



Contact Us:

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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 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's Divine Power (Part 2 of 3)

God Provides

God's divine power is the source from which all Christian graces spring (2 Peter 1:3-10). By His divine, marvellous, omnipotent power, and only from His storehouse of all that is true and good and holy, He has provided (granted, bestowed) such rich and wonderful blessings. *"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning"* (James 1:17).

Whatever is good comes from God. James says **every perfect gift** is from above and cometh down from the Father. God provides all that is good. Jesus said God is good (Matt. 19:17) and that He knows how to give good gifts. *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him"* (Matt. 7:11)? The Psalmist recorded, *"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly"* (Psalm 84:11). *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with **all spiritual blessings** in heavenly places in Christ"* (Eph. 1:3). *"Whereby are given unto us exceeding **great and precious promises**: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust"* (2 Peter 1:4).

In contrast to God's goodness, whatever is evil comes from the devil. To the Jews Jesus said, *"Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it"* (John 8:44).

By the exercise of God's Holy Word which includes *faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and love*, we will be able to partake of God's "divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4). *"For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins. Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ"* (2 Peter 1:8-11).

All that pertains to this life (cf. 2 Peter 1:3), all that is needed to make us fit for the master's use (cf. 2 Tim. 2:21), all that is required to strengthen us (cf. 2 Peter 5:10) and bring us to completeness in the Lord (cf. Col. 4:12) has been provided by His divine power. Not one thing we need has been withheld. *"What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things"* (Rom. 8:31-32)?

(Continued on page 2)

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

(Continued from page 1)

There is such great comfort in being a child of the creator and ruler of the universe. The Psalmist David recorded, “*The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever*” (Psalm 23).

These are such comforting words to those who love the Lord. Whatever the world may offer with its fear, heartache, disease, pain and death; the servant of God will triumph over them all. “*Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world*” (1 John 4:4). In Revelation we read, “*And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away*” (21:4).

Lenski comments regarding all the rich blessings of God referring to them as presents. “Divine power was required to give all these spiritual presents. They are priceless, their very source is divine. To prize them as such is certainly also to use them accordingly. More than this; by using them we certainly shall obtain ‘the entrance into the eternal kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ’ (v.11; the end of our faith, salvation of souls, 1 Pet. 1:9). All these presents were given us for that purpose.” (Commentary on 2 Peter, p.258)

Revelation of the Word

It is by God’s “*divine power*” that He has provided “*all things that pertain unto life and godliness.*” The godhead, He who is Divine, Deity, the essence of all life (cf. John 1:3) and sustainer of the universe (cf. Heb. 1:3) has provided those things necessary for our living on this earth and the needed preparation for our home in glory. Only

God is able to provide such. No one else could even attempt to do so.

No one can read 2 Peter 1:3 and fail to see the revelation and inspiration of the Holy Scriptures which was provided by His divine power. “*According as his **divine power** hath given unto us **all things that pertain unto life and godliness**, through the **knowledge of him** that hath called us to glory and virtue.*” Verses 20-21, “*Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.*” This passage is often misused to say that people cannot see the Bible alike since no one’s interpretation of it can be certain. But this text has nothing whatsoever to do with how we “understand” or “interpret” what it written. Rather, it speaks of how the scripture came about originally! Holy men of God did not write scripture of their own “private interpretation.” They did not write their own words or thoughts. When they wrote, they did so by the direction, guidance and supervision of the Holy Spirit.

The scriptures were given by the inspiration of God, not the will of man. “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works*” (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

The word “inspiration” is the word *theopneustos* and literally means: “divinely breathed” — God breathed. The Scriptures are the product of the creative breath of God, not the result of human genius. Therefore, we refer to the Bible as being the *infallible, plenary, verbal* word of God.

“Infallible” — the Scriptures are incapable of teaching error. This is also referred to as *inerrant*.

“Plenary” — all parts of the Bible are inspired alike.

“Verbal” — the actual “language form” of the Scriptures was directed within those who wrote by inspiration, i.e., the very words written were approved by the Holy Spirit.

