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Autonomy or Isolation?



MIKE WILLIS

Have we lost a sense of "brotherhood"? The Scriptures speak of Christians as a "brotherhood." Peter wrote, "Love the brotherhood" (1 Pet. 2:17). The word "brotherhood" is translated from *adelphotes*. Arndt, Gingrich, and Danker define the word as "a fellowship (group of fellow-believers)." It is used "of the Christian community, whose members are *adelphoi* (brothers) and *adelphai* (sisters)" (AGD, 16). The same word appears also in 1 Peter 5:9 where the KJV translates the word as "brethren": "Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your *brethren* that are in the world." Both the NKJV and the RSV translated the word as "brotherhood."

There is a sense of brotherhood that exists among children of God. John referred to the kind of mutual love that should exist among believers saying, "Whosoever believeth that Jesus is the Christ is born of God: and every one that loveth him that Twenty-first century Christians in the United States are losing this sense of brotherhood and are becoming a group of isolated local congregations.

begat loveth him also that is begotten of him" (1 John 5:1). I am persuaded that twenty-first century Christians in the United States are losing this sense of brotherhood and are becoming a group of isolated local congregations.

The Bible Pattern

The sense of brotherly communion is mentioned over and over in the New Testament. Follow the historical account in the book of Acts. The three thousand who were baptized on Pentecost (2:41) soon grew to over 5000 men, not counting women (4:4). When the apostles were persecuted, the entire church prayed for them with one accord (4:24). These saints were of "one heart and one soul" (4:32). Working together,

their number soon grew to "multitudes both of men and women" (5:14). When persecution broke out against the saints in Jerusalem, all except the apostles were scattered from Jerusalem and they went everywhere preaching the word (8:1, 4).

When Philip went to Samaria and had great success in preaching the gospel, they apostles sent Peter and John to Samaria to impart the Holy Spirit to those in this infant church (8:14-16). There was no spirit such as, "You brethren in Jerusalem take care of your affairs and we in Samaria will handle our own problems." Rather, there was a sense of brotherhood among fellow believers. They welcomed what the apostles added to them. Peter and John preached the word of the Lord to these saints before returning to Jerusalem (8:25).

Soon the Lord directed Peter to preach the gospel to the Gentiles (Acts 10). After Cornelius and his household were baptized, Peter remained in the area for "certain days" (10:48). The next verse says, "And the apostles and brethren that were in Judaea heard that the Gentiles had also received the word of God" (Acts 11:1). They asked Peter about what happened at Caesarea. Peter could have said, "What happened at Caesarea is Caesarea's business. You brethren in Jerusalem do not need to be worried about what is happening in Caesarea." Instead, Peter explained to the Jerusalem brethren what transpired in Caesarea.

After reporting the conversion of Cornelius, the text resumes the narrative of those who were scattered abroad as a result of the persecution in Acts 8 and relates that the gospel went into Antioch where some were preaching to the Grecians so that a great number believed and turned to the Lord (11:19-21). Notice what happened next:

Then tidings of these things came unto the ears of the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who, when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all,

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have you not read...?

Love Not the World



CONNIE W. ADAMS

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that death the will of God abideth forever" (1 John 2:15-17).

What Is "The World"?

The word "world" here does not mean the physical globe on which we live, but stands for the forces of evil which are arrayed against the Lord and his will. Satan is referred to as "the prince of this world" (John 16:11). This is that realm of spiritual darkness against which we all struggle. "For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places" (Eph. 6:12). Satan tempts us through "the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life." When we became Christians, we were "delivered out of the power of darkness and translated into the Kingdom of his dear son" (Col. 1:13).

Worldliness is an improper attitude toward this evil realm. It prizes the standards and praises of those under Satan's power more than the praises of God. Paul said those who have been raised with Christ should set their affections "on things above, not on things on the earth" (Col. 3:2). But worldliness longs for the "praises of men more than the praises of God" (John 12:42-43). While this approval may be considered "politically correct" or a tolerance for "diversity," James said this wisdom is "earthly, sensual, devilish" and ends in "envying, strife, confusion, and every evil work" (Jas. 3:16-17).

A Growing Affection for the World

It does not take a Solomon to see that among the professed children of God, there is a growing affection for the world and a diminishing respect for the word of God. Every preacher who travels about among various congregations knows what I am talking about. Many of our men, young and old, have become so concerned with pleasing those about them in the world that they have adapted the dress,

hair styles, and speech of the rebels of society and sound more like rappers from Motown than they do people who have been with the Lord. You can tell a lot about one's convictions by observing whom he seeks to please.

Our women, young and old, have adorned themselves, not with modesty, shamefastness and sobriety, but with mini-skirts, skin-tight pants, shorts, and exposed bosoms. Nobody expects women today to dress in styles of the past centuries. But the attitude of "shamefastness" is always in style. What are mothers (or fathers) using for sense when they allow their daughters to go to school, to the mall, or even to worship looking like a sex symbol? Why are men not exercising their headship in putting a stop to it? And, by the way, where are the preachers? Where are the elders? Are they blind? Certainly such problems must be resolved with

wisdom, but they must be resolved.

Worldly attitudes toward error have devastating effects. Everything and everybody is to be tolerated except the person who stands for the truth and is not afraid to expose and oppose error for what it is. The feel good, see no evil, oppose no wrong preachers of the independent

Worldly attitudes toward error have devastating effects. Everything and everybody is to be tolerated except the person who stands for the truth.

denominational churches has influenced the thinking and preaching of some of the brethren. Some would rather find a convenient spot on the plains of Ono to negotiate with the devil than stand in the way and ask for the old paths. They are outraged with anyone who asks them to clarify their ambiguity, if not outright compromise.

The Need for Corrective Discipline

What, other than the spirit of the world, is behind the lack of corrective discipline in so many places? Have numbers become such an important barometer that we have overlooked the fact that pruning is necessary to growth?

English Speaking Church in San Juan, Puerto Rico

TOL BURK

For those of you on business or vacation in Puerto Rico, there is an English speaking church in the San Juan metro area. We are small (10-12 in attendance) so we would especially appreciate your visit.

The address of the church building is: Calle 4 S.O. #1568, Caparra Terrace. Now having given you that, let me say it is difficult to get there with just the address alone. There are so many Calle 4's, one in almost every neighborhood, so even a taxi driver will need directions. The building is relatively easy to get to, even if you don't know Spanish. We meet at 9 AM on Sunday and begin with worship. This usually ends between 10:15 and 10:30 and the time remaining until 11 is our Bible study. The Spanish speaking

Love Not the World (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)

What did Paul mean when he said "mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine, and avoid them" (Rom. 16:17-18)? What is meant by "deliver such an one to Satan," "purge out the old leaven," and "put away from among yourselves that wicked person" in 1 Corinthians 5? What does "withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly" mean in 2 Thessalonians 3:6? The spirit of the world calls for blindly covering these aberrations with what is mistakenly called "love" while God and his will are dishonored.

Influencing the World

The church is in the world to radiate the light of divine truth. Its members must be salt, light, and leaven to permeate every corner of the globe. But when the world gets in the church, the salt loses its power, the light is hidden under a basket and the leaven spreads evil and not good. Moses regarded the pleasures of sin as only "for a season" (Heb. 11:25). So must we. Hearing and doing the will of God builds our house upon the rock so that it will stand forever. Hearing the siren call of the world and yielding to its temptations builds upon the sand and eventuates in everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his power. Make up your mind.

P.O. Box 91346 Louisville, Kentucky 40291 church meets at 11, so our ending time is pretty definite. We are planning to begin meeting on Wednesday night for Bible study again in November but the hour has not been set yet—give me a call for that time.

We will be glad to come get you for services if you will call us. Our home phone is (787) 998-2098 and my cell is (787) 930-6341. Don't wait to call on Sunday morning. Even though traffic is negligible, San Juan is a metro area of two million people. We don't mind the drive, but the tourist area is twenty minutes away from our house and that much again back to the building. Like most people, we don't usually have an extra hour on Sunday morning.

Brethren, we would very much appreciate your visit. Also, if you know people who live in Puerto Rico please let us know. We are also working with brethren around Mayaguez to get the church meeting there again. We will follow up any contacts we get.

Tol Burk AW 15 Calle Rio Turabo Valle Verde 1 Bayamon, PR 00961 Home (787) 998-2098 Cell (787) 930-6341 tolburk@gmail.com



Catholics and Protestants Working on Code of Conduct for Converting People RANDY BLACKABY

World Council of Churches Says Obsession of Converting Others Needs to Be 'Cured'

Before Jesus returned to heaven he commanded, "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you..." (Matt. 28:19-20). Mark records that great commission as, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned."

The first century church carried out that commission and it upset people. So much so that in Thessalonica it was said of Paul and Silas, "These who have turned the world upside down have come here too" (Acts 17:6).

The early Christians preached first to Jews, who believed in Jehovah, and then to idolaters, pagans, and unbelievers of all sorts. People were converted to faith in Christ from every nation under heaven. In doing so they greatly antagonized governments, politicians, advocates of false religions, idol makers, and many others. Yet, they did not modify their preaching to placate any of these groups. Preachers were jailed, beaten, and killed—but the gospel continued to be spread.

Today the turmoil created by evangelization is no less turbulent. It is against the law in Muslim countries to evangelize or convert to the Christian faith. Many nations tilting toward atheism or a false religion require registration, licensing, or government approval for a religious group to legally meet and worship.

Many of the older, declining denominations are complaining about "sheep stealing" or proselytizing as aggressive evangelism pulls members away from these spiritually dead groups.

So, what is the answer to this dilemma?

The Catholic Church, along with the ultra-liberal World Council of Churches, some evangelical, Pentecostal, and other Protestant groups, have launched talks aimed at creating a "code of conduct" for evangelism. This group

hopes to have the code developed and in place by 2010.

Next year the Catholic Church's Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue will meet with its WCC counterpart to begin drafting the "guidelines." They are being called such because neither group has the power to enforce any such code.

On the one hand, a Pentecostal spokesman said, "The code of conduct is not about 'whether' Christians evangelize, but 'how' they do it." But a WCC spokesman was heard in a National Public Radio interview speaking of how Christian groups need to accept that Christians, Muslims, and others are all seeking God.

A news release by the World Council of Churches made clear that "the obsession of converting others needs to be cured." "Since there are many accusations of 'sheep stealing' among Christians we will mostly likely also focus on this issue," said Dr. Hans Ucko, WCC's programme executive

for inter-religious dialogue and cooperation.

The code is envisioned as providing an attitude of respect for the right of the faithful of any religion to their beliefs. "Religious preachers need to be told that no religion has a monopoly on the truth, that there are many ways to find salvation," said

Would Jesus have agreed that "no religion has a monopoly on the truth, that there are many ways to find salvation"?

Dr. Hermen Shastri, general secretary of the Council of Churches of Malaysia and co-moderator of the WCC's Faith and Order commission.

According to World Evangelical Alliance executive council member John Langiois, the code should express "repentance for past wrong-doings so as to make clear that the superiority mentality in regard to other religions has been overcome."

Catholics and Protestants... (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

How would Jesus and apostles have viewed such a code?

It was Jesus who said, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except by me" (John 14:6). Would he have agreed that "no religion has a monopoly on the truth, that there are many ways to find salvation"?

And one really doesn't have to wonder much how the Apostle Paul would have reacted in Athens if the Grecian Council of Idolaters had challenged his teaching that their idolatry was "ignorance" and that God would ultimately judge all men by Jesus, who had been raised from the dead (Acts 17:16-34).

How would Paul react to the charge that we should heal ourselves of the obsession of converting others to Christ? We need not guess. He is recorded in 1 Corinthians 9:16 to have said, "Woe is me if I do not preach the gospel!"

A few elements of the discussion have merit

While much of the "code" discussion appears to represent ecumenism gone to seed, a few of the hinted at recommendations have some merit. Those include desisting from using unethical means of "converting" people, such

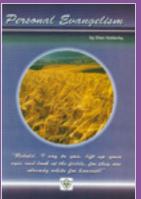
as monetary and educational inducements, avoiding taking advantage of "vulnerable" people like children and the disabled. They also suggest that churches should do humanitarian work "without any ulterior motives."

What is the likelihood of success?

Some sort of code may be developed in the next three years, but it is unlikely to be very substantive. The Pope recently reaffirmed the supremacy of the Catholic Church as the sole source of saving faith. That is antithetical to the World Council of Churches' ecumenical goal of embracing all or nearly all religions in an atmosphere of mutual acceptance.

Evangelical and Pentecostal groups may embrace goals of avoiding some unethical approaches to evangelism—practiced by many groups—but are very unlikely to embrace Islam, Buddhism, and Hinduism as equally valid truths or ways to salvation.

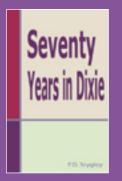
But the code-makers hope to use their product to make entrance into Muslim and Hindu countries easier. And it may be that those who agree not to evangelize will find access easier than those committed to carrying out the Lord's commands.



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For more information please call **512-626-5702** or **325-628-3349**. Please come and worship with them when you're traveling through central Texas.

The Link Between Ungodly Entertainment and Fornication

DAVID DANN

The apostle Paul warned the young man, Timothy, saying, "Flee also youthful lusts; but pursue righteousness, faith, love, peace with those who call on the Lord out of a pure heart" (2 Tim. 2:22). It is obvious from Paul's instruction that in order to avoid sexual sin one must focus on that which is pure.

This connection is made clear in that this same apostle, who warns us to "flee sexual immorality" (1 Cor. 6:18), also writes, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these

things" (Phil. 4:8). The simple fact is that the things that occupy our minds are very likely to end up being the same kinds of things that occupy our time.

Recent studies confirm what the Bible has said all along when it comes to the connection between what we focus on and how we act.

The results of a study conducted by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development reported in 2004 that teenagers who watch a lot of television with sexual content are twice as likely to engage in sexual activity than those who watch fewer programs with sexual content. According to Rebecca Collins, the psychologist who headed the study, "This is the strongest evidence yet that the sexual content of television programs encourages adolescents to initiate sexual intercourse and other sexual activities." The study covered 1,792 adolescents between the ages of twelve and seventeen.

Similarly, a study conducted by the University of North Carolina which covered 1,017 adolescents when they were aged twelve to fourteen and then again two years later, reported in 2006 that those exposed to the highest levels of sexual content in music, magazines, television, and movies became involved in the most sexual activity. According to Jane Brown, the chief author of the report, "This is the first time we've shown that the more kids are exposed to sex in media the earlier they have sex." Neither study included exposure to the internet.



What can we learn from these studies?

