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MIKE WILLIS

Members of the Same Team

Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, *with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel* (Phil. 1:27).

This is a great time of the year for the sports fan. As I write this, the division championships of the NFL and AFL have been decided and Arizona and Pittsburgh will be playing in the Super Bowl. By the time you read this, the outcome will have been decided and the new super bowl champions will be known. One thing for sure, it will not be the Indianapolis Colts, *this year*. The Super Bowl will be followed soon thereafter with the “Road to the Final Four,” usually my favorite basketball tournament on TV. It will be sad this year because Indiana University’s season will end with the Big Ten tourney and, unless something really changes, they will finish last in the conference. Oh for better days!

Many of us are sports fans. Paul must have also been a sports fan because, on several occasions, he used athletic imagery to teach spiritual lessons (cf. for example, 1 Cor. 9:24-27 where he referred to foot racing and boxing; Heb. 12:1-3, running a footrace in a stadium). In the text before us, Philippians 1:27, there is another allusion to athletics that is not so apparent. Paul exhorts the members of the church at Philippi to “strive together” (KJV, NKJV) or “stiving side by side” (RSV) for the faith of the gospel.

The English word “athlete” is derived from the Greek word *athletes*, a contestant in the games. The noun *athletes* is a cognate of the verb *athlein*, “to contest for a prize.” Paul uses the word *sunathlein* to exhort the Philippians to work together as one in the gospel. The word is a compound word made up of the verb *athlein* and the preposition *sun* (with). The word means “struggle together for a thing” (Liddell & Scott, *A Greek-English Lexicon* [ninth edition], 1692). Walton Weaver expressed the idea correctly when he wrote, “Paul is not calling on them to contend for the faith

of the gospel as one *with him*, or by *his* side (as Meyer supposes in his comments on v. 30), but by each other’s side” (*Truth Commentaries: Philippians*, 63). The imagery which Paul employs is that of team players working together to win a victory.

Paul develops the same idea in 1 Corinthians 3. Addressing the factionalism at Corinth (“I am of Paul,” “I am of Apollos,” “I am of Cephas,” “I am of Christ”), Paul shows that he and Apollos were not in competition with one another but were like two men laboring together in a vineyard. One plants and the other waters, but God gives the increase (1 Cor. 3:7). Then he exhorted, “Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour. For we are labourers together with God: ye are God’s husbandry, ye are God’s building” (1 Cor. 3:8-9). In both of these passages, the apostle emphasizes that fellow Christians are team players competing for a common goal.

The team spirit at Philippi was being disturbed by two women (and perhaps others). Paul exhorts Euodia and Syntyche saying:

I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord. And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which *laboured with me* in the gospel, with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life (Phil. 4:2-3).

The words “labored with me” are translated from *sunethlesan mou*, the same word as appears in Philippians 1:27. These two sisters allowed personal conflicts to interfere with their team spirit. Instead of working together on the same team to accomplish the same goal, they were competing with each other, fussing and bickering with one another.

Each of us has witnessed athletic teams accomplish so much less than their potential because of conflicts between the players. Perhaps one player thought that he should

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Truth Magazine (ISSN 1538-0793) is published once a month by Guardian of Truth Foundation, P.O. Box 9670, Bowling Green, KY 42102. Postage paid at Bowling Green, KY and additional mailing offices.

Manuscripts should be sent to Mike Willis, 6567 Kings Ct., Avon, IN 46123, (317) 272-6520. Email: mikewillis@indy.rr.com. Subscriptions, renewals and other correspondence should be sent to *Truth Magazine*, P.O. Box 9670, Bowling Green, KY 42102. Book orders should be sent to Truth Bookstore, P.O. Box 9670, Bowling Green, KY 42102. Phone: 1-800-428-0121.

Webpage:
www.truthmagazine.com

Postmaster: Send change of address to P.O. Box 9670, Bowling Green, KY 42102.

Graphic Design: Shannon Shaffer - Shaffer Graphic Designs (615) 289-1721
www.shaffergraphicdesigns.com

Subscription Rates

Annual	\$24 per year
Single Copies	\$3.00
Foreign Subscriptions	\$27 each
Bulk Rates	\$1.75 per month



CONNIE W. ADAMS

Change YOU Must Believe In

“Change you can believe in” was the slogan in the recent winning political campaign. I got to thinking about that and it occurred to me that there is change we *must* believe in if we are to be saved eternally. I am talking about repentance. Repentance is a change of mind (especially the will) which results in a change of conduct. It is not just remorse. Judas was remorseful, but took his life without any change in conduct or character. It is not just sorrow for wrong doing. “Godly sorrow worketh repentance” (2 Cor. 7:10). There are three elements in the repentance which God demands of all.

A CHANGE OF THE INTELLECT

The Bible heart is the mind. It is that part which reasons. “But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts” (Mark 2:6). At Thessalonica Paul “reasoned with them out of the scriptures” (Acts 17:2). In God’s plan to change the sinner, there are certain facts which must be understood and accepted as true.

The gospel is a taught religion. It is not advanced by coercion or bribery. “They shall all be taught of God” and one must “hear and learn” in order to come to the Lord (John 6:44-45). “He will teach us of his ways and we will walk in his paths” (Isa.2:2-3). “So then faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God” (Rom. 10:17). To obey because someone threatened to cut off your head if you don’t, is not repentance. To obey because you are given food, or provided with a place to play basketball, is not repentance either. There must be teaching, learning, understanding and acceptance.

Paul followed this procedure at Corinth. “Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in

vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures; and that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve. . .” (1 Cor. 15:1-6). Here were facts which could not be denied and which had to be accepted in order to be saved. If you have discounted His death and have not accepted the fact that He was raised the third day, you cannot be saved. You *must* change your understanding of this or you will be lost eternally.

A CHANGE OF THE EMOTIONS

If only our intellect is changed, then our turning to God is reduced to formalism. The first appeal must be to our understanding, but God uses two forces to motivate us to change. As we come to understand the gospel message and accept its facts as true *beyond* doubt, something else comes into the equation. Our sensibilities must be stirred. Our hatred of sin and what it does to us must be aroused. “Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted” (Matt. 5:4). The “mourning” here is anguish over our sins and what they have done to us. On Pentecost, when they were convinced that they had crucified their Lord, they were in deep “mourning” and said, “What shall we do?” (Acts 2:37). How does God change our emotions?

The *love* of God and of Christ affects our emotions. “The love of Christ constraineth me” (2 Cor. 5:14). This was the force which compelled Paul to preach. When you understand what happened at Calvary and *why* it happened, there is a melting of the heart which urges you to change your will. For many years, I have seen grown men and women weep in audiences when the simple story of what our Lord endured for us is told. Their sensibilities are stirred by God’s love. No wonder Jesus said, “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever

believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life” (Jn. 3:16).

The *fear* of punishment is also intended to stir within us an apprehension of the consequences of failure to repent. What if I intellectually accept the facts of the gospel but continue on in my old way of life? In the gospel message we also learn of the price to be paid for such a course. “The wages of sin is death” (Rom. 6:23).

Jesus said, “Fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul; but rather fear him which is able to destroy both body and soul in hell” (Matt. 10:28).

Yes, there is a hell for the unrepentant “where their worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched” (Mark 9:43-44). Indeed, “How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation?” (Heb. 2:3). God has “appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness” (Acts 17:30). I must not despise God’s wondrous grace and I certainly don’t want to spend eternity in hell!

A CHANGE OF WILL

If only the emotions are changed, then religion becomes simply subjective. Our change of intellect reacts upon our sensibilities and these together prompt a decision to act. On Pentecost, it was “when they heard this” that they were “pricked in their hearts” leading them to ask, “Men, and brethren, what shall we do?” (Acts 2:37). Peter replied, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of the Jesus Christ for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38). Their understanding had now been changed and their emotions had been stirred, but there was more for them to do. Repentance was not complete until their wills were

changed, leading them to be baptized. Notice verse 41. “Then they that gladly (emotions) received his word (intellect) were baptized (they resolved to act in obedience).” Their understanding had changed, their emotions has been stirred, and now they have carried out the resolution of their wills in being baptized. That folks, is what repentance involves.

This is not just change you can believe in, it is change you must believe in if you are going to be in heaven and avoid the fires of hell.

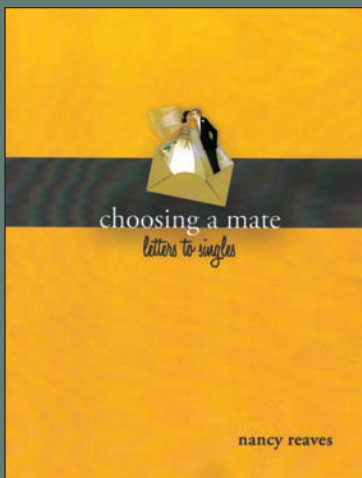
MUST WE MAKE THIS CHANGE?

“Except you repent, you shall all likewise perish” (Luke 13:3). God now “commands all men everywhere to repent” (Acts 17:30). Saul of Tarsus provides us a classic example of repentance. On the Damascus road his understanding was changed about Jesus. He recognized him as Lord and said, “Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?” He was told to “arise, and go into the city, and there it shall be told thee what thou *must* do.” He was now sorrowful for persecuting Christ and Christians and neither ate nor drank while he waited for further instructions. When Ananias came, he said to him, “And now why tarriest thou? Arise, and be baptized and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the

Lord” (Acts 9:1-6; 22:16). This was change he *must* believe in. His understanding was enlightened, his emotions were surely stirred, and the resolution of his will was activated in his being baptized and then embarking on a life of dedicated service to his Lord.

This is not just change you *can* believe in, it is change you *must* believe in if you are going to be in heaven and avoid the fires of hell.

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Choosing A Mate Letters to Singles

by Nancy Reaves

This book combines a personal approach based on Biblical principles and scripture. Lessons are combined with letters written by various Christians regarding decisions facing singles. Combining wisdom from the word of God and experience from faithful Christians, these lessons will help singles avoid choices that will hinder their walk with the Lord.

19791 \$14.959



A Sad Thing

GREG LITMER

(A Reprint From *That You May Grow Thereby*)

One Halloween I saw something that I haven't been able to get out of my mind. I guess you could say that what I saw is really "haunting" me! A group of youngsters came to our door to "trick or treat," and included in their number was a young girl who looked to be about thirteen or fourteen years of age. She was dressed up in a costume, with painted-on freckles all over her face, giggling and laughing with what appeared to be her sisters, a big bag of candy in her hand—and she was pregnant. The pregnancy was not part of her costume; it was all too tragically real.

What can you say about something like that? Young enough to be "trick or treating," old enough to be pregnant.

We all know "how" something like this happens, but what about the "why"? That little baby was the result of sin. Hebrews 13:4 clearly states, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge." Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 7:2, "Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband." That child on my porch was not married; that was apparent.

Who was to blame? The girl's mother was standing on the sidewalk while her children went from house to house. Does the blame reside on the parent's shoulders? Paul told us in Ephesians 6:4, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Did they do their job in this case? I am not the judge, and I don't know. I must confess, I have real difficulty with that girl being out there "trick or treating" as if nothing was wrong. "Trick or treating" is something for children to engage in, and like it or not, that young girl had left her childhood behind.

Was society to blame? That young girl was bombarded continually by sexual messages. The songs to which she listened (country or rock), the television shows, movies, magazines, even commercials, all use sex to sell. It is as Paul wrote in Romans 1:32, "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them." If

she attended public school, she was being taught to be tolerant of just about every sinful, perverse lifestyle that people can dream up. So many of her peers are pregnant that high schools now offer day care centers for the students. Pregnancy out of wedlock used to be something of which to be ashamed; now we bend over backwards to make those who put themselves in that position feel as if they have done nothing wrong. Help them, yes. But don't make them think that they haven't done anything wrong!

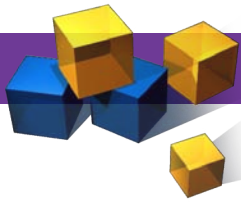
Was the girl to blame? Of course she was! I realize that the sex drive is a difficult thing to harness once it is allowed to get out of control, but I also realize that responsibility to control oneself resides with each of us. Ezekiel wrote, "The soul that sinneth, it shall die." She was old enough to get pregnant; she was old enough to know right from wrong.

Unless there is a general return to the standard of God's Word, a standard that used to characterize this country's morals, there will just be more pregnant "trick or treaters" in the future. Society is to blame to a certain extent. The ridiculous doctrine of humanism that now characterizes the curriculum of the schools is a classic example of "changing the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man." What we are seeing now in America is the same thing Paul wrote of in Romans 1:28, "And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient."

My heart went out to the girl. I looked at her and saw the young girls of our congregation. I looked at her and saw my daughter. *We have got to teach them right from wrong!* They may ultimately make the choice to commit this sin anyway, but I pray to God that they won't.

My heart went out to the baby. It's tough enough in this world, without being forced to enter it on public assistance and to face a life of poverty. In truth, it made my heart break.

(Editor's Note: Brother Litmer's book *That You May Grow Thereby* is a good daily devotional guide that we heartily recommend. It has a good mixture of heart-warming articles, doctrinal studies, practical living, etc. You will look forward to starting your day with such devotionals as this. The book is available from our bookstore.)



JOHNNIE EDWARDS

Lessons from the Word “And”

The word “and” is a conjunction that connects words of equal importance. The word *and* can be found almost 24,000 times in the Bible. In fact, the first verse of the Bible contains the word *and*. “In the beginning God created the heaven *and* the earth” (Gen. 1:1). An example can be seen in this sentence: “My dog is brown *and* white.” The word *and* shows the importance of both colors. So, we take a look at some spiritual lessons from the word *and*:

1. MARK 16:15-16

Jesus said, “Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth *and* is baptized shall be saved.” The word *and* tells us that in order to be saved, one must believe *and* be baptized. Right?

