

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



August 9, 2020

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 N/A
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class N/A
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

God Hath Not Given Us a Spirit of Fear

"For God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind" (2 Tim. 1:7 KJV). These were Paul's inspired words to a preacher who, no doubt, was facing some fearful times. Paul was imprisoned for a second time, which imprisonment would result in his death, when he wrote his second letter to Timothy. Can you imagine the fear that must have passed through Timothy as he considered his mentor and "father" in the faith, Paul, no longer being there on whom to lean? Timothy was most likely filled with apprehension, anxiety and doubt. Paul's words were sent to Timothy to remind him that God does not want His children to live in fear. **Fear is a crippling, debilitating, spiritual disease that can overcome and control us.** There are numerous things that fear brings about, none of which are good for the Christian and his work for God.

Fear is a prison. When Adam and Eve sinned against God, they were fearful and hid themselves from Him (Gen. 3:8). Fear becomes a prison where people work diligently to hide from everyone, especially from God. Fear becomes a prison wherein we hide, trying to avoid anyone and everyone. Fear will immobilize us to our full potential and keep us from growing. A person who is fearful seldom attempts to do anything outside his comfort zone because he is locked up in a prison of allowing fear to control and contain him. If we allow it, fear will enslave us to our own little thinking (little box mentality), and we can never reach our full potential. Are you enslaved to fear?

Fear causes a loss of perspective. Have you ever tried to walk on a balance beam? As long as you focus on the beam and not on the ground below, most people can walk a straight line. However, when a person becomes fearful and loses perspective, falling is almost a guarantee! Why? Fear pulls our focus and perspective off course. Can you imagine how successful Noah would have been in building the ark if fear were present? Instead of fearing the pending flood and the tragic results of that flood, Noah kept his perspective on the task at hand. Noah kept his perspective and was saved. Peter began to sink when he lost perspective due to the fear of the winds and the waves (Matt. 14:30)! Peter lost perspective and almost perished! When fear is present, our perspective is skewed, and doom is certain!

Fear causes us to forget God's promises. When Jesus was crucified and buried, fear caused the disciples to forget that Jesus promised that He would rise again on the third day (Matt. 16:21), and thus, they scattered and hid themselves. Fear caused them to have spiritual amnesia. When fear is present in our lives, we forget that God has promised great and wonderful things to His children. When the world seems to be against us, do not fear but remember, *"If God be for us, who can be against us?"* (Rom. 8:31; cf., Matt. 10:28). When we fear and feel as though we are all alone, remember the promise of God, *"...I will never leave you nor forsake you"* (Heb. 13:5b; cf. Matt. 28:20; Josh. 1:5). Certainly, when fear begins to control our future, remember, *"There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God"* (Heb. 4:9).

Fear is the great paralyzer of the church and the individual Christian alike! Dear Friends, if we operate in fear, we can never reach our full potential in the service of God. Faith, not fear, is what moves mountains. There will always be obstacles and uncertainties that can result in fear in our work for the Lord, but may we ever strive to replace that fear with faith, because truly, *"God hath not given us a spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind"* (2 Tim. 1:7).

Rodney Nulph (Gospel Gazette Online, Aug. 2020, p. 2)

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

Significant “Markers” in the Life of Christ (Part 2)

(cont. from 7/26)

His Victorious Resurrection. On the third day after His death and burial (as the Jews reckoned time), our Lord was raised from the dead by the power of God. All four of the Gospel writers tell of this momentous event (Matt. 28; Mark 16; Luke 24; John 20). By His resurrection Jesus was declared to be the Son of God with power (Rom. 1:4). The reality of the resurrection was one of the key aspects of the preaching of the apostles in the book of Acts (2:24, 32; 3:15, 26; 4:1-2, 10, 33; 5:30; 10:40; 13:30, 33-34, 37; 17:18, 31; et al). The resurrection is an essential element of the gospel, and without it there would be no gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-4). Christians love and serve a living Lord and Savior, not a dead martyr! His resurrection is the divine assurance of our resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20-22), reminding us always that our labor for Him is not in vain (verse 58).

His Glorious Ascension. Often little attention is given to the ascension of Christ, but it was an important feature of His life. Jesus promised that He would return to the Father (John 14:1-3). In order for several other things to occur, Jesus had to ascend back to heaven (John 16:7). Daniel gave prophetic utterance of the ascension and why it was to occur (Dan. 7:13-14). Careful attention needs to be given to this passage, and it needs to be observed that Christ was “coming with the clouds of heaven” and that He “came to (not from) the Ancient of Days” (a highly descriptive term of God the Father). The New Testament records the fulfillment of this prophecy and stresses the ascension of Christ back to God the Father in heaven (Mark 16:19; Luke 24:50-51; Acts 1:9-11).

