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Editor's Page

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MIKE WILLIS

Because churches of Christ have a propensity to divide, I have decided to look at causes of division in local churches, using the text of 1 Corinthians as our guide. The issues that most frequently divide churches are problems that could and should be worked through in order to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace, rather than doctrinally different mind sets that inevitably take brethren in opposite directions (Eph. 4:3). Because factionalism, schism, and divisiveness are sinful, gospel preachers need to be addressing division and its causes.

Unfortunately brethren seem to have lost sight of the restoration movement's call to unity. Gospel preachers of the nineteenth century called upon those who believed in Jesus in the various denominational sects to forsake their creeds and unite on the common ground of that which is authorized in Scripture. Thousands threw aside their creed books and united in Christ, resolving to "speak where the Bible speaks and be silent where the Bible is silent." Perhaps we are too embarrassed to preach what we have had such difficulty obeying. Do we preach unity but practice division?

What were the causes of division within the local church at Corinth? In our previous article, we looked at the divisions that are created in a local church by thinking too highly of men, thinking of them as leaders of parties that divide local churches, such as occurred at Corinth when men said, "I am of Paul," "I am of Apollos," "I am of Cephas," and "I am of Christ." But this was not the only cause for division in the local church. The church at Corinth was divided over church discipline.

A Case of Church Discipline

In chapter five, the church faced a problem of immorality within the congregation, and the immorality was so brazen that it would not have been tolerated among Gentiles. Paul wrote, "It is actually reported that there is sexual immorality among you, and such sexual immorality as is not even named among the Gentiles—that a man has his father's

wife!" (1 Cor. 5:1). Aeschylus wrote a Greek tragedy which tells of a character named Oedipus. When Oedipus was born, his parents consulted the oracle at Delphi, which told that the child would kill his father and marry his mother. The family did everything they could to prevent its fulfillment, but Fate would not be denied. In the course of the play, Oedipus kills his father and marries his mother. The play illustrates what Grecian society thought about incest; however, the local church tolerated one in their congregation who had married his father's wife (the Greek phrase echein tina gunaika means "to marry"; see BAGD, 332).

The immorality was bad enough. It was a violation of Christian teaching about marriage on two counts: (a) He had no right to his "father's wife." The woman was still the wife of the father, despite the fact that she was married to her stepson. (b) The relationship was incestuous. The Law of Moses wrote, "The nakedness of your father or the nakedness of your mother you shall not uncover. She is your mother; you shall not uncover her nakedness" (Lev. 18:7).

What was even more tragic was the reaction that some members of the church had to the immorality. Paul said that some in the church were "puffed up, and have not rather mourned, that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you" (5:2). I ask myself, what was happening in the church at Corinth that, instead of addressing this problem, some were proud that this man was accepted within the congregation? The Lord does not reveal to us what was going on in the local church, but we can imagine several scenarios in which it might occur. Perhaps the people involved were prominent in the community and the local church, wanting social acceptability, were just so happy that they were members in the local church that they closed their eyes to their sin. Perhaps the person involved was a relative of a promiment member and everyone was afraid to cross that man. Perhaps some had gotten so loose in their teaching and practice of immorality that

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Have You Not Read...?



Comment on Recent Editoria



CONNIE W. ADAMS

hen I agreed to serve as Associate Editor of Truth Magazine, I met with the editor and some of the staff writers to discuss some differences of view I had with some of the writers touching certain aspects of the troublesome issue of divorce and remarriage. At least one writer held a view which I considered the "mental divorce" position. He and I had an exchange in the paper about that very thing. Brother Willis, the editor, had an editorial in the March, 2009 issue on which I want to comment. It was understood by all concerned when I agreed to serve in my present capacity, that should any writer advance a view with which I did not agree on this subject, that I would respond to it, if I thought the issue merited it. In the editorial to which I have referred, brother Willis had some good things to say about "Members of the Same Team." In the last paragraph, he wrote: "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. . . . " He then paralleled those issues with a

As to the first issue raised, I believe the Lord did speak on the matter of who initiates a divorce. In Matthew 19:9 Jesus said, "And I say unto you, Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery." According to this verse, it is the one who *puts away* his companion for the cause of fornication who has a right to marry another. The one who initiates such action must do so for a specific reason: fornication.

couple of things with which we have no disagreement.

As to the second question, Matthew 5:32 makes it wrong to divorce a mate for any other reason than fornication and to do so exposes the one put away to the danger of marrying another, without scriptural right, and thus committing adultery. Jesus said, "But I say unto you, That whosoever shall put away his wife, *saving* for the *cause* of *fornication* (emphasis mine, CWA), causeth her to commit adultery: and whosoever shall marry her that is divorced committeth adultery." According to these passages, it does matter who does the putting away, and it had better be for fornication.

Brother Willis and I both believe and preach that the only scriptural ground for divorce and remarriage, is the sin of fornication. But we do not agree that these two questions I have mentioned fall into the same category as the other illustrations he used in that paragraph of his editorial. I do not believe that 1 Corinthians 7:10-11 grants another reason for divorce. In fact Paul said, "Let not the wife depart from her husband" and at the end of verse 11, he said, "and let not the husband put away his wife." In the first part of verse 11, he wrote, "But and if she depart, let her remain unmarried, or be reconciled to her husband." That was not intended to make it right for her to do what he had just forbidden her to do, but to prevent the compounding of sin. Her choices were to either remain single (unmarried) or else be reconciled to her husband. This passage does not contradict or countermand what Jesus taught in Matthew 5:32 and Matthew 19:9

All of us are concerned with the loose attitudes toward marriage, divorce and remarriage and neither brother Willis nor I would intentionally encourage anyone to enter an unholy relationship. But we do disagree on the issues cited here.

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EDITOR'S COMMENTS:

Brother Adams and I have had an enjoyable, working relationship through the years we have been working together. When the issues on divorce and remarriage initially came to the forefront, Weldon Warnock, Ron Halbrook, Steve Wolfgang, Connie, and I all met in a hotel in Lexington to talk about the differences we had at the time. We pressed our points hard; as a matter of fact, the three younger men (Ron, Steve, and I were younger men at the time) were a bit surprised to see Connie and Weldon argue their cases so strongly. After several hours of brotherly discussion, we had dinner together and travelled to our respective homes. Twenty years have passed and we have continued working together.

I am happy to give Connie space to say whatever he wishes to say in *Truth Magazine*. He is our associate editor, an honorable man, and one who deserves to be heard in whatever he has to say. He and I know where we disagree and have heard each other marshall his best arguments to defend his position. Both of us know that the other is trying to live within the boundaries of what Jesus taught about divorce and remarriage to the best of his ability and respects each other's conscience.

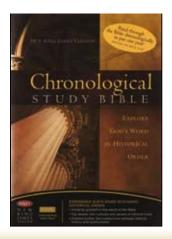
Both brother Adams and I agree that the innocent party in a divorce for fornication must put away the guilty party before he has the right to remarriage. And, we both agree that the action of "putting away" may be done through the civil courts, but would also allow for other means of doing that as well (making a statement to the local church that this is what is being done). Neither of us believes in the "race to the court house," which leaves the innocent party with no alternatives should the guilty person initiate the court proceedings.

In reference to 1 Corinthians 7:10-11, brother Adams and I agree that the wife (and/or perhaps also her children) who is being subjected to physical abuse does not have to continue living in the same domicile with the abusive husband. Brother Adams would oppose one obtaining either a

civil separation or a civil divorce in such cases and would liken the situation to that described in 1 Corinthians 7:1-5 (separation by consent for a season). I think the teaching of 1 Corinthians 7:10-11 applies to such cases. In such a circumstance, both of us are agreed that, whether one obtains the protection provided by either a civil separation or a civil divorce, he is still bound in his marriage to his mate and has no right to remarriage. Neither of us takes the position that a marriage partner has the right to walk out of a marriage just because he no longer wishes to be married.

Our mutual commitment to the authority of Christ and to the unerring truth of the Scriptures binds us together, and this same commitment means that we will continue to study together, caution and admonish each other, and work through any differences which may arise from time to time. Truth Magazine maintains an open door policy which permits us to publish respectful exchanges between brethren who work together in the Lord, as well as debates with unbelievers and apostates. When brethren such as brother Connie and myself exchange views, our goal is to help each other to grow in knowledge, wisdom, discernment, and proper application of truth to all sorts of subjects and situations (2 Pet. 1:5-7; Phil. 1:9-11). Brother Connie and I share a determination to avoid going down the road of liberalism and apostasy, and the road of obsession, hobbyism, and factionalism, and we know brethren following those opposite roads will be quick to criticize us for not careening one way or the other. In all of our discussions, we are guided by our mutual love for God, for the truth, for each other, and for all the souls of men.

Our prayer for each other and for all the saints is the prayer expressed by Paul: "And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God" (Phil. 1:9-11).



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Back to Basics

Almazing About GOOS Amazing



JOHNIE EDWARDS

Grace

Imost every one has sung the great hymn,

Amazing Grace. It was written in 1779 by John

Newton and teaches us some amazing things
about God's amazing grace of God:

IT SAVES

The word "grace" has a sweet sound because it "saved a wretch like me." Writing to the Ephesians, Paul penned, "For by grace are ye saved through faith . . . it is the gift of God" (Eph. 2:8). The apostle Paul said, "But by the grace of God I am what I am" (1 Cor. 15:10). Paul never forgot his life of being "a blasphemer, a persecutor, and injurious; but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief. And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus" (1 Tim. 1:13-14). Then he proclaimed, ". . . that Christ Jesus came into the world to saved sinners; of whom I am chief" (1 Tim. 1:15)! As with the song, Paul could literally say, "I was blind, but now I see" (Acts 9:17; 22:11).

IT TEACHES

"Twas grace that taught my heart to fear," so goes the song. Paul wrote Titus that God's amazing grace teaches men. "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us. . ." (Tit. 2:11). Men have to be taught how the grace of God saves. It's by Christ that "we have access by faith into this grace" (Rom. 5:2). This grace teaches us to obey.

IT KEEPS US SAFE

God's grace does what it does through the gospel of Christ. Paul mentions the "gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24). After listing things to add to our faith, Pe-

ter affirmed, "if ye do these things, ye shall never fall" (2 Pet. 1:5-10).

IT PROVIDES HOPE

"His word my hope secures." The gospel tells us that "for we are saved by hope" (Rom. 8:24). This hope serves "as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast" (Heb. 6:19). God's amazing grace brings about amazing hope!

IT PROMISES TO LEAD US HOME

As the people of God, we have eternal life in "hope" (Tit. 1:2) and in "promise" (1 John 2:25). The grace of God makes all of this possible. It's as the words of the song, "His word my hope secures."

IT SPEAKS OF ETERNITY

"When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun; we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we first begun." Paul writes the Corinthians about this: "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens" (2 Cor. 5:1). Jesus assures us that "life eternal" will be the "reward" of the faithful (Matt. 25:46; 16:27). Paul told the Romans, if they were "free from sin, and become servants to God, ye have your fruit unto holiness, and the end everlasting life" (Rom.6:22).

"Amazing Grace," what a song! Sing it often and enjoy its benefits here and heaven after a while.

In the News



Food Service Ministry



STEVEN F. DEATON

here is a "ministry" for nearly anything. It started with a "youth ministry" and has evolved into "singles ministry," "seniors ministry," "divorce-recovery ministry," "financial ministry," "fitness ministry," "recreation ministry," "drama ministry," "single fathers ministry," "homeless ministry," "transportation ministry," and on and on. *ChristianityToday.com* posted an article on "food-service ministry." It is just the next step in error's progression.

As denominations compete for customers, they have adopted and innovated many schemes to outdo the other guys. As the CT article reports, the Prestonwood Baptist Church in Plano, Texas, has a "food-service ministry." It includes a full-service buffet with roast beef, waffles, eggs, and more. The idea is to offer a Sunday brunch to draw in a crowd. "By offering high-quality meals, the church's food service becomes a magnet as members invite friends to dine." They admit that "ministry" is aimed at people who have "little interest in a worship service."

To help draw people, churches often subsidize the cost of meals. "So if a spaghetti dinner is \$12 at the neighborhood Italian eatery, First Baptist charges \$6 per person . . . This enables families that normally can't afford to eat in a community restaurant the opportunity to enjoy a meal together at church."

Beyond the blatant appeal to carnal appetites, the churches are involved in vocational training. Prestonwood is "equipping local citizens with needed vocational skills, allowing them to earn a living in the hospitality industry." In part, this training is seen as an opportunity for managers to disciple the staff. To get all this done, it is suggested that churches hire food service professionals.

Let's think about this.

Did Jesus die so the church could be the pillar and ground of subsidized meals? Can you see Jesus putting on a chef's hat or as *a maître de* taking reservations?