2. ACTS 2:38

The believing Jews on the day of Pentecost asked, “Men and brethren, what shall we do?” (Acts 2:37). Peter’s answer was, “Repent, *and* be baptized . . . for the remission of sins. . . .” (Acts 2:38). Do you see that what repentance was for, baptism was for the same reason? All because of the little word *and*!

3. MATTHEW 21:28

This is a story of a man with two sons. “He came to the first, and said, Son, go work to day in my vineyard. He

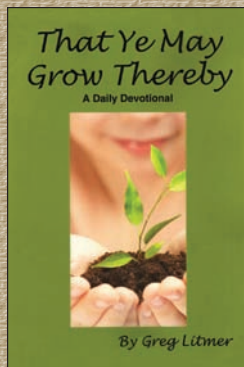
answered and said, I will not: but afterward he repented *and* went.” We quickly learn from this, that repentance first requires a change of mind and then a change of actions. Without both, there is no repentance, as the word *and* tells us.

4. JOHN 4:24

The conversation Jesus had with the woman of Samaria teaches us about true worship: “God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit *and* in truth.” There are two conditions of acceptable worship. “In spirit” mean that worship should be offered with the right attitude of mind, as our thoughts are on what is being done. The other condition is that worship must be according to the truth (John 17:17). *And* makes this very clear, right?

5. MATTHEW 7:24

Jesus declared, as He discussed the two builders: “Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, *and* doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which build his house upon a rock.” The word *and* lets us know that just hearing is not enough. It takes a hearing *and* doing, just as James penned (Jas. 1:25).



That You May Grow Thereby A Daily Devotional

by Greg Litmer

This book of daily devotions emphasizes spiritual growth. In addition to articles that touch one’s heart, the book contains articles to teach basic doctrines in Scripture so that one’s love for God grows in both heart and mind. Many of the articles in this book would make good inserts for the church bulletin.

80448 \$21.95

The Danger of Homosexuality

MICHAEL GILBERT

Granted, there are many problems in our country. Most people are concerned about the economy, the Iraq War, terrorism, murders, rapes, etc. These are legitimate problems that we are facing, but in my opinion, they are not the greatest problems. Let me explain why I believe the continued acceptance of the practice of homosexuality is bigger than the aforementioned problems (please note, I wrote “the practice of homosexuality” — a reference to the sin, and not the individual worth of a person — every person on earth has been given life, and a soul, by God and each person is, therefore, special. However, some deeds of men are vile and sinful — fornication, lying, stealing, cursing, gambling, and of course, homosexuality).

By now, you have seen the headlines: “California High Court Legalizes Gay Marriage.” (Later, Californians voted to reject homosexual marriages and since then the homosexuals have been marching in the streets. Editor) How could you miss it? The mainstream media crams it down our throat. They want us to fully accept it, and sadly, we have softened. We tolerate it now better than in 2004, when the unruly (and wicked) San Francisco mayor, Gavin Newsom, began marrying “gay couples.”

I first heard about the California Supreme Court’s decision to legalize “gay marriage” on the evening news. I hadn’t watched the evening news for several weeks, so you can imagine the disappointment I felt when this ruling by the California Supreme Court was the first

thing I saw. Even so, this is just the latest in a long line of headlines that ought to concern Christians. Over the last three to four years, I have compiled the following list of news headlines that document the decline and fall of the United States of America. It brings me no joy to mention these things. It is an affront to a Holy God that such headlines would occupy the front pages of America’s newspapers and news web sites...

“Another City Backs Gay Marriage”

“Congress Debates Gay Marriage”

“Gay Couple Married In Asbury Park”

“Gay Couples Are Being Wed In Oregon”

“Gay Marriage Sweeps The Nation”

“In Oregon City, Lesbians Getting Most Marriage Licenses”

“Kerry: Federal Government Should Recognize State-Sanctioned Same-Sex ‘Marriage’”

“Mass. Legislature Takes Up Gay Marriage Again”

“Multnomah County Grants Gay Marriage Licenses”

“NC Parent’s Angry Over Gay Children’s Book”

“New York City Gays To Apply For Marriage Licenses”

“Oregon Judge OK’s Gay Marriage Licenses”

“Quebec Court Declares Gay Marriage Legal”

“S.F. Mayor Slams Bush Gay Wedding Stance”

“Seattle Mayor To Recognize Same-Sex Marriage”

“Next State To Drop – Gay Marriage Heads To New Mexico”

“K-12 Academy Hosts ‘Queer State Of The Union’”



I realize that same-sex marriage is not the only sin of our nation, but the practice of homosexuality (including “same-sex marriage”) is so grotesque, vile, and offensive to our Creator that He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah because of it (Gen. 19). The apostle Paul wrote that God actually “gave people up” to practice homosexuality (Rom. 1:24, 26). There is nothing holy, sacred, or special about being gay. It is a sin. It is dirty, and people should be ashamed of themselves when they practice it (or any other sin for that matter). Generally speaking, society considers it wrong to smoke because it might shorten our life by a few years. But, the same society is accepting of the homosexual “lifestyle” that literally shortens the lifespan of a person by half! Studies have shown that the average lifestyle of men and women who practice homosexuality is just over forty years. Not only are we content to overlook the morally depraved acts of various sexual sins, but we have even tried to find a “cure” for AIDS and other STD’s *just so people can sin with impunity!* God help us! Our own state of Texas is still being hit with TV ads promoting a vaccination for cervical cancer that is mainly spread through illicit sex and this vaccination campaign is directed toward pre-teen girls! (Having said this, I also understand that there is a legitimate need for a cure for AIDS/STD’s. People make mistakes, and certainly I am not opposed to helping people who are afflicted with AIDS or STD’s.)

But the truth is, people need a spiritual cure more than a physical cure. Only Christ and His saving blood can cleanse sinners from the filth of sin, and that cleansing only comes through fervent belief in Christ as God’s Son (Heb. 11:6; John 8:24; 14:6), repentance of sin in view of the coming judgment (Acts 17:30-31), confession of faith in Christ as the resurrected Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10), and baptism in water for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16). Upon baptism, the Lord adds us to the church we can read about in the Bible (Acts 2:47). We then must live faithful unto death (Rev. 2:10). There is no other way.

The media would have you believe that the number of gays in America is overwhelming, but in reality, the number of homosexuals are most likely less than 3% of the total U.S. population. Three percent is still too many. These

headlines mentioned above should concern us and we should fight for the truth of God on marriage and family.

In the beginning of time, God ordained marriage as the bedrock of civil society and it is worth fighting for (Gen. 2:18-25)! Are we doing our part as a community to promote the truth among our families, our co-workers, our neighbors, and our friends? Remember Jesus’ words, “Whosoever shall confess me . . .”? *Confessing Jesus means more than claiming to be His child. Sometimes it requires us to stand up, and speak up, about what is right and wrong.*

Paul wrote, “For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness” (Rom. 1:18). Why did he write those words? “. . . because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened . . . for this cause God gave them up unto vile affections . . . men with men, working that which is unseemly” (Rom. 1:21, 26).

I’m not perfect. No human being is perfect. However, our imperfections do not prohibit us from pointing people to a higher standard. Isn’t this what our parents did when they raised us?

Until recently, the practice of homosexuality has been universally condemned and punished by most societies. Even in Texas, our laws prohibited the practice until 2003 when the infamous *Lawrence vs. Texas* decision was handed down by the Texas Supreme Court. What is wrong with going back to that moral standard?



The media would have you believe that the number of gays in America is overwhelming, but in reality, the number of homosexuals are most likely less than 3% of the total U.S. population.

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The Plot to Kill Lazarus

DAVID DANN

The miraculous resurrection of Lazarus from the dead is recorded only in the gospel of John. The text says that the lifeless body of Lazarus of Bethany had been in the tomb four days by the time Jesus arrived (John 11:17). John goes on to say that after the Lord gave the command to remove the stone from the entrance to the tomb, “He cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth! And he who had died came out bound hand and foot with graveclothes, and his face was wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, loose him, and let him go” (John 11:43-44). It is not at all surprising that many of the Jews who witnessed this fantastic miracle were moved to believe in Jesus (v. 45).

However, the resurrection of Lazarus did not have the same effect on others. Strangely enough, when the chief priests and Pharisees learned of the raising of Lazarus it aroused in them an intense desire to put Jesus to death (vv. 46-53). When Christ returned to Bethany a short time later John writes, “when a great many of the Jews knew that he was there; and they came, not for Jesus’ sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus” (John 12:9-11).

Not content with a plot to kill Jesus, the chief priests likewise devised a plot to kill Lazarus as well. The plot to kill Lazarus raises some important points concerning the tendencies of those who refuse to acknowledge the fact that Jesus is the Son of God. For example:

1. SOME WILL IGNORE THE MOST POWERFUL EVIDENCE.

Certainly the resurrection of Lazarus is one of the most outstanding of all of the miracles of Christ recorded in the New Testament. This fact could not even be denied by his enemies. Following the miracle John says, “Then the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered a council and said, ‘What shall we do? For this man works many signs?’” (John 11:47). Consider the power of the raising of Lazarus. It was known that he had been very sick for sometime (John 11:1-2). And, it was well known by many of the Jews of

that region that he had been dead four days by the time Jesus arrived in Bethany (John 11:19). In spite of all of this, the Lord successfully called him forth from the grave in the presence of numerous witnesses and in broad daylight. From that time forward, Lazarus, by virtue of his very life, then became living proof that Jesus is the Son of God. Yet the chief priests and Pharisees still rejected him and even sought to kill Lazarus in order to prevent others from believing in Jesus. Never underestimate the ability of men and women to turn a blind eye to the most obvious truth concerning spiritual matters. Many are they who can read the straightforward language of the Bible concerning matters such as sin, baptism, and the church and yet ignore the inspired instruction entirely.

2. SOME ARE DESPERATE FOR POWER AND CONTROL.

Why did the enemies of Christ seek to kill Lazarus in order to prevent the power of the miracle from causing others to believe in Him? John tells us that the chief priests and Pharisees reasoned about this miracle of Jesus saying, “If we let him alone like this, everyone will believe in him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation” (John 11:48). It is obvious that the enemies of Christ were motivated by a desire to cling to their own authority and control over others. The resurrection of Lazarus caused others to believe in Jesus, which would in turn drain some power and authority from the chief priests and Pharisees. Therefore, they sought to kill both Jesus and Lazarus, who served as living proof of the authority and power of Christ. The Lord said that those who hunger and thirst for righteousness will be filled (Matt. 5:6). But those who hunger and thirst for power and control over the lives of others will come to ruin.

3. SOME WILL DO THE MOST IRRATIONAL THINGS RATHER THAN SUBMIT TO THE LORD.

The Lord has not made it too difficult for man to believe His word and obey Him, but man will often go to great lengths to avoid doing so. The chief priests sought to kill Lazarus, “because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus” (John 12:11). They

could not deny the fact that Lazarus had been raised from the dead by Jesus, so they hoped to prevent this wonderful miracle from convincing others that Jesus is the Christ. Did their approach to the situation make sense? Suppose they had succeeded in killing Lazarus. Could not the one who raised him from the dead the first time simply raise him from the dead a second time? How many times would the chief priests have to kill Lazarus in order to avoid obeying the Lord? Some Jewish leaders eventually recognized the futility of the prospect of fighting against God (see Acts 5:33-40), but others did not. In a similar manner, many today have pledged unwavering allegiance to the irrational and illogical theory of evolution in order to avoid the obvious fact that, “The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork” (Psa. 19:1). For some

it seems that any irrational idea will do as long as it will provide one with a reason to avoid serving the Lord.

CONCLUSION

The plot to kill Lazarus reminds us of the great lengths to which some will go in order to serve their own desires while avoiding their service to God. Of the Jewish leaders in the time of Christ John says, “But although he had done so many signs before them, they did not believe in him” (John 12:37). Their stubborn refusal to acknowledge Jesus as the Christ has provided us with some important lessons for today.

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“Age of Accountability”

DONALD P. AMES

Sometimes a term is thrown around so often, we assume it is a Bible term. This is true of the expression “age of accountability.” Nowhere in the Bible do we find such an expression! So, where did it come from, and why do we use it?

Reading the Bible, it is obvious “inherited sin” is *not* Bible doctrine (see Ezek. 18, etc.). But if each individual is going to be held accountable for his own sins (2 Cor. 5:10), at what point in life does he cease to be pure and become sinful? For want of a better expression, we have adopted the term “the age of accountability” in our everyday conversation to describe this point. But why?

In Numbers 14, the children of Israel turned back from following God and refused to enter the promised land. In pronouncing His judgment, God said *no one* twenty years old and above (14: 29), save Joshua and Caleb, would be allowed to enter the promised land! Over 600,000 were condemned to die in the wilderness! “But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised” (14:31, cf. Deut. 1:39). Even though many of those children agreed with their parents in going back to Egypt, God did not hold them accountable for their decisions. They were

not mature enough to be accountable—as of “today [they] have no knowledge of good and evil” (Deut. 1:39).

Isaiah 7:16 speaks of a child not yet capable to “know to refuse evil and choose the good” (cf. 8:4). Jonah 4:11 speaks of over 120,000 “who cannot discern between their right hand and their left.” This certainly coincides with Dueteronomy 1:39, Ezekiel 28:15, and Ecclesiastes 7:29.

I believe the same logic is also applicable to Matthew 18:3 and 19:14. Thus, the term “age of accountability” may not be in the Bible, but the concept is clearly there.