- 1. Teenagers are involved in sexual activity. Sin was so rampant in the time of Jeremiah that the people "were not at all ashamed; nor did they know how to blush" (Jer. 6:15). Is it shocking to read about the young ages of the children involved in these studies? Or, have we gotten used to it? We should be outraged at the thought of fourteen year olds committing fornication for a variety of reasons. Yes, teen pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases are likely to result from these activities. But the greater problem is that young people in our society are corrupting themselves at ever earlier ages while getting a head-start down the path that leads to eternal destruction in the lake of fire (Rev. 21:8).
- 2. Television, movies, and music are influencing teenagers. Is it a surprise that these things are affecting not only the thinking, but also the actions of young people? It shouldn't be. As the proverb writer asks, "Can a man take fire to his bosom, and his clothes not be burned?" (Prov. 6:27). The one who says, "I can watch that stuff without it affecting me" is either very foolish, very ignorant, or both. Exposure to sexual content in the media accomplishes two things. First, it trains the mind to dwell upon and lust for that which is wrong and sinful (see Matt. 5:27-28). And secondly, it convinces those partaking of it that sexually immoral behavior is perfectly normal and acceptable.

Ungodly Entertainment and Fornication

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8)

- 3. The situation is even worse than the studies indicate. While the news reported in these studies is terrible, the reality is likely far worse simply based upon the fact that neither study included the impact of the internet. While sexually charged viewing is available on television at various times, the perversion of pornography is available on the internet twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. When the heart is filled with filth the heart will produce filth. "For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders" (Mark 7:21).
- 4. These things are not just teenage problems. Though the studies focused on those between the ages of twelve and seventeen, the problem is not theirs alone. Who is allowing these kids to fill their minds with immoral entertainment? God's rule for the home is that children are to be raised "in the training and admonition of the Lord" (Eph. 6:4). Parents, what will you do about your children? Are you sitting idly by while your children feed on filth? Are you setting the right example by staying away from ungodly entertainment yourself? The responsibility

for dealing with this situation falls not only on the young people involved, but also squarely on the shoulders of each parent. And, though these recent studies were limited to teenagers, do not think that ungodly entertainment only affects the behavior of teenagers.

Conclusion

The recently reported studies tell us what is going on among young people in the world. However, we need to be reminded that we are not to be conformed to the ways of the world (Rom. 12:1-2). What are you allowing to fill your mind?

Sources:

"Study Links Teen Sex To Racy TV Programs," Reuters, Sept. 7, 2004

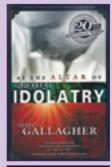
"Study: Sex-Filled Media Linked To Promiscuity," Reuters, Apr. 3, 2006. http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/12130036.

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Christian Modesty and the Public Undressing of America by Steve Gallagher

The Church is being destroyed by sacred cows. A "sacred cow" is an untouchable subject that we are not supposed to discuss. To do so impinges upon another's "Christian liberty." Certainly, there are few sacred cows quite as sacred as the right of modern Christians to dress however they please. But in this groundbreaking work, Jeff Pollard challenges us to embrace God's standard and to understand the historical roots of the rise of nudity and immodesty in modern culture, including the impact of the media on this subject. His perspective is thoughtful and balanced. Most importantly, he accomplishes what few authors on this subject have achieved: a treatise that avoids both license and legalism.

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Remarks, Songs, and Prayers at the Lord's Table

JESSE FLOWERS

When speaking of the "Lord's table" (1 Cor. 10:21) we simply make reference to the observance of the Lord's Supper. Although for the New Testament Christian we are dealing with elementary principles of the doctrine of Christ, nevertheless it is important to be reminded of certain matters relating to our weekly observance (Acts 20:7) of the Lord's Supper.

The apostle Paul commanded Christians to observe this sacred memorial in a worthy manner (1 Cor. 11:27). Three areas where this principle of truth must be applied is when it comes to the remarks made, songs led, and prayers given at the Lord's table.

The Remarks

A man should not give a sermon at the Lord's table, that is the preacher's responsibility. Whatever remarks the brother does make should aid the congregation in focusing their minds and hearts upon the elements of the Lord's Supper and their significance to the Christian.

On occasion, the man making remarks may mistakenly refer to the observance of Christ's memorial in connection with the Lord's death, burial, and resurrection. However, *every* passage pertaining to the institution and observance of the Lord's Supper *always* teaches us to focus on Christ's sacrificial death (Matt. 26:26-29; Mark 14:22-26; Luke 22:14-20; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-29). We are to be mindful of his sinless body given, his precious blood shed for the sins of mankind, and the new covenant he established that we are to obey. Baptism, not the Lord's Supper, is the scriptural connection to make to Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection (Rom. 6:3-6).

For those men who make remarks at the Lord's table from time to time, here are a few of the many Bible passages that could be used to help us concentrate on Christ's sacrifice. Psalm 22; Isaiah 53; Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19; Hebrews 9:11-28; 10:1-18.

The Songs

The song leaders are the ones directly responsible for selecting appropriate songs to lead before saints "break bread" together. At times songs will be led pertaining to the glorious resurrection of Christ. And although these songs are both stirring and inspiring, it will not help the church to focus their minds directly upon the *death* of Jesus. The index of our hymn books are filled with songs tied directly to our observance of the Lord's Supper. When appropriate

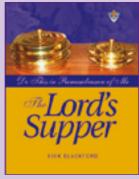
songs are led, members can read back over the verses of the song in order to remember Jesus properly.

The Prayers

Sometimes when we give thanks for the bread and cup, our prayers get way off track from their intended purpose. As we gather around the Lord's table, it is not the time to pray for the sick, the weather, or the other physical things of life. It is at that moment in time, each first day of the week, to entirely center our minds upon the incredible sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Savior.

It is at that moment in time, each first day of the week, to entirely center our minds upon the incredible sacrifice of Jesus Christ our Savior.

We are commanded to do *all things* decently and in order. Surely that would include the remarks made, songs led, and prayers offered when we gather around the Lord's table.



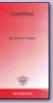
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TT69	The Gentiles and the Law of the Conscience	Donnie V. Rader	TT47	What Is Conversion?	James E. Cooper
TT20	"Give Me Thine Heart"	James Cooper	TT48	What Is Wrong With Denominational Baptism?	Mike Willis
TT21	God or Evolution?	Luther Blackmon	TT49	What Must One Do To Be Saved?	Cecil Willis
TT23	How To Study the Bible	Jimmy Thomas	TT50	When the Mormons Call	Johnie Edwards
TT77	If the Unbelieving Depart	Weldon Warnock	TT51	Why Are You Not A Christian?	Jimmy Thomas
TT24	Indwelling of the Holy Spirit	Weldon Warnock	TT79	Why Do People Give Up	Abraham Smith
TT25	Is Abortion Sinful?	Mike Willis	TT52	Why I Believe That Jesus is the Son of God	Dan King
TT26	Is It Necessary To Be Baptized?	Hoyt Houchen	TT53	Why I Believe That Jesus Lived	Colly Caldwell
TT83	Is Mark 16:15-16 Genuine Scripture?	Ron Halbrook	TT67	Why I Left the Denominational Church of Christ	Wayne Goforth
TT27	Is the Book of Mormon the Word of God?	Jimmy Thomas	TT54	Why I Oppose Instrumental Music In Worship	Mike Willis
TT76	Is the Church of Christ A Denomination?	John I. Edwards	TT55	Why I Reject Drugs and Alcohol	John I. Edwards
TT28	It's Time To Start Listening To God	Lewis Willis	TT56	Why Is The Church Important?	Mike Willis
TT29	Jehovah's Witnesses, False Religious Organization	Mike Willis	TT73	The Will of Christ	Johnie Edwards
TT70	Letters To Our Children	Tom M. Roberts	TT81	Will Only Members of the Church of Christ Be Saved?	Sewell Hall
TT30	Making Your Life Right With God	Johnie Edwards	TT57	Withdraw Yourselves	Dick Blackford
TT31	Marching Feet and Sounding Trumpets	Luther Blackmon	TT71	Women's Role In Teaching the Bible	Mike Webb

Strange Baptisms

IRVIN HIMMEL

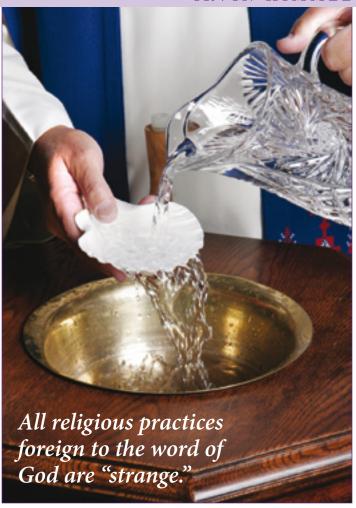
Nadab and Abihu used fire which the Lord commanded not in the burning of incense. It was considered "strange fire" (Lev. 10:1). King Solomon married foreign wives who turned his heart after other gods. They were "strange women" (1 Kings 11:1-4). The Hebrew Christians were warned about "strange doctrines" (Heb. 13:9). Any teaching that is inconsistent with the doctrine of Christ comes under that heading. All religious practices foreign to to the word of God are "strange."

The reader's attention is now directed to some baptisms that are unauthorized by and completely foreign to the holy Scriptures.

Baptism of the Unborn

Roman Catholics admit that the Greek word *baptizo* means "wash" or "immerse." Yet they say, "Infusion (pouring), immersion, and aspersion (sprinkling) are equally valid." The Latin Church favors infusion "by the law of custom" ("Baptism," *New Catholic Dictionary*, Vatican Edition). *The Catholic Encyclopedia* (1907) states, "In the Latin Church immersion seems to have prevailed until the twelfth century.... Infusion and aspersion, however, were growing common in the thirteenth century and gradually prevailed in the Western Church." Viewed as a "sacrament," baptism is considered as absolutely necessary to salvation. Infants need baptism because of the universality of "original sin," according to Catholicism.

"If there is not a probable hope that a child can be baptized after birth, Baptism may be administered in the womb..." ("Baptism of the Unborn," A Catholic Dictionary, edited by Attwater). If the mother experiences difficulty in giving birth, when the baptismal water can reach the body of the child, "even with the aid of an instrument," midwives should be instructed to confer "conditional baptism" ("Baptism," The Catholic Encyclopedia). If the baptismal water can flow upon the head of the unborn child, the sacrament is to be administered absolutely; if it can be poured only on some other part of the body of the unborn, the sacrament must be conditionally repeated in case the child survives its birth. If the mother dies in labor, the child is to be extracted from the womb, and if alive, baptized absolutely; if life is doubtful, conditionally. An aborted fetus must be baptized, unconditionally, or conditionally according to circumstances. If its life is doubtful, it is to be baptized on the condition, "If thou art alive."



Clinic Baptism

Our word "clinic" is derived from the Greek word *kline*, meaning a couch for carrying the sick, or a bed. Baptism on a sick-bed (clinic baptism) is found first, not in the New Testament, but in a letter from Cornelius, a Roman bishop, to Fabius, a bishop at Antioch, in about 250. Bishop Cornelius hesitated to consider "clinic baptism" as valid. Similar doubts were expressed by others ("Clinic Baptism," *Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological, And Ecclesiastical Literature*, McClintock and Strong).

Cornelius' letter pertained to Novatian, a man who had been sprinkled while sick in bed rather than being wholly immersed in water. Shortly thereafter, Novatian became a presbyter in the church (*History of Christianity the First Three Centuries*, Mosheim). Controversy centered in whether or not a recipient of clinic baptism could be elevated to an ecclesiastical office.

Strange Baptisms (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12)

Baptism by pouring water on the head of the candidate was applied to infirm or sick persons, "hence called *clinical* baptism. The validity of this baptism was even doubted by many in the third century..." (*History of the Christian Church*, Schaff). And such a baptism is conspicuous by its absence in the books of the New Testament.

Baptism of Desire

"The Catholic Church does not condemn everyone to hell who has not been baptized with water. She mitigates the apparent harshness of her doctrine by teaching that in case of urgent necessity the Baptism of desire will suffice..." (*The Question Box*, New Edition, Conway). Desire is considered an acceptable substitute for water baptism.

One who believes, "even though in a confused way, in a God whose will should be done and desiring to do that will whatever it may be, probably has Baptism of desire" ("Desire, Baptism of," *A Catholic Dictionary*, edited by Attwater).

Desire is "one of the ways of obtaining the effects of Baptism when it is not possible to receive the sacrament, or when one, not knowing of the sacrament or of the obligation to receive it, desires to do everything God wishes as a means of salvation" ("Desire," *New Catholic Dictionary*, Vatican Edition). Infants are not capable of receiving baptism of desire.

"...It is important to observe that if a man is heartily sorry for his sins, if he loves God with all his heart, if he desires to comply with all the Divine ordinances, including Baptism, but has no opportunity of receiving it, or is not sufficiently instructed as to its necessity, God, in this case, accepts the will for the deed. Should this man die in these dispositions, he is saved by the baptism of desire..." (The Faith of our Fathers, Gibbons).

Baptism of the Dead

It would be difficult to imagine anything more morbid, bizarre, and contrary to both revelation and reason than to consider a corpse as a proper subject for baptism. But preposterous practices emerge when religion is rooted in superstition, fear, misguided zeal, and human wisdom.

The third council of Carthage in 252 speaks of baptizing the dead "as a matter of which ignorant Christians were fond," and forbids "to believe that the dead can be baptized." It is clear that this superstitious custom prevailed at an early age in North Africa. "The practice seems to have been founded on a vain opinion that when men had neglected to receive

baptism during their life, some compensation might be made for this default by receiving it after death" ("BAPTISM OF THE DEAD," *Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological, And Ecclesiastical Literature*, McClintock and Strong).

Having gone from "baptism of the unborn" to "baptism of the dead," there is yet another strange baptism to be noticed. If this one seems too ridiculous to mention, it is really no more absurd than those already listed. The reader may judge which of these baptisms should be ranked "strangest."

Air Baptism

Like Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox Catholics regard baptism as a sacrament. Unlike the Roman Church, the Orthodox Church perceives the action of baptism to be immersion. "Baptism is a God-instituted ceremony by

which those immersed into water in the name of the Holy Trinity are regenerated." This is explained as a "three-fold immersion," sometimes called "triune immersion." Infants are regarded as having inherited "ancestral sin" (original sin), therefore infants are to be baptized.

There you have it! Water is the element for baptism. In case of emergency, air is the element.

Although baptism requires immersion, the Eastern Church

makes an exception for the bed-ridden. "The baptism of the bed-ridden is performed by sprinkling the person with holy water." Another exception is made for children near death. Air takes the place of water. "Air baptism is performed on children near death. The child can be baptized in the name of the Holy Trinity, even by a layman when a priest cannot be summoned in time." These exceptions are applied "only in emergency" (A New Style Catechism on the Eastern Orthodox Faith for Adults, Mastrantonis). There you have it! Water is the element for baptism. In case of emergency, air is the element.

The five baptisms discussed in this article are strange indeed. They are not found in the New Testament; they are totally without divine authority; they are foreign to the Bible; they are alien to the teaching of Christ and the apostles; they have no place in first-century Christianity.