Jesus fed thousands, not out of an attempt to bring them to Him, but of compassion and as confirmation of His words (John 6:1-14). His work was miraculous and not done by the church for an evangelistic outreach. In fact, when the people approached Him the next day to get more food, He refused and rebuked them (John 6:22-71). Remember, this was the occasion when many turned back and walked with Him no more (John 6:66). Jesus even laid out the manner in which men were truly drawn to Him—through hearing and learning God's word (John 6:44, 45).

The abuse of the religion of Jesus Christ knows no end. The imagination of men's hearts is only evil continually; and they see it as good (Isa. 5:20). Have no doubt, though, it is evil; maybe the worst form of evil. It fools men into thinking they are right with God, when they are actually doing the bidding of the devil. Through such ministries and churches souls are being led away from the Lord. They are on the broad path that leads to destruction; and rejoicing all the way.

The temptation for us is to get caught up in human reasoning for our evangelism. Sometimes the adaptation is subtle. False religion and teachers are not specifically identified and condemned from the pulpit because "people don't want to hear that; it drives them away." Some churches are beginning to have recreational events advertised on the church web site, though supported by individual members. These occasions often have a Bible-study element to them. The design, however, is to draw in young people with the fun, social activities and douse them with a little Bible. Just as with the "food-service ministry" such things bring in people who have little interest in a worship service. My question is, what is being drawn?

Source cited:

http://www.christianitytoday.com/yc/2008/004/5.33.html

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Hades and Hell. CLINTON D. HAMILTON

[Note: When I left Florida College in 1960, I continued to receive the bulletin edited by brother Hamilton, who was then preaching for the Forest Hills church in Tampa, for a time. Included in those bulletins were these three articles, which I recopied and kept. The time has come to share the material therein with others. In the issues to follow, the next two articles will appear. It is still needed today.—Donald P. Ames]

a very decided change in the emphasis placed on hell in preaching. Countless religious people do not even believe there is a hell and even some who do believe in one think that it is not eternal. Some go so far as to say that one receives his hell on earth while others state that death or ceasing to be is the punishment of hell. Imagination dominated what was taught rather than the clear statements of the Bible.

The American Standard Version is much clearer in the translation of terms than the King James. The word *hell* in the KJV is translated from three different words: *sheol*, *hades*, and *gehenna*. We need to give attention to these words in order to get a correct view of hell.

TERMS EXPLAINED

Sheol is a Hebrew word which is used numerous times in the Old Testament and is translated hell thirty-two times in the KJV. The ASV translates it by the word hell fourteen times. Contrary to popular opinion, this word does not refer to what we mean when we use the word hell. The word sheol has reference to the unseen world where the dead abide and is equivalent to the Greek word hades (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia). There is no idea of unconsciousness, punishment, or "hell" in the word.

Hades is transliterated in the ASV but is never translated *hell*; but it is translated *hell* in the KJV, which causes

considerable confusion in the minds of people. Thayer (an eminent Greek scholar) defines the word to mean the unseen world which is the realm of the dead. It occurs four times in the gospels (Matt. 11:23; 16:18; Luke 10:15; 16:23).

The Greek word *hades* and the Hebrew word *sheol* are equivalent. A study of two passages will demonstrate this. The Psalmist predicts in Psalm 16:10 that Christ's soul would not be left in *sheol*. This passage is quoted in Acts 2:27 and the word *sheol* is rendered by the word *hades*. When Luke, the inspired writer of Acts, quoted the Old Testament word *sheol*, he used the word *hades* to translate it. Thus the two words have the same meaning.

There is no idea of the punishment of hell in either term, though the wicked are tormented in *hades* (Luke 16:19-31). Christ now has the power over death and *hades* (Rev. 1:18) and will cast both of them into the lake of fire at the judgment (Rev. 20:14).

THE TERM GEHENNA

This word occurs some twelve times in the New Testament and is uniformly translated *hell*. It refers to the eternal punishment (Matt. 18:8-9; Mark 9:47-48). This word is a transliteration from the Hebrew "Valley of Hinnom" which refers to a place of refuse where once children had been burned to Molech (2 Kings 23:10). It was a burying place of punishment to Jews (Jer. 7:32).

From this study of the words, one can easily see that there would not be so much confusion had the original words been uniformly translated by the appropriate words. The word *gehenna* occurs in the following passages: Matthew 5:22, 22-30; 10:28; 18:9; 23:15, 23; Mark 9:43, 45, 47; Luke 12:5; James 3:6. The word *hades* occurs in the following passages and is translated *hell* and *grave* in the KJV: Matthew 11:23; 16:18; Luke 10:15; 16:23; Acts 2:27, 31; 1 Corinthians 15:55; Revelation 1:18; 6:8; 20:13-14.

A close study of these passages, bearing in mind the meaning of the terms and the fact of the words used, will enable us to get a clear picture of the use of the terms. It will also keep us from being confused on the ideas involved.

When Jesus used the terms, He addressed the conscience of men. He did good but he also solemnly warned of the punishment for the wicked.

A FIRE

The beast and false prophet were cast into "the lake of fire that burneth with brimstone" (Rev. 19:20). "Death and hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death, even the lake of fire" (Rev. 20:14). The disobedient and wicked shall have their part "in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8). Since the body that will be raised is not the body that is burned and since the other world will be a spirit world, we are not to think that this is a literal fire, for such bodies would not be hurt by it. These descriptions are figurative and in terms of what we can understand and convey to us the terrible punishment of hell. As fire is to be dreaded when it sears the flesh, so is hell to be dreaded and avoided at all costs. The idea conveyed in "brimstone" is "intense heat."

In addition to being presented as a lake of fire, hell is also pictured as a furnace. "And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be weeping and the gnashing of teeth" (Matt. 13:42, 50). The "gnashing of teeth" indicates "intense agony" for so was the meaning of this expression in Christ's day. Those who were in this severe pain would grind their teeth.

This fire is unquenchable. "And if thy hand cause thee to stumble, cut it off; it is good for thee to enter into life maimed, rather than having thy two hands to go into hell, into the unquenchable fire" (Mark 9:43, 47-48). In this place of torment the worm does not die and the fire is not quenched. It is eternal punishment.

The Lord affirms that hell is everlasting. "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into the eternal fire which is prepared for the Devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41; see also 2 Thess. 1:5-10).

This place of punishment is prepared for a special group known as the devil and his angels. All those who serve in Satan's kingdom will have their part in this punishment. God's justice demands such a place of punishment for the disobedient. God is eminently fair with men for He warns us concerning the punishment of disobedience and promised a reward for obedience. The decision is left with men. The appeal of Christ is to the conscience and the submis-

sion to the will of God is voluntary. God does not and cannot force men to obedience and be true to His essential character and the freedom of man.

When Christ calls us to Him through the sacrifice of Himself and with a warning of the punishment for the disobedient, He is appealing to the heart and is not being overly dramatic or sensational. No doubt men have tried to be too sensational when preaching on hell, but Jesus declared the Divine Message. It is solemn and final.

OUTER DARKNESS

The "outer darkness" mentioned in Matthew 8:12; 22:13; 25:30 refers to the darkness outside the limits of the lighted palace according to Thayer.

The idea is that those who are not in the light of the kingdom of Christ are in utter darkness, the darkness that is so black when once outside the limits of light. Darkness is a term used in the Bible to refer to the ignorance of Divine things. Thus, it is an absence of the light of the wisdom of God. To be lost is to be away from the light of God. In heaven, God is the light and there no darkness there (Rev. 21:25). If one is lost, he will be in hell, outside the limits of the light, hence outer darkness.

ANGUISH AND TRIBULATION

Paul gives the destiny of those who are disobedient in the following words: "wrath and indignation, tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that worketh evil" (Rom. 2:8-9). Hell is a place of tribulation and anguish. The agony and pain of those in hell will be intense. The fact that hell is such a place should cause each of us to resolve not to be one of its inhabitants.

TORMENT

"And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where are also the beast and the false prophet; and they shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever" (Rev. 20:10). The lake of fire and brimstone is a place of torment. The demons know that there is coming a time of torment (Matt. 8:28-29). To be in anguish, tribulation and torment one must be conscious. Such is the end of those who refuse to yield to the commands of the God of heaven. It is a just punishment and one that is certain.

EVERLASTING DESTRUCTION

Those disobedient will suffer punishment, "even eternal destruction from the face of the Lord and from the glory of his might" (2 Thess. 1:9). This separation from God is a punishment sorer than death. That person who set at naught Moses' law died at the mouth of two or three witnesses, but those who set at naught the law of Christ will suffer a punishment sorer than that under Moses' law. Thus, the

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Hades and Hell

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9)

punishment of hell is worse than death. If the punishment is worse than death, then death is not the punishment. Some religious groups tell us that the wicked will die and that is their punishment. Such cannot be the case for it is denied by Hebrews 10:29. Separation from the present life was sore punishment for the rebellious Jew, but our punishment will be sorer—separation from God and the glory of His might.

DAY AND NIGHT FOREVER

The wicked will be with the devil and tormented "day and night" (Rev. 20:10; 14:11). If they are tormented, then they are conscious. This business of saying one is not alive and not conscious after death is not from the Bible. Jesus taught that Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were alive though they had been dead for years (Matt. 22:23-33). The righteous will serve God "day and night" (Rev. 7:15). It follows that, as long as the righteous serve God the wicked will be punished. But there is no night in heaven (Rev. 21:25) and there is no day in hell (Matt. 25:30). Therefore, the night in hell equals the day in heaven. Consequently, the wicked are punished as long as the righteous are with God.

A DIVINE LIST

"But for the fearful, and unbelieving, and abominable, and murderers, and fornicators, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, their part shall be in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone; which is the second death" (Rev. 21:8). A person who dies guilty of these things is not going to inherit a home in heaven. The liar here is as far from heaven as the murderer and fornicator. Truly this should caution us to be careful how we talk and what we say. James reminds us the tongue is "set on fire by hell" (3:6), and that it can make a person's whole religion worthless (1:26). But the liar is not going to be the only person

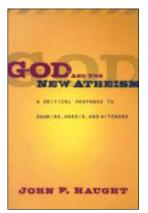
who will be condemned to eternity in the torments of hell. Not only do we have these listed here, but Paul adds still further: "Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envyings, drunkenness, carousings, and things like these, of which I forewarn you just as I have forewarned you that those who practice such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:19-21). One cannot be pleasing to God and still expect to engage in the actions and pleasures of this world—there is no harmony with Christ and the devil (2 Cor. 6:15-18).

God, in His divine plan, did not originally plan on us going to hell. He designed it basically for the devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41). But He has promised that, if we refuse to do His will, we too shall go there (Matt. 7:21-23). He has also promised that only a few are going to be saved (Matt. 7:13-14). This is not because God is unwilling to save us. He has done His part. It is foolish for man to think God is too good to accomplish what He has promised (see 2 Pet. 3). Justice requires God to punish that which is evil and in rebellion to His divine will. God, being good, cannot provide us a home with Him in an eternity, wherein dwells righteousness if He ignores the evil and rebellion against His will amongst those of this life.

Although He has identified the rebellious and disobedient and ignorant—even ignorance is no excuse (2 Thess. 1:7-9)—as among those who will be lost, He has also pleaded and provided a way for man to find his way to Him. But let us not be deceived into thinking He does not intend to send anyone there. Hell is a real place for real people. Those going there will be as a result of the actions done in this body (2 Cor. 5:10).



Bookmarks



19217 \$16.95

God and the New Atheism. John F. Haught. Westminster John Knox Press, 2008. 124 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-664-23304-4

Atheism has made a mad comeback in recent years. In *God and the New Atheism*, John F. Haught, former Chair and Professor of Theology at Georgetown University, gives clear, concise, and compelling answers to the charges against religion offered



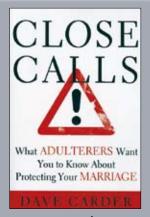
CHRIS REEVES

by such atheists as Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris, and Christopher Hitchens. These "new atheists" believe religion is all wrong, but Haught is quick to point out their logical inconsistencies, shallow misconceptions, and crude generalizations. Atheists past and present have taught that there is no God, no soul, and no afterlife. Atheists further assert that nature is self-originating, there is no overall purpose to life, and that all things can be explained naturally. What response is to be made to these assertions and assumptions? Haught, using a series of seven questions, offers a critical response to atheism's assertions and exposes the fundamental flaws and fallacies of atheism. While the reader may not agree with every defense offered by Haught (especially in the

area of evolution, 107), each one who reads this work will come away with a good understanding of the New Atheism and how to answer it. *God and the New Atheism* is very informative.