Each individual is innocent, pure, safe until he reaches the age of accountability when he is able to determine

right from wrong! For some, it may be twelve (i.e. Jesus in Luke 2), for some fourteen

(i.e. the age Jews regard a boy becoming a man), for some, 18-21

(the age we regard one mature enough to decide how he will vote, get to drive, own

a gun, decide if he will drink, etc.), but for some,

with medical problems, it may *never* come. God will take care of them Himself! But once we’re old enough to *know*, we’re *accountable*, and *need* to act! Where do you stand?

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In the News



STEVEN F. DEATON

UNBELIEVABLE

The title of the article was, “Baby Miraculously Survives Abortion, Expects to Live ‘Normal Life’.” As I read the report, I was amazed. It was unbelievable. Not that the baby survived, but the view of its parents and the medical “professionals” quoted in the article.

The first sentence in the article said, “A mother who decided to abort her son because he may have inherited a life-threatening kidney condition is overjoyed that he survived the procedure.”

What?! The very woman who wanted to murder her son is now happy he survived? Do not kid yourself that she had some sort of remorse about trying to kill her son; she did not.

She said, “I was on the (birth control pill) when I became pregnant. . . . Deciding to terminate at eight weeks was just utterly horrible but I couldn’t cope with the anguish of losing another baby.” Not that horrible, was it? This woman’s focus was totally on herself. Note, “terminate” should be “murder.”

At nineteen weeks she felt a flutter in her stomach and found out she was still pregnant. She said, “I couldn’t believe it, this was the baby I thought I’d terminated [murdered, sfd]. At first I was angry that this was happening to us, that the procedure had failed. I wrote to the hospital, I couldn’t believe that they had let me down like this. They wrote back and apologized and said it was very rare.” Can you believe the hospital apologized that they did not kill her baby? She was angry, and that is why we said earlier that her joy was not the result of remorse when she found out her baby survived the abortion.

The first sentence in the article said, “A mother who decided to abort her son because he may have inherited a life-threatening kidney condition is overjoyed that he survived the procedure.”

“Women that have early terminations in weeks six, seven and eight, many times the pregnancy is so small that doctors miss removing the baby. . . .The danger is that the failed attempt can damage the baby. That is why these patients who get early terminations need follow-ups.” The failed attempt can *damage* the baby?! Come on! The successful attempt *damages* the baby—it kills him.

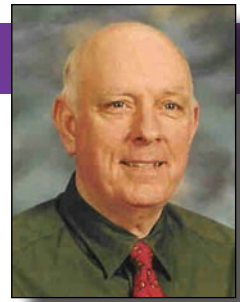
This story shows beyond the shadow of a doubt that we live in a godless, humanistic world. When a mother can coldly murder her son, the hospital will apologize for not getting the job done, and a physician is more concerned with a botched abortion than a successful one, we are doomed.

Here are the cold, hard facts. When a woman decides to murder her child she can take out a legal contract on his or her life. Then a man or woman who took an oath to “do no harm” is paid to do the hit job. It is as simple as that.

At the same time, society cries about a mass murderer or child rapist being put to death. In the former procedure (abortion), the baby is either chemically dissolved, ripped out of the womb, or torn apart then suctioned out (except in partial-birth abortion where the head remains in the womb and a sharp instrument is stabbed in the base of the skull, then the dead child is pulled out). In the latter (the death penalty), the criminal is usually laid on a table, given drugs to dose off and then poisoned in his or her sleep. The former (abortion) is deemed humane and the latter (capital punishment) is deemed inhumane.

“He who justifies the wicked, and he who condemns the just, Both of them alike are an abomination to the Lord” (Prov. 17:15).

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BOBBY L. GRAHAM

Question:
What does it mean in Galatians 5:15 when it speaks of biting and devouring one another?

Answer:

The kind of speaking just referred to in the title is fleshly speaking in that it expresses attitudes that are classified by the Holy Spirit as “of the flesh” in Galatians 5. Take time to read Galatians 5:16-26 so you might see that the context where the condemnation of biting and devouring occurs is one that deals with flesh and spirit; the familiar discussion of the works of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit is found in the same chapter. The fighting of animals with each other is possibly the basis for the origin of this word picture here used to picture the condemnable evil speaking of brothers and sisters in Christ, who ought to know better and do better. Such animals fight to the death. Are God’s children not capable of better conduct than the brute beast?

“Flesh” in the Galatian letter does not refer to physical flesh that is part of the natural body, but to man’s physical nature that he has allowed to be controlled by sin. In that sin is permitted to reside there, flesh itself stands for that sinful way of approaching life. Among such works of the flesh appear hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, and envy. Many of these works are the result of biting and devouring in that they become part of that vicious cycle set in motion. It can also truthfully be stated that biting and devouring result from these same works. The intricate connections strongly imply the difficulty of stopping the cycle somewhere. What cure or remedy is there?

Three times in the Galatian letter the remedy for such biting and devouring appears. Note the passages and read them: Galatians 2:20, 5:24, and 6:14. In each case the apostle referred to crucifying of self. Careful reading of the verses and noting their emphasis will prove helpful in this study.

In Galatians 2:20 the apostle affirmed, “I have been crucified with Christ,” and he then said that Christ was living in him. Observe that Christ lives in the crucified life: only when self is put to death can the glory and radiance of Christ shine in our lives. Otherwise, sin obscures the whole picture.

Those belonging to Christ are His because they have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires (Gal. 5:24). It is in this connection that biting and devouring, as well as the associated deeds of the flesh in chapter five, come into focus. All of them must be crucified (killed). This is an extension of the crucifixion of self mentioned in 2:20. As a result of putting self to death, the passions and desires of self are also crucified. The desire for recognition by others or self-exaltation is often responsible for the biting and devouring taking place. When hatred or malice fills the heart, biting and devouring take place. Such self-centered attitudes and desires must give way to the appeals of Christ.

“But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world” (Gal. 6:14). In these words Paul set forth the opposite of vain glorying, the kind that focuses upon self or those efforts that please and gratify self. When such crucifixion has taken place, the results are two: the world is thus crucified to us, resulting in its losing its appeal to us, and we are thereby crucified to the world, resulting in our being unattractive and unappealing to the world. These results always follow when we identify with the Lord, who died for us, through our crucifixion of self.

The consequence of such mortification of self is that we will stop biting and devouring others. What a difference the cross then makes in our lives; taking up our cross, referred to by Jesus in Matthew 16:24, involves our efforts to crucify self, begun in the repentance preceding baptism and continued for a lifetime (Col. 3:5ff). The endeavor must be life-long, because if it ceases, vain glory (pride) will rise up to slay us. Truly we must crucify self and cease crucifying others.

How will one thus crucified speak to avoid the biting and devouring here discussed? He will make sure that he speaks the truth when he has to speak about another (principle of *honesty*, Eph. 4:25). He will ask whether his speaking about

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Planely Immodest Dress

DAVID HALBROOK

On July 3, 2007, a 23-year-old college student was told by a Southwest Airline (SWA) employee to change her outfit which consisted of a white denim upper-thigh-length skirt, a tank top covered by a light cardigan, and high heel sandals. She was later allowed to simply alter it. SWA has been criticized for hypocrisy (due to its former practice of having stewardesses wear “hot pants”). The heat has primarily come from people who viewed SWA’s actions as inappropriate simply because this young woman’s attire was deemed inappropriate.

There have been some interesting comments resulting from this mini-controversy. One newspaper writer who was critical of SWA asked, “Who knows where the lines are drawn these days, particularly when it comes to dress?” Is it not interesting that he admits that he doesn’t know where the line is? If he doesn’t know where the line of limitation is, how does he know whether or not the young woman’s dress crossed proper limits? Either there are limits or there aren’t. If there are limits and by his own admission he doesn’t know where they are, how does he know that SWA wasn’t correct? Of course, the standard of society was the only appeal that he could make, “If you watch television, or visit the mall, or take in a game at Petco Park, you’ll see women dressed in ways that, 50 years ago, were pornographic. Today they are stylish.”

The young woman’s mother, while trying to side with her daughter, even admitted, “My daughter. . . dresses provocatively, as do 99 percent of 23-year-old girls who can. But they (SWA, dh) were out of line.” Is the mother saying that 99% of 23-year-old girls who dress provocatively wear

white denim? Is it the white denim that is provocative? Of course not.

Another writer, when asked what she would have said had she been on that flight replied, “I hope she’s not sitting next to my husband. . . She’s pretty. She wears her clothes well. But I wouldn’t complain about it.” Is the female afraid that the young woman’s high-heel sandals would catch the eye of her husband? Since no one seems to know where “the line” is, what line is being discussed? Are we talking about denim and sandals?



The fact is that even in worldly controversies, the thigh and the chest are repeatedly the “lines” which cause a stir. Of course, it is the clothing which reveals the thigh and the chest which the mother admits is provocative. It is the same understanding which makes even a west-coast wife at least a little leery of the idea of her husband sitting next to someone who can wear those clothes “well.”

At the least, there could be a strong case built which would argue, like Paul did regarding the veil in the culture of Corinth, judge among yourselves, is it proper to reveal your chest or thigh? Paul said that in Corinth’s culture some things were understood by nature, which according to Thayer’s third listed definition, means “a mode of feeling and acting which by long habit has become nature.” In Corinth, due to long-standing cultural practices, even the heathen identified some things as unfitting, and the Christians were to respect that perception. Christians in America can see that *even our permissive culture* recognizes the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 23



The Song Before the Lord's Supper (4)

In this series of articles, we have been considering this question about the hymns we sing in connection with the Lord's Supper: Must they always be slow and sad, or can they be upbeat and celebratory? We noted scriptures that emphasized both aspects of Jesus' sacrifice: sorrow and joy. We rejoice for salvation because of His sacrifice but, at the same time, grieve that our sins made it necessary.

A MEMORIAL ABOUT SUFFERING AND DEATH

Jesus told His disciples to eat the Lord's Supper "in remembrance of Me" (Luke 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:24). Paul said that Christians "proclaim the Lord's death" with the Lord's Supper and that this memorial will continue "till He comes" (1 Cor. 11:26). It is important to note the Lord's Supper is a memorial to Jesus' suffering and death.

God could have made the Lord's Supper a memorial about Jesus' victorious resurrection. He could have told us to do things that bring to mind the stone that was rolled away, the empty tomb, or the appearances of the resurrected Christ. Other than Christians meeting on the first day of the week, no biblical memorial celebrates Jesus' resurrection.

Likewise, God could have arranged the Lord's Supper to commemorate Jesus' glorious ascension to heaven. This was the point at which Jesus was "exalted to the right hand of God" (Acts 2:33), "far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come" (Eph. 1:21). After His ascension, He truly attained this preeminence as our "Prince and Savior" (Acts 5:31), having begun His reign as "the King of kings and Lord of Lords" (1 Tim. 6:15). However, no scriptural memorial honors Jesus' ascension.

Instead, God chose a memorial with the themes of suffering and death. He selected emblems that represent torn flesh and blood flowing from wounds. We understand that a somber disposition is appropriate for Americans observing Memorial Day or visiting the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, despite the joy and thankfulness we have for the free-

dom provided by our soldiers who sacrificed their lives. Likewise, we should be able to see how it is fitting to be solemn about Jesus' death during the Lord's Supper.

THE BENEFITS OF HIS SUFFERING AND DEATH

On the other hand, as we noted in the last article, we have reason to rejoice in Jesus' sacrifice. Without it, we would not have salvation. Though the Lord's Supper reminds us of suffering, which makes us sad, is it possible, at the same time, to celebrate the benefits of the cross? How can our worship reflect the scriptures' portrayal of both joy and sorrow over Jesus' death?

A HYMN AFTER THE LORD'S SUPPER?

One simple way to strike balance in the Lord's Supper would be to sing a hymn afterward that expresses our joy for the sacrifice on the cross. Our tradition is to have a "Lord's Supper song" only beforehand, but perhaps we should consider a regular "song after the Lord's Supper." Singing a thankful positive hymn after the Lord's Supper is a fitting response to the solemn side of the memorial.

Another common practice is for someone to read scripture and make comments before the Lord's Supper. Readings and comments that focus on the benefits of Jesus' sacrifice may also be appropriate after the Lord's Supper (perhaps before "the song after the Lord's Supper").

DIVIDING HYMNS

Singing part of a hymn before the Lord's Supper and part of it afterward is another effective way to balance both the sorrow and joy of Jesus' sacrifice. In the next article, we will discuss specific hymns, and how they may be used in this manner.



Excursion to Israel and Egypt



MIKE WILLIS

Today we left Galilee headed south toward Jerusalem, but there would be important places to visit along the way. We drove from Tiberias to Megiddo.

MEGIDDO

The ancient town of Megiddo was destroyed so many times and by so many different conquerors that its name became synonymous with all out war and total destruction. Megiddo overlooks the Jezreel Valley and has been important militarily since ancient times. Because Megiddo sits on the trade route through the Jezreel Valley, the only pass through the Carmel mountain range, it was a strategic location. Of vital military and trading importance, this highway was named by the Romans *Via Maris*. Whoever controlled the Jezreel Valley controlled northern Palestine.

The fortified hill of Megiddo is a remarkable *tel* (settlement mound) where twenty layers of civilization have been uncovered since excavations began in 1903. About 4000 B.C. Canaanites took over the settlement here and remained



A circular Canaanite altar was uncovered at Megiddo.

there for some 2000 years. A Canaanite temple and fortifications survive. Egyptian records indicate that Pharaoh Thutmose III (1479-1425 B.C.) defeated an Asiatic coalition headed by the king of Kadesh at Megiddo. The city is mentioned in the El-Amarna letters, as its king appeals for aid to withstand the invading Hapiru.