2820 Hunterwood Dr., S. E. Decatur, AL 35603

singing with understanding

Phrased Notation

Sumphonia is producing a new hymnal that will be published by Guardian of Truth Foundation. The hymnal is scheduled to be in print later this year. You may read about the progress of the hymnal at www.sumphonia.com.

Phrasing in the New Hymnal

The most novel feature of the hymnal is a layout scheme we call *phrased notation*. Phrased notation is accomplished by

wrapping the music (the hymn tune) around the words (the hymn), which contrasts with the standard layout scheme established in the 1800s when hymn texts were first inserted into musical staves. In other words, the music in hymnals has always determined the layout of the words. In this hymnal it will be the other way around—the words will determine how

The music in hymnals has always determined the layout of the words. In this hymnal it will be the other way around—the words will determine how the music is laid out.

the music is laid out. This article is the first in a series that will explain phrased notation and its benefits to song worship.

Layout and Comprehension

An important relationship exists between layout and comprehension, which is to say that the way words appear on a printed page has a lot to do with how easily they are understood. Professional publishers have done research on fonts, font sizing, font spacing, spacing between lines, line length, justification of text, columns, whitespace, colors, and many other things. All the research shows that these aspects of layout affect comprehension.

The common features of writing demonstrate how layout affects comprehension. Thoughts are arranged in paragraphs comprised of sentences. Paragraphs are indented and/or set apart with line spacing. Sentences begin with capital letters and end with periods. Punctuation with commas, semicolons, quotation marks, etc., occurs within sentences. It is easy to overlook the fact that all these elements are important for understandability. Imagine trying to decipher a page of words with no punctuation.

The following examples of Psalm 23:1-3 demonstrate that the way things appear on the page affects clarity.

DAVID MARAVILLA

Example 1:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Example 2:

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

- He makes me to lie down in green pastures;
- He leads me beside the still waters.
- *He restores my soul*;
- He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

The meaning of the passage is much easier to grasp in the second example because we can see a list of things the Lord does as our shepherd to supply our needs.

Poetic Layout

One of the most important layout factors in poetic writing, which includes hymns, is phrasing. In contrast to other writing, line length is not determined by the width of the page or column, but by the length of the phrase.

These examples of Psalm 19:1-2 show the difference between non-phrased poetry and properly phrased poetry:

Example 1:

The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge.

Example 2:

The heavens declare the glory of God;

And the firmament shows His handiwork.

Day unto day utters speech,

And night unto night reveals knowledge.

Not only does the second example look better, it also conveys the meaning more efficiently because the relationship between phrases is more apparent. In this case, "the heavens" and "the firmament" are related, as is "day unto day" with "night unto night." Those relationships can be masked by careless phrasing.

To Be Continued

To summarize, proper layout of words on a page, especially the phrasing of poetry, aids comprehension; therefore, *phrased notation* will aid singing with understanding. The next article will contain more examples from the Bible and from hymnals.

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footnotes

Footnote³



STEVE WOLFGANG

"A Conversation with Abraham Malherbe," *Christian Chronicle* (February 2002), p. 20.

"Q: What are some of your concerns for our fellowship?

"A: My major concern is our cozying up to those evangelicals who put a premium on feeling at the expense of reason. This is not an indictment of all evangelicals, for there are differences among them."

The *Christian Chronicle*, a religious newspaper produced under the auspices of Oklahoma Christian University, is devoted to coverage of events and issues affecting congregations identifying themselves as "Churches of Christ," whatever their views on various controversial issues may be. Frequently, the *Chronicle* will publish an interview with someone who is singularly qualified to comment on various concerns and circumstances among Churches of Christ.

Abraham Malherbe is Buckingham Professor Emeritus of New Testament Criticism and Interpretation at Yale University. A native South African converted under the preaching of Eldred Echols, Malherbe came to Abilene Christian College in the 1950's, and thence to Harvard University for graduate study. He returned to teach at Abilene from 1963-1969 before moving to Yale University in 1970. When Yale recently sought to hire a senior scholar in religion, three of the six finalists, and the person ultimately selected, were ACU graduates and Malherbe's former Yale students. His credentials to address issues confronting Churches of Christ (as well as the wider religious culture) are impeccable, and his comments arresting. He notes that

Evangelical priorities and language have come to suffuse much of the preaching in our fellowship. That, combined with the style of preaching, common in all churches these days, that is narratival and anecdotal rather than expository, results in sermons that are as theologically thin gruel as are many of the so-called praise songs we sing.

As someone who has gained a degree of notoriety for identifying some of the modern praise songs as "Seven-

Eleven songs" (seven words—sing them 11 times), I find Malherbe's comments heartening. (While I wish the 7/11 comment were original with me, candor compels me to admit that I borrowed it from the Wesleyans, among whom I was educated years ago, and whose own "worship wars" I have observed as an interested outsider—it seems that, as with other circumstances, Churches of Christ follow the trajectory of our denominational neighbors, albeit several decades behind them.)

Malherbe continues:

It seems that the goal of many services is to achieve an emotional response without imparting biblical knowledge. When the same, non-expository approach is followed in a church's Bible classes, any Restorationist nuance easily disappears.

Concerns about the emotionally-subjective nature of much of modern "praise worship" is not limited to the churches among which Dr. Malherbe circulates. The feel-good, acceptable-worship-depends-on-how-I-feel mentality which has permeated too many Churches of Christ has seduced numerous Christians away from a focus on reverential worship of Almighty God, and the edification of fellow believers.

Admittedly, hearing voices of concern and observing the hand-wringing of an older generation over how far a younger generation has taken the logical conclusions of the seeds of their own liberalism is astounding, if not bizarre. But it is interesting to hear these expressions of concern from one who is in a position to know, and to comment authoritatively, on trends which are affecting Churches of Christ. Some less astute observers have denied the effects of such trends, or that they even exist. But Professor Malherbe's observations deserve careful contemplation. "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear."

Your Speech Betrays You MARK

MARK MAYBERRY

Introduction

After Jesus was taken captive, Peter found himself alone in the courtyard of Caiaphas, surrounded by adversaries and challenged by accusers, who said, "You too were with Jesus the Galilean." Despite his repeated denials, the bystanders said to Peter, "Surely you also are one of them, for your speech betrays you" (Matt. 26:69-75). From the parallel accounts, this referred to his distinctive Galilean accent (Mark 14:70-71; Luke 22:59-60). In response, Peter began to curse and swear, saying, "I do not know the Man!" His speech again betrayed him.

In like manner, our speech sometimes betrays us. Jesus himself said, "For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things" (Matt. 12:33-37; cf. also 15:10-20).

Denominational Jargon

Does your conversation reflect denominational jargon? Do you say, "my pastor," when referring to a local evangelist who only serves in the capacity of a preacher? Do you say, "my church," when referring to that precious body of believers for which Christ died? Do you say, "Accept Jesus as your personal Savior!" without offering a corresponding explanation of the terms of pardon set forth in his Word?

In years past, in another location, one of the men of the congregation offered a Wednesday evening invitation in which he ridiculed "Five Steppers," i.e., those of us who emphasize the necessity of hearing, believing, repenting, confessing, and being baptized. Yet, spiritual reality is this: men must hear the word of God (Rom. 10:17). We must believe the gospel of Christ (John 8:24). All are commanded to repent (Acts 17:30-31). We must confess that Jesus is Lord (Rom. 10:9-10). Penitent believers must be baptized into Christ for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Furthermore, Christians must also remain faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10).

Many devour the ecumenical writings of Max Lucado, Rick Warren, Joel Osteen, etc. Such authors would not be so popular if they, like the apostle Paul, preached the whole counsel of God (Acts 20:17-32). Instead, they are ear-tickling men-pleasers, who turn away from divinely inspired truth unto humanly devised myths (2 Tim. 4:1-8).

God rebuked apostates of old by saying, "For My people have committed two evils: They have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, to hew for themselves cisterns, broken cisterns that can hold no water" (Jer. 2:9-13). Those who turn aside to denominational dogma incur the same guilt. Hosea's warning, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge," has modern relevance and application (Hos. 4:1-6).

Cursing and Profanity

Is your speech marked by cursing and profanity? Man's fallen state is betrayed by the tongue: "Their throat is an open grave, with their tongues they keep deceiving, the poison of asps is under their lips; Whose mouth is full of cursing and bitterness" (Rom. 3:9-18). Concerning the wicked, the Psalmist declared "There is nothing reliable

in what they say; their inward part is destruction itself. Their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue" (Ps. 5:8-10). Again, "His mouth is full of curses and deceit and oppression; under his tongue is mischief and wickedness" (Ps. 10:3-11).



Your Speech Betrays You (continued from page 16)

Cursing is disrespectful. It takes things that are celestial (i.e., God the Father, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, heaven, and all that is high and holy) and drags them down to a terrestrial (i.e., earthly) plane. It takes things that are private (i.e., routine bodily functions) and drags them into public view. It takes things that are special (i.e., a loving sexual relationship shared between husband and wife), and treats them as common and base. It takes things that are serious

(i.e., hell, eternal punishment, damnation, etc.) and treats them as trivial.

Let us avoid, not only explicit language, but also euphemisms. "Gosh" and "golly" are substitutes for "God." "Egad," used as an

Cursing is disrespectful. It takes things that are celestial and drags them down to a terrestrial plane.

interjection is probably a euphemism for "Oh God!" "Gee" and "jeepers" are contractions of "Jesus." "Cripes" and "crikey" are euphemisms of "Christ." "Lordy" is just another way of taking the Lord's name in vain "Doggoned" is a euphemism for "God damn." "Dang" and "Darn" are watered-down versions of "damn." "Tarnation" is an alteration of darnation, which is euphemism for "damnation." "Heck" is an exclamation used in place of "hell."

Heed the warning of Jesus, who said, "But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned" (Matt. 12:36-37). Consider the counsel of Paul who said, "Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse..." (Rom. 12:14-21). Remember James' teaching on the tongue (Jas. 3:6-12).

Selfishness

Is selfishness heard in your speech? Do you monologue conversations? Do you talk interminably about your own problems, but turn a deaf ear to the trials of others?

Consider the rich fool, who could only think of himself, who spoke of "my crops," "my barns," "my grain," "my goods," and my soul" (Luke 12:15-21). Why was his soul summarily required? He was unfaithful, bowing before mammon rather than God (Matt. 6:24); he was unthankful, never acknowledging the Source of his bounty (1 Tim. 4:4-5); he was unhelpful, hoarding his

wealth, and never offering assistance to others (1 Tim. 6:17-19).

Even after he died and was in torment, the rich man selfishly thought of Lazarus as a subordinate servant: "Father Abraham, send Lazarus so that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool off my tongue, for I am in agony in this flame." Again, "I beg you, father, that you send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—in order that he may warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment" (Luke 16:19-31).

In contrast, let us cultivate the spirit of Jesus, who said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:33-35). Manifesting the mind of Christ, may we selflessly serve others (Phil. 2:1-8), meeting the needs of our brethren (Matt. 25:34-40; Rom. 12:10-13), ministering to those who are less fortunate (Luke 14:12-14; Heb. 13:16).

Conclusion

Are you guarding your mouth and bridling your tongue (Prov. 21:23; Jas. 3:1-5)? Is your speech marked by the gospel's gracious influence (Col. 4:5-6)? Do your words minister grace to the hearers, and is your life a source of blessing (Eph. 4:29-32)? May our prayer be like that of the Psalmist: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your sight, O Lord, my rock and my Redeemer" (Ps. 19:14).

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Spiritual Complacency

ETHAN LONGHENRY

In the modern world of "Christendom," a conflict is occurring in many sections. Most Americans profess some level of faith in Jesus Christ; they believe that there is a God, that Jesus is His Son, and recognize the need to be "good people," and yet the United States of America is overall in a dismal spiritual state. How can it be that so many profess having faith and yet so little seems to be done?

The Barna group recently came out with an article entitled "Americans Not Concerned About Their Spiritual Condition" (barna.org), and the research within the article is rather illuminating. Forty percent of parents who profess Christianity said that they do not face spiritual challenges in their life. Most seemed more concerned about the spiritual development of their children, their spouses, and other peripheral concerns. Only seven percent felt compelled to be more involved in a church. Eight percent felt the need to put their faith to better practice in their lives.

These statistics represent the situation on the ground, and there is much that we can gain from them. The spiritual complacency inherent in our society is clear—very few feel the intense need to obey God as he has established in the New Testament, and have satisfied themselves with the appearance of propriety. What do the Scriptures have to say regarding such things?

One of the great characteristics that ought to mark God's people is sobriety. When we normally think of sobriety, we think about it in terms of alcohol or another drug—a sober person is free from alcohol or from some other substance. In reality, the word simply refers to one who is not intoxicated, and alcohol and drugs are not the only intoxicants present within our society. Paul says the following to the Thessalonians in 1 Thessalonians 5:2-6:

For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. When they are saying, Peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall in no wise escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief: for ye are all sons of light, and sons of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness; so then let us not sleep, as do the rest, but let us watch and be sober.

Let us not be deceived: Paul is not saying that we should not sleep in physical terms, but is speaking in spiritual terms. He would have God's people be constantly vigilant and sober-minded, not intoxicated by popular views of religion

that may sound good but are internally hollow. Peter says the following in 1 Peter 5:8-9:

Be sober, be watchful: your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour, whom withstand stedfast in your faith, knowing that the same sufferings are accomplished in your brethren who are in the world.

The New Testament makes it very clear that Satan is always at work, seeking whom he may catch and devour. One of his greatest weapons is spiritual complacency, for when people are lulled into thinking that all is well with them, they are more easily hardened by the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 3:12-14). In a climate where many teach that all one needs to do to be saved is to pray a prayer and then one is saved no matter what, why should we be surprised to see Satan so often victorious?

When God's people do not remember constantly that they are at war against all the spiritual forces of darkness (Eph. 6:10-18), it is easier for them to get complacent and then compromise with the world.

The idea of a spiritually unchallenged life is foreign to true Christianity. The Apostle Paul recognized that he himself still needed to strive for the prize (Phil.

People do not feel as if they have spiritual challenges because they are not challenging themselves spiritually.

3:10-14), and that he needed to be constantly diligent lest he would be disqualified (1 Cor. 9:24-27). Are modern Americans at a higher level of faith than he? By no means! Such people do not feel as if they have spiritual challenges because they are not challenging themselves spiritually. There is no pressing on, striving for the goal, or doing of the Word (cf. Jas. 1:22-25). Such persons remind us of the church in Laodicea, who, in professing to have no need of anything, were actually in great need (Rev. 3:14-22)! It is not a sign of strength, therefore, to say that one has no spiritual challenges, but in fact an indication of weakness. Such a profession belies the reality: such a one does not see spiritually, and is not aware of the conflict always besetting them (1 Cor. 3:1-4, Eph. 6:10-18). They, as the Pharisees, by claiming to see, demonstrate their blindness (John 9:38-

Spiritual Complacency

41). Let no one be deceived: the person who is not being spiritually challenged is spiritually dead, and has need of repentance (cf. Heb. 12:3-15)!