His Magnificent Coronation. From the passage in Daniel cited above (7:13-14) we see a prophetic picture of the coronation of Christ as the king over His eternal kingdom. Earlier, Daniel had identified the time when this kingdom would be set up or established and had

emphasized its indestructible nature (Dan. 2:44). Following His ascension back to heaven Christ was crowned King of kings and Lord of lords. On the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ the apostle Peter proclaimed, “Therefore let all the house of Israel know assuredly that God has made this Jesus, whom you have crucified, both Lord and Christ” (Acts 2:36). On this day the kingdom was set up, or, which is the same thing, the church was established (Matt. 16:18-19; Mark 9:1; Acts 1:8; 2:1-4, 47).

His Beneficent Reign. All who have been saved from their sins in obedience to the gospel have been “delivered from the power of darkness and translated into the kingdom of the Son of His love” (Col. 1:13). Christ “has made us kings and priests to His God and Father,” and all Christians are “in the kingdom” now! (Rev. 1:6, 9). Jesus declared: “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:36). The Bible knows nothing of a future earthly kingdom yet to come! We are now citizens of “a kingdom which cannot be shaken” (Heb. 12:28). Christ is our king, which is to say that “He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence” (Col. 1:18). His throne is a “throne of grace” at which we may “obtain mercy and find grace to help us in time of need” (Heb. 4:16). He will reign “till He has put all enemies under His feet. The last enemy that will be destroyed is death” (1 Cor. 15:25-26). “And when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subjected to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all” (1 Cor. 15:28).

His Abiding Intercession. In addition to being the King of His kingdom, Christ is our High Priest. “We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle (the church) which the Lord set up, and not man” (Heb. 8:1-2). Over 500 years before the birth of Christ, Zechariah had prophesied that Christ would be both king and priest,

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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/

Aug. 9 2 Samuel 7—9; Psalm 39
Aug. 10 2 Samuel 10—12; Psalm 40
Aug. 11 2 Samuel 13—15; Psalm 41
Aug. 12 2 Sam. 16—18; Ps. 42 (video)
Aug. 13 2 Samuel 19—21; Psalm 43
Aug. 14 2 Samuel 22—24; Psalm 44
Aug. 15 1 Kings 1—2; Ps. 45 (video)
Aug. 16 1 Kings 3—4; Psalm 46

“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 **32** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ Ladies! Registration is open for the **Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat**, October 1-3, at Heart of Texas Bible Camp in Brady. As usual, it is filling up fast. You can register online at <http://www.texasladiesinchrist.org/register.html>.
- ◆ If you are visiting with us, welcome! Please fill out the “visitor” side of an attendance card on the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the collection plate.

Upcoming Special Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ October 11-14—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Denny Wilson
- ◆ **Other Upcoming Opportunities to Learn and Grow**
- ◆ Sept. 6-7—Personal Evangelism Seminar @ Hico. See flyer on bulletin board.
- ◆ Oct. 1-3—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat. More information on bulletin board.

(Continued from page 2)

declaring, “*So He shall be a priest on His throne*” (Zech. 6:12-13). The writer of Hebrews says, “*Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens (ascended back to the Father), Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession*” (Heb. 4:14). As our High Priest, “*He is able to save to the uttermost those who come to God by Him, seeing He ever lives to make intercession for them*” (Heb. 7:25). He is our “*Advocate with the Father*” who pleads our case and represents our cause before the throne of God (1 John 2:1).

His Promised Second Coming. As surely as Jesus came the first time, as surely as He ascended back to the Father, just that surely He will come again. He said, “*I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also*” (John 14:2b-3). At His ascension, two men in white apparel (apparently angels) said, “*This same Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you have seen Him go into heaven*” (Acts 1:10-11). When He comes “*the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up*” (2 Peter 3:10). The dead will be raised (John 5:28-29), and Christ will judge the world in righteousness (Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Christ will then deliver the kingdom to God “*that God may be all in all*” (1 Cor. 15:24-28) – “*And they shall reign forever and ever*” (Rev. 22:5b).

Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Hugh Fulford

Celebrate

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

August Birthdays: Rafe Smith (11), Don Smith (14), Royce Ford (16), Deacon Denard (17), Ryan Rudloff (20), Roy Dodson (29), Coyce Reed (30).

August Anniversaries: Matthew & Kaci Churchwell (15), Terry & Pam Teague (16), Don & Darlene Smith (29).

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...