The name "Megiddo" first appears in the Bible when Megiddo was conquered by the Israelites under Joshua in the C13 B.C. (Josh. 12:21; 17:11) and given to the tribe of Manasseh (Josh. 17:11). In the period of the judges, Deborah and Barak defeated Sisera and Jabin, king of Hazor, there (Judg. 5:19). The Philistines subsequently held the city (Judg. 1:27), but it was retaken by



The tel at Megiddo contains civilizations that preceded the conquest of Israel.

David in 1000 B.C. Solomon enlarged the city and there are many remains from that period (1 Kings 9:15). Ahaziah died at Megiddo when Jehu led a successful rebellion in Israel (2 Kings 9:27). Josiah was killed in a battle with Pharaoh-necho (2 Kings 23:29) at Megiddo. Conquered by the Assyrians in 733 B.C., the site frequently changed hands but was abandoned in 538 B.C.



The model reconstructed at Megiddo shows its Solomonic gates and other fortifications he built to strengthen the city.

- A collection of 282 ivories from the 13th-12th centuries B.C.
- A water tunnel belonging to the time of Ahab.
- Ruins for stables from the times of Omri and Ahab.

These formerly were thought to be from the reign of King Solomon, but are now generally conceded to have been from Omri and Ahab.



A well-preserved first century tomb is located a short distance from Megiddo.

Because Megiddo was the scene of some major battles in the Old Testament, the battlefield was so renown that Armageddon is used in the book of Revelation to describe a great spiritual conflict.

The six chambered gate is from the time of Solomon. On the site of his palace, Solomon built a chariot stable for 450 horses, chariots, and riders (1 Kings 9:19; 10:26). In front is a large circular grain silo. King Ahab built an underground shaft and water tunnel 118 ft. deep and 213 feet long.

Significant artifacts found here include:

- A circular altar for Canaanite worship.
- Solomonic double gateway entrance.

MT. CARMEL

Leaving Megiddo, we traveled a short distance to Mt. Carmel, where the great contest between Elijah and the prophets of Baal occurred. A monument to Elijah stands on the mount to remind one of the great contest.



Statue to commemorate Elijah's victory over the prophets of Baal.

CAESAREA MARITIMA

Caesarea was formerly known as Strato's Tower. Strato is the Greek form of the name borne by three Sidonian kings in the fourth century B.C. Caesar Augustus gave Strato's Tower to Herod the Great early in his reign. Herod the Great felt especially indebted to Octavian since he had taken the wrong side in Octavian's war with Mark Anthony. After Octavian defeated Anthony at Actium in 31 B.C., Herod was allowed to continue to rule. To express his gratitude to Caesar, Herod changed the name of Strato's Tower to Caesarea in honor of Caesar Augustus (Octavian). He rebuilt the city, fashioning it like major Roman cities. It became the administrative center for the province of Judea.

One of the great cities of the ancient world, Caesarea was built in twelve years (22-10 B.C.) by Herod the Great in an attempt to equal the splendor and pomp of Athens. Caesarea soon became the largest city in Judea, a chief port, and the Roman

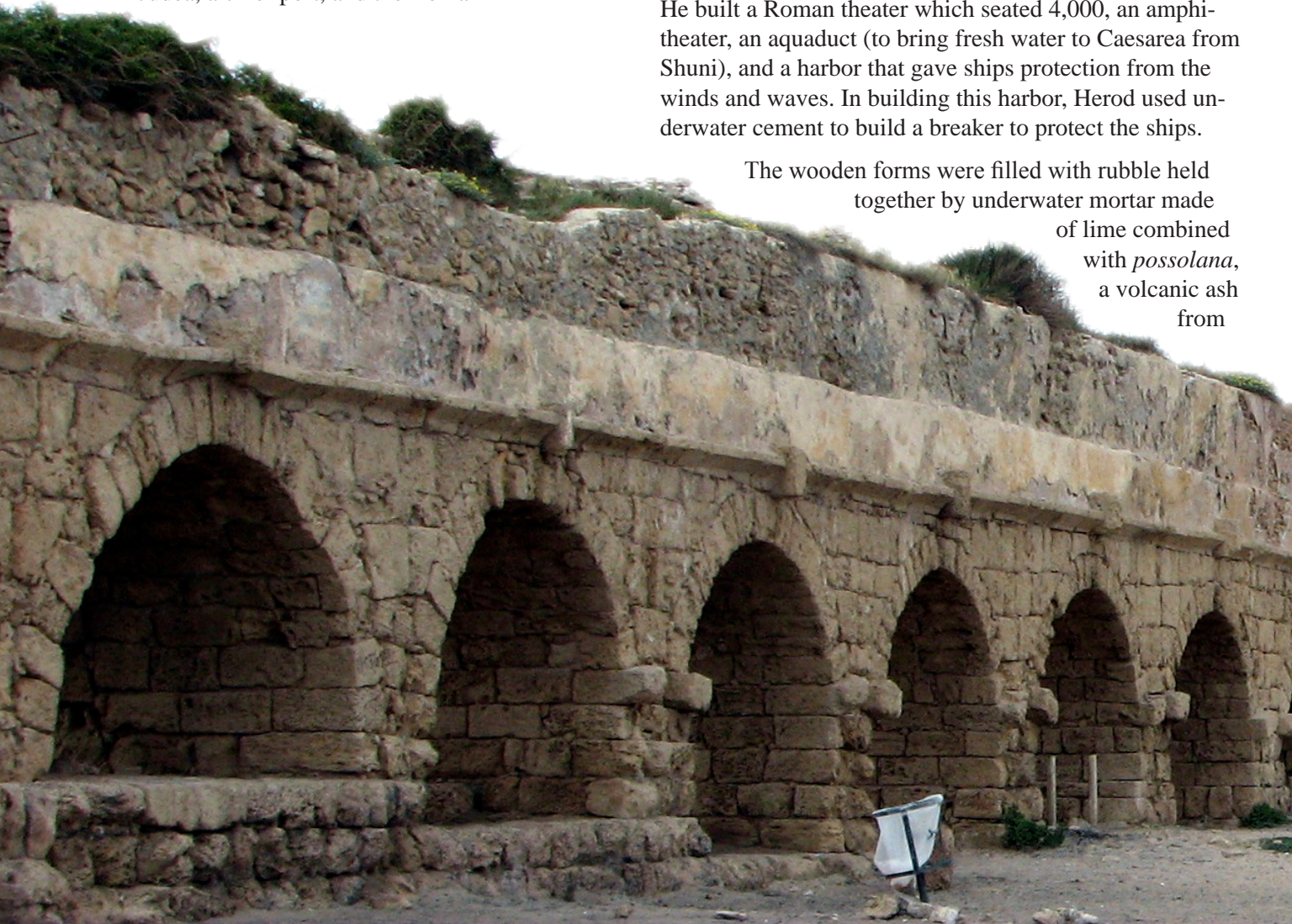


The theater which Herod the Great constructed at Caesarea Maritima.

administrative capital of Judea for almost 600 hundred years.

Herod's massive construction at Caesarea is impressive. He built a Roman theater which seated 4,000, an amphitheater, an aquaduct (to bring fresh water to Caesarea from Shuni), and a harbor that gave ships protection from the winds and waves. In building this harbor, Herod used underwater cement to build a breaker to protect the ships.

The wooden forms were filled with rubble held together by underwater mortar made of lime combined with *possolana*, a volcanic ash from



central Italy. The harbour was destroyed by an earthquake in A.D. 130. Underwater archaeology continues to study Herod's harbor which has been largely buried by the accumulation of silt.

To supply the city with water, Herod built an aquaduct, built with Roman architectural features, which runs from Tzabarim to Caesarea.

The massacre of 20,000 Jews at Caesarea started the First Jewish War (66-70 A.D.) and the eventual destruction of Jerusalem. The desecration of the Jewish synagogue at Caesarea was one of the contributory causes of the First Revolt.

In 306, the emperor Maximinus had Christians executed before him in the amphitheater that Herod had built. After the Crusades, Caesarea faded from history. Excavations after WWII located the city once more and a program of restoration was started. As an archaeological site it is dramatic, extensive, and accessible. Its ruins cover over 8000 acres (Schoville, *Biblical Archaeology in Focus* 337). Today one sees an area of superimposed walled cities — Herodian, Roman, and Byzantine — overlaid in part by the Gothic remains of a medieval Crusader fortress town.

Of particular interest is an archaeological find at Caesarea which was the first to mention the procurator Pontius Pilate who had his residence there.

“In 1961 an extraordinary find was a stone that bore the three-line inscription: *Tiberieum/ [Pon]tius Pilatus/ [Praef]lectus Iuda[ae]* — ‘Tiberius [the Roman emperor of the period]/Pontius Pilate/Prefect of Judea.’ This is the first archaeological evidence of Pilate, under whom Jesus was crucified...” (Schoville 341). A replica of the stone is at the theater, the original is in the Israel Museum.



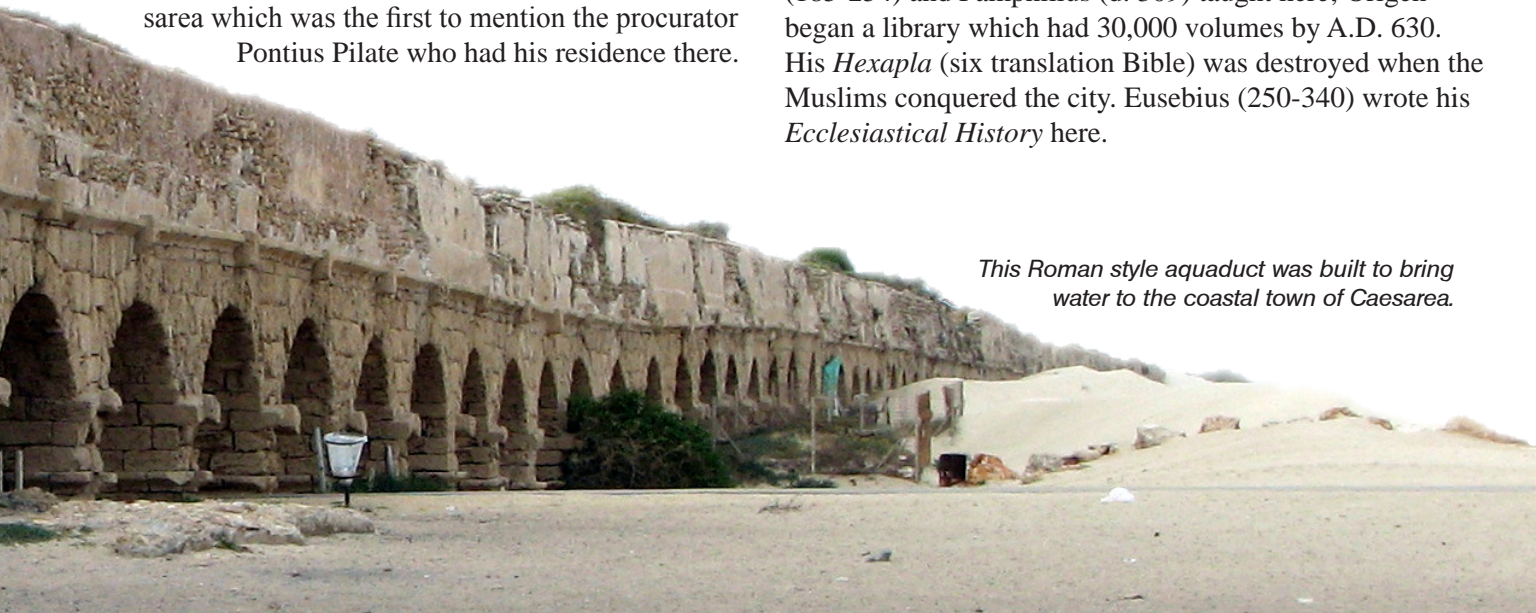
An inscription with the name of Pontius Pilate on it was found at Caesarea. One can distinctly read the Latin name of Pilate on line two of the inscription and the name of Tiberius on line one.

Important Bible events that happened at Caesarea:

- Philip preached there (Acts 8:40; 21:8).
- Paul sailed from Caesarea on his way to Tarsus (Acts (9:30).
- Cornelius, the first Gentile convert, was from Caesarea (Acts 10:1).
- Herod Agrippa I, the grandson of Herod the Great who killed James, resided here. He was stricken of worms and died (Acts 12:20-23).
- Paul landed in Caesarea after his second missionary journey (Acts 18:22).
- Paul was on trial before Felix there (Acts 23:23-33).
- Paul sailed from here on his way to Rome for trial (Acts 25:11).

Caesarea was also important in church history. Origen (185-254) and Pamphilius (d. 309) taught here; Origen began a library which had 30,000 volumes by A.D. 630. His *Hexapla* (six translation Bible) was destroyed when the Muslims conquered the city. Eusebius (250-340) wrote his *Ecclesiastical History* here.

This Roman style aquaduct was built to bring water to the coastal town of Caesarea.



Dealing with Discouragement in Mission Work



STEVE WALLACE

There has likely been more interest in mission work in the last twenty years than in anytime since the period immediately following the Second World War. The countries wherein Gospel preachers are presently laboring are numerous enough that even attempting to list all of them and all the workers would take some research. This alone is a testimony to the commitment preachers and churches have shown toward fulfilling the great commission in our time. In spite of all these efforts to further the Gospel a familiar enemy can present a great hindrance: discouragement.

Discouragement can rob a foreign worker of the zeal and devotion he needs both to sow the seed and bring fruit “to perfection” (Luke 8:14). It can cause him to be lax toward his own spiritual needs and can sap or divert his energy, or even cause him to leave the mission field. Such a state of mind will affect his work negatively: When the preacher is discouraged he will have a hard time encouraging others—both lost and saved. Thus, in spite of the interest and support of brethren in many places, discouragement can blunt the sword of the Gospel at the very point of contact with needy souls in the mission field.