Barna's conclusion is quite telling: "Americans focus on what they consider to be the most important matters; faith maturity is not one of them. The dominant spiritual change that we have seen—Americans becoming less engaged in matters of faith—helps to explain the surging secularization of our culture" (*ibid.*). As we go out and promote the Gospel in this world, we must remember that this is the way it goes for most people. Most people with whom we come into contact are going to profess Jesus, and most of those people

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18)

believe that they are fine with God. We must demonstrate, from the Scriptures, the reality of the spiritual conflict that is being fought (Eph. 6:10-18). We must make it clear that although the fight is not of our choice, we must fight it, and we either fight for the Lord or against him (Matt. 12:30). Some may listen; in all likelihood, most, believing themselves to be healthy, will walk away from the true cure (Matt. 9:12-13). Nevertheless, let us watch ourselves, lest we likewise become complacent, and keep fighting the good fight of faith (2 Cor. 13:5, Jas. 1:22-25, 2 Tim. 4:7)!

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Fifth Annual Truth Magazine Lectures

June 23-26, 2008 • Bowling Green, Kentucky

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:00 - 8:50	In the Beginning Was the Word (John 1:1) Anthony Genton	The Work of the Spirit (John 16:7-14) Bruce Reeves	Preach The Word (2 Tim. 4:1-5) Norman Fultz
9:00 - 9:50 A	Come Unto Me (Matt. 11:28) Adonis Bailey	Contend Earnestly For The Faith (Jude 3) Bobby Holmes	Blessed Are The Dead Who Die in the Lord (Rev. 14:13) Lewis Willis
9:00 - 9:50 B	The Unity of the Spirit (Eph. 4:1-7) Wayne Seaton	Receive Ye One Another (Rom. 15:7) Jeremy Sweets	Whosoever Divorces His Wife (Matt. 19:9) Andy Alexander
10:00 - 10:50 A	The Word of God Is Living and Powerful (Heb. 4:12) Mike Grushon	True Worship (John 4:24) Andy Diestelkamp	Bring Up Your Children in the Nurture and Admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:1-4) Royce DeBerry
10:00 - 10:50 B	Works of the Flesh: Sensuality (Gal. 5:19) Gale Towles	Works of the Flesh: Sins Against Brethren (Gal. 5:20-21) Ron Halbrook	Love (1 Cor. 13) Rick Liggin
11:00 - 11:50 A	Strangers and Pilgrims (Heb. 11:13-16) David Halbrook	Upon This Rock I Will Build My Church (Matt. 16:13-18) Brian Anderson	Without Faith It Is Impossible To Please Him (Heb. 11:6) Phil Martin
11:00 - 11:50 B	Daughters of Sarah Carla Adams	Eunice and Lois Marilyn Curtis	Euodia and Syntyche Bonnie Gary
	Lunch	Break	
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Open Forum: Must We Divide Over Every Issue?		Open Forum
	Singing 7:0	0 - 7:30 p.m.	
God So Loved The World (John 3:16) Mike Willis	Go Ye Into All The World (Mark 16:15-16) Connie W. Adams	Singing	More Than Conquerors (Rom. 8:37) Steve Monts

Golden Calves

After the Israelites came out of Egypt the Bible tells us about a very disappointing choice that the people made on one occasion when Moses was on Mount Sinai. Exodus 32:1 relates, "Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, 'Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for [as for] this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him" (NKJV). Rather than obeying the words which God had given only a short time before this forbidding such idolatry, Aaron "received [the gold] from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, 'This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!" When Moses returned to find the people engaged in riotous worship of the calf, he threw down the stone tablets which God himself had inscribed (Exod. 3:16, 19), ground the calf into powder which was put in the people's water, and they were forced to drink it (Exod. 3:20). Then the camp was purged of those who still refused to follow God by a bloody battle in which 3000 men died in one day (Exod. 3:27, 28). If Moses had not pled to God for mercy, the entire nation would have been destroyed and God would have raised up another people through Moses (Exod. 3:10-14).

About 500 years later after the Israelites had become a nation with Solomon as their third king and Jerusalem as their capital, Solomon's servant named Jeroboam rebelled against him (1 Kings 11:26). When Solomon died and his son Rehoboam oppressed the people, the Israelites chose to set Jeroboam over them as king. In order to keep the people from turning back to Rehoboam, since they had to go to Jerusalem to sacrifice, Jeroboam "took counsel, made two calves of gold, and said to the people, 'It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem. Here are your gods, O Israel, which brought you up from the land of Egypt!" (1 Kings 12:28). Jeroboam set up the two calves in Dan and Bethel (1 Kings 12:29). To support his idolatrous worship he built shrines on the high places and established his own priesthood (1 Kings 12:31). He set up altars, made sacrifices, and established feast days "which he devised in his own heart" (1 Kings 12:32-33). In these two situations, separated from each other by centuries, we see some powerful lessons, which speak to us today.

The Worship of God

In both instances when the people turned to idolatry it was cloaked in the appearance of worship to God. Neither Aaron nor Jeroboam tried to turn the people to another God; both claimed that the calves were the "God who brought them out of the land of Egypt." Even so, in leading the people to worship God in a way which he had forbidden they were turning them away from God.

The Imagination of the Heart

In both instances the motivation behind the action of the people was not God's instructions but the desires and

imagination of their own heart. While it is true that God expects us to use the mind and abilities which he has given to us in his service, that does not mean that we are free to shape religion in accordance with our own desires.

They Committed a Great Sin

After Moses had purged the camp, he returned to God and While it is true that God expects us to use the mind and abilities which he has given to us in his service, that does not mean that we are free to shape religion in accordance with our own desires.

said, "Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold!" (Exod. 32:31). In summarizing the life of Jeroboam, when the Bible refers to his establishment of the false worship associated with the gold calves it declares, "this thing was the sin of the house of Jeroboam, so as to exterminate and destroy it from the face of the earth" (1 Kings 13:34). In spite of the fact that it was a religious observance and in spite of the fact that the people had used their creativity and resourcefulness it was a sin that separated the people from God.

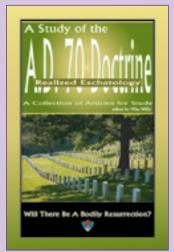
Golden Calves (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20)

Modern Day Application

In our world today there are many things that are done which are cloaked in the worship of God which, were never authorized by God. Men have "devised in their own heart" thousands of human denominations who call themselves by thousands of different names. They have taught unscriptural ideas like salvation by "faith only," the "sinner's prayer," the worship of Mary, "once saved always saved," purgatory, councils, conventions, popes, and indulgences. As acts of worship men have from their own

imagination fashioned their own "gold calves" through the use of incense, choirs, mechanical instruments of music, dances, plays, priests, priestly garments, altars, ritual prayers, hand-clapping, and women preachers, things never taught in the New Testament. If God was displeased with this kind of behavior in the past why would it be any different now?

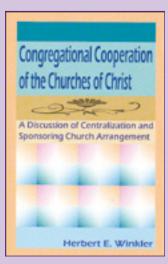
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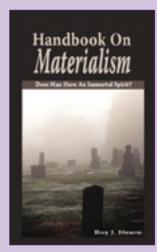


Congregational Cooperation of the Churches of Christ

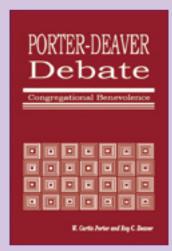
by Herbert Winkler

A discussion of the sponsoring church arrangement, centralized power and control, orphan homes and the Herald of Truth. The author has done an excellent job showing that many of the arrangements used by brethren in the churches of Christ to spread the gospel or care for the needy are unscriptural.

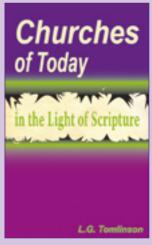
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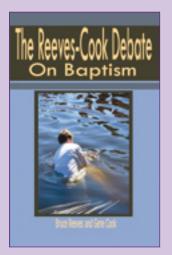
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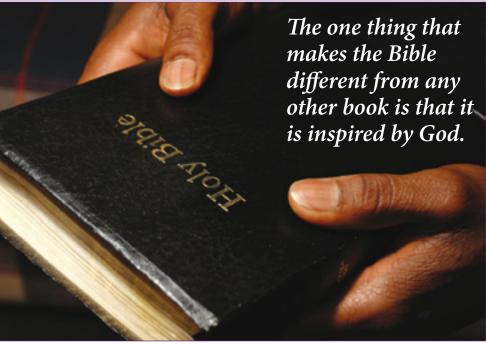


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What I Want You to Know About Your Bible

HEATH ROGERS

We live in an age in which there are more copies of the Bible in existence than ever before. However, this increase in availability does not seem to have increased man's appreciation for the Bible. While many people still look upon the Bible as a special book, they fail to understand what makes it special. In the pages that follow, I will discuss some things that you need to know about your Bible. It is my hope that you can understand why the Bible is different from any other book, that you can appreciate why you need to read it, and that you will commit yourself to a diligent, life-long study of its message.



The Bible Is Inspired By God

The one thing that makes the Bible different from any other book is that it is inspired by God.

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 complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

When we say that the Bible is inspired, we understand that the words in the Bible are not the words of men, they are the words of God (1 Cor 2). God may have used different men to record his revelation, but he did not give them the freedom to write whatever they wanted to write. "Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Pet. 1:20-21). When we read the Bible, we are reading the words of God.

The Bible makes the claim that it is inspired by God. However, this claim, by itself, proves nothing. Any book can claim divine inspiration. Is there any evidence that supports this claim? Does the Bible bear the markings of divine inspiration, or does it show itself to be just

another product of the mind of man? I believe there is a way that we can know with certainty that the Bible is inspired.

1. The Unity of the Bible. Let me propose a little experiment. Suppose you chose forty people at random in your home town and asked them to write about their concept of God. Do you think all the responses would be the same? What if we asked them to go on and write about things like family values, roles within society, slavery, drugs and alcohol, divorce, crime and punishment, death and suffering, etc. Would the essays have identical content or would they differ from one another?

The Bible is a collection of sixty-six books, written in three different languages (Hebrew, Aramaic, Greek), by forty writers from different backgrounds (including kings, soldiers, shepherds, farmers, fishermen, a doctor, a cup bearer, a tax collector and a tent maker), on three different continents, over a period of 1,600 years. It talks about God, as well as many controversial subjects. Given the above scenario, one would expect the Bible to be a tangled mess of contradictions. Instead, we find the Bible to be a harmonious book.

What I Want You to Know About Your Bible

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20)

- 2. Historical and Geographical Accuracy. The works of men often include mistakes that require corrections and updates. There are hundreds of incidents in the Bible that have been checked against secular history and archaeology for accuracy (directions, reigns of kings or governors, etc.). When so tested, the Bible has been proven to be accurate every time.
 - *The Hittites*. Skeptics made fun of the Bible's reference to the Hittites (Gen. 23:10; 26:34) because there was no mention of them anywhere in secular history. Archaeological discoveries in Turkey have confirmed the existence of an entire Hittite civilization.
 - *The Book of Acts*. The book of Acts mentions thirty-two countries, fifty-four cities, nine Mediterranean islands, ninety-five people (sixty-two of which are not named elsewhere in the New Testament). Luke's references, where checkable, are always correct. This is truly remarkable in view of the fact that the political and territorial situation of his day was in a state of almost constant change.
- 3. Fulfilled Prophecies. There is no stronger proof of the inspiration of the Bible than fulfilled prophecy. What would you think if you found a book written in 1850 that predicted, in detail, the events of 9/11/01? A prophecy like that would be remarkable. The Bible contains many examples of this kind of prophecy. 1 Kings 13:2 foretells the work of a king 300 years before he was born. Isaiah 44:28-45:1 gives the very name of a king and what he will do 150 years before he is born. There are 332 prophecies in the Old Testament that are fulfilled in the life Jesus Christ. These were not lucky guesses. Fulfilled prophecy is one of the greatest proofs of divine inspiration that we have (Isa. 48:3-5).
- Scientific Foreknowledge. The Bible reveals knowledge of scientific facts that were not discovered by man until centuries later.
 - *Life is in the blood (Lev. 17:11):* It wasn't until 3,000 years later that man discovered that blood carried oxygen throughout the body.
 - *Shape of the earth (Isa. 40:22):* Man spent centuries believing the world was flat. The Bible said it was a sphere.

Ways We Can Know that the Bible is Inspired

- 1. The unity of the Bible
- 2. Historical and geographical accuracy
- 3. Fulfilled prophecies
- 4. Scientific foreknowledge
- 5. Impartiality
- *Number of stars (Jer. 33:22):* For centuries, man believed that the stars numbered just over 1,000. It is now suggested that over 25 sextillion stars exist.
- Sanitation laws of Leviticus: such as not eating animals that die naturally, not eating scavenger animals, burying human waste. Today we take for granted that these practices help us avoid disease and death, but these facts weren't discovered until recently. How could man have guessed these scientific facts centuries before they were discovered?
- 5. Impartiality. A book written by man would seek to minimize the faults of his heroes while emphasizing their virtues. This is not the case with the Bible. Abraham, the friend of God, lied about his wife—twice! David, a man after God's own heart, was an adulterer and a murderer. Noah, a man who walked with God, got drunk and passed out. The apostle Peter denied the Lord three times. These facts are not covered up. The Bible provides an amazingly objective and perfectly impartial historical account.

This list could go on, but these facts are enough to back up the Bible's claim of inspiration. The Bible has stood the test of time and honest criticism. We can have confidence that when we read the Bible we are reading the inspired Word of God.

All in the Life of a Preacher: Paul and His Enemies (I) STEVE WALLACE

We give our attention here to something that caused Paul much personal anguish and effort, as well as distraction from his work of reaching the lost—his foes. Jesus taught that having enemies was something his apostles could not avoid (Matt. 10:22; John 15:19, 20; 17:14). Paul certainly found this to be true in his life. As we will note in this article, he faced enmity from different people, manifested in various ways.

Paul's Character and Work

Paul was a man of notable birth and upbringing which he left behind to serve Christ (Acts 22:3; Phil 3:4-7). He is known because he received revelation from God that could not be changed and that all men—Christian and non-Christian—needed to hear. He also is known for his work in spreading this message (2 Cor. 5:11-19). He was careful in his conduct, bold in his speech, set to defend the gospel, and ready to go wherever the gospel was needed (2 Cor. 5:20-6:10; 1 Thess. 2:1-12; Acts 13:46; 14:3; Phil. 1:16; Acts 16-18). Many were converted as a result of his teaching (Acts 13-19). Because of his honest concern for the souls of others, his brethren commended him, supported his work, and sought his help (Gal. 2:6-9; Phil. 4:15-16; 2 Cor. 11:8-9; 1 Cor. 1:11; 7:1). Because of all this, Paul was a man of considerable influence in the world of his day (Acts 15:1-2, 12; 19:13, 31; 24:5). Indeed, his influence continues today. An appreciation of who Paul was leads to obvious questions regarding those who withstood him.