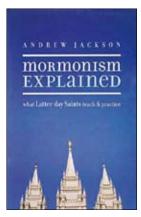
Close Calls: What Adulterers Want You to Know About Protecting Your Marriage. Dave Carder. Moody Publishers, 2008. 207 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-8024-4211-6

Adultery does not just happen. There are warning signs leading up to adultery that are often ignored. Like the Proverb writer of old who warned his listeners of adultery (Prov. 2, 5, 7, 9), so we must be warned today. For more than thirty years, Dave Carder has sounded a warning and counseled married couples caught by infidelity. In his new book, *Close Calls*, Carder helps to identify what type of person outside your marriage dangerously attracts you. He also identifies the dangers of extramarital friendships and when you are most vulnerable to infidelity. Carder helps you to understand "dangerous partners," "risky factors," "close calls," "emotional affairs," and "sexual affairs." *Close Calls* contains several real-life stories of how married spouses found themselves committing adultery. Could this be you? *Close Calls* is important reading for all men and women who want to protect their marriage and avoid the sin of adultery.



19033 \$14.99

Mormonism Explained. Andrew Jackson. Crossway Books, 2008. 208 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-1-58134-935-1



19298 \$12.99

Who was Joseph Smith? Why did early Mormons practice polygamy? What is baptism for the dead? Why are Mormon elders so young? What is the Book of Mormon? The Mormon Church continues to be a rapidly growing, international religion. What are we to make of them? How are we to respond when they come to our door? In *Mormonism Explained*, Andrew Jackson offers a concise and thorough introduction to what Mormons or "Latter-Day Saints" (LDS) officially teach and practice today. Jackson begins his work with a survey of Mormon history as it moved from New York to Salt Lake City (Chapters 1-3). Jackson then examines the key Mormon doctrines of the church, revelation, creation, and deification (Chapters 4-7). Jackson closes with a detailed look at the Mormon's erroneous plan of salvation involving heaven and hell, the nature of Jesus, and state of the dead (Chapters 8-10). Four appendices are included with helpful information on the Mormon *Articles of Faith*, organizational structure, terminology, and resources. *Mormonism Explained* is highly recommended.

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An overview of the Model City of Jerusalem as it appeared in first century times.

ne of my favorite places to visit in Jerusalem is the model city. Formerly this model was on the grounds of the Holyland Hotel, but has since been removed from there to the Israel Museum. The model is a 1:50 scale model of Jerusalem as it was at the beginning of the First Revolt in A.D. 66.

The model is based on data supplied by Professor M. Avi-Yonah and reflects what is known about first century A.D. Jerusalem, as drawn from archaeological excavations and texts (such as the New Testament, Josephus, the *Mishnah*, etc.). In doing the reconstruction, many arbitrary decisions had to be made and imagination supplied what was unknown from archaeology or textual information. So, the model is an hypothesis of what first century Jerusalem looked like, but it is at least a beginning place to understand the geography of the city at the time of Jesus.

The portrayals of the Temple and the Palace of Herod are thought to be excellent, but the presentation of the northern part of the city leaves somewhat to be desired. Some items of the city (the hippodrome and theater, for example) were definitely part of the city, but no one knows just where they were located.

THE TEMPLE COMPLEX

In 20-19 B.C., Herod the Great started the remodeling of the Temple. The Second Temple had been erected in 516

B.C. when the exiles returned from Babylonian captivity. There were undoubtedly different building projects carried out during the intervening half-millennium, but Herod the Great, being the great builder that he was, wished to rebuild the Temple. The Jewish authorities were reluctant to involve Herod the Great, but subsequently, work began on the Temple. The rebuilding is alluded to in John 2, which records the incident of Jesus cleansing the Temple at the beginning of His ministry. The Temple authorities challenged Jesus saying, "What sign shewest thou unto us, seeing that thou doest these things?" Jesus answered, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up" (John 2:18-19). The Jews reacted, "It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?" (2:20). This incident helps to date this incident in the life of Christ to A.D. 26, because it alludes to the remodeling project that was under way. The Temple project was completed in the mid-60s, just a few years before the Temple was destroyed by the Romans in A.D. 70.

The photos of the Temple complex demonstrate how beautiful that building was. One can understand why the disciples were so impressed when they shewed the impressive building to Jesus, during the final week of His public ministry. In reply, Jesus said to them, "See ye not all these things? Verily I say unto you, There shall not be left here one stone upon another, that shall not be thrown down" (Matt. 24:1-2).

A visit to the Temple Mount demonstrates that Jesus' prophecy was literally fulfilled. The only part of the Temple Mount that still stands is the western retaining wall, most familiarly known as the Wailing Wall. This is a place where observant Jews bring their twelve-year-old sons and daughters for their *bar*- and *bat-mitzvahs*. Many come to the wall to pray and insert their written prayers in the crevics of the stones.

The retaining wall demonstrates Herodian construction with its huge, ashlar stones. One wonders how such huge stones were transported and put in place in an era without power equipment.

The wall also gives evidence of the destruction of the Temple, because archaeologists chose to leave in place stones from the Herodian Temple which were thrown from the Temple mount to the ground.

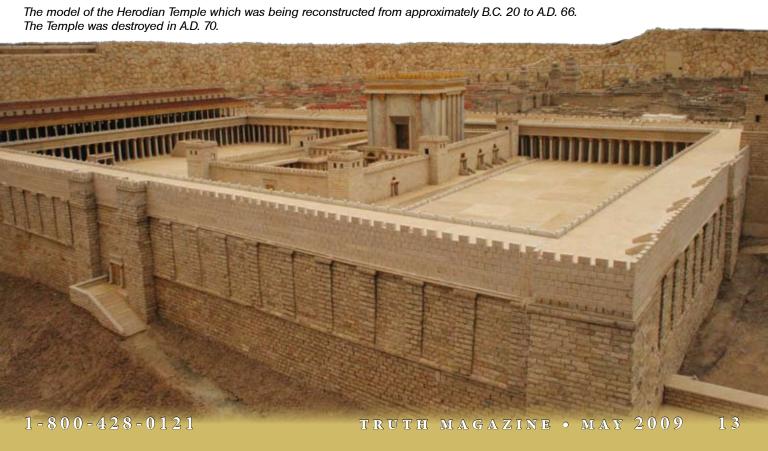
The south entrance to the Temple was the Huldah gate. The Temple model shows what scholars believe that entrance looked like and excavations on site tend to confirm the accuracy of the model.



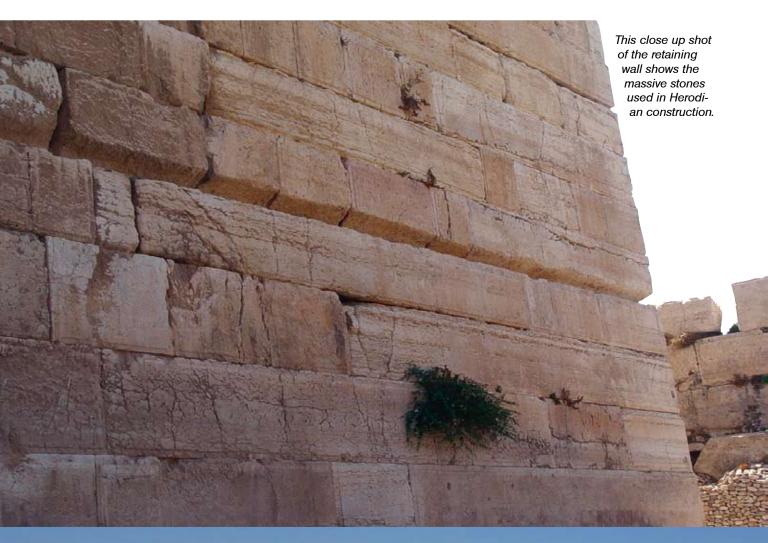
The retaining wall for the Temple Mount. The stones which are at the base of the wall were hurled down from the Temple Mount. Archaeologists left them just as they found them.

Today, the Temple Mount has the Dome of the Rock constructed on what is thought to be the exact location where the Solomonic Temple was originally built. The Dome of the Rock is the second most holy spot for Islam, so there still is much conflict and controversy about control of the Temple Mount.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

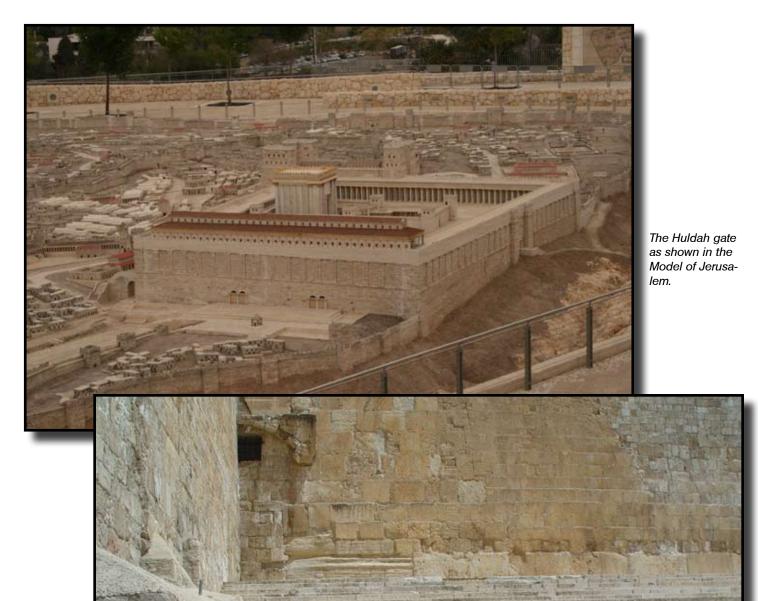


Excursion to Israel and Egypt (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13)



A view of the Temple Mount, on which is located the Islamic Dome of the Rock. The view is taken from the Mount of Olives.





The remains of the steps leading to the Huldah Gate.

Turned Off to "Christian Image" or to Truth?

n an article entitled, "Christian Image Is Turning Youths Off" (10/12/2007), Adelle M. Banks of the Religion News Service wrote:

Young people have graded Christianity, and so far, the report card doesn't look good.

Majorities of young people in America describe modern-day Christianity as judgmental, hypocritical and anti-gay. What's more, many Christians don't even want to call themselves "Christian" because of the baggage that accompanies the label.

A new book based on research by the California-based research firm the Barna Group found that church attitudes about people in general and gays in particular are driving a negative image of the Christian faith among people ages 16-29.

"The Christian community's ability to take the high road and help to deal with some of the challenges that this (anti-gay) perception represents may be the . . . defining response of the Christian church in the next decade," said David Kinnaman, Barna Group president and author of the book, *UnChristian: What a New Generation Really Thinks About Christianity*.

"The anti-homosexual perception has now become sort of the Geiger counter of Christians' ability to love and work with people," he said. . . .

Kinnaman said some Christians — including those in the entertainment industry — preferred to call themselves "followers of Jesus" or "apprentices of Christ" because the word "Christian" could limit their ability to relate to people. Even Kinnaman, 33, described himself as "a committed Christ follower," though he has called himself a Christian in the past. . . .

"When Jesus pursued people, he was much more critical of pride and much more critical of spiritual arrogance than he was of people who were sinful. And today's Christians, if you spend enough time looking at their attitudes and actions, really are not like Jesus when it comes to that."

Megachurch pastor and best-selling author Rick Warren of Saddleback Church in Lake Forest, Calif., used the book to say he hopes the church will become "known more by what it is for than what it is against.

"For some time now, the hands and feet of the body of Christ have been amputated, and we've been pretty much reduced to a big mouth," Warren wrote.

The information in this article is disturbing for two reasons. First, it is sad that so many young people seem to be turned off by Christianity which, even in its less than perfect forms, is responsible for just about every truly good blessing and privilege that we enjoy in our society today. I shudder to think what Western Civilization would have been like if its foundations had been in Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, or especially atheism!, instead of Christianity. We would probably still be living primitive, superstitious, third-world lives.

A second reason why the article is so disturbing is the sheer amount of misinformation and misunderstanding that it represents. I find the reaction to the "anti-gay" charge as "the Geiger counter of Christians' ability to love and work with people" especially noteworthy. The radical homosexual-rights people have done their job exceptionally well in the education of our young people via the public schools, television, movies, and other media, in getting them to accept homosexuality as a "normal, alternate" lifestyle and to view any opposition to it as "homophobic." I recently saw a DVD in a video store entitled "The Bible Tells Me So" which apparently pokes fun at the idea that people would use the Bible to condemn homosexuality. Yet, the Bible still says that "neither fornicators . . . nor homosexuals . . . will inherit the kingdom of God" (1 Cor. 6:9-10).

Certainly, it is true that many who have professed and do profess Christianity have not always lived by its principles and, thus give it a bad name, causing some to be turned off. However, as with everything else, people must be careful not to throw the proverbial baby out with the bath water. I have an idea that the present generation has been fed

such a diet of relativism ("I'm OK—you're OK," live and let live, don't rock the boat or make waves, "let's all just get along") that any condemnation of sin seems to it to be judgmental and hypocritical, because to them there is no absolute right or wrong, except that it is absolutely wrong to say that anyone is wrong!