Garland M. Robinson (Seek The Old Paths, Aug. 2020, p. 58-59)

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. 30 2 Kings 23—25; Psalm 60
Aug. 31 1 Chron. 1—3; Ps. 61 (video)
Sept. 1 1 Chron. 4—5; Psalm 62
Sept. 2 1 Chron. 6—7; Psalm 63
Sept. 3 1 Chron. 8—10; Psalm 64
Sept. 4 1 Chron. 11—13; Psalm 65
Sept. 5 1 Chron. 14—16; Psalm 66
Sept. 6 1 Chron. 17—19; Psalm 67

“*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 **33** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ We will be resuming our **First Sunday Fellowship Meals** starting next Sunday.

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.
- ◆ Oct. 1-3—Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat.

way to respect Christ as Lord.

Only the Bible is the word of God. The Bible claims to be his word and proves it. Some affirm the Bible is proof for the existence of God. We can always start with the Bible, with any person, anywhere, to help a soul come to God.

Do we worship the Bible? We do not worship any single copy of the Scriptures, nor any translation. (KJV-only people come close.) If the Bible is the word of God, it deserves our highest respect and allegiance. So the Psalmist thinks: *“In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to me?”* (Ps. 56.4, 10).

We praise God’s word, because it is part and parcel of the God we worship. How can we not hold it in high esteem?

Obviously, we don’t talk *only* about the Bible. We talk about things of this life, such as pastimes, eating, health, and work. But when it comes to matters of the spirit, the Bible is the only book in town. We start every evangelistic study with the subject of the Bible, because in it we have God’s revelation, God’s authorization, and God’s power. Man’s thoughts, permissions, and efforts in the spiritual realm just don’t mean much.

Does that mean we’re obsessed with the Bible? The word “obsessed” carries a negative connotation, denotes an unhealthy domination of thoughts by an idea. To those who live by their own wills and wits, it probably looks like we are obsessed with the Bible. Because they are obsessed with fulfilling their own desires and serving their own gods. But if the Bible is light and life, ought we not give it our full attention and complete devotion?

The second verse of the book of Psalms sees it as the key to success: *“Instead he finds pleasure in obeying the Lord’s commands; he meditates on his commands day and night”* (Ps. 1.2). The alternative to this is to *“follow the advice of the wicked, or stand in the pathway with sinners, or sit in the assembly of scoffers”* (v. 1).

So we must agree with Psalm 119.97 and follow the example of the inspired writer: *“O how I love your law! All day long I meditate on it.”* If that’s an obsession, so be it. It will do us much more good — eternal good — than any physical or emotional addiction, fleshly pursuit, or worldly interest.

The apostle Paul refocused Timothy’s attention to the *“holy writings”* — another fine phrase to describe the Bible — because they *“are able to give you wisdom for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus”* (2 Tim. 3.15). No other book, no other author, no other speaker can do that.

Time is short. Life is brief. Earth is doomed. Nothing here really satisfies. As good as life might get, it will be over all too soon. We were created for more than 70 short years.

The Bible reminds us of that truth and shows us how to make the jump into the blessed side of eternity.

Isn’t that worth obsessing over?

J. Randal Matheny (forthright.net)

Obsessed With the Bible

You worship the Bible! You only talk about the Bible! You’re obsessed with the Bible!

Christians have heard these accusations time and again. In a way, they are right. We are people of the Bible. Because it’s the only

Celebrate

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

September Birthdays: Coyce Reed (8/30), James Fuller (6), Gene Bannister (16), Connie Reed (16), Glenda Milam (24).

September Anniversaries: None.

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...

Records

	Aug. 16, 2020	Aug. 23, 2020
Bible Class	39	39
AM Worship	42 + [2]	43 + [4]
PM Worship	37 + [3]	30 + [3]
Wednesday PM	29	34
Contribution	\$2,701	\$1,811