Who Were His Enemies?

Not all his enemies were the same. Some were people who withstood the gospel he preached. Many were Jews Paul encountered in his work of preaching (Acts 13-14; 21-22). Some were Jews or perhaps even Christians not fully converted out of Judaism with influence among brethren (Acts 15:1, 5, 24; Gal. 5:2-4; 6:12). Still others were those whose work suffered because of Paul (Acts 16:16-24; 19:23-41). Then there were those with sinful feelings toward him (Phil. 1:15,17).

What Actions Did Enemies Take Against Paul?

1. They made false accusations against him (Acts 24:5-6;

25:7-8; 2 Cor. 1:12-23).

- 2. They sought to deceive those converted under his teaching (1 Cor. 11:3; Gal. 3:1).
- 3. They went to churches known to him and taught error or stirred up trouble (Acts 15:1; Gal.; 2 Cor.).
- 4. They ran him out of town in some places (Acts 13:50-51; 14:5-6).
- 5. They sought to stir up civil authorities against him (Acts 17:6; 18:12-16).
- 6. They started riots (Acts 19:28-32; 21:27-31).
- 7. They physically attacked Paul (Acts 14:19; 16:16-24; 21:27-31).

Some Lessons for Us Today

- 1. "Yea, and all that would live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution" (2 Tim. 3:12). The way of the cross leads home.
- 2. Those who falsely accuse brethren and seek to deceive others about them are in the same class as those who would cause physical harm. Oh, the charges brethren make against faithful brethren in various parts of the

world! In India, our liberal brethren have charged faithful preachers with attracting Indian preachers with money and "grabbing" church property. In the Philippines, one brother has been charged by others with having a "directorship style" when he merely sought to have the gospel preached in a

Those who falsely accuse brethren and seek to deceive others about them are in the same class as those who would cause physical harm.

local church. In the U.S., faithful brethren who have simply preached and defended the truth of the gospel as God's standard for salvation and fellowship among Christians have been accused of "trying to control the brotherhood," "trying to make a name for themselves," and the like. May all brethren see the unsavory

Paul and His Enemies (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 24)

company they join by using such tactics and shun them! All of these tactics are carnal in nature (2 Cor. 10:3).

3. Let us learn from Paul and his enemies a great difference in the respective battles they fought: Paul himself fought battles when they needed to be fought. However, his enemies fought battles that did not

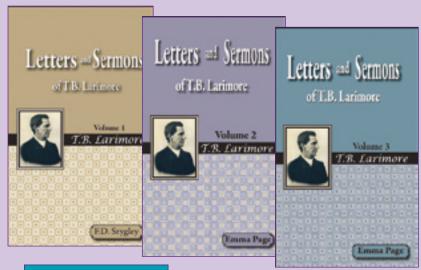
Paul himself fought battles when they needed to be fought. However, his enemies fought battles that did not need to be fought.

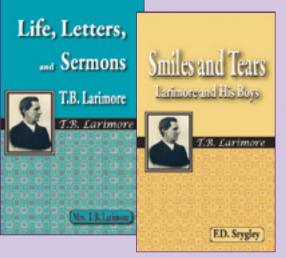
need to be fought. Paul engaged in spiritual warfare (2 Cor. 10:3-6). His enemies were obviously moved by less noble motives.

4. Let us all resolve to teach, live, and defend the gospel, and commend those who do so (Gal. 2:6-9; Ps. 119:63, 74). The sad truth about those who fought against Paul is that they were fighting against one who walked by this very principle!

Conclusion

As we study Paul and his enemies we see the difference between approved and unapproved New Testament examples. May we all seek to model ourselves after Paul and the gospel he preached, and shun unworthy examples (1 Cor. 11:1; Phil. 3:17-19). Also, let us all recognize that, both at home and in the mission field, faithful men will make enemies of those set against the gospel of Christ. More on this next month.





Life, Letters & Sermons of T. B. Larimore compiled by Mrs. T. B. Larimore 17890......\$21.95

Smiles & Tears: Larimore and His Boys compiled by F. D. Srygley

Sin

Sin is a transgression of God's law (1 John 3:4); it is a failure to do what we know to be right (Jas. 4:17) and it is any act of unrighteousness (1 John 5:17). Most readers will be familiar with these three passages, and perhaps even can quote them. Any sin, persisted in, will separate us from our Creator (Isa. 59:1-2) and will hide his face from us, so that he will not hear our prayers. What a sad condition this is, for anyone!

To help us understand God has given us some catalogs of sin. Romans 1:28-32 offers the first catalog. Read this list carefully! Is it not plain that one of these sins is just as bad before God as any other? Are some of these sins bad, while others are not so bad? Have we reached the point at which we wish to catagorize sin? Do we condemn for some of these sins, while we say nothing of the others? We may speak against such thoughts which these questions suggest but, what about our practice? Does the lowly sin of "envy" get the same attention as that of murder or fornication? More about this later. Galatians 5:19-21 offers the second catalog. This second list should be carefully and thoughtfully read, also. We shall resist the temptation to ask the same questions here as we did for the first catalog, but it would be in order to do so. In Colossians 3:5-10, we have a shorter catalog, but it can make a contribution to the careful and honest student of Scripture. Thus, we here suggest a careful reading, also.

The point which the writer has in mind with these observations concerning sin is that God's word knows

nothing of "big sins" and "little sins,"
"important sins" and
"unimportant sins." Yes,
I know that "lying" may
not be as dangerous
in a court of law as
"murder" and that
"covetousness" does not

God's word knows nothing of "big sins" and "little sins," "important sins" and "unimportant sins."

get the attention from brethren as does "fornication." Yet, any one of these sins is just as condemning before God as the other. Brethren, this is a fact!

I doubt the necessity of saying more about sin itself, so we turn to the second word in our title.

Repentance

I would not expect to have anyone object to the necessity of repentance. Jesus established the necessity of repentance in his comments in Luke 13:1-5. Both John the Baptist and Jesus connected "repentance" with the kingdom of heaven

(Matt. 3:2; 4:17). Simon was told, "Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, if perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee" (Acts 8:22). Further, God "commandeth all men everywhere to repent" (Acts 17:30). And, God did this "because he hath appointed a day, in the which he shall judge the world in righteousness."

I would also expect the reader to know that repentance is a change of will, manifested in actions which follow. This can be seen in the parable of the prodigal son (Luke 15:11ff.). Repentance has also been said to be "the act of turning away from sin and a turning to the Lord"—both turnings being a necessity. Certainly, this is true! W. E. Vine says that "repent" in the New Testament always involves a change for the better. Repentance, then, is a change of the will, shown by a turning away from sin and a turning to God.

"If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). Here we have another facet of that sought-after forgiveness, and this would appear to be solidly attached to repentance.

The one who genuinely repents, then, will do the following: (1) change his will, (2) turn from sin, (3) turn to God, (4) confess his sins. These four things bring God's forgiveness; anything less than these cannot be acceptable. Now, we should be ready for our third word.

Forgiveness

We have already noticed God's forgiveness, based upon God's promise to forgive. Let us begin with what God promises to do under the "new covenant." "For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more" (Heb. 8:12). What a wonderful and encouraging promise! God will not make the one who sins do penance! God will not put such a one on probation! When the one who sins has done what is expected of him (see the four things given above), God remembers those sins "no more"! Is this the way it is with God's people today? We are told, if a brother repents, forgive him (Luke 17:3-4); again, we are told to be tender-hearted, forgiving one another (Eph. 4:32). The Corinthians had inflicted the punishment, as directed by Paul, on the fornicator. Having done that, Paul now tells them, forgive him, comfort him, confirm your love toward him (2 Cor. 2:6-8). It seems to me that these instructions have been ignored or overlooked by many among us today. We may not wish to call what we do "penance" or "probation"; but, if not these terms, pray tell what terms do we use. God doesn't have any. He just forgives and remembers the sins against them "no more." How about us?

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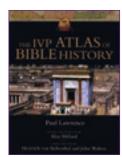
The IVP Atlas of Bible History

Paul Lawerence

InterVarsity Press, 2006. 187 pages, hardback

18953\$40.00

The IVP Atlas is written by Paul Lawerence, a practicing archaeologist who utilizes the latest findings in history and archaeology to tell the Bible story. Lawerence presents a smooth and easy-to-read narrative of Bible history from beginning to end. There are numerous helpful maps, photographs, charts, drawings, and reconstructions found throughout the book. Overall,



the narrative found in *The IVP Atlas* is sound, but the reader will want to take caution at a few points along the way—for example, Lawerence's comments about the genealogies of Genesis 5, the flood, the ten plagues, or the late date of the Exodus. On the plus side, Lawerence includes several helpful chapters on Bible languages, climate, agriculture, writing, trade, warfare, intertestamental figures, and more. From the story of creation to the seven churches of Asia and the spread of Christianity, *The IVP Atlas of Bible History* is a very useful resource for the study of Bible history, geography, and archaeology. Any Bible student or teacher interested in a better understanding of the general flow of Bible history will like *The IVP Atlas of Bible History*.

Searching for Happiness?

Daniel H. King, Sr.



Drug overdoses. Suicides. School shootings. Road rage. Divorces. There is no question that our society is full of people who are unhappy. Many of them no doubt want to be happy, but they refuse help or go to the wrong place for help. In a new book, *Searching For Happiness?*, Dan King brings the reader to a better understanding of

how a person can be happy. The key is to turn to the Bible for help, not to the things of the world. Following God's principles set forth in the Bible can help one to be happy and content in life. King's approach is practical, not

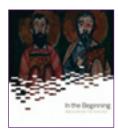


CHRIS REEVES

theoretical. He sets forth the basic steps that anyone can take to achieve true happiness—for example, if one will control his thoughts and count his blessings he can be a happier person. King also brings focus to his writing. He points out that the main purpose or goal in life is to serve God, only then can one truly be happy. Solomon, who began a search for happiness in things, found in the end that "the whole of man" is to fear God and keep his commandments (Eccl. 12:13-14). Searching For Happiness? speaks to a great need today. It is highly recommend reading for those who seek true happiness on God's terms in a world of much sin and sadness.

In the Beginning: Bibles Before the Year 1000 Michelle P. Brown, Editor

What ancient manuscripts were used to produce the English Bibles we have today? How did people read and transcribe God's word hundreds of years ago? *In the Beginning*, edited by Michelle P. Brown, is an excellent resource to answer these questions. This work contains many helpful chapters on how



the Bible was transcribed and spread throughout the known world during the first ten centuries A.D. Many fascinating stories about the making of the Bible are also scattered throughout this book. Over a hundred pages are dedicated to a series of full-color pictures of ancient scripture texts. Brown's collection of essays closes with an extensive reference catalogue of seventy-four items of interest (fragments, scrolls, books, etc.). Each entry contains a picture, basic information about the item, and a bibliography for further study. In the Beginning is "must reading" for anyone who is serious about a study of ancient Bible manuscripts. (For anyone living in or near Washington D.C., you may want to view the Bible fragments and manuscripts that are housed in the Freer Gallery of Art. In the Beginning would provide good background reading for the visitor who would like to view these ancient texts in person.)

childrens' page

DONNA HALBROOK

Nehemiah

Theme

While Ezra led God's people to rebuild the Temple in Jerusalem, Nehemiah was an important official serving the King in the land of Persia. Nehemiah was sad because the walls and gates of Jerusalem were still broken down. The King appointed him Governor of Jerusalem and allowed him to return there to rebuild the walls and gates. After 52 days of hard work by God's people, the walls and gates were restored.

Nehemiah and Ezra gathered the people for a day of Bible reading, preaching, and study. They met from early morning until noon. The people learned from the Law of Moses that they had failed to keep the Feast of Tabernacles, and they wept. The Feast came at the end of the harvest each year. It reminded God's people of the time when their forefathers left Egypt and traveled in the wilderness going to Canaan living in small booths and tents. This Feast was renewed and observed with Bible study and great joy for eight days. The people confessed their sins and promised to obey God.

Nehemiah returned to Persia very happy! Later, he came again to Jerusalem when God's people began to commit many sins again. After more Bible study, the people repented, confessed their sins, corrected their lives, and asked God's forgiveness.

God's people were only a remnant, very small in number, but God blessed them when they obeyed him. He protected them and guided their history so that Jesus would be born in their nation. The church of Christ is God's remnant today. He blesses the lives of his people and guides us to heaven.

3505 Horse Run Ct. Shepherdsville, KY 40165-6954

Memory Verse

wall of Jerusalem."

(Nehemiah said,)
"Come, and let us build up the

Neh. 2:17

Activity –	Fill	in	the	Bl	lani	cs:

- 1. "...send me unto ______, unto the city of my father's _____, that I may_____ it" (2:5b).
- 2. "So the _____ was finished in the ____ day of the month of Elul, in ____ days" (6:15).
- 3. "...he read in the book of the ______ of _____. And they kept the ______ seven ______; and on the ______ day was a solemn ______" (8:18).
- 4. "...they read in the book of the law of the
 ______ their _____ in one fourth part
 of the ______; and another _____ part
 they ______, and _____ the
 _____ their _____ (9:3).

Review Memory Verse from Ezra:

(King Cyrus of Persia said,) "Go up to Jerusalem...and build the house of the Lord God of Israel" (Ezra 1:2-3).

Autonomy or Isolation? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. (11:22-23).

This text says nothing about what the Apostles did; it speaks of what the *church* in Jerusalem did, apparently with divine approval. They sent Barnabas to Antioch. The word *exapostello* basically means "send out, send away," but it is especially used with the sense of sending "in order to have him fulfill a mission in another place," which is the sense it bears in Acts 11:22. Can you imagine what reception I would receive were the church of which I am a member to send me on a mission to the church of which you are a member, similar to the one which Barnabas was given? I suspect the attitude we would have today would be this: "You brethren take care of your business and we will take care of our own." What has changed since the

first century church was established? Barnabas and Saul spent a whole year working with the church at Antioch (11:26).

The church at Antioch sent Barnabas and Saul on what is called the "first missionary journey." These two good men established churches in various areas and later returned to see how they were doing. They

Were I to return to a local church with which I have spent years laboring and help them to appoint elders, they most likely would tell me to mind my own business.

returned to Iconium and Antioch of Pisidia, "confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter into the kingdom of God. And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed" (14:22-23). It is difficult to imagine that kind of reception of an evangelist today. Were I to return to a local church with which I have spent years laboring (much less a few weeks or months as was the case with Barnabas and Saul) and help them to appoint elders, they most likely would tell me to mind my own business and send me packing. What has changed since the first century?

When the church at Corinth had problems, Paul sent Timothy to work with them (1 Cor. 4:17). Some years later, Paul left Titus in Crete so that he should "set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee" (Tit. 1:5). He begged Timothy "to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou might charge some they they teach no other doctrine" (1 Tim. 1:3). What would you think of a godly brother who so directed two younger preachers today? Would you charge him with overstepping the bounds of a gospel preacher?