Rather than basing our faith on opinion polls and focus group research, we must go back to the Bible. Should Christians ever condemn anything? Noah is held up to us as an example of faith, one who saved his family. He is described in Scripture as "a preacher of righteousness" (2 Pet. 2:5). And by what he did and said, "he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith" (Heb. 11:7). Evidently Noah's preaching must have turned off a lot of other people in his day because absolutely no one followed him into the ark, except his own family. Yet, he was still in the right and everyone else was in the wrong.

And then there is Jesus. Unfortunately, sometimes even those who claim to be "followers of Jesus" can actually be His worst enemies. To say, "When Jesus pursued people, he was much more critical of pride and much more critical of spiritual arrogance than he was of people who were sinful," is merely an opinion, and not one well-founded on Scripture. Yes, He did criticize pride and spiritual arrogance. But He also condemned other forms of sin in no uncertain terms. He told the adulterous woman, "Go, and sin no more" (John 8:11). He said that she had sinned. He did *not* say that she was just misunderstood and should be accepted as she was.

Furthermore, the true followers of Jesus who in the first century were guided by the Holy Spirit to reveal His will to mankind spoke for Him (see 1 Cor. 14:34). Thus, their words are just as much His words as the ones He spoke. One of His servants, the apostle Paul, said, "Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2). The word of God is truth—absolute truth (John 17:17). Right now, preaching the truth of God's word is apparently out of season, at least with many, but Paul does not say to change the message to suit the times but to continue preaching the word anyway.

Why? Paul continued, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears, they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth, and be turned aside to fables" (2 Tim. 4:3-4). Does that ever describe the present generation! It

is far more prone to believe fables (all religions are equal, homosexuals are born that way, there is no absolute right and wrong) than it is to accept the truth of God's word. Yet, Paul still says that we need to keep on preaching the word, even if it seems "out of season."

I understand the statement that the church should be

"known more by what it is for than what it is against,"

and basically agree with it. However, it does not go far enough, because the truth is that you cannot be "for" something if you are not equally against everything that stands opposed to what you claim that you are "for." So far as I can tell, Rick Warren, and many like him, are nothing but appeasers who have compromised and watered down the truth of the gospel in an effort to make it more palatable to an unbelieving and corrupt society as they strive for huge numbers, with the result that there is almost no difference between what they teach and what the world already believes, except that they do throw a little "Jesus" in

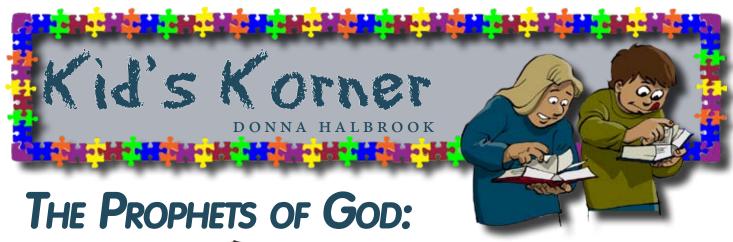
The real problem is not that today's youth is turned off by some "Christian image." Today's youth is turned off by *truth* itself. They don't want "the offense of the cross" (Gal. 5:11). They prefer the "smooth words and flattering speech" which will deceive their hearts into thinking that they are "apprentices of Jesus" while in truth "they deny Him" by their works (Rom. 16:17; Tit. 1:16). The same Jesus who is appealed to as being so loving, accepting, and embracing, once said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). That is a pretty absolute statement! And accepting Him means more than just looking upon Him as a great teacher. "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments" (John 14:15).

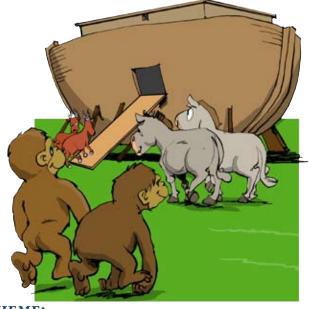
Furthermore, the book that Jesus left us tells us, "You who love the Lord, hate evil" (Psa. 97:10). By today's standards, steeped as they are in secularism, humanism, and post-modernism, anyone who hates evil is automatically viewed as being judgmental and hypocritical. Over 300 years ago, Isaac Watts expressed how true Christians will react to the hatred of society toward them when he wrote,

Should earth against my soul engage, And fiery darts be hurled, Then I can smile at Satan's rage, And face a frowning world.

every now and then.

Yes, I must make sure that my attitude does reflect the love, mercy, and grace of Jesus Christ. But I cannot let the "frowning world" cow me into not exposing the unfruitful works of darkness (Eph. 5:11).





THEME:

In Bible times God revealed His word through prophets. When a prophet spoke or wrote God's word, God guided him to speak or write exactly what God said (Ex. 4:12). Revelation means God gave them the words they must say. Inspiration means God guided their speech and writing so that they would not forget anything God told them or make any other mistakes. In this way God's word was given to the world in a perfect way. The 39 books of the Old Testament and the 27 books of the New Testament were written by prophets of God. The whole Bible was "given by inspiration of God" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

The first period of Bible history is the *Patriarchal Age*. "Patriarch" means "father." In that time God spoke directly to the fathers of each family such as Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Gen. 20:7). The second period of Bible history is the *Mosaic Age*. Moses was the greatest prophet of this time. God sent him to lead the Hebrew people out of Egyptian bondage. God led them to Mount Sinai to give Moses the Ten Commandments. Other laws also were given to guide the Hebrews as a new nation called Israel in the promised land of Canaan. All of these laws and

commandments were called The of Law of God because God gave it and The Law of Moses because Moses delivered it to the people.

Aaron (Moses' brother) and Miriam (his sister) were prophets who helped Moses teach God's word while the Hebrews wandered in the wilderness. After Moses died, Joshua was the next great prophet who led God's people to cross the Jordan River and to settle in the land of Canaan.

Samuel, King David, and King Solomon were prophets of God in the early days of the nation of Israel. Samuel's work as a prophet is recorded in 1 Samuel (1 Sam. 3:20-21). God sent him to anoint Saul and David as the first kings of Israel. David wrote the book of Psalms. Solomon wrote Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and the Song of Solomon.

When King Solomon died, his son Rehoboam became king. Because King Rehoboam was cruel, the nation of Israel broke into two parts. The northern part was called Israel or Samaria and the southern part Judah (where Rehoboam reigned). The northern kingdom of Israel began to worship idols and commit many other sins, and sometimes

Judah committed these sins. God sent prophets to warn the people about their sins and to teach them how to live right and to prepare for a future time when Christ would come.



Memory Verse:

"(God told Moses:) Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say" (Exodus 4:12).



ACTIVITIES: SHORT ANSWERS

- 1. What is the only book given to the world in a perfect way?
- 2. The Old Testament is a collection of how many books given by God?
- 3. The New Testament is a collection of how many books given by God?
- 4. Why are all the laws and commandments God gave at Mt. Sinai called by these two names?
 - a. The Law of God
 - b. The Law of Moses
- 5. What was the message of the prophets sent by God to Israel and Judah?

Матсн:

- 1. Inspiration A. The place where God gave the Ten Commandments
- 2. Mosaic Age B. Prophet sent by God to anoint David as king
- 3. Mt. Sinai C. Moses' brother & sister who prophesied
- 4. Aaron, Miriam D. A king & prophet who wrote the Psalms
- _____ 5. Joshua E. The name of the southern kingdom
- ____ 6. Samuel F. God guided prophets when they spoke & wrote
- 7. David G. The second period of Bible history
- 8. Solomon H. The name of the northern kingdom
- 9. Judah I. The prophet who led God's people after Moses died
- _____ 10. Israel, Samaria J. A king & prophet who wrote Proverbs

Questions and Answers

Question:

In Your answer concerning soul and spirit, you did not mention some troubling passages in Ecclesiastes (3:19-21; 9:5-6). Would you please deal with them?



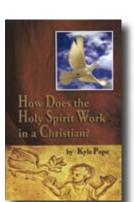
BOBBY L. GRAHAM

Answer:

he answer to that earlier question concerning soul and spirit already was somewhat lengthy, thus explaining my reluctance to extend it with a consideration of other passages bearing on the original topic.

Ecclesiastes 3:19-21 appears in a long section of the book dealing with the vanity of all things earthly (chapters 1-6). In this section the preacher focuses on his attempts to achieve lasting good in this life under the sun. He approached the question experimentally, as his inspired record shows. By trial and error he learned the futility of all such attempts—earthly wisdom and knowledge failed him, as did wealth and pleasure and human achievement. In none of these ways did he gain permanent fulfillment or joy. In chapter three he reaches the conclusion that he must recognize God as the ruler of His creation if he would operate successfully in the world. One result of his experiment is his recognition that man is physically similar to the animals, but he also is profoundly different from them. He dies as all of the beasts die; thus he has no physical advantage over them. The reader might refer to that earlier answer for its brief attention to the human's resemblance to the animals in what the Bible calls "the breath of life," for in physical or animal life he is not preeminent over them. After death all return to the dust. Notice, however, that verse 21 does distinguish between humans and animals, for it speaks of the spirit of man going upward and that of the beast going down to the earth. The uniqueness of humans is there seen and is further delineated in 12:7, where "the spirit returns to God who gave it." The unsettled understanding of the preacher in his question of verse 20 ("Who knoweth...?") must be understood from his position of failing to consider God; only later does he conclude that God must be included in his attempt to gain fulfillment.

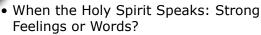
The other passage in Ecclesiastes 9:5-6 speaks of knowledge that man has or doesn't have. There the affirmation is that the living know that they shall die, but the dead know nothing at all, even as he has no reward on earth after death. Observe that the context is well marked out by repeated statements concerning what is done "under the sun," meaning this sphere of life upon the earth (9:3, 6, 9). After death those who have passed from this life do not have recognition of what is here transpiring. That is not to say that they do not have recollection of life on earth, but of current happenings. The account of the Rich Man and Lazarus in Luke 16:19-31 reveals that deceased persons retain their intellectual faculties (their consciousness of their surroundings), thus remembering earlier events of earth and apprehending current happenings of their own present circumstances away from earth. The passage clearly points out that the dead have no part "in anything that is done under the sun," including reward or knowledge.



How Does the Holy Spirit Work in a Christian? by Kyle Pope

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- The Holy Spirit's Role in Inspiration
- The Holy Spirit's Work in the Individual



- Can It Be Proven from Scripture that Miraculous Spiritual Gifts Have Ceased?
- Scripture Index

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Some Words of

Encouragement to Young Preachers

BILL DODD

In 1961, I made my first "talk" at a Wednesday night service in Berwyn, Illinois. Melvin Curry was the local preacher. Since then I have learned a number of things about the "great work" of preaching. Some of these things, I have learned from the "stance of failures." Strive to be a "good preacher," not a "big" one. It is the judgment of this writer that most young preachers struggle with the ambition to be a "big" preacher. It is a

known fact that all of the Lord's hand-picked disciples had an ambition to be great (Mark 10:37-45). It is not likely that most of us are better than the Lord's chosen ones, Judas notwithstanding.

In the late sixties, a young preacher friend of mine went to Connie Adams and told Connie, "I have an ambition to be a 'Big Preacher." Connie's reply was, "You don't

have a problem that most, if not all of us have had."

If you want to be a big preacher, choose to be a servant. When one develops a "servant attitude," he will not be concerned about such things as: (1) Who gets the most meeting invitations; (2) Who preaches for the biggest congregation; (3) Who draws the biggest salary.

In order to be a good preacher, you will have to pay your dues. I knew of a young student at Florida College who wanted to be another Roy Cogdill. However, he did not want to do the needed work to pass his classes. Also, there was another young fellow who liked to do a bit of "gasconading" about his high I.Q. Unfortunately, his "I will" did not match his I.Q. If you want to be a good preacher, you need to pay the price of "much hard" study. Remember that "much study is a weariness of the flesh" (Eccl. 12:10).



If your talents and preparation make you a "big" preacher, then fine. However, don't seek to be a big preacher due to vain ambition.

Also, it is needful that you study the books of Timothy and Titus to learn about the work of preaching. The teaching of these books will not make you a "denominational pastor." It is sad to say that some

brethren do not understand that.

In addition to reading the books of the New Testament about preaching, I highly recommend James P. Needham's book, *Preachers and Preaching*. That book was written in the late sixties when brother Needham was at the "apex" of his career. It is the best book that I know of pertaining to the great work of preaching.

P.O. Box 1721 Clinton, AR 72031











How Simall Congregations and Poor Brethren Cain Do Great Things for God

LES MAYDELL

e are not the first ones of God's people to be overwhelmed by the work God has given us to do. When a small remnant of God's people came back to Canaan after being slaves in Babylon, they were given the large task to rebuild the temple of Solomon that had been destroyed seventy years earlier. Not only that, but they had to rebuild their homes and rework the farm land that had been allowed to go to ruin for the past two generations!