Discouragement can be caused by a number of things. It can come from one’s perceiving a lack of interest in the Gospel on the part of the lost. For example, it sometimes happens that a lecture is planned, publicly advertised – and then few people show up. This is disheartening. And who can deny how discouraging it is when we lose a promising young Christian to the world? Likewise, having to deal with church problems or church discipline, as necessary as such work is, can take the wind out of one’s sails. Beyond these things, being far from home, loved ones, and familiar surroundings can also have ill effects. Hence, it behooves us to look at some ways to overcome discouragement for our own good and for the sake of the Gospel.

Discouragement can rob a foreign worker of the zeal and devotion he needs both to sow the seed and bring fruit “to perfection” (Luke 8:14).

1. WALK WITH GOD

The confidence which Paul exuded in even the most trying circumstances was born of his faith that God would not forsake him because he had faithfully walked with him (2 Tim. 4:7, 16-18). Do your work of preaching and teaching (2 Tim. 4:2-4). Seek God daily in prayer and through His word. Live soberly, righteously and godly in spite of the spiritual climate of your surroundings (Tit. 2:11-12). Build on the one foundation so you can stand in the storms of life (Matt. 7:24-27). Our next point is connected with this.

2. USE THE CORRECT MEASURE TO MEASURE YOUR WORK.

Paul wrote, “So that from Jerusalem, and round about to Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ” (Rom 15:19), and “For I have not shunned to declare unto you all of the counsel of God” (Acts 20:27). While all brethren would like to hear of a foreign worker converting thousands, my work as a Gospel preacher is to “fully preach” Christ in the area of my labors and declare “all the counsel of God” to those who will hear. It is the hearer’s responsibility to hearken (Matt. 13:9). Let a man be conscious of his true responsibilities and his work toward fulfilling them, and any perceived failings can be dealt with. (*God will grant us the same forgiveness which we preach to others [1 Tim. 1:12-16].*)

However, if a man starts measuring himself by other preachers or by the number he converts, he has stopped using the measure God has given him (2 Cor. 10:12; 1 Kings 19: 4,10). Let not such a one be surprised when he lacks the wherewithal to go on.

3. TAKE ENCOURAGEMENT FROM BRETHREN WHERE YOU ARE (ACTS 28:14-15).

I remember a time many years ago when I was down and wondering what I was doing in Germany. In this state, I walked into a room full of brethren with whom I was work-

ing at the time and I thought, “This is what I am doing here.” Like a father is happy in his son, so should preachers draw encouragement from those he is nurturing in the Lord (Gal. 4:13-15).

4. RECOGNIZE THAT GOD IS WITH US IN OUR TRIALS AND WORKS GOOD FROM THEM. JOSEPH, DANIEL, AND PAUL EXEMPLIFY THIS, AS DOES OUR LORD.

Think of what a curse it would be to go through life with no problems! We would have no real view of life in the sense of such men of faith from the Bible. Please recall the cruel wrongs suffered by Joseph in a foreign land. Yet, because “the Lord was with Joseph” (Gen. 39:2, 21), these things turned out to be among the *good things* in his life. The psalmist wrote, “It is **good** for me that I have been afflicted; that I might learn thy statutes” (Ps. 119:71).

5. STAY IN CONTACT WITH OTHER BRETHREN.

The wise man wrote, “As cold waters to a thirsty soul, so is good news from a far country” (Prov. 25:25). *If you need some “cold waters” for your soul, please read the following report summaries!* Brethren are spreading the Gospel in other countries. Many souls are obeying it. God’s kingdom is being furthered and strengthened. Do not isolate yourself from such “good news” from your fellow laborers or from your brethren in other places.

6. VISIT HOME.

As far as I am able to tell, either Jerusalem or Antioch seems to have been Paul’s adopted home. He returned to

these churches over and over again (Acts 14:26-28; 18:21-22; 21:15-19). Whether one agrees with my analogy here or not, the facts are that Paul did not stay in the mission field but returned from time to time to visit the area wherein his life with Christ began. Such visits are part of the work in a foreign land in that they allow the worker time away to recharge and rest in order to carry on his work there.

7. PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.

Think of what you might do “if the Lord will” (Jas. 4:15). Paul did this (Rom. 15:22-29). Your work is giving you experience that will make you more and more useful to our Lord. Because God has blessed you with the opportunities you presently have, you are learning more about your abilities (Matt. 25:14-15). How might you apply these abilities in the future? Looking beyond the present can lift us up and help us go on in spite of present difficulties. Ultimately, we must plan for our future with the Lord around the throne. Serving Him today will lead to serving Him in the eternal city (Rev. 22:14). Serving Him today is part of planning for the future.

CONCLUSION

In spite of what has been in the past, today is a new day. Use it to serve God. Discouragement will come. What will it *make* of you? Please remember Paul’s view of all such affliction: “For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, *worketh* for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory” (2 Cor. 4:17). Deal with discouragement properly. Let it have its proper “work” with you.

Questions and Answers

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)

such a one is necessary to the progress of truth and the advance of the kingdom, or just a means of promoting self and controversy (principle of *edification*, Eph. 4:29; 1 Cor. 13:4-5). He will scrutinize his own motive in the speaking to make sure that he does not rejoice in another’s sin (principle of *love*, 1 Cor. 13:6). Finally he will certify that kindness characterizes his speaking (principle of *kindness*, Eph. 4:32; Matt. 7:12). Preachers often stress these principles, and those of us who write also need to heed these same principles. Obedience to God is sufficient reason to heed these scriptural principles, but another reason often overlooked is the potential of writing to do even more harm to a person’s standing/reputation than the spoken word. The reason for this greater potential is that the written word has wider circulation, even among many knowing nothing of

the problem /person exposed by the writing. May we then be careful what we say and how we say it.

Knowing that our words derive from the good or evil treasure of the heart, that each will give an account for his words, and that by our words we shall be justified or condemned (Matt. 12:36-37), may we all examine ourselves in whatever way these principle apply to make our calling and election sure.



Blessings in Christ



LEWIS WILLIS

When the apostle Paul wrote his letter to the church at Ephesus, he stated: “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with *all spiritual blessings* in heavenly places in Christ” (Eph. 1:3). Obviously, he refers to the blessing, but he also stresses that the blessings are to be found in Christ, and only in Him.

Perhaps I should begin by defining the process of entry *into Christ* where the blessings are realized. The New Testament plainly tells how to get *into Christ*. Note Galatians 2:26-27: “For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as have been *baptized into Christ* have put on Christ.” In another passage, Paul wrote: “Know ye not, that so many of us as *were baptized into Jesus Christ* were baptized into his death?” (Rom. 6:3). The message is too plain to be misunderstood. When the sinner, acting on his faith in Christ, is baptized according to the teaching of the Gospel, that forgiven sinner is said to be “in Christ.”

If one needs to get into Christ, he should let someone know his need. Otherwise, he will not have the great blessings we now discuss in this article. These are spiritual blessings which will enrich one’s life here on earth, and they are necessary if one is to go to Heaven when he dies.

FORGIVENESS

No one has a need greater than forgiveness of one’s sins. We are lost and under condemnation until we receive the forgiveness of the Lord. Significantly, the New Testament addresses this need of man at the very beginning of the preaching of the Gospel. On Pentecost, note what sinners were told to do to have their sins forgiven: “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:38). The remission of sins and the forgiveness of sins are one

and the same thing. Also, note that the very action—baptism—which puts one into Christ also provides forgiveness of sins.

One must realize what a blessing forgiveness is. God does not owe us forgiveness. We certainly have done nothing to place God in debt to us. Forgiveness is an act of His grace, love, and mercy; essentials for our fallen souls. When sinners realize their sins have been forgiven, they can rest in peace! Their troubled, tormented souls realize a calmness that they could not otherwise have.

PEACE

How do we measure the blessing of peace? However we try, we cannot find the words to adequately express the value of peace. Consider how the apostle Paul spoke of peace: “And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus” (Phil. 4:7). To live life and calmly rest at night realizing that we are at peace with God is something that passes human understanding. Why would God bless us so, especially after we have committed so many sins against Him? Our “hearts and minds” are kept in safety and assurance when we are at peace with God.

I should note, just here, that there is another factor to consider. Another verse says: “Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God? Whosoever therefore will be a friend of the world is the enemy of God” (Jas. 4:4). We should search our hearts to determine if we are at peace with God, or if

we are one of His enemies!

Joy

Joy is another of those blessings which we find hard to define and describe. There is no joy if we are in a state of condemnation before God. If we present ourselves to Him still guilty of unforgiven sin, He has told us He will confine us to the punishment of Hell. Again, note Paul’s state-

These are spiritual blessings which will enrich one’s life here on earth, and they are necessary if one is to go to Heaven when he dies.

ment respecting this sad fact: “. . . In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (2 Thess. 1:8-9). We should act decisively to prevent this fate befalling us. We are delivered from the curse of Hell when we obey the Gospel and are forgiven.

When we know we have done what God has instructed us to do for forgiveness, our hearts rejoice! Paul said, “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice” (Phil. 4:4). Please note that rejoicing is found in the Lord where Ephesians 1:3 says we receive spiritual blessings like joy and happiness.

HOPE

Scores of people die every day with absolutely no hope of going to Heaven! These have lived in rebellion to God,

proudly parading their iniquity before God and men. They have not been saved. In fact, most have no interest in salvation at all. These die without hope!

On the other hand, the person in Christ has hope. Paul said to Titus, he was “In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began” (Tit. 1:2). Paul was well aware of his sins in the past. He was also aware that he had obeyed the Gospel and had been forgiven. He knew he was not going to Hell. He lived “in hope of eternal life,” of going to Heaven when he died. You and I can share that blessing with Paul, if we are in Christ, and living as He commands. The proper choice is obvious, is it not?

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Planely Immodest Dress

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14)

problem with this type of dress. The fact that athletic fields, shopping centers, weddings (funerals?), and even worship services have become places where some Christians are exposing their nakedness is shameful. But, this line of reasoning falls short of what God has revealed concerning identifying what should be covered.

In the beginning, Adam and Eve’s partial coverings caused them to be naked until God clothed them (Gen. 3:7, 10, 21). Under the law of Moses, God warned against the sin of uncovering nakedness that could result from exposing the thigh and provided preventative measures to ensure against improper exposure (Exod. 20:25-26; 28:42). Under the authority of Christ, Christians understood the existence of “the shame of nakedness,” so that John could even use that expression in a figurative way (Rev. 3:22). Figurative language necessarily implies that there is a reality that is understood, else the figure has no meaning. If sowers didn’t really plant seed and birds didn’t eat seed off the sidewalk, then Jesus’ parable would have had no meaning (Matt. 13:3). And if nakedness was not shameful, then John’s statement loses all effect.

If uncovering the thigh “isn’t necessarily naked or sinful” for the Christian today, then neither is uncovering the chest (Exod. 28:42; Prov. 5:19). They both biblically stand or fall together when understanding what God considers naked.

In the beginning, Adam and Eve’s partial coverings caused them to be naked until God clothed them (Gen. 3:7, 10, 21).

While elders have the primary duty to identify and discipline those who walk disorderly within the local church (2 Thess. 3:6), on the Day of Judgment the decision, word, or opinion of any elder, preacher, article-writer, or airline representative will not determine where you will spend eternity. God will judge you according to the gospel of His grace which “teaches us that denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and justly” (Acts 20:24; Ti. 2:11). Therefore “as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, ‘Be holy, for I am holy’” (1 Pet. 1:15-16).

(All non-biblical quotations from http://www.signonsandiego.com/uniontrib/20070905/news_1m5braun.html.)

“They Worshipped Him”

KYLE POPE

Notice with me an enlightening verse found in Matthew 28:9. After the resurrection of the Messiah the women who went to the tomb encounter the risen Lord. The text reads: “And as they went to tell His disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, ‘Rejoice!’ And they came and held Him by the feet and worshipped Him” (NKJV). How does this match our image of worship to God? Do we conceive of humbling ourselves to the degree that we would fall on our face, grasping His feet?

In Scripture it is not unusual to find worship described in this way. In Revelation 3:9 the Lord speaks of punishing the rebellious Jews of Philadelphia by making them “come and worship before your (*i.e.* the saints in Philadelphia’s) feet.” In Acts 10:25 the Bible records that when Cornelius first saw Peter, he “met him and fell down at his feet and worshipped *him*.” Finally, Revelation 22:8 tells us that after all the glories of the book of Revelation were revealed to him, the Apostle John “fell down to worship before the feet of the angel” who had shown these things to him.

The connection so frequently found between feet and “worship” is understandable. The Greek word which is translated “worship,” *proskuneo* means literally “to kiss towards” (Thayer, 548). To men and women in ancient times (as in eastern countries to this day) bowing prostrate before a ruler, or in reverence to deity were accepted practices. The picture is that of bowing before the feet of the one being worshipped and kissing their feet in homage and submission.

Are we approaching the Lord with this attitude when we worship Him? Imagine kneeling down in our nice suits and Sunday dresses, putting our face to the ground stretching our hands out, as we lay ourselves flat on the floor in front

of the Lord grasping His feet and kissing them in humble gratitude and submission. It would certainly be difficult to cling to any kind of selfish pride or vanity in such a condition. I’m afraid our culture is not even prepared to allow such an attitude without ridicule and scorn if such humility were demonstrated.