But, He's Not An Apostle

I can hear the response to these examples already. Someone replies, "But we do not have apostles today." Let's think this through a moment. Are we saying that the Apostles held a position of authority over a brotherhood of churches which gave them authority to do such things? That cannot be the case for two reasons: (a) There is no brotherhood of churches in the New Testament. The universal church is not made up of local congregations, but of saints. (b) In the second case, being an apostle did not give one authority to do what would otherwise be wrong to do. If it is wrong for one today to do what Paul did, then it was wrong for Paul to do it as well. Being an apostle did not give one the prerogative to do sinful things.

The work of the Apostles was to give revelation and to confirm that the revelation given was of God by the miracles that they performed and passed on to others. These are the only works unique to the Apostles.

Actually, to argue that we cannot do what an Apostle did undermines one of the basic teachings of Scripture: apostolic example. Paul wrote, "Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you" (Phil. 4:9). This is not an isolated text; Paul stated the same thing in other places:

Wherefore I beseech you, be ye followers of me. For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church (1 Cor. 4:16-17).

Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ (1 Cor. 11:1).

Autonomy or Isolation? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29)

Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. (Phil. 3:17).

And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost (1 Thess. 1:6).

Not because we have not power, but to make ourselves an ensample unto you to follow us (2 Thess. 3:9).

Paul instructed that saints be followers of his example and to "bring into remembrance of my ways." This is the essence of approved apostolic example. The fact of the matter is that we have distorted the biblical doctrine of autonomy into isolation.

What Is The Doctrine of Autonomy of Churches?

The word "autonomy" emphasizes the self-governing nature of independent churches. What it recognizes is that each local church has oversight over its own business. There is no intercongregational board that oversees the work of a local church. The doctrine rests upon such Scriptures as these:

And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed (Acts 14:23).

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood (Acts 20:28).

The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock (1 Pet. 5:1-3).

There were elders appointed in every local church; they were limited in oversight to the congregation over which the Holy Spirit had made them oversees; they were to feed the flock of God which is among you. Elders have no oversight over any church except the local church of which they are members.

The only power one has over a local church is the power

of persuasion. A preacher/teacher can present the word of God to that local church, but the elders of that local church will have to make their own decision about whether or not to obey the word of God. I may preach what the Bible teaches about using mechanical instruments of music in worship, but the local church will have to decide whether or not to start using those instruments. But the preacher has not violated the autonomy of a local church by preaching a sermon on mechanical instruments of music in worship, by writing and sending to the members of that church an article in a church bulletin or some other medium addressing the same subject. The same is true of every other issue.

What is the Scope of Their Work?

What work can a local church undertake? Whatever work it has the ability to conduct, that church can undertake.

The church at

Antioch undertook the mission of evangelizing the world. They sent preachers out to establish churches in Crete, Pisidia, and Galatia on the first What work can a local church undertake?
Whatever work it has the ability to conduct, that church can undertake.

missionary journey. These evangelists rerturned to Antioch and gave reports about the work they had done. On the second journey, they sent out two teams: Barnabas and John Mark to Crete; Paul and Silas toward Galatia. Could one have argued in the first century, "The church at Antioch has not been given the mission to evangelize the world. They are trying to do the work for all of the other local churches in the world. They are doing a brotherhood work"? Of course, any argument could be made, but the making of the argument does not prove that it is so. The work at Antioch was done under the oversight of that local church. There is no evidence of a pooling of resources whereby other churches sent contributions to Antioch so that they could do this great work.

Some brethren sound the "alarm" when a congregation conducts a special series of lessons on some selected topic and invites brethren far and wide to attend. What is wrong with that? The work is under the oversight of the local

Autonomy or Isolation? (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30)

church; it is financed by the resources of that local church. Other local churches did not start the work, do not pay for the work, and cannot stop that work (but they can undermine that work by their criticism and they can create suspicion by false charges.) But, when all is said and done, this is nothing but a local church doing its work. Sometimes it helps us to think of what brethren in previous times have done. During the institutional battle, many local churches conducted a series of lessons on institutionalism and sent out advertisements to all area congregations inviting them to attend the series so that they could learn the truth on the sponsoring church, church support of human institutions, and church sponsored recreation. No one questioned whether or not that was scriptural. But should a church today conduct a series of lessons on how to preach and encourage brethren far and wide to attend, someone charges that they are doing a brotherhood work and are violating congregational autonomy. Are we asking too much to ask brethren to be consistent in the application of their own principles? If one consistently applied the principle underlying this criticism, there would be no authority to send out a meeting announcement to area congregations because the very act of inviting brethren from the area to attend would be overstepping the bounds of local church autonomy in the same way. Can anyone set a boundary (ten miles, twenty miles, two hundred miles, etc.) beyond which an invitation to come study cannot be sent?

During the institutional battle, congregations sent out bulletins to brethren all over the United States. I used to get about 100 bulletins a week. Many of these bulletins had as their main thrust to teach brethren the "issues." One church in Ohio sent out a bulletin designed to teach brethren, especially in the Ohio Valley, what the Scriptures teach about institutionalism. From time to time, institutional churches would react to the bulletin by charging that the local church had violated congregational autonomy by sending their bulletin to the members of another church. Most preachers chuckled at the foolishness of such criticism, understanding that Christ had charged men to teach the gospel to every creature and no eldership had the right to censure the reading material that its members received (Mark 16:15-16). Now that very church condemns as violating church autonomy one responding via a printed medium to what they preach from their pulpit. The legs of the lame are not equal!

What Have We Produced?

In the name of local chuch autonomy, we are creating a bunch of isolated churches. These churches have little sense of "brotherhood." They have quit attending each other's meetings, reached the conclusion that a brother has violated local church autonomy if he says anything about the practices of a local church of which he is not a member, quit sharing information about members transferring from one church to another, and know virtually little about the saints in any congregation other than their own. For those of us who are older and have experienced something different, this is a tragic situation.

I began preaching in the late 1960s. Local churches had divided over institutionalism. Those preachers who lived through this battle had a camaraderie of spirit that doesn't exist today. The preachers in Indianapolis would eat together at least once a month, brethren attended one another's meetings much better than brethren do today, and area churches conducted a singing one Sunday a month on a rotating basis (in one church one month, another church the next month, etc.) so that brethren could get to know one another better.

Brethren had a sense of "brotherhood" without violating congregational autonomy.

Some brethren take a "bury your heard in the sand" approach to any issues facing the church. These brethren isolate themselves from any issues currently spreading among brethren. They don't want to read about those issues in periodicals

Having determined not to have preaching that addresses contemporary issues among churches in their pulpits and Bible classes, they create fertile soil in which apostasy can be introduced.

or church bulletins; they view those who discuss those issues as "watch dogs" who bite and devour one another. And, these elitists think they are superior because they don't get involved in such things. Having determined not to have preaching that addresses contemporary issues among churches in their pulpits and Bible classes, they create fertile soil in which apostasy can be introduced. Should a false teacher get his influence in that congregation, no one could

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say anything about it because they will not allow that kind of preaching; should someone outside the local church try to warn them of the danger, they view him as violating the autonomy of the local church. Such churches are very vulnerable. Wonder what Jesus meant when he told the members to "beware" of false teachers (Matt. 7:15; 16:6, 11-12; Phil. 3:2; Col. 2:8; 2 Pet. 3:17)? What is required by the qualification that the elder be "vigilant" (1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 2:2)? Peter warned, "Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour" (1 Pet. 5:8). Are we so naïve that we think that the Devil is not active in the twenty-first century?

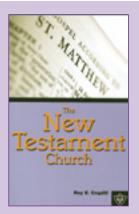
Brethren are needlessly fragmenting themselves, dividing over judgmental issues. One church condemns as liberal another church because they receive into their fellowship a put away person who subsequently remarried. When the details are examined, what one learns is that the guilty party in a divorce for fornication filed the divorce papers before the innocent party did. Or it may be that the evidence of the fornication was not available until after the papers at

the courthouse were finalized. One church reaches the conclusion that lectureships conducted at Florida College or the *Truth Magazine* lectures are sinful and subsequently breaks its financial fellowship with anyone who disagrees with them. On and on it goes until what we will have produced is a group of fragmented, factional brethren! Where will it end?

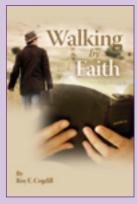
Conclusion

We are brethren! We should conduct ourselves toward one another in such a spirit that the world can see our common love for one another. "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (John 13:35). One of the tests of our love for one another occurs in how we conduct ourselves when we have differences. I fear that some are ready to cut off one another (another word for disfellowship) anyone who disagrees with them. The yellow tag of quarantine does not have be published in a brotherhood magazine for its sinful effect to occur.

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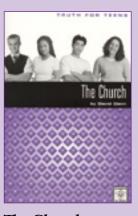


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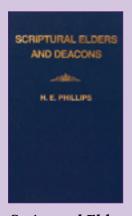
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FREMONT, CA Church of Christ in the Centerville area 38069 Martha Ave. Ste 100 Fremont, CA 94536 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (510) 794-7659	IGNACIO, CO Church of Christ 295 Burns Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 1:00 P.M. (970) 563-9418	DESTIN, FL South Walton Church of Christ 64 Casting Lake Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 622-3817 www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com	KEY LARGO, FL Key Largo Church of Christ 100695 N. Overseas Hwy. 33037 m.m. 100.5 on U.S. 1 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Roland Fritz (305) 451-1194	ORLANDO, FL Azalea Park Church of Christ 6800 Lake Underhill Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: James P. Needham (407) 277-7931 or 628-2995	SEFFNER, FL Church of Christ 621 E. Wheeler Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297 www.seffnercofc.org
HEMET, CA Church of Christ 203 W. Acacia Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Alan Piner (951)925-1991	MONTROSE, CO San Juan church of Christ 1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worhsip 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 626-5558 or (970) 249-8116 www.sanjuanchurchofchrist.org	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL Northside Church of Christ 912 NW 19th St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (305) 763-1404	KISSIMMEE, FL Church of Christ 2431 Fortune Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Copeland (407) 931-1725 or 348-0300	ORLANDO, FL S. Bumby Church of Christ 3940 S. Bumby Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Joshua C. Creel (407) 851-8031 or (321) 235-3307	TAMPA, FL Central Church of Christ 2701 E. Fowler Ave (in the Clarion) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. John Lockaby (813) 833-5786 John Trimble (813) 914-0546 Tom O'Neal (813) 625-5651
LONG BEACH, CA Church of Christ 3433 Studebaker Rd. Bible Study 9:50 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Lonnie Fritz (562) 420-2363 Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577	PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO Church of Christ Community Center 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Eddie Campbell (970) 264-4236	FORT MYERS, FL Church of Christ 200 Pine Island Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Vernon E. Ford (239) 567-0819	LAKELAND, FL Lakeland Hills Blvd. Church of Christ 2510 Lakeland Hills Blvd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists: Marc W. Gibson Don Hastings (863) 688-4336	PALATKA, FI. Palatka Church of Christ 505 Third Ave. (Third Ave. intersects Hwy. 19 one block south of Hwy. 20) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Skomp (386) 326-3952 or 546-5689	ZEPHYRHILLS, FL Church of Christ 5444 4th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Assembly 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (813) 788-9587
OCEANSIDE-VISTA,CA Church of Christ 2020 Sunset Dr. Bible Study 9-45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lowell C. Bell (760) 940-8003	DOVER, DE Kent-Sussex Church of Christ 2041 South DuPont Hwy Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (302) 672-7087 www.delawarebiblestudies.com	FORT MYERS, FL Southside Church of Christ 13641 Learning Ct. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David P. Schmidt 433-2838 or 482-2158	MERRITT ISLAND, FL Church of Christ 512 Plumosa St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (321) 453-3320	PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL Beach Church of Christ 8910 Front Beach Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ben Liggin (850) 234-2521 or 234-1368	CENTERVILLE, GA Centerville Church of Christ 250 Collins Ave. (Near Robins AFB) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: J. Wiley Adams (478) 922-1128
ARVADA, CO (Denver) Northgate Church of Christ (Lincoln Academy Charter School) 6980 Pierce Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Afternoon Class/ Worship 1:30 P.M. (303) 456–4895	ALACHUA, FL Santa Fe Hills Church of Christ Hwy. 441, 1/2 mile west of 1-75 (Exit 78) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: James L. Yopp (386) 462-4325 or (352) 333-7003 www.geocities.com/jameslyopp	FT. WALTON BEACH, FL 6 Lane Dr. Mary Esther, FL Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222	MIAMI, FL Flagler Grove Church of Christ (Nearest to Airport) 500 N.W. 53rd Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924	PANAMA CITY, FL Church of Christ 3339 Florida Ave. (Between Baldwin Rd. & Hwy. 390) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin Hudson (850) 265-6539	CONVERS, GA Rockdale Church of Christ East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 918- 1932 Wendell Holland, elder (770) 761-6987; Bob Tuten, elder (770) 7979-1207; Building (770) 929-3973
AURORA, CO (Denver) Boston St. Church of Christ 1297 Boston St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Preacher: Sam Csonka (303) 366-5283	BRONSON, FL Church of Christ 894 E. Hathaway (Hwy. 27A) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evengelist: John Zellner (352) 528-3058	FROSTPROOF, FL Church of Christ 40 W. "A" 5t. Frostproof, FL 33483 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Freese (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278	MIAMI, FL Church of Christ 12780 Quail Roost Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clark Pace (305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437	PENSACOLA, FL East Hill Church of Christ 2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Stan Adams 479-2130 or 994-7749	PINE MTN. VALLEY, GA Church of Christ Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist. Tommy W. Thomas (706) 628-5117 or 628-5229
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO Northeast Church of Christ 6660 Galley Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (719) 597-6661 Spanish Service 3:00 P.M.	BROOKSVILLE, FL Church of Christ 604 W. Fort Dade Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: V.C. McCormick (352) 796-9803	GENEVA, FL Geneva Church of Christ Ave. C and 2nd St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (407) 349-9998	NAVAREE, FL Church of Christ 8490 James M. Harvell Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Bell (850) 939-1177 or 939-8620	PENSACOLA, FL Northside Church of Christ 4001 N. Ninth Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph R. Mazter (850) 432-0736	VALDOSTA, GA Church of Christ 4313 North Valdosta Rd. (Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off I-75) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (229) 244-8630
GOLDEN, CO Westside Church of Christ 13789 West 8th Ave. (½ mi. E. of Indiana St.) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (303) 233-5683	CHIPLEY, FL Church of Christ 1295 Brickyard Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 638-4942	HOLLYWOOD, FL Harding St. Church of Christ 5828 Harding St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jason Schoenholz (954) 961-4112	OCALA, FL Church of Christ 3900 S. Pine (441, 301 & 27 S.) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Hudgins (352) 694-2922 Evangelist: Jeremy Ferguson	ST. PETERSBURG, FL. Church of Christ 901 49th St. South Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Barlar (813) 321-2721	BLACKFOOT, ID Church of Christ 370 N. Shilling P.O. Box 158-83221 Bible Study 1:30 P.M. Worship 2:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (208) 785-6168 or 681-1552
GRAND JUNCTION, CO Valley Church of Christ 491 Sparn Road P.O. Box 40531 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Bohannon (970) 245-5112	DELAND, FL North Blvd. Church of Christ 823 N. Woodland Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Owen (386) 734-6907 or 734-4311	JACKSONVILLE, FL Marietta Church of Christ 8150 Driggers St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden (904) 781-5704 or 693-9929 693-0432 www.mariettacoc.com	ORLANDO, FL Pine Hills Church of Christ 890 Hastings St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ray West (407) 293–2851 or 290–8650	PLANT CITY, FL Plant City Church of Christ 315 N. Wilder Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary M. Ogden (813) 752-2227 or 752-2771	ABINGDON, IL Abingdon Church of Christ 209 N. Main Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Evangelist: John B. Wilson (309) 462-5368