Nevertheless, they began well, laying the foundation of the new temple, shouting for joy, giving thanks to the Lord, saying, "For He is good, For His mercy endures forever towards Israel" (Ezra 4:11).

However, the older priests and Levites and heads of their fathers' houses who had seen Solomon's temple "wept with a loud voice" (Ezra 4:12). Why? Because, compared to the first temple, this temple was small, not so beautiful, and not so outwardly impressive. They "despised the day of small things" (Zech. 4:9-10).

Trouble arose from outsiders as well. The people whom the former king of Assyria had sent to live in the land many years ago, had decided to worship the true God—but not properly. These worshipers decided they also wanted a part in rebuilding the temple. "We seek your God as you do," they said (Ezra 4:2). When the children of Judah refused to have fellowship with their corrupted religion, they "tried to discourage the people of Judah. They troubled them in building, and hired counselors against them to frustrate their purpose all the days of Cyrus king of Persia." They

even wrote a letter containing false accusations against them to the government (Ezra 4:4-6).

The new ruler, Artaxerxes, listened to the false accusations and ordered the building stopped. But even when a new king came to power, the people did not start building again. They procrastinated. "The time has not come, the time that the Lord's house should be built" (Hag. 1:2). Instead they concentrated on building their own houses and on farming and their own businesses.

God was not happy. First He withheld rain and physical blessings from the nation (Hag. 1:11). Then He sent two prophets, Zechariah and Haggai, to preach to the people and motivate them to get busy doing God's work.

God said, "Is it time for you yourselves to dwell in your paneled houses, and this temple to lie in ruins? . . . Consider your ways! You have sown much, and bring in little; you eat, but do not have enough; . . . You clothe yourselves, but no one is warm; And he who earns wages, earns wages to put into a bag with holes" (Hag. 1:4-6).

Brethren, I am sure many of you can identify with the children of God who lived in this time. Even today, in most places the Lord's people are a small remnant compared to other religions, yet we have been given the very large task of building the true temple of God, the church of Christ. Many of us have had to face discouragement from those who call themselves the church of Christ, but who are not. And many have even faced opposition from the government. Others of us started well, but then we have allowed the cares of the world to hinder us. We experience financial

hardship and consider ourselves too poor to give, yet we build our houses and educate our children and some of us even buy sound systems, televisions, and cell phones, but the congregation has no place to meet and is not supporting men to go out to spread the gospel to the lost. We all tend to procrastinate when there is a difficult task to be done. Let us consider our ways! How can we build the church of the Lord, even if we are small or poor?

The books of Haggai and Zechariah tell us many ways to do this.

"Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the Lord of Hosts" (Zech. 4:6).

No matter what we do for God, we are busy with what is truly great. But it starts in a small way with the decision, "I will do what God wants." This is exactly where we often fail because we believe to start something, we must first have money, ability, power, or materials. Let us not complain, feel sorry for ourselves, or stop working because we are not as rich as churches overseas, or we do not have as many resources as the "liberals." I have seen the Lord's work ruined many times by too much money from outside sources due to jealousy and men becoming preachers for the sake of the money instead of for the love of the Lord. I have seen many baptized who did it only because they saw a physical benefit to being a Christian. They never repented; they only brought much trouble and heartache into the church. Money alone is not the answer. The Spirit of God has revealed to us what we need to be doing. Let us decide to do it! The Lord of Hosts is with us! "Seek first the kingdom of God and all these things shall be added to you" (Matt. 6:33).

"Do not despise the day of small things" (Zech. 4:10).

If we do not have the resources to build a meeting place, start by extending a roof to the side of someone's house! If we do not have enough to support a preacher full time, start by supporting faithful men partially. If I have no money, I can start giving some of what I have grown or made, so the church can use it to help needy brethren. I know a brother with no money who used old tomato boxes and other wood being thrown away to make a Lord's supper table, a pulpit, and containers for the Lord's supper emblems and collection. If I have a job but have not been giving properly, I can start by putting just a small amount more into the collection than I did last week—and then more—and more—until I am giving the way God wants. If we start giving properly, will not God open for us the windows of heaven and pour out for us such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it (Mal. 3:10)? The Jews had to give a tenth

for furtherance of the tabernacle or temple that was only a shadow of the good things to come. How much more should we be willing to give for the "true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man" (Heb. 8:2). The Pharisees were excellent in tithing (Matt. 23:23), but Jesus says to us, "unless your righteousness exceeds the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 5:19). If we sacrifice in order to give bountifully, purposefully, and cheerfully, "God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work" (2 Cor. 8:2; 9:6-8). Brethren, God says that, if the congregation where you are does not have an abundance for every good work, it is because the members of the congregation are not giving bountifully, purposefully, and cheerfully!

EVEN IF WE FEEL THAT WHAT WE HAVE IS NOTHING IN COMPARISON TO WHAT OTHERS HAVE, BE STRONG AND WORK!

"Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, is this not in your eyes as nothing? Yet now be strong . . . all you people of the land, says the Lord, and work: for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:3-4). Everyone can be strong and work for the Lord, even if he has little ability and no money whatsoever! If you are not supported, you can still study deeply, prepare lessons thoroughly, and preach or teach the riches of God's word in a truly beneficial way. Studying deeply and teaching properly also applies to women who are training the children the Lord's church of tomorrow. Good preparation by those in charge of teaching, presiding at the Lord's table, or leading the songs or prayers also edifies the whole congregation and spurs the other members on to work harder themselves. Christians will be motivated to start supporting men who are truly doing a good job of teaching and preaching. Our time together should also be spent in encouraging each other to do good works of love towards others throughout the week (Heb. 10:24-25). Many good works can be done with little ability and no money. It is not necessary to be rich in order to teach the gospel to someone who is lost, but it is necessary to study! How sad it is when a person is given something, such as a Bible, but does not study it! If each person is thankful for the ability, money, and opportunities he does have and starts using them to work for the Lord, the Lord's work will go forward. "'I will fill this temple with glory,' says the Lord of hosts. 'The silver is Mine, and the gold is Mine,' says the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:7-8).

CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

How Small Congregations and Poor Brethren Can Do Great Things for God

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

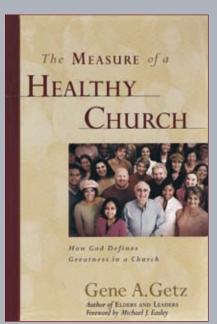
Consider what needs to be done and make plans to do it.

"Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'Consider your ways! Go up to the mountains and bring wood and build the temple" (Hag. 1:7-8). The poor churches of Macedonia gave liberally because they considered the great need (2 Cor. 8:1-5). They also had a plan to meet the need—giving each first day of the week (1 Cor. 16:1-3). Do the brethren where you are truly see the great need to send preachers out to reach the lost, relieve needy saints, provide a place to meet, buy Bibles/song books/study material to edify the congregation, etc.? Do the brethren know how much these things will cost? Have they prioritized the needs of the congregation so that they can make specific plans to achieve their goals? Do the brethren know how much money needs to be collected each week so that the congregation can do the work it wants to do? Do the brethren know how much money is being collected, how much is stored up for a special use, and how the money is being spent? Do the brethren know what the congregation is planning so they can perhaps contribute in other ways—like making bricks for a building or building benches? Brethren will give when they can see the need and value of giving.

CONSIDER THE GREATNESS OF THE WORK!

"The glory of this latter temple shall be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts" (Hag. 2:9). The people of that time did not know how God was going to make that small temple great. It was only about 400 years later that it was revealed that God was not prophesying here about their physical temple at all, but about the church of Christ! The church of Christ is the most glorious place of worship that has ever existed, even though it be a handful of people under a tree! Let the greatness of the church of Christ and our gratitude towards God who made us to be a part of His church, motivate us to work our very best and hardest for Hm. What seems to us to be an impossible task can be made a reachable task with God's help. God said, "Who are you, O great mountain?"(The task of building the temple was pictured as a large mountain.) "... you shall become a plain" (Zech. 4:7). Right now you may only be able to start with something small, but God can use that small thing and turn it into something great. "My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!" (Hag. 2:5).

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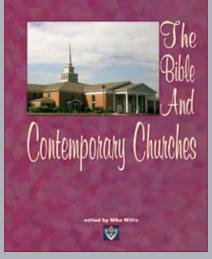


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The Moon:

A Strong Argument for Creation

HEATH ROGERS

ave you
ever wondered where
the Moon came from?
Those of us who believe in
the Bible know the answer to this
question. God created the moon on the fourth
day (Gen. 1:14-19). However, atheists must come up with
other explanations that do not include God.

In an article titled *Earth's Moon is Rare Oddball* (from SPACE.com, Nov. 20, 2007), Dave Mosher points out the fact that our moon is unique when compared to the moons of other planets. In his article, he explains how some scientists believe our moon came into existence.

Shortly after the sun formed about 4.5 billion years ago, scientists think a vagrant planet as big as Mars smacked into infant Earth and ripped off a chunk of our home's smoldering mantle. The rocky, dusty leftovers fell into orbit around our wounded planet, eventually coalescing into the moon we see today.

Mosher continues, "The scenario is unique among other moons in the solar system, which formed side-by-side with their planet or were captured by its gravity."

Indeed, our moon is an oddity. Of the four inner planets (those planets closest to the Sun), only Earth and Mars have moons. The outer planets have numerous moons. The two moons orbiting Mars (believed to be asteroids that were captured by the planet's gravitational pull) are very small compared to the size of our moon. If one were to examine the solar system, our moon certainly would "stick out" like a sore thumb.

However, science has proven that this planetary oddity actually plays a vitally important role in supporting life upon this planet. The moon is primarily responsible for our tides. The tides generate a large-scale circulation that keeps the oceans from becoming stagnant. The tides also allow nutrients from the continents to be flushed out into the

oceans, keeping
them nutrient-rich
and able to support
life. Any scientist will
tell you that life is dependent
upon water. The moon has a positive
impact upon the largest bodies of water on our

planet.

Also, in 1993 it was discovered that the moon is responsible for stabilizing the tilt of the Earth's axis. This tilt of 23.5 degrees is what gives us our seasons. In the summer months, the northern hemisphere is pointed toward the sun. Six months later, it is pointed away from the sun. Because of the stability of this tilt, we can expect the seasons to change throughout the year. The farmer knows when to plant, and can expect a growing season and a harvest. If this tilt were not fixed, we would have prolonged periods of extreme weather. No one would be able to grow food. In fact, with extreme tilts in the earth's axis, large areas of the planet would be in total darkness for months, or even years, at a time. Imagine the effect of the North Pole temporarily relocating to someplace like Chicago! The moon gives our planet the stability that it needs to sustain life.

What the scientific community calls "unique," the Biblebelieving Christian sees as evidence for a Creator. The evolutionist explains our moon's formation as the result of a planetary collision; an accident, a mistake. I suggest that, instead, God gave our unique planet exactly what it needed in order for it to sustain life. Not only are we "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Ps. 139:14), but so is our planet, along with its moon.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork" (Ps. 19:1). The next time you look at the moon in the night sky, remember that it is there for a reason. It is an ever-present reminder of God's wisdom, design and purpose.

Singing With Understanding

The Song Before the Lord's Supper (5)

In this series of articles, we have been considering how to use hymns with the Lord's Supper to emphasize both the tragedy and the triumph of the cross. Previously, we suggested that, in addition to singing a solemn hymn before the Lord's Supper, a joyful hymn could be sung afterward.

DIVIDING HYMNS

Another possibility is to sing part of a hymn before the Lord's Supper and part of it afterward to balance both the sorrow and joy of Jesus' sacrifice. Often the last verse of a hymn provides an application of the thoughts in the previous verses. In some hymns about the sacrifice on the cross the last verse changes tone to make application—the first verses are sad, while the last verse is cheerful; or the last verse expresses how we should react to Jesus' sacrifice. Following are examples of hymns that work well with the appropriate verses before and after the Lord's Supper.

HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR! PHILLIP P. BLISS

Before the Lords' Supper Man of Sorrows! what a name For the Son of God, who came Ruined sinners to reclaim. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Bearing shame and scoffing rude, In my place condemned He stood; Sealed my pardon with His blood. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Guilty, vile, and helpless we; Spotless Lamb of God was He; "Full atonement!" can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!

Lifted up was He to die; "It is finished!" was His cry; Now in Heaven exalted high. Hallelujah! What a Savior!

After the Lord's Supper When He comes, our glorious King, All His ransomed home to bring, Then anew this song we'll sing: Hallelujah! What a Savior!

NEAR THE CROSS, F. J. CROSBY

Before the Lord's Supper
Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain
Free to all, a healing stream
Flows from Calvary's mountain.

Near the cross, a trembling soul, Love and mercy found me; There the bright and morning star Sheds its beams around me.