I am not convinced that the Scriptures ask us to physically prostrate ourselves before the Lord when we approach Him in worship. However, I do believe that we must have the disposition in approaching Him that in our mind “falls down” before Him with the same kind of self-abasement we would possess if we physically did so. That isn’t timidity, but recognition of God’s superiority and our frailty. How will this kind of disposition show itself?

- In a desire to fully and completely obey Him.
- In an interest in His people.
- In an effort to worship Him in truth.
- In a willingness to seek authority for our deeds.
- In a readiness to deny our own wishes.

In 1 Corinthians 14:25 we are told what a great effect our teaching and disposition can have upon unbelievers. The Lord would have our assemblies to be such that when an unbeliever visits among us, after being convinced of the truths preached they will feel compelled to imitate our worship. The text tells us that when such a person realizes that his heart lies open to God, after “falling down on his face, he will worship God and report that God is truly among you.” Let us strive to make our worship to God like that.

**“And as they
went to tell
His disciples,
behold, Jesus
met them,
saying,
‘Rejoice!’
And they
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Him.”**

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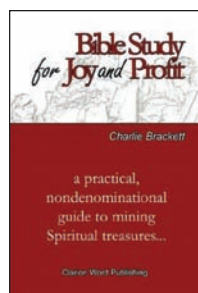


Bible Study for Joy and Profit. Charlie Brackett. Clarion Word Publishing, 2007. 266 pages, softback. ISBN: 0-9779577-4-8 Cat. #18711 \$15.95

Because the Bible is an often neglected book, the need for Bible reading and study today is critical. Charlie Brackett is well aware of this need and has met it by publishing a good book on Bible study. *Bible Study for Joy and Profit* covers all the basic points and helps the student develop a sound practice of Bible study. Brackett begins

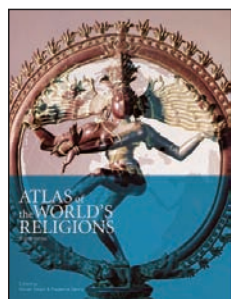
his book with some basic claims of the Bible and answers the question, "Why should I study?" Brackett goes on to train the student in recognizing the divisions of the Bible to study, the use of study aids (including computer software), research techniques, Bible authority, correct Bible interpretation, and the use of figurative language. There are also chapters that cover several practical matters not found in other books of this kind, such as motivation for study, finding a good place to study, and checking one's progress of study. *Bible Study for Joy and Profit* is recommended as a good entry-level text for anyone learning the practice of Bible study.

Augustine. Eugene TeSelle. Abingdon Press, 2006. 105 pages, softback. ISBN: 0-687-05361-7 Cat. #19795 \$12.00



Are the doctrines of Unconditional Predestination and Original Sin found in the Bible, or are they doctrines of men? They are doctrines of men and some would trace these doctrines back to John Calvin, but in fact they go back farther in history to Calvin's predecessor, Augustine. To understand these two doctrines, one must understand Augustine himself.

In *Augustine*, Eugene TeSelle, professor of Church History and Theology at Vanderbilt University, provides a thorough overview of the life and teachings of this man of influence. TeSelle writes in such a way that the reader can easily grasp the basic facts, influence, and significance of Augustine's life and work called *Confessions*



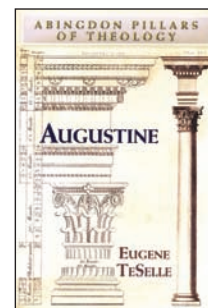
(A.D. 397). Augustine was a man influenced greatly by Platonism, Gnosticism, and Manichaeism, and elements of these schools of thought can be found in his teachings. One point of original sin and infant baptism brought out by TeSelle is most revealing. He writes: "Infant baptism probably was not practiced in the earliest church. But by about 200 there is evidence of infants being baptized. . . . Once the practice arose, it had to be justified. In the West it was explained by suggesting that there is something wrong about the infant: mortality, disordered affections, perhaps even sin and guilt that are the consequences of the sins of earlier generations, all the way back to Adam and Eve" (37). The reader will note that a man-made practice was first accepted and then the justification for it followed. TeSelle's *Augustine*, is a helpful introduction and one of several current books in the Abingdon Pillars of Theology series.

CHRIS REEVES

double space

Atlas of the World's Religions. Ninian Smart and Frederick Denny, Editors. Oxford University Press, 2007. 272 pages, hardback. ISBN: 978-0-19-533401-2 Cat. #19814 \$110.00

Do you need a basic overview and understanding of the world's religions around you? The *Atlas of World's Religions* by Oxford University Press is highly recommended. This atlas covers all the well-known religions and some of the lesser-known religions of the Pacific and indigenous regions. The Bible student will find the chapters on the Near East and Europe most helpful in studying the religions of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Palestine, Assyria, Babylon, Greece, and Rome. Overall, the content in this *Atlas* is sound and factual with but few exceptions. For example, the reader would do well to ignore the evolutionary dates for the beginning of mankind (3,600,000 years ago) as set forth by the authors (28). While Oxford's *Atlas of the World's Religions* is a higher priced than other books in the same category, it is well worth the investment to own such a comprehensive atlas of this kind.



Kid's Korner

DONNA HALBROOK



REVIEW OF THEMES

We have studied Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon. God gave His people these five books to teach them how to be wise and how to praise God in good times and bad times. That is why we call these books “Books of Wisdom and Worship.” We call them also “Books of Poetry” because they are written as poems. Poems use words that sound alike or words that have other repeated patterns. This adds beauty to the language and helps us remember the lesson. Songs are poems. God used poetry to help His people memorize and remember the lessons in these five special books.

MATCH THE BOOK AND ITS THEME:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 1. Job | A. King Solomon and the Shulamite girl fell in love and married. |
| 2. Psalms | B. A rich man lost his wealth and his children but kept his faith in God. |
| 3. Proverbs | C. We find happiness in life when we fear God and keep His commandments. |
| 4. Ecclesiastes | D. Many poems were written by King David for God's people to use in worship. |
| 5. Song of Solomon | E. King Solomon teaches the true wisdom that pleases God and enjoys life. |

REVIEW MEMORY VERSES!

“Though he _____ me, yet will I _____ in him” (Job 13:15).

“Blessed be _____ for _____ Amen and _____” (Ps. 89:52).

“The fear of _____ is the beginning of _____” (Prov. 9:10).

“Let us _____ the conclusion of the _____ matter: Fear _____, and keep his _____: for this is the _____” (Eccl. 12:13).

“Many waters cannot quench _____, neither can the _____ drown it: if a man would give all the substance of his house for _____, it would utterly be _____ (despised)” (Song of Sol. 8:7).

ACTIVITY: WHICH BOOK WOULD HELP?

- Which book helps us learn songs of praise to sing to God?
A. _____ Job B. _____ Psalms C. _____ Proverbs
- Which book teaches young people it is wise to obey our parents and choose our friends carefully?
A. _____ Job B. _____ Psalms C. _____ Proverbs
- Which book helps husbands and wives learn to say, “I love you,” and compliment each other?
A. _____ Proverbs B. _____ Ecclesiastes C. _____ Song of Solomon
- Which book helps us remember that Satan not God causes sickness and death?
A. _____ Job B. _____ Proverbs C. _____ Ecclesiastes
- Which book helps us understand the whole purpose of our life is to fear God and keep His commandments?
A. _____ Psalms B. _____ Ecclesiastes C. _____ Song of Solomon

The Roman Catholic Sexual Abuse Scandal

JESSE FLOWERS

“The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles will settle its clergy abuse cases for at least \$600 million, by far the largest payout in the church’s *sexual abuse scandal*” (source: www.msnbc.msn.com/id/19762878/).

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles is forced to do so in order to settle over 500 clergy sexual abuse cases. In just five other Diocese’s located in the United States, roughly \$368 million has already been paid to settle over 1300 sexual abuse claims since 2003. As frightening and disturbing as these figures are, undoubtedly this is a drop in the bucket when one considers that there are more than 1.07 billion Catholics in the world coupled with the long history of the Roman Catholic church (RCC).

How completely and utterly sickening that so many within the *leadership* of the RCC have committed the sin of sexual abuse upon innocent and unsuspecting children (in many cases multiple times)! The very men the members of the RCC are suppose to honor and listen to (priests), have sunk so low in their morals and thinking as to become pedophiles! “One of the worst examples of a clergyman using his links with families to facilitate sex abuse occurred in Ireland, where one priest systematically raped and sexually abused hundreds of boys between 1945 and 1990” (Roman Catholic sex abuse cases, article from *Wikipedia*).

Why has this become such a prominent problem within the RCC? These priests are *supposed* to be men of God, who are *supposedly* following and teaching the truths of God. The RCC after all is *supposed* to be the *true church*, as Pope Benedict XVI recently affirmed. So how is it possible that the practice of child sexual abuse would be such an enormous temptation for these *holy* men of God?

Could it be because this apostate church long ago departed from the clear instructions of God’s Word concerning the proper way to experience sexual fulfillment? The Holy Spirit revealed through the apostle Paul, that “because of sexual immorality, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband. Let the husband render

to his wife the affection due her, and likewise also the wife to her husband” (1 Cor. 7:2-3).

Nowhere does the Bible forbid scripturally unmarried men or unmarried women from becoming joined in holy matrimony. In fact, the Bible declares that “marriage is honorable among *all*, and the bed undefiled” (Heb. 13:4). However, many centuries ago the RCC forbade those of their clergy from engaging in *lawful* sexual intercourse. “The earliest textual evidence of the forbidding of marriage to clerics and the duty of those already married to abstain from sexual contact with their wives is in the fourth-century decree of the Council of Elvira” (Clerical Celibacy, *Wikipedia*).

COUNCIL OF ELVIRA (C. 305)

Canon 33: *It is decided that marriage be altogether prohibited to bishops, priests, and deacons, or to all clerics placed in the ministry, and that they keep away from their wives and not beget children; whoever does this, shall be deprived of the honor of the clerical office.*

The New Testament Scriptures foretold of this exact apostasy. “Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, *forbidding to marry*, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth” (1 Tim. 4:1-3).

Sadly, there are countless instances of the RCC teaching and practicing error (2 Pet. 3:16-17). But know assuredly they have departed from *the* faith (Eph. 4:5; Jude 3) in forbidding their clerics from entering into the divine institution of marriage. And the horrible consequences of such an erroneous practice has undeniably led to the wide-spread sin of sexual abuse of children. May such moral grievances serve as a great awakening to Roman Catholics everywhere. May multitudes leave in great disgust, searching for a church far better. And may the people of God go to them and share the *undefiled* gospel of Christ!

The Church, Apostasy, and Its Child

JOHN HENRY SR.

Please read the following information taken from an article I recently read in *Biblical Archaeology Review*, entitled “The Nea Church” (January/February 2008 Issue, Vol. 34, No. 1).

Procopius, the court historian of the Roman emperor Justinian (527-565 C.E.), describes a massive church Justinian built in Jerusalem. Unlike other churches in the Holy City, it was not constructed on a site of biblical significance. Justinian called it the “New Church of Mary, the Mother of God,” commonly known as the Nea (Greek for “New”).

Sometime in the 1970s or early 1980s an Israeli archaeologist, Nahman Avigad, discovered an inscription in a rectangular frame with little triangles on each side reading: “*And this is the work which was carried out by the generosity of our most gracious Emperor Flavius Justinian, under the care and devotion of the most holy Constantinos, priest and hegoumenos (in the year) thirteen of the indiction [either 534/35 or 549/50]. The size of the structure was determined to be 375 feet long and 185 feet wide! It was the biggest church ever built in the Holy Land and it sat upon the highest hill of Jerusalem (higher than the Temple Mount).*”

The Nea itself is somewhat of a mystery. When it was consecrated on November 20, 543 C.E., it was the largest Christian structure in the city and the center of an entire complex, including a hospital, hospice, library and monastery.

In 870 Bernard the Monk stayed in the hospice there (re-)built by the emperor Charlemagne: “All who come to Jerusalem for reasons of devotion and who speak the Roman language are given hospitality there. Beside it there is a church in honor of St. Mary, and to this the emperor (Charlemagne) added a splendid library, and 12 mansions, with fields, vineyards, and a garden in the valley of Jehoshaphat. In front of this hospice is the *cardo* (the main street)...” (55, 58).

According to a Jerusalem lectionary preserved in Georgian from c. 700 C.E., the whole of the Book of Kings – so

much concerned with royalty and the Temple – was read aloud at the Nea every year of August 3.

After reading the above information, I began to think about what God said would happen to the church. We know that the Lord’s church originated in the mind of God (Eph. 3:10-11). God planned the church in eternity and Jesus came and fulfilled His Father’s eternal purpose. Christ came to earth and established (to set up, to open, to introduce and put into force the New Covenant) or built His church.

Next we learn how the church was to be organized and governed. One must remember that it is God who organized the church, not man! One must have a proper understanding of the church’s organization and government since all division begins with a lack of respect for *divine* authority towards God’s pattern of things. As we trace church history we will be simply tracing departures from God’s organization and government. The Scriptures are God breathed (2 Tim. 3:16-17). God breathed His Word into men called apostles, and this is what guides us in the organization of the Lord’s church today. Organization is important for order, and accomplishment when two or more people are associated in any given task. We must speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent on church organization (1 Pet. 4:11). When we learn to respect God’s word on the organization and government of His church, then, and only then, will the church be fully organized to do the work God intended for her to do! Where there is no *divine* organization, there is disorder, chaos, confusion, and all organization of the church is then put into the hands of men to set the stage for dictatorship. Therefore, nothing will be accepted by the Lord or accomplished for His Name until there is a return to “What saith the Lord.”