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BENTON, IL Church of Christ 203 N. Central St. P.O. Box 12 (west of Wal-Mart) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Greg King (618) 438-2911 or 435-2981	ELLETTSVILLE, IN Church of Christ 303 W. Temperance St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnie Edwards Evangelist: John Isaac Edwards (812) 876-2285 or 336-4630	OOLITIC, IN Church of Christ 400 Lafayette Ave. P.O. Box 34 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (812) 279-4332	LENEXA, KS Lenexa Church of Christ 7845 Cottonwood Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Stauffer (913) 631-6519 or 764-9170	DANVILLE, KY 385 E. Lexington Ave. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Steve Wolfgang & Scott Vifquain 236-4204, 236-8506 or 238-0860 FRANKLIN, KY	TOMPKINSVILLE, KY Lyons Chapel Church of Christ 2401 Center Point Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Frank VonDracek (270) 487-8448
CHICAGO, IL Northside Church of Christ 2543 W. Division St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evendesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James R. Davis, Jr. (312) 961-2150	HAMMOND, IN Woodmar Church of Christ 2133 169th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (219) 845-8942	PEKIN, IN Church of Christ (First St. & Karnes Ct.) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Henry 967-3437 or 967-3520	TOPEKA, KS 17th Street Church of Christ 5600 SW 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (785) 235-8687 or 273-7977 www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org	31–W North Church of Christ 1733 Bowling Green Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Monts (270) 586-3978 www.franklinchurch.com	BATON ROUGE, LA Park Forest Church of Christ 9923 Sunny Cline Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Crews 275-4684 or 273-1105
CHICAGO, IL Church of Christ 1514 West 74th Street Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James E. Scott Bldg. (773) 224-9279 (708) 339-6126	HOBART, IN Church of Christ 300 N. Liberty St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Keith Welch (219) 942-2663	RICHMOND, IN Gaar Road Church of Christ 1835 Gaar Rd. (1 mi. S. of I-70 off Hwy. 227) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Douglas R. Clark (765) 935-2911	WICHITA, KS Ridge Road Church of Christ 7001 W. 21st St., North Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (316) 722-6622 or 744-1841	GLASGOW, KY East Main St. Church of Christ 106 Carnation Dr. (across from Gorin Park) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Lancaster (270) 678-2847 0r 651-7141	BOSSIER CITY, LA Bossier Church of Christ 2917 Foster Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 747-4308 or 742-4557
DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ 1236 63rd St. (1 and 1/2 mile E. of 1355) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (630) 968-0760 • www.dgcoc.org	INDIANAPOLIS, IN Castleton Church of Christ 7701 East 86th St., 46256 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (317) 842-3613 Eric Spencer (317) 750-5939	SALEM, IN Westside Church of Christ 2000 West State Rd. 56 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Evan Casey (812) 883-2033 www.westsidechurchofchrist.info	WICHITA, KS Westside Church of Christ 3500 S. Meridian Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike O'Neal (316) 729-9302 or 282-2374 www.cocwestside.com	LEITCHFIELD, KY Mill St. Church of Christ Highway 62 E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Cooper (270) 259-4968	LAKE CHARLES, LA Southside Church of Christ 3919 Auburn St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (337) 474-9122 or 436-0477
GLEN ELLYN, IL Church of Christ 796 Prairie, 60137 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist Joseph T. Novak (630-529-2149) (630) 858-2290	JAMESTOWN, IN Church of Christ (1 Mi. south of 1-74) Cor. Darlington & Mill Sts. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Denver Niemeier (765) 676-6404 or (317) 892-6285	TRAFALGAR, IN Spearsville Rd. Church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W. (1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David R. Dodd (17) R83-5969 or (317) 439-3252 spearsvilleroadmessenger@gmail.com	BEAVER DAM, KY Church of Christ 1235 Williams St. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study After Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomas (270) 274-4451 or 274-4486	LOUISVILLE, KY Valley Station Church or Christ 1803 Dixie Garden Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822	LEESVILLE, LA White Park Church of Christ 17801 Nolan Trace; 20 mi. from Fort Polk (5 mi. W. of Leesville) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:35 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (337) 239-4614 www.whiteparkchurchofchrist.org
MATTOON, IL Southside Church of Christ 1100 S. 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (217) 234-3702	KOKOMO, IN Church of Christ 1217 S. Courtland Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua Welch (765) 453-2356	DES MOINES, IA Church of Christ 1310 N.E. 54th Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	BOWLING GREEN, KY West End Church of Christ 820 Old Morgantown Rd., 42101 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Todd Chandler & Lowell Sallee (270) 842-7880 www.westendchurch.com	LOUISVILLE, KY Church or Christ 4401 West Broad St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Wright, Jr. (502) 772-3026 or 491-9372	MANY, LA Lakeside Church of Christ 12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.) 12 miles west of Many Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 256-9396
PALATINE, IL Church of Christ (N.W. Chicago Suburb) 1050 N. Deer Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (847) 967-9667	MARION, IN South Marion Church of Christ 3629 S. Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (765) 998-7134 or (765) 384-7540	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121	BRANDENBURG, KY Brandenburg Church of Christ 612 Broadway Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878	OWENSBORO, KY Southside Church or Christ 2920 New Hartford Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (270) 683-5386 or 264-7869	STONEWALL, LA N. DeSoto Church of Christ 2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Bobbitt (318) 925-2733
BLOOMINGTON, IN Church of Christ 825 West 2nd St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 332-0501	MUNCIE, IN Church of Christ 301 N. Calvert Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tom Hamilton 284-5299 or 286-5488	GRINNELL, IA Church of Christ 1402 Third Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brian Chapman (641) 236-1955 or 793-2989	CAMPBELLSVILLE, KY Sunny Hill Dr. Church of Christ (near the Dairy Queen) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (270) 789-1651	To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	(508) 765-6067 Preacher: Peter Capoccia
CLARKSVILLE, IN Clarksville Church of Christ 407 Lewis and Clark Pkw. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kipp Campbell (812) 941-0747 or 944-2305 KCampbell@earthlink.net Elders: 944-1878 or 948-9917	NOBLESVILLE, IN Noblesville Church of Christ 15321 Herriman Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Hughbanks (317) 770-0798 or 332-0733 www.noblesvillechurchofchrist.com	EL DORADO, KS Emporia St. Church of Christ 1154 S. Emporia Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (316) 321-1025	CANEYVILLE, KY Caneyville Church of Christ 103 N. Main St. (near the 4 way stop) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Barnes (270) 879-6152 or 274-3065	REGINA, KY Road Creek Church or Christ 7 miles west of Elkhorn City on Route 460 & Route 80 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (606) 754-9883, 754-8642 or 754-5398	PORTLAND, ME Church of Christ 856 Brighton Ave. (Breakwater School) Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Second service immediately following morning worship, Mid-week Bible Study—Please call for times & places (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409

ARBUTUS, MD Arbutus Church of Christ 5205 East Dr., Suite D (East Drive Shopping Center) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Church phone: (410) 247-1396, 590-2852 or 551-8274	CLINTON, MS McRaven Rd. Church of Christ 301 McRaven Rd. (120, exit 36) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Leonard White (601) 925-9757 or 924-2645	DONIPHAN, MO Southside Church of Christ Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile (P.O. Box 220) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 996-3251 or 996-3513	ST. JAMES, MO Church of Christ 685 Sidney St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Lynn Huggins (573) 265-8628	VAUXHALL, NJ Church of Christ Milbourn Mall Suite 6 2933 Vauxhall Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Harry A. Persaud (908) 964-8570	DALLAS, NC Deepwood Forest Church of Christ 2002 Lineburger Rd., Hwy. 275 (Between Dallas & Stanley) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Louis Woollums (704) 922-8985
SEVERN, MD Southwest Church of Christ 805 Meadow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (410) 551-6549 or 969-1420	COLUMBUS, MS Woodlawn Church of Christ 359 Sanders Mills Rd. Steen Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Willis Logan (601) 356-6629	FAIR GROVE, MO Church of Christ 217 N. Orchard Blvd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 (417) 736-2663	ST. JOSEPH, MO County Line Church of Christ 2727 County Line Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 279-4737 www.countylinechurchofchrist.com	ALAMOGORDO, NM 25th & Hawaii Church of Christ P.O. Box 2065 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (505) 434-5834	MARION, NC Hwy. 70 Church of Christ 18 Peachtree St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: T.J. Elliott (828) 652-7504 or 652-2584
RIVERDALE, MD (Washington, D.C. area) Wildercroft Church of Christ 6330 Auburn Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomley (301) 474-7460 or 446-1912	GULFPORT, MS Morris Rd. Church of Christ 1 blk. N. of Dedeaux Rd. & 3 Rivers Rd. on Morris Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Don Davis (228) 832-5529	KANSAS CITY, MO Nashua Church of Christ 11425 N. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Broyles (816) 532-4270 or 734-4142	ST. JOSEPH, MO Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (.7 mi. E of Intersection I-29 & Hwy. 169) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 233-6485 Evangelist: Erik Smith	ALBUQUERQUE, NM Albuquerque Church of Christ 1908 Sunshine Terrace SE Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (call to confirm time) 764-9277	BEAVERCREEK, OH Knollwood Church of Christ 1031 Welford Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Keith Greer (937) 426-1422
CEDAR SPRINGS, MI Grand Rapids Area W. Michigan Church of Christ Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. David Waldron (231) 832-2189 Michael Sewell (616) 361-8795	MERIDIAN, MS Grandview Church of Christ 2820 Grandview Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Gardner (601) 681-4505 or 482-9543 dg1969@bellsouth.net	KANSAS CITY, MO Vivion Road Church of Christ 2026 N.E. Vivion Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tom Kinzel (816) 453-6157	BEATRICE, NE Church of Christ 7th and Bell Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. 233-4102 or 228-3827 www.churchofchrist7bell.com	ALBUQUERQUE, NM Heights Church of Christ 7801 Zuni Road, S.E. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evanagelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577 www.heightschurchof christ.com	CINCINNATI, OH Blue Ash Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evang:elist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. 891-3174
DULUTH, MN Church of Christ 318 N. 18th Ave. E. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Nick Krumrei (218) 728-3233	MERIDIAN, MS 7th St. Church of Christ 2914 7th St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M.	KENNETT, MO Church of Christ 703 Harrison St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 888-6778	LAS VEGAS, NV Vegas Dr. Church of Christ 3816 Vegas Drive Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (702) 648-4827	ALBUQUERQUE, NM Sandia Church of Christ 3939 San Pedro N.E., Building D-2 Bible Study 9-45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Derek Chambers (505) 830-2086 www.sandiachurchof christ.com	CLEVELAND, OH Lorain Ave. Church of Christ 13501 Lorain Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (216) 476-0660, 651-1689 or (330) 725-3960, 723-0111
Shop online at truthbooks.net	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	LILBOURN, MO P.O. Box 270 211 Benton St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Shane Williams (573) 688-2234 or 748-5204	RENO, NV Central Church of Christ 2450 Wrondel Way, Ste. A Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (775) 786-2888	BUFFALO, NY Greater Buffalo Church of Christ 3578 Walden Ave Lancaster, NY 14086 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Daniel Bailey (716) 870-3259	COLUMBUS, OH Laurel Canyon Church of Christ 409 McNaughton Rd. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (614)868-1375 www.lccoc.net
ROCHESTER, MN N. Broadway Church of Christ 2002 Second St., SW Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist:Luvimino D. Samaniego (501) 289-8906	(816) 228-9262	RAYMORE, MO Raymore Church of Christ 107 N. Woodson St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Johnston (816) 322-0042 or 318-3642	SPARKS, NV Sierra Nevada Church of Christ 2425 Pyramid Way Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Monday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Triplett, Sr. (775) 972-4911 retriplett@tripletweb.com	CARY, NC Walnut St. Church of Christ (Raleigh) 217 Walnut St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Rick Billingsly (919) 467-0012 (919) 372-1497	DAYTON, OH West Carrollton 28 W. Main Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162 or 434-3090 E-mail: www.wc-coc.org
ST. CHARLES, MN Church of Christ 636 Whitewater Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:45 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905 or 932-3521	CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO North Cape Church of Christ 121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573)334-9673	RAYTOWN, MO Sterling Ave. Church of Christ 5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz (816) 358-3096 or 792-2040 www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org	MOORESTOWN, NJ Moorestown Church of Christ in the Cherry Hill, N.J. Area Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. (856) 665-2496	CHARLOTTE, NC Harris Blvd. Church of Christ 5424 E.W.T. Harris Blvd. Worship 8:30 A.M. Bible Study 9:30A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Various members of local congregations Don Moeller (704) 532-9242	To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net
BOONEVILLE, MS Oakleigh Dr. Church of Christ 101 Oakleigh Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Building: (662) 728-1942	COLUMBIA, MO Eastside Church of Christ 5051 Ponderosa Columbia, MO 65201 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. 445-5497 or 636-0224	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121	PISCATAWAY, NJ 258 Highland Ave. Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Bible Classes 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary P. Eubanks (732) 463-1323	CHARLOTTE, NC Charlotte Church of Christ 5327 S. Tyron St. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wendell Powell (704) 525-5655 or 522-9971	FRANKLIN, OH Church of Christ 6417 Franklin/Lebanon Rd. State Route 123 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Eston Vandever (937) 746-1249 or (513) 422-2466