Near the cross! O Lamb of God, Bring its scenes before me; Help me walk from day to day, With its shadows o'er me.

After the Lord's Supper
Near the cross I'll watch and wait
Hoping, trusting ever,
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river.

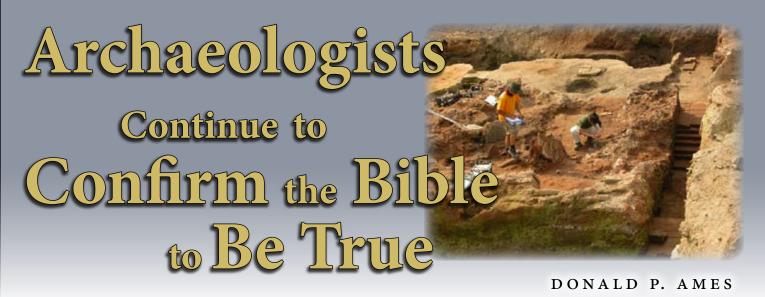


Before the Lord's Supper
Why did my Savior come to earth,
And to the humble go?
Why did He choose a lowly birth?
Because He loved me so!
Why did He drink the bitter cup
Of sorrow, pain and woe?
Why on the cross be lifted up?
Because He loved me so!

After the Lord's Supper
Till Jesus comes I'll sing His praise,
And then to glory go,
And live with Him thru endless days,
Because He loved me so!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27





ccording to two articles that appeared in the *Indiana-polis Star* (11-02-08), two new discoveries have added tremendously to the confirmation of the Bible by archaeologists.

The first of these was discovered by a teen-aged volunteer in the ruins of an ancient town on a hilltop south of Jerusalem. The 2,000 year-old curved pottery shard, found in July, had five lines of Hebrew writing, as revealed by Yossi Garfinkel, the Israeli archaeologist leading the excavation. Dated back to the time of David, it confirms some of the Hebrew records were written down rather than just passed on by oral tradition [as anyone who believes the Bible knows from its records—DPA]. "This is the oldest Hebrew inscription that has ever been found," he said. It is at least 100-200 years older than any other found inscriptions of Hebrew writing thus far, and about 850 years older that the Dead Sea scrolls. The shard is now being kept in a university safe while philologists translate it, "a task expected to take months."

Secondly, "the fictional King Solomon's Mines held a treasure of gold and diamonds, but archaeologists say the real mines may have supplied the ancient king with copper." Researchers have discovered a copper production center in southern Jordan that dates to the tenth century B.C., the time of King Solomon's reign. It was located south of the Dead Sea in the region known then as Edom, at Khirhat en-Nahas (which means "ruins of copper" in Arabic). "This research represents a confluence between archaeological and scientific data and the Bible,' Levy said." Thomas Levy of the University of California-San Diego and Mohammad Najjar of Jordan's Friends of Archaeology made the discovery, which was reported in the Proceedings of

Of course we don't need these discoveries to believe the Bible account to be accurate, but it does help to strengthen our faith when such discoveries are confirmed.

the National Academy of Sciences.

11853 Halle Drive Indianapolis, Indiana 46229

Songs Before the Lord's Supper (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26)

WHEN MY LOVE TO CHRIST GROWS WEAK, JOHN R. WREFORD

Before the Lord's Supper
When my love to Christ grows weak,
When for deeper faith I seek,
Then in thought I go to thee,
Garden of Gethsemane.

There I walk amid the shades While the lingering twilight fades; See that suffering, friendless One, Weeping, praying there alone. When my love for man grows weak, When for stronger faith I seek, Hill of Calvary, I go To thy scenes of fear and woe.

There behold His agony, Suffered on the bitter tree; See His anguish, see His faith, Love triumphant still in death.

After the Lord's Supper
Then to life I turn again,
Learning all the worth of pain,
Learning all the might that lies
In a full self sacrifice.

More Examples

In the next article, we will provide additional examples of hymns that can be used in similar fashion. We will also discuss the choruses of some hymns and how to use them effectively before and after the Lord's Supper.

dmaravilla@sbcglobal.net

WORK ON THE NEW HYMNAL CONTINUES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE LIST OF HYMNS INCLUDED, THE TABLE OF CONTENTS IS POSTED AT WWW.SUMPHONIA.COM.

Election De

LEWIS WILLIS

¬ lection day has come and gone in our country. Besides electing a new President and Vice President, we elected a host of federal, state, and local officials in addition to giving our approval or disapproval to many proposed laws affecting our country.

Billions of dollars were spent to influence the outcome of this election. Few with whom I have spoken have been indifferent about it. They are wondering what will happen to them, and our country, now that America has chosen its new leaders. These are legitimate concerns

"Wherefore

brethren, give

the rather.

diligence to

make your

calling and

for if ye do

(2 Pet. 1:10).

election sure:

these things, ye

shall never fall"

A More Important Election

When the apostle Peter wrote to first century Christians, he spoke "to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 1:1). Clearly, those addressed were Christians, just as the

apostles were Christians.

Peter continues, telling these brethren: "... his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue," as a consequence of which ". . . are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Pet. 1:3-4).

In the verses that follow, these Christians are commanded to add to their faith: virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and charity (vv. 5-7). If they would but follow this instruction, they would be counted as fruitful to the Lord. But if they

lacked these necessary graces, they would act blindly and foolishly (vv. 8-9).

Now, notice what Peter wrote next: "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall" (2 Pet. 1:10). Yes, Christians are participating in an election, and they had better make their election sure! Or, they must win this election! Furthermore, notice that the "ballots" have not yet been counted. Just because you are a Christian, that does not mean that your election is guaranteed! Some in religion teach that once you are saved, you are always saved. This denominational doctrine is false, as our text affirms. The Christians who received Peter's epistle realized that a failure to do as

> he said would result in a "fall" from their saved relationship with God. For that reason, they were told to "give diligence to make your calling and election sure."

A WORD STUDY

The Greek word, translated "election" is the word "eklektos," which "signifies picked out, chosen" (Vine, II: 21). Christians are chosen by God. Paul wrote of this choosing: "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will" (Eph. 1:4-5).

Paul's statement affirms that God is the one who chooses or elects Christians to salvation and sonship. This choosing is accomplished "in Him," or in Christ. This means that all who are chosen are in Christ. Election is impossible for those who are outside of Christ.

28

This choosing is according to "His will." Man does not make up the rules for this election; God has done that.

Furthermore, this is the process of God's grace at work among men. Notice the next verse: "To the praise of the glory of His grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved" (Eph. 1:6).

How Is His Grace Accessed?

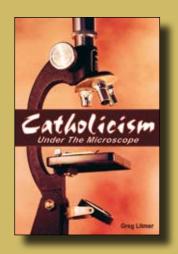
This is a critical question, if we are to triumph in this spiritual election. How does the sinner get "into Christ"? Paul gives us the answer to that question: "Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?" (Rom. 6:3). Unless you have been baptized into Christ, you have no part in this election; you are destined to lose the election regarding your soul and your eternal destination! Don't make the mistake that so many make when they refuse to be baptized, and reject this choosing of God, through His grace.

CHRISTIAN, MAKE YOUR ELECTION SURE!

We often are quick to tell the person outside of Christ that he must be baptized into Christ! However, we often fail to remember our own jeopardy. We become complacent and indifferent toward our individual duties and choices. When W. E. Vine defined the word for "elect," he made a significant point which I wish to call to the attention of every Christian. He wrote: "While Christ's Death was sufficient for all men, and is effective in the case of the elect, yet men are treated as responsible, being capable of the will and power of choice." Vine is absolutely right about the responsibilities of Christians. We have the power to choose to obey God, or disobey Him. If we disobey Him, we lose the election. Only if we choose to obey His will, follow His instruction, and do what He teaches us to do will we make our election sure! The Hebrew writer said Jesus "became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him" (Heb. 5.9)

Therefore, "election day" lies before us all. On Judgment Day, God will determine if we are among the elected in Christ. He will also decide if we Christians have obeyed Him, making our "calling and election sure." What will the final tally be for you?

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Catholicism Under The Microscope

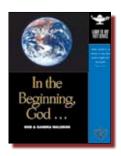
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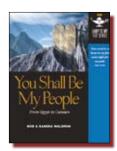
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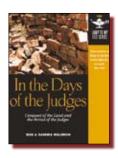
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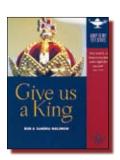


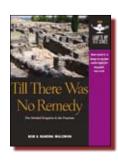
Greg Litmer was born in Cincinnati, Ohio on September 27, 1954. He married his best friend, Vicky (Brown), in 1976. The Litmers have two children: Adam Joseph (currently working with the University Heights congregation in Lexington, KY as an evangelist) and Rachel Elizabeth Knollman, who lives in Northern Kentucky. On October 5, 2007, Adam and his wife Jackie presented Greg and Vicky with their first grandchild, Alexander Delos Litmer. Greg received his formal education at the University of Cincinnati, majoring in theater. Greg participated in daily call-in radio programs for many years. His articles have appeared in a number of periodicals. He co-edited *Catholicism Examined*, a monthly publication which has been compiled into a book by the same title. He also wrote *Messianic Prophecy* and *That Ye May Grow Thereby*, a daily devotional book. Greg is currently working on two novels, *Just Another Sunday* and *So It Begins and So It Ends*.

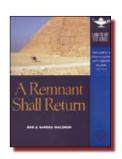


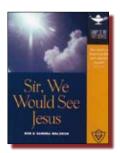


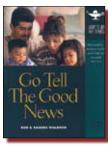






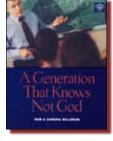






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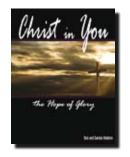


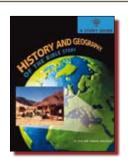


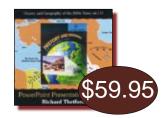




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The Church at Corinth: A Case Study of Division in the Local Church (2)

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2)

they thought it was a sign of their enlightenment that they did not allow such insignificant things as immodest dress, drinking, buying lottery tickets, or fornication to become matters of fellowship. We will never know the exact inner workings of this local church, but what we do know is that the local church was proud of the fact that such a man was tolerated in their midst.

Paul's Instructions

Paul confronted the church over the issue. He wrote,

For I indeed, as absent in body but present in spirit, have already judged (as though I were present) him who has so done this deed. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus. Your glorying is not good. Do you not know that a little leaven leavens the whole lump? Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us. Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, nor with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth (1 Cor. 5:3-8).

What needed to be done was for the church to withdraw from the one who was married to his father's wife. Paul gave the instructions about how it was to be done: (a) in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ; (b) when you are gathered together; (c) deliver such a one to Satan. They were to "purge out the old leaven" and this involved the cessation of social fellowship with the impenitent brother (5:9-11).

A DIVIDED CHURCH

When 1 Corinthians closes, one does not know what happened with reference to the brother. Did the church withdraw from him? Was he restored? 2 Corinthians provides us additional information that addresses the situation. For centuries commentators and Bible scholars thought that 2 Corinthians 2:5-11 addressed this same situation, but in more recent years some have challenged that thesis. In his recently published commentary on 2 Corinthians, Melvin Curry accepts the position that 2 Corinthians 2:5-11 is addressing the same situation as 1 Corinthians 5:1-13 (98), and with this I am in agreement. But look what happened:

But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent—not to be too severe. *This punishment which was inflicted by the majority* is sufficient for such a

man, so that, on the contrary, you ought rather to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow. Therefore I urge you to reaffirm your love to him. For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. Now whom you forgive anything, I also forgive. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices (2 Cor. 2:5-11).

The discipline was "inflicted by the majority" (KJV uses "many"). The implication is that there were some at Corinth who did not support the withdrawal, so the "majority" or "many" had to act without their support. Can you imagine the tense situation in the local church at Corinth when they assembled ("when you are gathered together") and publicly withdrew their fellowship from this sinner? The discipline which was exercised by the majority ultimately brought the sinner to repentance.

WHAT ALTERNATIVE DID THE CHURCH HAVE?

What choices did the church at Corinth have in dealing with this man? If some among them were not willing to support the withdrawal, did that mean that they should not have withdrawn from him? What if the withdrawal resulted in thirty percent of the congregation leaving and not coming back, what should Corinth do? Corinth had two choices: (a) Corinth could preach and apply the truth; (b) Corinth could disobey the Lord. The issue was that simple. Fortunately, the majority loved the Lord enough to do what God commanded, and allow the chips to fall where they may. Can we do any differently?

SIMILAR PROBLEMS TODAY

Churches have been torn asunder over disciplinary problems today, just as existed in the church at Corinth. Not a few of the problems have focused on issues pertaining to unscriptural marriages.