The Bible teaches us that Christ is the *head* of the church with all authority (Matt. 28:18; Eph. 1:22-23). He is to have the *preeminence* (Col. 1:18). Preeminence means to be first. Christ is to be first in rank. In other words, He is the head of all things. This means that the church has no earthly (human), organization. The problem lies in the fact that men

have taken the headship or preeminence away from Christ. Paul prophesied that this would happen: “*Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God showing himself that he is God.*” (2 Thess. 2:4). These kinds of men have taken the headship away from Christ: the pope, priests, denominational conferences, councils, associations, conventions and synods. They have no authority from Christ! If so, where is the passage? Yet, they all claim to have authority to change the doctrine of Christ. It just isn’t so!

Did you know that no organization in society can exist without a head? This is true of denominations. They exist because they have an earthly head. The Lord’s church though, is organized under Christ as its head. “Therefore *the church is subject unto Christ...*” (Eph. 5:24). Christ is the only head of the church, and He claims *all authority* (Matt. 28:18). Paul said, “And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him” (Col. 3:17). “Do all in the name of” means “do all by the authority of.” The Holy Spirit is saying that “*word*” (all teaching) and “*deed*” (every work we do religiously) must be authorized by Christ! This is exactly why we have so many problems in the religious world today. Because some people have never learned that everything in religion is to be done in His name, by His authority and not by the authority of men. “*There is one lawgiver, who is able to save and to destroy. . .*” (James 4:12). The one Lawgiver is not the preacher, pope, priest, etc., but Christ! When we preach the doctrines of men, we are not preaching in His name! (Matt. 15:9). Only Christ has the authority to tell us what we should practice and preach in religion!

As Paul was writing to the Philippians he said, “. . . *to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons*” (Phil. 1:1). In this one verse we find the simple organization and government of the church. God ordained that the local church be overseen by men known as “elders” or “bishops.” Each congregation had a plurality of elders. Throughout the lives of the apostles, every congregation followed this pattern. There is no distinction of office made between elders and bishops in the Scriptures: “and from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church” (Acts 20:17). “Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers (*Bishops*), to feed (*shepherd, pastor*), the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood” (Acts 20:28). The “elders” of Titus 1:5 were called “bishops” in verse 7.

Elders have the responsibility to make sure the church is getting fed the proper food (Acts 20:28). They guard the flock among them from false teachers (Acts 20:29-31). Elders of one church cannot exercise oversight over another church without violating the limitations placed on them by Scripture. Each congregation with its elders was independent from the other being a unit within itself. The authority of elders is limited to the local church (1 Peter 5:2; Acts 20:28). Each church had its own elders, deacons (who met the qualifications laid down in 1 Tim. 3:1-7 and Tit. 1:5-11), and members (Phil. 1:1). This is how the early church was organized! The local church did its work independently of every other church or organization under the supervision of its own elders. Sometimes we call this, *the autonomy of the local church*. This is God’s divine plan for church organization and government.

Evangelists were also found in the early church. An evangelist is a proclaimer of the good news and has a definite work in the Lord’s church (Eph. 4:11). The primary work of an evangelist is to preach the Word to both the lost and the saved (Mark 16:15-16; 1 Cor. 9:16; Acts 5:42; 2 Tim. 4:1-4). The evangelist must “speak as the oracles of God. . .” (1 Pet. 4:11). There is only one true doctrine of God and it’s the evangelist’s responsibility to present and proclaim it to a lost and dying world (2 Tim. 4:1-2).

For some time, after the beginning on Pentecost, the church remained true to Christ. What lay ahead in the church’s history was the “Great Apostasy,” which was foretold in the Scriptures by the Lord and His apostles. Apostasy means “abandonment of one’s religious faith, or a cause.” “Apostasy” is a step in the wrong direction. It occurs when one “errs from the faith” (1 Tim. 6:10). Warning after warning had been sounded out by the apostles that a departure from the divine pattern was at hand (2 Pet. 2:1-3; Acts 20:28-30; 2 Thess. 2:1ff; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 1 John 2:18-19; 4:1; Rev. 2:1-2). These verses depict a tragic picture of the church, but a true one. When we quit demanding Book, Chapter, and Verse preaching in our pulpits, when we have a desire to be like those around us, when we disregard the authority of Christ, forsake the unity of the truth for compromise, begin to act like the world, and have a strong desire to change God’s word, *it leads to apostasy!* History, they say, “always repeats itself.”

That brings me to the article I read: The New Church. The Bible clearly teaches that Christ built, established, set up, opened, and introduced *one* church for every human being to become a member of (Matt. 16:18; Acts 2:1ff; Eph. 1:22-23; 4:4). One becomes a member of the Lord’s church for which He died by obeying the terms of pardon set forth

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The Church, Apostasy, and Its Child

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 29)

by an impartial God! So, we have a group of people who believe, speak, teach, and are united upon the gospel of Jesus Christ, each one having rendered obedience to God's conditions of pardon and not man's (1 Cor. 2:5; Acts 5:29).

What do you suppose caused God's people to organize a New Church? Lack of respect for divine authority towards God's Pattern of things! You will notice that when this “New Church” was organized in 543 A.D. it had a hospital, hospice (lodging for travelers), library and monastery. Not to mention, twelve mansions, with fields, vineyards, and a garden in the valley of Jehoshaphat. Truly, there is nothing new under the sun! History has repeated itself over and over again, while at the same time magnifying itself until the present day. Today, we have something like 1,500 “New

Churches.” They all believe, teach and practice something different than the Lord's church, which is the first church. How sad it is when people refuse to follow God's plan and realize that God has provided the *same church for all!*

Friends, this archaeology uncovering not only proves the Word of God true, that there would be a falling away, but also shows the consequences of refusing to follow God's pattern in the organization and government of the Lord's church. It comes down to a lack of respect for divine authority. The word of God will produce the Lord's church; and only the Word of God faithfully followed, will assure God's approval here and God's welcome into the heavenly city.

OBITUARY

My cousin, David Dicus of Chattanooga, TN, passed away on Saturday, February 14, 2009, at age 89. He is survived by his wife Evelyn, 2 daughters, 3 grand-daughters and 5 great-grandchildren. He wrote articles for Truth Magazine and was a member of the Rossville, GA Church of Christ. His funeral was held on February 16. He was the son of Aaron Wesley (A.W) Dicus and Bertha Quick Dicus. He was not a professional preacher, although he baptized me and my sister in 1982 at a meeting he held at the Normal Church of Christ in Swayzee, Indiana. I know he will be missed by friends, family and, most importantly, the brethren who knew him.

Submitted by Richard Hardcastle.

Non-Traditional Marriages

HEATH ROGERS

In Matthew 19, Jesus was asked a question concerning divorce. In responding to this question, Jesus went back to the beginning (Gen. 2) and taught God's law concerning marriage. "And He answered and said to them, 'Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning "made them male and female," and said, "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh"? So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate'" (vv. 4-6). Notice the application of Jesus' teaching to some common practices among us today.

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

A couple of years ago, a handful of states began to recognize same-sex unions. While we acknowledge the fact that individual states may define and redefine marriage from a legal standpoint, the Bible teaches that marriage is a right that is given to us by God—not the state. As such, God has the final say concerning what constitutes a marriage. Jesus said that God "made them male and female." God intended for marriage to be between a man and a woman, not between two members of the same sex. Same-sex or homosexual marriage is contrary to God's law. As such, it is a sin.

POLYGAMY

This is the practice of having two or more wives at one time. In the passage quoted above, Jesus showed that polygamy was not a part of God's marriage plan either. Jesus said that a man shall be joined to his wife (singular) and that the two (not three or more) shall become one flesh. Thus, marriage is between one man and one woman.

I have had people challenge this conclusion by pointing out the fact that there were men in the Old Testament who had multiple wives. King David was a man after God's own heart (1 Sam. 13:14), and he had multiple wives. Solomon was the wisest and wealthiest king of Israel, and he had 700 wives and 300 concubines (1 Kings 11:3). How can one claim that polygamy is

against God's will? For one, the Law of Moses clearly stated that the kings were not to multiply their wives (Deut. 17:17). The fact that some of them disregarded this instruction does not mean that it was right before God. Secondly, the example of Solomon is far from an endorsement of the practice. Solomon's wives turned his heart away from God. Third, when we go back to the beginning, we are told that God designed marriage to be for one man and one woman.

LIVING TOGETHER

While this arrangement is not recognized as a marriage from a civil point of view, it takes the place of marriage in the lives of many people today. A man and a woman live together as husband and wife, enjoying all the pleasures and benefits of marriage, sometimes even raising children in their home, without actually being married. It is so common today that one struggles to remember why we used to think it was wrong. Jesus taught that such is wrong. He said that a man was to leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, not live with his girlfriend outside the bonds of matrimony. Sex outside of and prior to marriage is sinful (1 Cor. 7:2). The practice of living together makes a mockery of God and His divine marriage law. Such will not go unpunished. "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge" (Heb. 13:4).

The non-traditional "marriages" that we have discussed in this article are growing in popularity. However, when examined in light of Scripture, we can see that the word "non-traditional" could (and should) be replaced with the word "sinful." The moral foundations of our nation are being chipped away piece by piece. The elemental building blocks of our society (marriage and family) are being redefined to please a perverse minority, and our nation is paying the price. Jesus said that marriage is one man joined to one woman for life. That settles the matter.

Members of the Same Team

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

always run the football or have the quarterback throw the pass to him; perhaps one basketball player always shot the ball when he got it and never looked for the open man because “team assists” were not as impressive to him as “points scored.” The result was each man promoted himself instead of the good of the team.

Paul spoke of such players at Philippi. Some preached the gospel, not because of the common good of saving souls, but because they want to add to Paul’s suffering. He wrote,

Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. What then? Notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice (Phil. 1:15-18).

We see the magnanimous character of the beloved apostle in that he could rejoice that souls were being saved even though he knew the motives of those who were preaching. Their intentions were to inflict pain on Paul. Later Paul exhorted these Philippians to be “team players,” saying,

If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let

each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others (Phil. 2:1-4).

His exhortation, “look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others,” is clear. The members of the same team should be working together, not competing with one another. Some of the Philippians had become like the tongue speakers and prophets at Corinth who competed with one another for who would get to speak at the worship assembly. There Paul used the figure of a body in which every part contributes to the overall functioning of the body to emphasize that all are working together.

What lessons can we learn from these words? What would the Lord Jesus or the apostle Paul say to the twenty-first century church? Would the Lord look with approval upon our conflicts over who initiates the civil proceedings of a divorce, disagreements about whether two Christians involved in marital conflict could under any circumstances obtain a *legal separation* but not a *civil divorce*, whether Christians can partake of the Lord’s supper when on a trip, and whether Christians can participate in Bible classes or lecture programs offered by a privately funded college or publishing company? Or, would he see our conflicts in terms of the strife at Philippi and exhort us to remember that we are all playing on the same team and should be working together for the common good of the gospel? What do you think?

What would the Lord Jesus or the apostle Paul say to the twenty-first century church?

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<p>HUNTSVILLE, AL Chapman Acres Church of Christ 2137 Penhall Dr., NE (I-565, Exit 21, left on Maysville Rd., left on Chapman Ave., right on Penhall Dr.) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Roger Blackwelder (256) 536-5296 or 617-2848</p>	<p>NORTHPORT, AL Northwood Church of Christ 4601 Northwood Estates Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Hartselle</p>	<p>TUCSON, AZ Church of Christ 145 N. Country Club Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Hugh Delong 326-3634 or 722-3179</p>	<p>FT. SMITH, AR South 46th St. Church of Christ 2323 South 46th St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Hagenbuch (479) 478-6108 or 782-0588</p>	<p>TEXARKANA, AR Church of Christ 2301 Franklin Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc R. Hinds</p>	<p>FOLSOM, CA Church of Christ 900 E. Natomas St. P.O. Box 492 Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Posey (530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866 www.folsomchurch.com</p>

<p>FREMONT, CA Centerville Church of Christ 3885 Beacon Ave, Ste D Fremont, CA 94538 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (510) 794-7659</p>	<p>MONTRORSE, CO San Juan church of Christ 1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 626-5558 or (970) 249-8116 www.sanjuanchurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL S. Bumbo Church of Christ 3940 S. Bumbo Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua C. Creel (407) 851-8031 or (321) 235-3307</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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. (951)925-1991</p>	<p>PAGOSA SPRINGS, CO Church of Christ Community Center 451 Hot Springs Blvd. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. No Evening Worship No Wednesday Bible Study Evangelist: Eddie Campbell (970) 264-4236</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>PALATKA, FL 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. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Skomp (386) 326-3952 or 546-5689</p>	<p>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.seffnercc.org</p>
<p>LONG BEACH, CA Church of Christ 3433 Studebaker Rd. Bible Study 9:50 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Lonnice Fritz (562) 420-2363 Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577 (562) 377-1674</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>PALMETTO, FL Palmetto Church of Christ 1575 14th Avenue W. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Beck (941) 722-1307, or (941) 803-8084 www.palmettochurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>ALACHUA, FL Santa Fe Hills Church of Christ Hwy. 441, 1/2 mile west of I-75 (Exit 78) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (386) 462-4325 or (352) 333-7003</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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 Liggins (850) 234-2521 or 234-1368</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: John Zellner (352) 528-3058</p>	<p>FROSTPROOF, FL Church of Christ 40 W. "A" St. 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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>COLORADO SPRINGS, CO Northeast Church of Christ 6660 Galley Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (719) 597-6661</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>CONYERS, 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 (678) 475-7212; Building (770) 929-3973</p>
<p>FT. COLLINS, CO Foothills Church of Christ 1200 Raintree Drive Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:30 A.M. Call (970) 482-9690 for Wednesday Service (Meets in home.)</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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. (954) 961-4112</p>	<p>OCALA, FL Church of Christ 3900 S. Pine (441, 301 & 27 S.) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Al Sandlin 352-351-5188</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>CORDELE, GA Crisp County Church of Christ 120 Emmaus Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jimmy Tuten Call for directions: (229) 271-1964 (229) 382-8722 (229) 402-4101</p>
<p>GRAND JUNCTION, CO Valley Church of Christ 491 Sparrn 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 www.ValleyChurchofChrist.net</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>JACKSONVILLE, FL Julington Creek Church of Christ 1630 State Rd 13N Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (904) 230-3332 (Bldg.) or 268-9638 (Wendell Bowman) jimbello07@netzero.net www.jccoc.com</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>PUNTA GORDA, FL Church of Christ 2300 Taylor Road PO Box 511069 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (Nov.-Mar.) 4:00 P.M. Evening (Apr.-Oct.) 5:00 P.M. Evangelist: Paul Branch (239) 458-3566</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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) 632-3817 www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>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 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jamie Rhoden Elders: Jamie Rhoden & Steve Frazier (904) 781-5704 or 693-0432 www.mariettacoc.com</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>SAVANNAH, GA Coastal Church of Christ 7201 Johnny Mercer Blvd Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Nelson ronnelson@embarqmail.com (912) 306-4631 www.coastalchurchofchrist.com</p>

