were or what specific transgressions they had committed, but the Psalmist's heart was devastated by their disobedience and what such did to their relationship with the Lord.

Among the early Christians, more than once we read about the apostle Paul being moved to tears because of false teachers and departures from the faith. As he was telling the shepherds of the church in Ephesus about a future departure from the truth, he reminded them that for three years he had warned them night and day with tears (Acts 20:31). While in chains in Rome, he wrote a letter to the saints in Philippi, warning them about enemies of the cross. As he brought up that unpleasant topic, he said he was weeping as he wrote (Phil. 3:18). The man was broken-hearted because of sin and its affect on people's eternal destiny.

Some look at the masses of the world who are steeped in spiritual darkness and just seem to shrug their shoulders with the observation, "Well, it always has been like that; there is not much we can do about it." Perhaps others of us have become desensitized to sin. We see it and hear it so much that it kinda feels like it is no big deal. May God help us if we ever get to the point that we view sin as a small matter. And God help us if we do not share His broken heart when people live and die separated from Him. Compassion causes Christians to communicate to lost people what they need to hear, which is God's eternal, soul-saving truth. "Oh, will you not tell it, today?"

Roger D. Campbell (Seek the Old Paths, Feb. 2020, p. 16)

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/

May 17	Exod. 16—18; Ps. 136 (video)
May 18	Exod. 19—21; Ps. 137 (video)
May 19	Exodus 22—24; Psalm 138
May 20	Exodus 25—27; Psalm 139
May 21	Exodus 28—30; Psalm 140
May 22	Exodus 31—33; Psalm 141
May 23	Exodus 34—36; Psalm 142
May 24	Exodus 37—40; Psalm 143

"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 44 contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ As we resume Sunday morning worship...

⇒ Wearing a mask is encouraged, but not required.
 ⇒ Changes will be implemented to safeguard the dispensing of the Lord's Supper.

- ◇ Prepared wearing gloves and mask.
- ◇ Bread (in individual bags) and fruit of the vine will be distributed using gloves and masks. Trash will be collected following fruit of the vine.

⇒ Use common sense: avoid touching (handshakes, hugs, etc.); practice social distancing; wash you hands; don't use the water fountain; etc.

- ◆ We will continue to live-stream our Bible class on "The Holy Spirit" Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm.
- ◆ Sunday Night for the Master cards are still being made and sent, but are not being signed by the group until further notice.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 11-14—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Denny Wilson
- ◆ June 3-7—Men's Development Conference @ College Station
- ◆ June 21-25—Junior Camp
- ◆ July 12-17—Senior Camp

Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow

Who Says If It Is "Good" or "Evil"?

Etymologically speaking, it has been explained that the word "good" comes down to us as a contraction of the words "God-ordered" or "God-ordained." One thing is for sure, it is God, not man, who determines "good" and "evil." Man simply does not have that capability.

When it comes to that which is "good," as opposed to that which is "evil," a man is not supposed to do something simply because it is right in his own eyes (Deut. 12:8). After all, "Every way of a man is right (or good) in his own eyes" (Prov. 21:2). Solomon explains that even, "The way of a fool is right (or good) in his own eyes" (Prov. 12:15).

What if "everybody is doing it," and it is accepted as a "norm" (alright or good) by society in general? Does not that mean it is "good" and not "evil"? No. If a thing is evil, and if everybody is doing it, it just means that everybody is doing evil. People living in Noah's day found that out the hard way when every living person, except the eight souls in Noah's immediate family, were drowned in the flood (1 Pet. 3:20-21). That is why Moses commanded, "Thou shalt not follow a multitude to do evil" (Exod. 23:2). People should know this is just common sense. Even so, God has warned men down through the ages about taking it upon themselves to call things "good" or "evil." God inspired Isaiah to write: "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight" (Isa. 5:20-21)!

Today, people need to hear and heed that same warning. We are living in a day when vast numbers of people who "are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight" some of whom even claim to be "Bible believing Christians" are calling "evil good, and good evil," who are putting darkness for light, and light for darkness and put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter."

Tommy J. Hicks (Seek the Old Paths, May 2020, p. 40)

Celebrate

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

May Birthdays: Ian Barnum (5), Rosa Fuller (6), David Milam (7), Billy Chism (15), Caitlin Settles (15), Gracen Hardy (30).