	This Week: 8/30/20	Next Week: 9/6/20		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	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	Gene Bannister	Dex Dennard		
Communion	Ken Maninger*, James Fuller Dex Dennard, Coyce Reed	Ryan Rudloff*, Don Smith Chase Churchwell, John Barnum		
Closing Prayer	Don Smith	Ken Maninger		
Attendance Cards	—	—		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox		
Opening Prayer	Chase Churchwell	James Fuller		
Scripture Reading	—	—		
Communion	Ken Maninger	Ryan Rudloff		
Closing Prayer	Ryan Rudloff	Rafe Smith		
Wednesday Devotionals:	September 2 Prayer Night	September 9 John Barnum	September 16 Rafe Smith	September 23 Don 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 August 30, 2020

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 12:1-22*;
 Wed. Class *Exodus 20:22*

Seeking the Savior: The "Wise Men" (Mt. 2:1-13)

The wise men sought Jesus, they found Jesus, they worshiped Jesus and their lives were blessed as a result. Are we as wise as they?

I. They Sought Jesus (Mt. 2:1-9, 11, 13).

A. The Magi.

1. "Wise men" – noted for their knowledge and perception.
2. We do not know how many; 3 gifts do not equal 3 men.
3. They came "from the East"; they were Gentiles.
4. They were persistent searchers for the "King of the Jews."

B. The Mission.

1. Why did they make the long, hard trip to Palestine? To find the Messiah.
2. Precisely why did they want to find Him? To worship Him.
3. We need to learn that no sacrifice is too great in our search for Jesus.

C. The Method.

1. How could they possibly fulfill that mission? How could they have even learned about the King of the Jews? The only clue we have is the statement, "We have seen His star in the East."
 - a. They were guided directly by God.
 - b. God did not totally ignore the non-Jewish world.
 - c. Someway/somehow God informed them.
 2. The star itself is proof of God's guidance.
- D. We can make application to those who would seek the Lord today.
1. God is still interested in our finding the Savior.
 2. We must be willing to accept God's guidance.
 3. Once we accept God's guidance, we must be ready to follow it – at once.
 4. In order to follow God's guidance, we must remain humble.

II. They Found Jesus (Mt. 2:7-11).

- A. "If you seek Him, He will be found by you" (1 Chron. 28:9).
- B. When anyone seeks the Lord in the right way with the right attitude, God will also help that person to find Him.

III. They Worshiped Jesus (Mt. 2:2, 11).

- A. When they saw Him, they "fell down and worshiped Him."
- B. They did more than just bow before Him; "They presented gifts to Him."
- C. Have you no gift to lay before the Lord? Give Him the best you have.

The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry: Baptism; First Two Temptations

I. Jesus Baptized by John in the Jordan River (Mt. 3:13-17; Mk. 1:9-11; Lk. 3:21-22; Jn. 1:31-34).

Jesus' baptism has two functions:

- First, it announces the inauguration of Jesus' public ministry.
- Second, His baptism identifies Jesus as the Christ.

A. At the height of John's popularity and the height of anticipation regarding the Messiah, Jesus came to him to be baptized.

B. Christ was then "about 30 years of age" (Lk. 3:23).

C. John knew that Jesus was unlike the others waiting to be baptized.

D. John refused: "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"

E. Why was Jesus baptized?

1. "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness" (Mt. 3:15).
2. Those who refused John's baptism "rejected the will of God for themselves" (Lk. 7:30).

F. John finally agreed to baptize Jesus.

1. As He was baptized, Jesus was praying (Lk. 3:21).

2. While Christ was praying, John saw and heard something wonderful.

a. "The Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him."

b. "A voice came from heaven, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.'"

G. John now knew that Jesus was the Messiah.

II. Jesus Tempted in the Wilderness (Mt. 4:1-11; Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-13).

A. **The 1st Temptation** (Mt. 4:1-4 with Mk. 1:12-13; Lk. 4:1-2). Lust of the flesh.

1. A physical test – objective: to test Jesus' loyalty to God.
2. What was the harm in Jesus creating some bread to feed Himself?
3. "It is written" – Jesus used God's Word as a weapon against temptation.

B. **The 2nd Temptation** (Mt. 4:5-7 with Lk. 4:9-10). Boastful pride of life.

1. A spiritual test – objective: to test Jesus' trust in God.
2. Satan carefully selected the location.
3. Satan had attempted to wield "the sword of the Spirit," but Jesus showed Himself the better swordsman: "It is written again...."