Records

	July 26, 2020	Aug. 2, 2020
Bible Class	37	34
AM Worship	45 + [8]	38 + [14]
PM Worship	35 + [7]	35 + [11]
Wednesday PM	31	26
Contribution	\$2,182	\$1,704

	This Week: 8/9/20	Next Week: 8/16/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>August 2020 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Maninger Family Clean Building: Randy & Laura Huckaby</p> <p>September 2020 Make Announcements: James Fuller Prepare Communion: John Barnum Family Clean Building: John Barnum Family</p>	
Greeters	_____	_____		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Ken Maninger		
Communion	Chase Churchwell*, Ken Maninger Coyce Reed, Don Smith	John Barnum*, Dex Dennard Randy Huckaby, Ryan Rudloff		
Closing Prayer	Dex Dennard	Rafe Smith		
Attendance Cards	_____	_____		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: James Fuller		
Opening Prayer	Gene Bannister	Don Smith		
Scripture Reading	_____	_____		
Communion	Chase Churchwell	John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	James Fuller	Tom Wilcox		
Wednesday Devotionals:	August 12 Ryan Rudloff	August 19 Rafe Smith	August 26 Don Smith	September 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 August 9, 2020

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 11:21*
 Wed. Class *Exodus 20:1*

Qualifications of Elders: "Gentle" (1 Tim. 3:3); "Not Covetous" (1 Tim. 3:3); "Not Greedy for Money" (1 Tim. 3:3 [KJV/NKJV]; Tit. 1:7)

- I. **An Elder Must Be "Gentle"** (1 Tim. 3:3 NKJV/ASV/NASB/ESV/NIV) ["patient" KJV].
- A. **What is "gentle"?**
- The Greek word means "gentle, kind, tolerant."
 - Somewhat the opposite of the negative traits we looked at last week: "quick-tempered," "quarrelsome," and "violent."
 - It carries the idea of the KJV rendering – "patience."
- B. **How can you tell if a man is gentle/patient?**
- C. **Why should an elder be gentle/patient?**
- D. **All Christians are commanded to be patient.**
- We see the same Greek word in Titus 3:1-2, 1 Peter 2:18, James 3:17, and Philippians 4:5.
 - We see similar ideas in 1 Thessalonians 5:14, Romans 2:7, James 5:7-8, Luke 21:19, 1 Timothy 6:11, Hebrews 12:1, 2 Peter 1:6, etc.
- II. **An Elder Must Not Be "Covetous"** (1 Tim. 3:3 KJV/NKJV) ["free from love of money" NASB, "not a lover of money" ESV/NIV, "no lover of money" ASV, "not greedy" HCSB].
- A. **What does "covetous" mean?** Basically, intensely desiring something.
- B. **How can you tell if a man is "covetous"?**
- C. **Why should an elder not be covetous?**
- D. **Is it ok for Christians to be covetous?** Hebrews 13:5; Colossians 3:5; Ephesians 5:3; Romans 1:29-32.
- III. **Elders Must Not Be "Greedy for Money"** (1 Tim. 3:3 [KJV/NKJV], Tit. 1:7) ["not greedy of filthy lucre"/"not given to filthy lucre" KJV/ASV; "not fond of sordid gain" NASB; "not ... greedy for gain" ESV; "not pursuing dishonest gain" NIV].
- A. **What does "greedy for filthy lucre" mean?** The desire or willingness to take money in an illegal or unethical way.
- B. **How can you tell if a man is "fond of sordid gain"?**
- C. **Why should an elder not be "pursuing dishonest gain"?**
- D. **Are all Christians under this same requirement?** Absolutely!
- Yes, these qualifications describe the elders, but they also describe all of us as Christians. How do you match up?

Christ's Life Prior to His Ministry: His Birth; Shepherds; Circumcision, Naming, and Presentation at Temple; Wise Men (Lk. 2:1-39; Mt. 2:1-12)

- I. **The Birth of Jesus** (Lk. 2:1-7).
- A. "And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered" (1).
- Joseph had to make the trip to the town of David's birth, "Bethlehem" (4).
 - After the journey (nearly 70 miles), they find no room for them in the inn.
- B. The most momentous event in history is relayed in only a few words (6-7).
- II. **The Birth of Jesus Proclaimed to the Shepherds** (Lk. 2:8-20).
- A. The proclamation did not come to VIPs, but to a group of lowly shepherds "living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night" (8).
- B. The shepherds immediately go in search of the newborn King.
- C. They were the first evangelists, as they "made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child" (17).
- D. "But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart" (19).
- III. **The Circumcision and Naming of Jesus; the Temple Service** (Lk. 2:21-39).
- A. Christ was "born under the law" (Gal. 4:4).
- When Christ was 8 days old, He was circumcised.
 - At that time, He was given the name "JESUS."
 - A first-born son had to be redeemed with money.
 - Forty days after the birth of a son, a Jewish mother was to go to the temple for a ceremony of purification (Lev. 12:2-8).
- B. Simeon.
- Jesus would bring salvation to the Gentiles as well as the Jews (31-32).
 - He would cause many to rise; to others He would be a stumbling block.
 - A sword would pierce Mary's soul.
- C. Anna – "spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem."
- D. "When they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord" (39).
- IV. **Jesus Visited by Eastern Wise Men** (Mt. 2:1-12).
- A. "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews?" (2a).
- B. After being told the Messiah would be born "in Bethlehem of Judea" (5), the star leads them to the house where Jesus' family is now living.
- C. They "fell down and worshiped Him" and "presented gifts to Him" (11).
- D. The Wise Men represent Jesus' first acceptance by Gentiles.