TEAAS					
FREMONT, OH Church of Christ 3361 W. State St. 1 mi. W. of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (419) 849-3340 or 849-3686 www.amplex.net/churchofchrist	Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414 www.nrchurchofchrist.com	COLONIAL HEIGHTS/ PETERSBURG, PA Appomatox church of Christ 117 Orange Avenue (Ft. Lee Area) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lenny Chapman (804)526-6464 or (804)675-0216	TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Mosely (864) 268-5224 or 877-2728 www.taylorschurchofchrist.com	KNOXVILLE, TN Chapman Hwy. Church of Christ 7604 Chapman Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Wise, Jr. (865) 573-6638	PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 560 King Branch Road Worship 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Facilities available for Sunday evening services upon request. Evangelist: Roger Williams (865)430-5980 www.KingBranchRoadChurchOf- Christ.org
HAMILTON, OH Westview Church of Christ 1040 Azel Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David A. Stansberry (513) 868-9988	NORTHWOOD, OH (Toledo Area) Church of Christ 4110 Frey Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Jarabek 893-3566 or 691-0688	To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Brad McCleeary (803) 783–0079 Steven Hutchinson (803) 604–6011	MARYVILLE, TN Smokey Mt. Church of Christ 2206 Montvale Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230 Robert Lawson (865) 681-7995	ROCKWOOD, TN Church of Christ Highway 70 East 5080 Roane State Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Cecil Belcher (865) 717-3654
HILLIARD, OH Church of Christ 4840 Cemetery Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 876-4089	UHRICHSVILLE, OH Church of Christ 638 Parrish Street Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 6:30 P.M.	EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 363-8042	COLLIERVILLE, TN East Shelby Church of Christ 4700 Mayfield Rd. West Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Terry Francis (901) 853-7840 or (901) 759-1242	MEMPHIS, TN Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00P.M. Contact: Mitch Stevens (901) 372-5580 or 758-4006	SAVANNAH, TN Savannah Heights Church of Christ 230 Harrison St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Ellis
MANSFIELD, OH Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: James Bond 526-2868 or 526-4739	WAVERLY, OH 209 Mullins St. Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 947-7122 or 289-3401	PHILADELPHIA, PA Church of Christ 7222 Germantown Ave. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tues. night 8:00 P.M. Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026 www.mtairychurchofchrist.org	COLUMBIA, TN Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Andrew Roberts (931) 388-6811	MURFREESBORO, TN Compton Rd. Church 663 Compton Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Assembly 10:00 A.M. Assembly 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. David Arnold (615) 896-6550 or 896-9474	SHELBYVILLE, TN El Bethel Church of Christ 1801 Hwy. 41- A North Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (931) 685-1113 or 931-607-9099 dvrader@hughes.net
MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Building: (419) 522-8982 Leon Bond: 525-3684 Glenn Bond: 522-1965	OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Seminole Pointe Church of Christ 16300 N. May Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189 or 513-6691 www.seminolepointecofc.org	BEAUFORT, SC Church of Christ 2107 King St., PO. Box 4 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Parris Island, 8:00 A.M., Sunday Evangelist: Ronald Nelson (843) 524-4400 or 524-4652	COLUMBIA, TN Mooresville Pike Church of Christ 417 Mooresville Pike (.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (931) 388-5828; 381-7898; 380-1226 www.mooresvillepikecoc.com	MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: David Bunting (615) 893-1200	TULLAHOMA, TN Church of Christ 1625 W. Lincoln St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Mickells (931) 455-0273 or 455-5723
MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 373-0064 (Joe Schof) or 473-9028 (Steve Foutty)	TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Oldenkamp (918) 252-1220	HOPKINS, SC Lower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Seaton (803) 776-0754	DAYTON, TN Main Street Church of Christ 250 Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: (423) 618-6250 or 332-4604	MURFREESBORO, TN South Ridge Church of Christ 488 Barfield-Crescent Rd. PO Box 2257, Zip 37133 (I-24, Exit 81, South 1.5 miles on Hwy 231, turn right) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 494-9686	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121
NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. (Near Wright-Patterson AFB) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Blackaby (937) 849-1643 or 845-8467 (bldg.)	MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ 1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dean Blackwell (541) 773-2649	NORTH CHARLESTON, SC Ashley Heights Church of Christ 2605 S. Oakridge Cir. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (843) 553-4970 www.findthechurch.com	JACKSON, TN Sunset Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 423–0907 or 424–5510	NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davenport (615) 833-4444 or 331-7377	ABILENE, TX North Park Church of Christ 2958 Grape St. (3 blocks south of I-20) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Goforth (325) 677-6934 or 672-8026 E-mail: wgoforth@sbcglobal.net
NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Glen Murphy, Jr. 687-2985	SWEET HOME, OR Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Building: (541) 367-1599	ORANGEBURG, SC Edisto Fork Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672	JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Kay 423-282-6251 or 426-1836	NASHVILLE, TN Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Sayre (615) 797-1114	ALLEN, TX West Allen Church of Christ 1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443 (972) 727-5355 (bldg)
Shop online at truthbooks.net	Worship 11:00 A.M.	SUMTER, SC Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023	KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dan King, Sr. (615) 952-5720 or 662-7626	NASHVILLE, TN Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Evengelist Johnny Felker (615) 883-3118 http://perryheights.faithweb.com	ALVARADO,TX I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 295-7277 or 790-7253

TEXAS THROUGH VIRGINIA

ALVIN, TX Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953 or (832) 837-9038	CORPUS CHRISTI, TX Hwy. 9 Church of Christ 5853 Leopard St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (361) 289-1559, 225-4792 or 289-1439 DICKINSON, TX	HOUSTON, TX Fry Rd. Church of Christ 2510 Fry Road (77084) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Michael McLemore (281) 578-1897	LUFKIN, TX Timberland Dr. Church of Christ 912 S. Timberland Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock James W. Adams 634-7110 or 632-7070	ROSENBERG, TX Church of Christ 908 Frost St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jason Trick Bldg: (281) 232-4425 Cell: (832) 228-8973 SAN ANGELO, TX	CHESTER, VA Chester Church of Christ 12100 Winfree St. (Central to Richmond, Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Church Building; (804) 796-2374 Also: (804) 497-3638 or (804) 271-0877 COLONIAL HEIGHTS/
ANGELTON, TX Kiber St. Church of Christ PO. Box 1162 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Zeke Flores (979) 849-8376	Church of Christ 2919 FM 517 Rd. E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 PM. Wednesday 9:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jay Horsley (281) 534-4870	HOUSTON, TX Bellaire Church of Christ 8001 South Rice Ave. Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. www.bellairechurchofchrist.org (713) 668-4810	MANSFIELD, TX Northside Church of Christ 1820 Mansfield-Webb Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists:Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160	Green Meadow Church of Christ (Off Loop 306, sw part of the city) 3438 Green Meadow Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Boyd Jennings (325) 224-284 (325)944-8147 or (325)896-2038	PETERSBURG, VA Appomatox church of Christ 117 Orange Avenue (Ft. Lee Area) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lenny Chapman (804) 526-6464 or (804) 675-0216
To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	EDNA, TX 301 Robison Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (361) 782-5506 or 782-2844 Elders: S.A. Mercer & S. Wilson Evangelist: Heath Rogers	HOUSTON, TX Oak Forest Church of Christ 1333 Judiway Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jay Taylor (281) 970-2976 elysian39@juno.com	McKINNEY, TX Central Church of Christ 1805 White Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00P.M. Evangelist: Jack Howard III (214) 544-3035	SAN ANTONIO, TX Pecan Valley Church of Christ 268 Utopia (1-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143	NEWPORT NEWS, VA Harpersville Rd. Church of Christ 315 Harpersville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (757) 595–9564
AUSTIN, TX Wonsley Dr. Church of Christ 507 E. Wonsley Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Lehde	EL PASO, TX Eastridge Church of Christ 3277 Pendleton Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Ken Looper (915) 821-1084 (915) 855-1524	HOUSTON, TX (Southwest) Murphy Rd. Church of Christ 2025 Murphy Rd., Missouri City Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Mabry (281) 265-8071 or 261-5216	MESQUITE, TX (East Dallas) Westlake Church of Christ 427 Gross Rd., 75149 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Carl Mullins (972) 285-1610	SHERMAN, TX Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Fred Watkins	RICHMOND (Metro), VA Courthouse Church of Christ Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct. (2.2 miles S of Rt. 288) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Tope (804) 790-1629 www.courthousechurchofchrist.com
BAYTOWN, TX Pruett and Lobit Church of Christ 701 North Pruett St. Bible Study 9,45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6.30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Halbrook (281) 422-5926 or 421-7367	FORT WORTH, TX Woodmont Church of Christ 6417 Landview (at Altamesa) Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Afternoon 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff S. Smith (817) 292-4908 or 426-2242 woodmontchurch.org	HOUSTON, TX Spring Woods Church of Christ 9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist (281) 795-0837	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121	TEMPLE, TX Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Warren King (254) 939-0682 or 228-5038 www.biblemoments.org	RICHMOND, VA Forest Hill Church of Christ 1208 W 41st St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Reuben Southall (804) 233-5959
BAYTOWN, TX East Side Church of Christ 3107 N. Highway 146 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wilson Adams (281) 427-8729 or 837-9259	FORT WORTH, TX West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (817) 738-7269	HUNTINGTON, TX Church of Christ P.O. Box 858 One block north of U.S. 69 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (936) 422-4640	MIDLAND, TX Woodcrest Drive Church of Christ 1401 Woodcrest Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Hooper (432) 689-0955 (432) 694-3482	TEMPLE, TX Southside Church of Christ 2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (254) 773-0931	RICHMOND, VA West End 4909 Patterson Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Stacy Crim (804) 358-7933
BEAUMONT, TX Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ 3060 Dowlen Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Max Dawson & David Banning (409) 866-1996	Shop online at truthbooks.net	IRVING, TX Westside Church of Christ 2320 Imperial Dr. (closest to D/FW Airport) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Roberts (972) 986-9131 www.JustChristians.com	NACOGDOCHES, TX Stallings Dr. Church of Christ 3831 N.E. Stallings Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Randy Harshbarger	WACO, TX Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:10 A.M. Worship 11:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc Smith (254) 666-1020 or 420-1484	RIDGEWAY, VA Church of Christ 2970 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Sils (276) 956-1150 or 956-6049
CLEVELAND, TX Church of Christ 310 E. Houston Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676	FRISCO, TX (North Dallas-Plano) 4220 Preston Rd. (Holiday Inn) Call for times of services. Glenn Henderson (972) 378-3621 Rex Payne (972) 740-1486 Al Payne (972) 712-9274	LANCASTER, TX Pleasant Run Church of Christ 831 W. Pleasant Run Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1758 or 227-2598	ODESSA, TX Crescent Park Church of Christ 1415 Royalty Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Garrison (432) 366-5071 or 413-7759	THE WOODLANDS, TX Woodlands Church of Christ P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (281) 367-2099 www.simplychristians.net	ROANOKE, VA Blue Ridge Church of Christ 929 Indiana Ave. N.E. 5 min. from Roanoke Convention Center 1st Lesson 9:15 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (540) 344-2755
CLUTE, TX Church of Christ 343 S. Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (979) 265-5283 or 265-2933	GRANBURY, TX Old Granbury Rd. Church of Christ 4313 Old Granbury Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 573-6878	LUBBOCK, TX Indiana Ave. Church of Christ 6111 Indiana Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brett Hogland (806) 795-3377 or 928-9262	PLANO, TX (North Dallas Suburb) Spring Creek Church of Christ 2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 517-5582 or 231-3748 www.planochurch.org	CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxus St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Schlos (757) 436-6900	STAFFORD, VA Stafford Church of Christ 767 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Bible Class 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evanglist: Mark McNabb (540) 891-1215

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	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd. Worship 11:00 A.M. Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574	CLARKSBURG, WV Westside Church of Christ Davisson Run Road Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	WELLSBURG, WV Charles St. Church of Christ 836 Charles Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304)527–4438 or 737–4158
	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Virginia Beach Church of Christ Pembrook Manor Recreation Building 4452 Hinsdale St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (757) 486-6639 or 650-4440 churchofchrist@utinet.net	FAIRMONT, WV Eastside Church of Christ 1929 Morgantown Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 366-4523	GREEN BAY, WI Hillcrest Church of Christ 1621 Hillcrest Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (920) 499-5677 Evangelist: Jimmy Pettigrew www.hillcrestchurchofchrist.com
	BELLINGHAM, WA Mt. Baker Church of Christ 1860 Mt. Baker Hwy. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 752-2692 or 380-2960 www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker	MORGANTOWN, WV Glen Oaks Church of Christ Greenbag Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 296-9793	MILWAUKEE, WI Metropolitan Church of Christ 1029 S. 58th St. West Allis Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Girardot (414) 257-3035 Church: 258-8520
	SEQUIM, WA Church of Christ American Legion Hall Corner of Sequim Ave. & Prairie St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Call for Wednesday meeting place (360) 683-2152	MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brian Price (304) 845-2820, 845-4940	CANADA Calgary, Alberta Northside Church of Christ 803 - 20 A Ave. N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M (403) 276-8088
	SUNNYSIDE, WA Sunnyside Church of Christ (sound) 1312 East Edison Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com	MOUNDSVILLE, WV Roberts Ridge Church of Christ Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Don Terrill: (304) 845-2344 Mail to: Sam Wood (304) 845-2202 406 Jefferson Ave. Glen Dale, WV 26038	CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway #8) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Preacher - Chad Comfort (905) 562-4739
	TACOMA, WA Manitou Church of Christ 4806 So. 66th St. (P.O. Box 7523, 98407) Sunday 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (253) 759-7875 (425) 557-9242 Voice Mail: (253) 752-5616	PARKERSBURG, WV Marrtown Church of Christ 825 Marrtown Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 861-0342 or 422-7458	CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 450 Concession St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 P.M. Tuesday 7:00P.M. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437
	YAKIMA, WA W. Washington Ave. Church of Christ 902 W. Washington Ave. Conservative Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 600 P.M.	RAVENSWOOD, WV Church of Christ 1101 Gallatin St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	CANADA Peterborough, Ontario The Board Rm., Parkway Place Mall, Lansdowne St. W. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Francolist, Beta M. Physica

6:00 P.M.

7:30 P.M.

10:00 A.M.

10:50 A.M.

5:30 P.M.

7:30 P.M.

10:00 A M 10:50 A.M.

6:00 P.M.

7:30 P.M.

Evangelist: Rick Christian

273-0261 or 273-3267

Evangelist: Peter McPherson

Other meetings: phone

(705) 742-5349

Wednesday

Bible Study

Bible Study

Wednesday

Worship

Evening

Worship

Evening Wednesday

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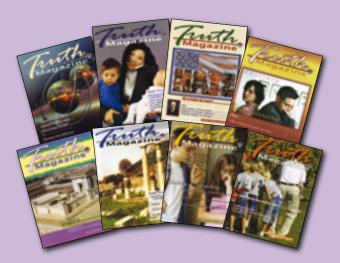
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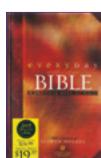
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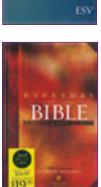
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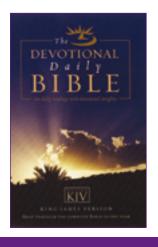


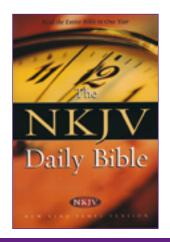


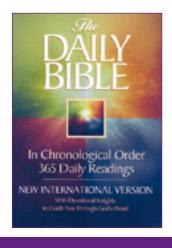


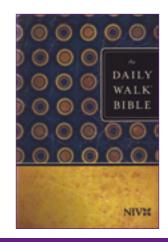














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