When I was nineteen years old, I graduated from Florida College and moved to work with a church whose name I will not mention. We had about twenty on a good Sunday morning. They assigned me to teach the Sunday morning Bible class, and in my youthful ignorance, I complained to my brother that I was having to teach one of the gospels, when I would really like to study one of Paul's epistles.

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About two months later, we got to the text where Jesus spoke about divorce and remarriage. I taught what I thought everyone believed about the subject: "And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery" (Matt. 19:9). After teaching that class, one of our families did not return for evening services and, in a congregation that small, their absence was noticed by everyone present. The next day, I visited the family to see what was wrong. The husband explained to me that he had been married before and that he had divorced his first wife, for no good reason. She was a good woman and he was young and immature. Years later, he married his present wife and they now had adult children. He said, "If what you taught on Sunday was correct, I am living in adultery." He made it clear that he and his wife were not going to separate. I reported this to the congregation and others talked to the family as well. There were no animosities; we all loved each other. But, the word of God was clear about what their condition was and what had to be done. However, like the church at Corinth, not all were willing to support the church discipline and tension arose within the local church over how to address the case of the unscripturally married couple in our congregation. After the "majority" withdrew from the couple, they found a church which would accept them in their unscriptural marriage. (A postnote is this: Two of their grandsons now are faithful gospel preachers because of the stance that their son and his wife took.)

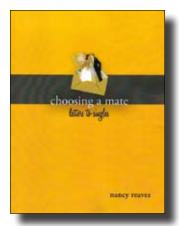
In subsequent years, churches with which I have labored have struggled through various cases of unscriptural marriages and unscriptural divorces (where a brother or sister decides to walk out on a marriage without the scriptural

right to do so). Christ never gave man or woman the right to walk out of a marriage at will and, on two separate occasions, churches with which I was identified have had to exercise church discipline against a brother or sister who sundered his/her marriage for no scriptural reason. In each case, the church struggled to reach unamity about taking the action. (Despite over forty years of believing and practicing what Christ said about divorce and remarriage, some brethren report that I believe one can walk out of a marriage for any reason he chooses. If I believed that, I would withdraw from myself!)

Other churches have been torn asunder in addressing other disciplinary problems ranging from factionalism to dancing. When I was a teenager, the local church withdrew from one of its members who sponsored a dance for the teenagers. (Do you think the church of which you are a member would do the same thing today? If not, is it because today's dancing is so much less lasciviousness than the dancing of the 1960s?) The issue then and the issue now is not merely the sinful conduct of an immoral Christian. It is also an issue of what stance the local church will take in addressing worldly members.

CONCLUSION

When we make application of the Lord's teaching on moral issues such as Paul addressed in Corinth, the internal unity of the local church may be threatened, just as it was at Corinth. However, the only choice the local church has is whether or not to obey what the Lord commanded. If obedience to the Lord causes some brethren to leave the local church, that is sad but it is better that a remnant be faithful to the Lord than that the whole church be united in its disobedience to the Lord.



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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	BROOKSVILLE, FL Church of Christ 604 W. Fort Dade Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: V.C. McCormick (352) 796-9803	GENEVA, FL Church of Christ Ave. C and 2nd St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. (407) 349-9998	MIAMI, FL Church of Christ 12780 Quail Roost Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clark Pace (305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437	PENSACOLA, FL East Hill Church of Christ 2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Stan Adams 479-2130 or 994-7749	CONYERS, GA Rockdale Church of Christ East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 761-6987; Bob Tuten, elder (678) 475-7212; Building (770) 929-3973
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.)	CHIPLEY, FL Church of Christ 1295 Brickyard Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 638-4942	HOLLYWOOD, FL Harding St. Church of Christ 5828 Harding St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (954) 961-4112	OCALA, FL Church of Christ 3900 S. Pine (441, 301 & 27 S.) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist:Al Sandlin 352-351-5188	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	CORDELE, GA Crisp County Church of Christ 120 Ernmaus 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
GRAND JUNCTION, CO Valley Church of Christ 491 Sparn Road P.O. Box 40531 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Bohannon www.ValleyChurchofChrist.net	DELAND, FL North Blvd. Church of Christ 823 N. Woodland Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Owen (386) 734-6907 or 734-4311	JACKSONVILLE, FL 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) jimbell007@netzero.net www.jccoc.com	ORLANDO, FL Pine Hills Church of Christ 890 Hastings St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ray West (407) 293–2851 or 290–8650	PUNTA GORDA, FL Church of Christ 2300 Taylor Road PO Box 511069 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (NovMar.) 4:00 P.M. Evening (AprOct.) 5:00 P.M. Evangelist: Paul Branch (239) 458-3566	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
IGNACIO, CO Church of Christ 295 Burns Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 1:00 P.M. (970) 563-9418	DESTIN, FL South Walton Church of Christ 64 Casting Lake Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 622-3817 www.southwaltonchurchofchrist.com	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	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	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	SAVANNAH, GA Costal 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

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	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	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	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	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	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
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	CLARKSVILLE, IN Clarksville Church of Christ 407 Lewis and Clark Pkw. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kipp Campbell (812) 941-0747 or 944-2305 KCampbell@earthlink.net Elders: 944-1878 or 948-9917	OOLITIC, IN Church of Christ 400 Lafayette Ave. P.O. Box 34 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (812) 279-4332	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	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	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
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	ELLETTSVILLE, IN Church of Christ 303 W. Temperance St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnie Edwards Evangelist: John Isaac Edwards (812) 876-2285 or 336-4630	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	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	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	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
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	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	RICHMOND, IN Gaar Road Church of Christ 1835 Gaar Rd. (1 mi. S. of I-70 off Hwy. 227) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Douglas R. Clark (765) 935-2911	WICHITA, KS Westside Church of Christ 2626 W. 47th St. South 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	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) 404-0346 or 651-7141	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
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	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	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	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	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	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
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	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	TRAFALGAR, IN Spearsville Rd. Church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W. (1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David R. Dodd (17) 878-5969 or (317) 439-3252 spearsvilleroadmessenger@gmail.com	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	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	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
DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ 1236 63rd St. (1 and 1/2 mile E. of 1355) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (630) 968-0760 • www.dgcoc.org	JAMESTOWN, IN Church of Christ (1 Mi. south of 1-74) Cor. Darlington & Mill Sts. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Denver Niemeier (765) 676-6404 or (317) 892-6285	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	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	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	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
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	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	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	BRANDENBURG, KY Brandenburg Church of Christ 612 Broadway Bible Study 9.45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878	OWENSBORO, KY Southside Church 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	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 & Bibles (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409
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	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	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	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	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	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

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	CLINTON, MS McRaven Rd. Church of Christ	DONIPHAN, MO Southside Church of Christ	ST. JAMES, MO Church of Christ	ALAMOGORDO, NM	FRANKLIN, NC Westside Church of Christ
To make changes	301 McRaven Rd. (I20, exit 36)	Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile	685 Sidney St.	25th & Hawaii Church of Christ P.O. Box 2065	2302 Old Murphy Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.
to your ad,	Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:55 A.M.	(P.O. Box 220) Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M.
contact us at	Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M.	Evening 6:30 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Gurtler
andyalex@bellsouth.net	Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Leonard White	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Lynn Huggins	Wednesday 6:30 P.M.	(828) 349-0159 (evangelist) (828) 369-5186 (building)
	(601) 925-9757 or 924-2645	(573) 996-3251 or 996-3513	(573) 265-8628	(505) 434-5834	http://nc-churchofchrist.org
SEVERN, MD Southwest Church of Christ	COLUMBUS, MS	FAIR GROVE, MO	ST. JOSEPH, MO	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	
805 Meadow Rd.	Woodlawn Church of Christ 359 Sanders Mills Rd. Steen	Church of Christ 217 N. Orchard Blvd.	County Line Church of Christ 2727 County Line Rd.	Albuquerque Church of Christ 1908 Sunshine Terrace SE	HOPE MILLS, NC Gray's Creek Church of Christ
Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	1391 Sand Hill Road
Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brandon Trout	Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	910-423-8719
(410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549 www.swcofchrist.com	Evangelist: Willis Logan (601) 356-6629	Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 or (417) 736-2663	(816) 279-4737 www.countylinechurchofchrist.com	(call to confirm time) 764-9277	910-424-2372
RIVERDALE, MD	GULFPORT, MS	KANSAS CITY, MO	ST. JOSEPH, MO	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	MARION, NC
(Washington, D.C. area) Wildercroft Church of Christ	Morris Rd. Church of Christ 1 blk. N. of Dedeaux Rd. &	Nashua Church of Christ	Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (.7 mi. E	Heights Church of Christ	Hwy. 70 Church of Christ
6330 Auburn Ave.	3 Rivers Rd. on Morris Rd.	11425 N. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	of Intersection I-29 & Hwy. 169)	7801 Zuni Road, S.E. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	18 Peachtree St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	Worship 10:20 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M.
Evening 6:00 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evening 6:30 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomley	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Don Davis	Evangelist: Mark Broyles	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 233-6485	Evanagelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577	Evangelist: T.J. Elliott
(301) 474-7460 or 446-1912	(228) 832-5529	(816) 532-4270 or 734-4142	Evangelist: Erik Smith	www.heightschurchof christ.com	(828) 652-7504 or 652-2584
CEDAR SPRINGS, MI Grand Rapids Area	MERIDIAN, MS Grandview Church of Christ	KANSAS CITY, MO Vivion Road Church of Christ	BEATRICE, NE	ALBUQUERQUE, NM Sandia Church of Christ	BEAVERCREEK, OH Knollwood Church of Christ
W. Michigan Church of Christ	2820 Grandview Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	2026 N.E. Vivion Rd.	Church of Christ 7th and Bell	3939 San Pedro N.E., Building D-2 Bible Study 9:45 A.M.	1031 Welford Dr.
Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M.	Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	Worship 10:45 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M.	Evening 5:00 P.M.	Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M.	Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M. David Waldron (231) 832-2189	Evangelist: Danny Gardner (601) 681-4505 or 482-9543	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tom Kinzel	233-4102 or 228-3827 www.churchofchrist7bell.com	Evangelist: Derek Chambers (505) 830-2086	Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Keith Greer
Michael Sewell (616) 361-8795	dg1969@bellsouth.net	(816) 453-6157	www.churcholemist/ben.com	www.sandiachurchof christ.com	(937) 426-1422
DULUTH, MN Church of Christ	MERIDIAN, MS	KENNETT, MO	LAS VEGAS, NV	BUFFALO, NY Greater Buffalo Church of Christ	CINCINNATI, OH Blue Ash
318 N. 18th Ave. E.	7th St. Church of Christ 2914 7th St.	Church of Christ 703 Harrison St.	Vegas Dr. Church of Christ 3816 Vegas Drive	3578 Walden Ave	Church of Christ
Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	Lancaster, NY 14086 Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M.
Bible Study 5:30 P.M.	Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M.	Worship 11:15 A.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Nick Krumrei	Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (601) 483-3101	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 888-6778	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (702) 648-4827	Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Daniel Bailey	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evang:elist: Russell Dunaway, Jr.
(218) 728-3233	(001) 403-3101	(373) 666-0776	(702) 040-4027	(716) 870-3259	891-3174
	SOUTHAVEN, MS (Memphis area)	LILBOURN, MO P.O. Box 270	RENO, NV	CARY, NC	CLEVELAND, OH Lorain Ave. Church of Christ
Shop online at	Church of Christ	211 Benton St.	Central Church of Christ 2450 Wrondel Way, Ste. A	Walnut St. Church of Christ (Raleigh) 217 Walnut St.	13501 Lorain Ave.
Shop online at	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M.	Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M.
truthbooks.net	Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.
	Evangelist: Landon Hope	Evangelist: Shane Williams	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (775) 786-2888	Evangelist: Rick Billingsly (919) 467-0012 (919) 372-1497	(216) 476-0660, 651-1689 or
	(662) 342-1132 - Church Building	(573) 688-2234 or 748-5204 RAYMORE, MO		CHARLOTTE, NC	(330) 725-3960, 723-0111
ROCHESTER, MN N. Broadway Church of Christ	BLUE SPRINGS, MO Southside Church of Christ	Raymore Church of Christ	SPARKS, NV Sierra Nevada Church of Christ	Harris Blvd. Church of Christ	COLUMBUS, OH Laurel Canyon
2002 Second St., SW	4000 SW Christiansen	107 N. Woodson St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	2425 Pyramid Way Bible Study 9:00 A.M.	5424 E.W.T. Harris Blvd. Worship 8:30 A.M.	Church of Christ
Bible Study 10:30 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M.	Worship 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30A.M.	409 McNaughton Rd. Bible Study 9:45 A.M.
Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Monday 7:30 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.
Evangelist: Luvimino D. Samaniego	Evangelist: Jim Bailey	Evangelist: Ryan Boyer (816) 322-0042	Evangelist: Ross Triplett, Sr. (775) 972-4911	Evangelists: Various members of local congregations	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
(501) 289-8906	(816) 228-9262 CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO	www.raymorechurchofchrist.org RAYTOWN, MO	retriplett@tripletweb.com	Don Moeller (704) 532-9242	(614)868-1375 www.lccoc.net
ST. CHARLES, MN	North Cape Church of Christ	Sterling Ave. Church of Christ	PISCATAWAY, NJ	CHARLOTTE, NC Charlotte Church of Christ	DAYTON, OH West Carrollton
Church of Christ 636 Whitewater Ave.	121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703	5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex)	258 Highland Ave. Bible Study 9:15 A.M.	5327 S. Tyron St.	28 W. Main Street
Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M.	Bible Classes 10:00 A.M.	Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M.
Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:45 P.M.	Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael Grushon
Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905 or 932-3521	Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook	Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz (816) 358-3096 or 792-2040	Evangelist: Gary P. Eubanks (732) 463-1323	Evangelist: Wendell Powell	(937) 866-5162 or 434-3090
(307) 557 2565 61 752 5521	(573)334-9673	www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org		(704) 525-5655 or 522-9971	E-mail: www.wc-coc.org
BOONEVILLE, MS	COLUMBIA, MO		VAUXHALL, NJ Church of Christ	DALLAS, NC Deepwood Forest Church of Christ	FRANKLIN, OH Church of Christ
Oakleigh Dr. Church of Christ 101 Oakleigh Dr.	Eastside Church of Christ 5051 Ponderosa	Subscribe	Milbourn Mall Suite 6 2933 Vauxhall Rd.	2002 Lineburger Rd., Hwy. 275 (Between Dallas & Stanley)	6417 Franklin/Lebanon Rd. State Route 123
Bible Study 9:45 A.M.	Columbia, MO 65201 Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Today!	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.	Bible Study 10:00 A.M.
Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M.	Truth Magazine	Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.	Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	1-800-428-0121	Wednesday 7:30 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.	Wednesday 7:00 P.M.
Building: (662) 728-1942	445-5497 or 636-0224		Evangelist: Harry A. Persaud (908) 964-8570	Evangelist: Louis Woollums (704) 922-8985	Evangelist: Eston Vandever (937) 746-1249 or (513) 422-2466
	<u> </u>		(-30) 301 03/0	, //	,