May Anniversaries: Joe and Lasha Dennis (6), Ryan and Tammy Rudloff (7).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	May 3, 2020	May 10, 2020
Bible Class	—	—
AM Worship	[53]	[39]
PM Worship	—	—
Wednesday PM	[45]	[29]
Contribution	\$1,560	\$1,398

Privileged To Serve

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

	This Week: 5/17/20	Next Week: 5/24/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Joe Dennis	Song Leader: Ken Maninger	<p>May 2020 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren</p> <p>June 2020 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Tom & Carol Wilcox Clean Building: Dennis Family</p>	
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	John & Tina Barnum		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	James Fuller		
Communion	John Barnum*, Vernon Zier Tom Wilcox, Ryan Rudloff	Allen Griffith*, Don Smith Rafe Smith, Chase Churchwell		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	Aaron Smith	Ian Barnum		
Sunday PM:	Cancelled	Cancelled		
Opening Prayer				
Scripture Reading				
Communion				
Closing Prayer				
Wednesday Devotionals:	May 20 Cancelled	May 27 Cancelled	June 3 TBD	June 10 TBD

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 May 17, 2020

Sunday Class **Cancelled**
 Wed. Class **The Holy Spirit: Lesson 3**

<p style="text-align: center;">Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">"I Come to You ... That They May Have My Joy Fulfilled in Themselves"</p> <p><i>"But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves" (Jn. 17:13).</i></p> <p>Many will recognize this text as a portion of what truly should be considered as the "Lord's Prayer." The prayer can be divided into 3 main sections: praying about His mission (1-5), His apostles (6-19), and Christians of every age ("those who will believe in Me through their word", 20-26).</p> <p>We catch a glimpse of the eternal nature of Deity; that God is not limited by the confines of time, unless He chooses to put Himself on a "timetable" in order for mankind to see that God's will was being carried out exactly as He planned. In the prayer, we also get a glimpse of the <i>mind of Christ, the message of Christ, and the mission of Christ.</i></p> <p>I. The Mind of Christ.</p> <p>A. The mind of Christ is what Paul instructs Christians to imitate in Philippians 2:5-8.</p> <p>B. The mind of Christ was characterized by at least three attributes.</p> <p>1. Humility.</p> <p>a. The One who "humbled Himself" expects His followers to do no less.</p> <p>b. The supreme example is found in John 13.</p> <p>2. Obedience.</p> <p>a. Consider Hebrews 5:8-10.</p> <p>b. To have the "mind of Christ," I must be obedient.</p> <p>3. Although the word is not used, the concept of service permeates the passage.</p> <p>II. The Message of Christ.</p> <p>A. Salvation (16, 24; cf. 6:68).</p> <p>B. Sanctification (17).</p> <p>III. The Mission of Christ.</p> <p>A. "I have come ... to do Your will, O God" (Heb. 10:5-7).</p> <p>B. What does this have to do with the "joy" mentioned in our text?</p> <p>1. Hebrews 12:1-2.</p> <p>2. Is it not the case that the people who can be described as truly joyful people are those who quietly and faithfully serve the Lord?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Is Holy Spirit Baptism for Us Today?</p> <p>I. Holy Spirit Baptism: A Promise, Not a Command.</p> <p>A. Holy Spirit baptism was promised by John the Baptist (Mt. 3:11; Mk. 1:8; Lk. 3:16).</p> <p>B. Holy Spirit baptism was promised by Christ (Acts 1:5).</p> <p>II. Holy Spirit Baptism: Who Was the Administrator?</p> <p>A. Christ was the exclusive administrator of Holy Spirit baptism.</p> <p>B. Man was never the administrator of Holy Spirit baptism.</p> <p>III. Holy Spirit Baptism: Who Were the Subjects?</p> <p>A. The Jews received the baptism of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost when the apostles received such (Acts 2:1-4).</p> <p>B. The Gentiles received the baptism of the Holy Spirit at the house of Cornelius (Acts 10:44-48; 11:15-18).</p> <p>C. There are arguments advanced in an effort to show others received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>D. Holy Spirit baptism was not an ordinary occurrence.</p> <p>IV. Holy Spirit Baptism: What Were Its Purposes?</p> <p>A. What were the purposes in the case of the apostles on Pentecost?</p> <p>B. What were the purposes in the case of the household of Cornelius?</p> <p>V. Holy Spirit Baptism: A Convincing Development.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit for Us Today?</p> <p>I. The Evidence of "Classification" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p> <p>A. What are the classifications of Biblical miracles?</p> <p>II. The Evidence of "Comparison" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p> <p>A. What characterized Bible miracles?</p> <p>III. The Evidence of "Challenge" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p> <p>IV. The Evidence of "Confirmation" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p> <p>A. Miracles were confirmatory in purpose (Mk. 16:20; Heb. 2:1-4; 1 Cor. 14:22; 1 Thess. 1:5).</p> <p>V. The Evidence of "Completeness" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p> <p>A. The miraculous spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12:8-10) were to last until the New Testament was completed (1 Cor. 13:8-13).</p> <p>VI. The Evidence of "Conference" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p> <p>A. The miraculous spiritual gifts were conferred exclusively through the laying on of the apostles' hands (Acts 8:12-22; Rev. 1:11; 2 Tim. 1:6).</p> <p>VII. The Evidence of "Confrontation" Says Miracles Have Ceased.</p>
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