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<p>VALDOSTA, GA Church of Christ 4313 North Valdosta Rd. (Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 off I-75) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. (No evening worship) Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (229) 244-8630</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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: Kevin Sulc (765) 284-5299 or 286-5488</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>CANEYVILLE, KY Caneyville Church of Christ 103 N. Main St. (near the 4 way stop) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Barnes (270) 879-6152 or 274-3065</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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 KCcampbell@earthlink.net Elders: 944-1878 or 948-9917</p>	<p>OOBITIC, 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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Scott Vifquain (859) 236-4204 or 238-0860</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>ELLETSVILLE, 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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>FRANKLIN, KY 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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>WICHITA, KS Westside Church of Christ 3500 S. Meridian Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike O'Neal (316) 729-9302 or 942-1649 www.cocwestside.com</p>	<p>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 or 651-7141</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James R. Davis, Jr. (312) 961-2150</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>SALEM, IN Westside Church of Christ 2000 West State Rd. 56 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Evan Casey (812) 883-2033 www.westsidechurchofchrist.info</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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 (317) 878-5969 or (317) 439-3252 spearsvilleroadmessenger@gmail.com</p>	<p>BOWLING GREEN, KY Eastside Church of Christ 1706 Smallhouse Rd Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wed. 10:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Gary Kerr (270) 843-9925 www.mightyisthelord.com</p>	<p>LOUISVILLE, KY Valley Station Church of 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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ 1236 63rd St. (1 and 1/2 mile E. of I355) 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.dgccc.org</p>	<p>JAMESTOWN, IN Church of Christ (1 Mi. south of I-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</p>	<p>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. (515) 262-6799</p>	<p>BOWLING GREEN, KY West End Church of Christ 300 Blue Level 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</p>	<p>LOUISVILLE, KY Church of 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</p>	<p>WEBSTER, MA Church of Christ Webster 168 Main St. Sunday Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M. Wed Bible Study Call for details (508) 765-6067 Preacher: Peter Capoccia</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>GRINNELL, IA Church of Christ 1402 Third Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (641) 236-1955 (641) 793-2989</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>OWENSBORO, KY Southside Church of 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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Alan Jones (765) 922-7602</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Steve Lee stevelee4510@windstream.net (270) 789-1651</p>	<p>REGINA, KY Road Creek Church of 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</p>	<p>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, (410) 590-2852</p>

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<p>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. Evangelist: Brandon Trout (410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549 www.swcofchrist.com</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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 or (417) 736-2663</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>HOPE MILLS, NC Gray's Creek Church of Christ 1391 Sand Hill Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. 910-423-8719 910-424-2372</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577 www.heightschurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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.sandiachurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>MERIDIAN, MS 7th St. Church of Christ 2914 7th St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (601) 483-3101</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. 891-3174</p>
<p>Shop online at truthbooks.net</p>	<p>SOUTHAVEN, MS (Memphis area) Church of Christ 2110 E State Line Rd. (Exit I-55) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Landon Hope (662) 342-1132 - Church Building</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>BLUE SPRINGS, MO Southside Church of Christ 4000 SW Christiansen Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Bailey (816) 228-9262</p>	<p>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 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ryan Boyer (816) 322-0042 www.raymorechurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>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@triplettweb.com</p>	<p>CHARLOTTE, NC Harris Blvd. Church of Christ 5424 E.W.T. Harris Blvd. Worship 8:30 A.M. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Various members of local congregations Don Moeller (704) 532-9242</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>

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<p>FREMONT, OH Church of Christ 3361 W. State St. 1 mi. W. of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20</p> <p>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</p>	<p>NORTHWOOD, OH (Toledo Area) Church of Christ 4110 Frey Rd.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>PHILADELPHIA, PA Church of Christ 7222 Germantown Ave.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>COLUMBIA, TN Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N</p> <p>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</p>	<p>MEMPHIS, TN Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Mitch Stevens (901) 372-5580 or 758-4006</p>	<p>ROCKWOOD, TN Church of Christ Highway 70 East 5080 Roane State Hwy.</p> <p>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</p>
<p>HAMILTON, OH Westview Church of Christ 1040 Azel Ave.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>UHRICHSVILLE, OH Church of Christ 638 Parrish Street</p> <p>Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 6:30 P.M.</p>	<p>To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net</p>		<p>MURFREESBORO, TN Cason Lane Church of Christ 1110 Cason Lane</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 896-0090 (Building) (615) 653-1828 (Wilson Adams) (615) 895-3484 (Phil Cavender) www.casonlanechurch.org</p>	<p>SAVANNAH, TN Savannah Heights Church of Christ 230 Harrison St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Ellis</p>
<p>HILLIARD, OH Church of Christ 4840 Cemetery Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 876-4089</p>	<p>WAVERLY, OH 209 Mullins St. Church of Christ</p> <p>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</p>	<p>BEAUFORT, SC Church of Christ 2107 King St., P.O. Box 4</p> <p>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</p>	<p>DAYTON, TN Main Street Church of Christ 250 Main St.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP</p>	
<p>MANSFIELD, OH Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street</p> <p>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</p>	<p>OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Seminole Pointe Church of Christ 16300 N. May Ave.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189 or 513-6691 www.seminolepointecofc.org</p>	<p>COLUMBIA, SC Lower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Seaton (803) 776-0754 or 234-5300 http://lowerrichlandchurch.org</p>	<p>DAYTON, TN Rhea Church of Christ 1367 Market Street, Suite 2</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (423) 285-7005 or (423) 334-4606</p>	<p>MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Bunting (615) 893-1200</p>	<p>TULLAHOMA, TN Church of Christ 1625 W. Lincoln St.</p> <p>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 563-7312</p>
<p>MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Building: (419) 522-8982 Leon Bond: 525-3684 Glenn Bond: 522-1965</p>	<p>TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>NORTH CHARLESTON, SC Ashley Heights Church of Christ 2605 S. Oakridge Cir.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>JACKSON, TN Sunset View Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek)</p> <p>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) 987-2200 or 968-9851T</p>	<p>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)</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 494-9686</p>	<p>ABILENE, TX North Park Church of Christ 2958 Grape St. (3 blocks south of I-20)</p> <p>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@sbccglobal.net</p>
<p>MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 434-5310 (Eric Krieg) or 473-9028 (Steve Foutty)</p>	<p>MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ 1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View</p> <p>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</p>	<p>ORANGEBURG, SC Southside Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672 www.southside-church.org</p>	<p>JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Kay 423-282-6251 or 426-1836</p>	<p>NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road</p> <p>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</p>	<p>ALLEN, TX West Allen Church of Christ 1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75)</p> <p>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)</p>
<p>NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. (Near Wright-Patterson AFB)</p> <p>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.)</p>	<p>SWEET HOME, OR Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>SUMTER, SC Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension</p> <p>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</p>	<p>KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>NASHVILLE, TN Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Sayre (615) 797-1114</p>	<p>ALVARADO, TX I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado)</p> <p>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</p>
<p>NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>AVONDALE, PA Avondale Church of Christ 1606 Glen Willow Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (302) 733-7920 or (610) 268-2088 Randy Farme (610) 869-4146</p>	<p>TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>KNOXVILLE, TN Chapman Hwy. Church of Christ 7604 Chapman Hwy.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>NASHVILLE, TN Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike</p> <p>Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnny Felker (615) 833-3118 http://perryheights.faithweb.com</p>	<p>ALVIN, TX Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St.</p> <p>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</p>
<p>NEW RICHMOND, OH Church of Christ 550 Washington St.</p> <p>Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414 www.nrchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd.</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 363-8042</p>	<p>WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302)</p> <p>Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Brad McCleary (803) 783-0079 Steven Hutchinson (803) 604-6011</p>	<p>MARYVILLE, TN Smokey Mt. Church of Christ 2206 Montvale Rd.</p> <p>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 Lon Spurgeon (865) 380-5594 http://tinyurl.com/smchurch</p>	<p>PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 560 King Branch Road</p> <p>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.KingBranchRoadChurchOfChrist.org</p>	<p>ANGELTON, TX Kiber St. Church of Christ P.O. Box 1162</p> <p>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</p>

<p>AUSTIN, TX Wonsley Dr. Church of Christ 507 E. Wonsley Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Lehde</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>SAN ANGELO, TX 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) 224-2848 (325)944-8147 or (325)896-2038</p>	<p>COLONIAL HEIGHTS/ 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</p>
<p>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: Jesse Flowers (281) 422-5926; (281) 515-8939; (713) 818-1321</p>	<p>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. (915) 855-1524</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>SAN ANTONIO, TX Pecan Valley Church of Christ 268 Utopia (I-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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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) 794-0837</p>	<p>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: Ashley Sharkey (972) 285-1610</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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: Kris Emerson (281) 427-8729; 837-9259 422-8800; 573-1940</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>LANCASTER, TX Dallas Avenue Church of Christ 601 N. Dallas Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (972) 227-1119 or (817) 371-5776 llkice@sbcglobal.net www.dallasavenuechurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>WACO, TX Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc Smith (254) 666-1020 or 420-1484</p>	<p>RIDGWAY, 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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>Shop online at truthbooks.net</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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 (713) 686-0788</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxis 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</p>	<p>STAFFORD, VA Stafford Church of Christ 767 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark McNabb (540) 891-1215</p>
<p>DICKINSON, TX Church of Christ 2919 FM 517 Rd. E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 9:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Craig Meyer (281) 534-4870</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd. Worship 11:00 A.M. Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574</p>

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<p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Virginia Beach Church of Christ Pembroke Manor Recreation Building 4452 Hinsdale St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (757) 486-6639</p>	<p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 873 Oakwood Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 304-342-5637</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Rick Christian 273-0261 or 273-3267</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>CLARKSBURG, WV Westside Church of Christ Davison Run Road Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 622-5433</p>	<p>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 737-3124</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>MILWAUKEE, WI Metropolitan Church of Christ 1029 S. 58th St. West Allis Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Girardot (414) 257-3035 Church: 258-8520</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>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 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (509) 248-8190 or 248-5614</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 126 Ottawa St. N. Mailing Address: 33 Highcliffe Ave. L9A 3L3 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 P.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437</p>
<p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 522 Daugherty St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 346-2112 or Kent Clark (304) 342-0237 mansuper1965@hotmail.com</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>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. Evangelist: Peter McPherson Other meetings: phone (705) 742-5349</p>



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Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
8:00 a.m. Large Room		Jesus Is The Son of God: The Controversies Over Jesus <i>Steven J. Wallace</i>	We Cannot Deny It: Miracles and the Charismatic Movement <i>Danny McKibben</i>	No Creed But Christ <i>Mark Dunigan</i>
9:00 a.m. Large Room		I Came Not To Destroy But to Fulfill: Conflict With the Judaizers <i>Jim Deason</i>	What Must I Do To Be Saved? <i>Joe Price</i>	The All-Sufficiency of Scripture <i>John Gibson</i>
9:00 a.m. Small Room		Walking in the Light: Conflict with Gnostics <i>Dan King</i>	Whosoever Will: Conflict with Calvinism <i>Ethan Longhenry</i>	In Vain Ye Do Worship Me: Conflicts with Instrumental Music <i>Charles Willis</i>
10:00 a.m. Large Room		Faith Without Works Is Dead: The Augustinian Controversy <i>Alan Piner</i>	My Kingdom Is Not of This World: Conflict Over Premillennialism <i>Keith Greer</i>	The Pillar and Ground of the Truth: Conflict over Institutionalism <i>Tom Roberts</i>
10:00 a.m. Small Room	Childrens Classes: <i>Joy Alexander</i> and <i>Christy Rogers</i>			
11:00 a.m. Large Room		Was Peter The First Pope? Conflict with Catholicism <i>Greg Litmer</i>	There Is One Body: Conflict over Oneness of the Church <i>Justin Monts</i>	By What Authority? <i>Ray Warfel</i>
11:00 a.m. Small Room Ladies Class		The God of All Comfort <i>Sue Cooper</i>	How Feminism Affects Women in the Church <i>Lorie Baker</i>	Be of the Same Mind in the Lord <i>Lydia Casey</i>
12:00 Noon	Lunch Break			
2:00 p.m.		Open Forum		Open Forum
7:00 p.m.	Singing	Singing		Singing
7:30 p.m.	Jesus Is the Christ: Conflict With Jews <i>Steven Deaton</i>	That Ye All May Be One: The Efforts to Find a Basis for Unity <i>Scott Finley</i>	Singing Approximately 9:00 p.m.	Building on A Rock (Matt. 7:24-28) <i>Johnie Edwards</i>

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