FREMONT, OH Church of Christ 3361 W. State St. 1 mi. W. of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (419) 849-3340 or 849-3686 www.amplex.net/churchofchrist	NORTHWOOD, OH (Toledo Area) Church of Christ 4110 Frey Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Jarabek 893-3566 or 691-0688	PHILADELPHIA, PA Church of Christ 7222 Germantown Ave. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tues. night 8:00 P.M. Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026 www.mtairychurchofchrist.org	COLUMBIA, TN Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Andrew Roberts (931) 388-6811	MEMPHIS, TN Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00P.M. Contact: Mitch Stevens (901) 372-5580 or 758-4006	ROCKWOOD, TN Church of Christ Highway 70 East 5080 Roane State Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Cecil Belcher (865) 717-3654
HAMILTON, OH Westview Church of Christ 1040 Azel Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David A. Stansberry (513) 868-9988	UHRICHSVILLE, OH Church of Christ 638 Parrish Street Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 6:30 P.M.	To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	COLUMBIA, TN Mooresville Pike Church of Christ 417 Mooresville Pike (.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (931) 388-5828; 381-7898; 380-1226 www.mooresvillepikecoc.com	MURFREESBORO, TN Cason Lane Church of Christ 1110 Cason Lane 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	SAVANNAH, TN Savannah Heights Church of Christ 230 Harrison St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Ellis
HILLIARD, OH Church of Christ 4840 Cemetery Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 876-4089	WAVERLY, OH 209 Mullins St. Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 947-7122 or 289-3401	BEAUFORT, SC Church of Christ 2107 King St., P.O. Box 4 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Parris Island, 8:00 A.M., Sunday Evangelist: Ronald Nelson (843) 524-4400 or 524-4652	DAYTON, TN Main Street Church of Christ 250 Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: (423) 618-6250 or 332-4604	HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP	SHELBYVILLE, TN El Bethel Church of Christ 1801 Hwy. 41-A North Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (931) 685-1113 or 931-607-9099 dvrader@hughes.net
MANSFIELD, OH Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: James Bond 526-2868 or 526-4739	OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Seminole Pointe Church of Christ 16300 N. May Ave. 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	COLUMBIA, SC Lower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC) 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	DAYTON, TN Rhea Church of Christ 1367 Market Street, Suite 2 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	MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: David Bunting (615) 893-1200	TULLAHOMA, TN Church of Christ 1625 W. Lincoln St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Mickells (931) 455-0273 or 563-7312
MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Building: (419) 522-8982 Leon Bond: 525-3684 Glenn Bond: 522-1965	TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Oldenkamp (918) 252-1220	NORTH CHARLESTON, SC Ashley Heights Church of Christ 2605 S. Oakridge Cir. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (843) 553-4970 www.findthechurch.com	JACKSON, TN Sunset View Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 987-2200 or 968-9851T	(1-24, Exit 81, South 1.5 miles on Hwy 231, turn right)	Shop online at truthbooks.net
MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 434-5310 (Eric Krieg) or 473-9028 (Steve Foutty)	MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ 1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dean Blackwell (541) 773-2649	ORANGEBURG, SC Southside Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672 www.southside-church.org	JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive 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	NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davenport (615) 833-4444 or 331-7377	ALLEN, TX West Allen Church of Christ 1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443 (972) 727-5355 (bldg)
NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. (Near Wright-Patterson AFB) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Blackaby (937) 849-1643 or 845-8467 (bldg.)	SWEET HOME, OR Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Building: (541) 367-1599	SUMTER, SC Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023	KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dan King, Sr. (615) 952-5720 or 662-7626	NASHVILLE, TN Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Sayre (615) 797-1114	ALVARADO,TX I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 295-7277 or 790-7253
NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Glen Murphy, Jr. 687-2985	AVONDALE, PA Avondale Church of Christ 1606 Glen Willow Rd. 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	TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St. Bible Study 10:50 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Mosely (864) 268-5224 or 877-2728 www.taylorschurchofchrist.com	KNOXVILLE, TN Chapman Hwy. Church of Christ 7604 Chapman Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Wise, Jr. (865) 573-6638	NASHVILLE, TN Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike 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) 883-3118 http://perryheights.faithweb.com	ALVIN, TX Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953 or (832) 837–9038
NEW RICHMOND, OH Church of Christ 550 Washington St. 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	EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. 363-8042	WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Brad McCleeary (803) 783–0079 Steven Hutchinson (803) 604–6011	MARYVILLE, TN Smokey Mt. Church of Christ 2206 Montvale Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230 Lon Spurgeon (865) 380-5594 http://tinyurl.com/smchurch	PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 560 King Branch Road Worship 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Facilities available for Sunday evening services upon request. Evangelist: Roger Williams (865)430-5980 www.KingBranchRoadChur- chOfChrist.org	ANGELTON, TX Kiber St. Church of Christ P.O. Box 1162 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Zeke Flores (979) 849-8376

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 BAYTOWN, TX Pruett and Lobit Church of Christ	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 EL PASO, TX	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 HOUSTON, TX (Southweet)	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 McKINNEY, TX	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. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Boyd Jennings (325) 224-2848 (325)944-8147 or (325)896-2038 SAN ANTONIO, TX Pecan Valley Church of Christ	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 NEWPORT NEWS, VA
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	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	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	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	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	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
To make changes to your ad, contact us at andyalex@bellsouth.net	FORT WORTH, TX Woodmont Church of Christ 6417 Landview (at Altamesa) Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Afternoon 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff S. Smith (817) 292-4908 or 426-2242 woodmontchurch.org	HOUSTON, TX Spring Woods Church of Christ 9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist (281) 794-0837	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	SHERMAN, TX Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Fred Watkins	RICHMOND (Metro), VA Courthouse Church of Christ Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct. (2.2 miles 5 of Rt. 288) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Tope (804) 790-1629 www.courthousechurchofchrist.com
BAYTOWN, TX 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	FORT WORTH, TX West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (817) 738-7269	HUNTINGTON, TX Church of Christ P.O. Box 858 One block north of U.S. 69 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (936) 422-4640	MIDLAND, TX Woodcrest Drive Church of Christ 1401 Woodcrest Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Hooper (432) 689-0955 (432) 694-3482	TEMPLE, TX Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Warren King (254) 939-0682 or 228-5038 www.biblemoments.org	RICHMOND, VA Forest Hill Church of Christ 1208 W. 41st St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959
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. Evangelists: Max Dawson & David Banning (409) 866-1996	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	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.lustChristians.com	Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 1-800-428-0121	TEMPLE, TX Southside Church of Christ 2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (254) 773-0931	RICHMOND, VA West End 4909 Patterson Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Stacy Crim (804) 358-7933
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	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	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 Iklice@sbcglobal.net www.dallasavenuechurchofchrist.org	NACOGDOCHES, TX Stallings Dr. Church of Christ 3831 N.E. Stallings Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Randy Harshbarger	WACO, TX Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) 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	RIDGEWAY, VA Church of Christ 2970 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Sils (276) 956-1150 or 956-6049
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	Shop online at truthbooks.net	LANCASTER, TX Pleasant Run Church of Christ 831 W. Pleasant Run Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1758 or 227-2598	ODESSA, TX Crescent Park Church of Christ 1415 Royalty Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Garrison (432) 366-5071 or 413-7759	THE WOODLANDS, TX Woodlands Church of Christ P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (281) 367-2099 www.simplychristians.net	ROANOKE, VA Blue Ridge Church of Christ 929 Indiana Ave. N.E. 5 min. from Roanoke Convention Center 1st Lesson Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (540) 344-2755
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	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	LUBBOCK, TX Indiana Ave. Church of Christ 6111 Indiana Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brett Hogland (806) 795-3377 or 928-9262	PLANO, TX (North Dallas Suburb) Spring Creek Church of Christ 2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy, Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 517-5582 or 231-3748 www.planochurch.org	CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxus St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Schlos (757) 436-6900	STAFFORD, VA Stafford Church of Christ 767 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evanglist: Mark McNabb (540) 891-1215
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	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	LUFKIN, TX Timberland Dr. Church of Christ 912 S. Timberland Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock James W. Adams 634-7110 or 632-7070	ROSENBERG, TX Church of Christ 908 Frost St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jason Trick Bldg: (281) 232-4425 Cell: (832) 228-8973	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 7:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Church Building: (804) 796-2374 Also: (804) 497-3638 or (804) 271-0877	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd. Worship 11:00 A.M. Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574

VIRGINIA	BEACH,
Virginia Beach	Church of
Pembrook Ma	
	lding
	nsdale St.
Bible Study	10:00
Worship	11:00
Wednesday	7:00
	186-6639
BELLING	GHAM, W
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Bible Study	9:30
Worship	10:30
Evening	6:00
Wednesday	7:00
	st: Joe Pric
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Corner of Sequir Bible Study	10:00
Worship	11:00
Evening	6:00
Wednesday	7:00
Call for Wednes	
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Sunnyside Cl	hurch of C
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1312 Ea	st Edison
Bible Study	2:00
Worship	3:00
Wednesday	7:30
Evangelist: St	
	337-2813
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4806 Sc	o. 66th St.
(P.O. Box ?	7523, 9840
Sunday	10:00
Wednesday	7:30
	759-7875
	557-9242
Voice Mail: (253) 752-
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W. Washi	ington Av
Church	of Christ
902 W. Was	shington A
	ervative
Bible Study	10:00

CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 873 Oakwood Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A M Evening Wednesday 6:00 P.M. 7:30 P.M. 304-342-5637

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Westside Church of Christ

Davisson Run Road

(304) 622-5433

FAIRMONT, WV

Eastside Church of Christ

1929 Morgantown Ave. ble Study 10:00 A.M.

(304) 366-4523

MOUNDSVILLE, WV

Church of Christ

210 Cedar St.

Evangelist: Brian Price

(304) 845-2820 845-4940

MOUNDSVILLE, WV

Roberts Ridge Church of Christ

Don Terrill: (304) 845-2344

Mail to: Sam Wood (304) 845-2202

406 Jefferson Ave.

Glen Dale, WV 26038

PARKERSBURG, WV

Marrtown Church of Christ

825 Marrtown Road

(304) 861-0342 or 422-7458

9:30 A M

10:30 A.M.

6:30 P.M.

7:30 P.M.

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10:30 A.M. 6:30 P.M.

Bible Study

Worship

Evening

Mid-week

Bible Study

Wednesday

Bible Study

Wednesday

Worship

Evening

Worship

Evening

9:30 A.M.

7:00 P.M.

10:45 A.M.

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Sunday Morning

Wednesday

Bible Study

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ve. & Prairie St. 10:00 A.M.

11:00 A.M.

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Kent Clark (304) 342-0237

mansuper1965@hotmail.com

Worship

Evening

Wednesday

Bible Study

Wednesday

Worship

Evening

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10:00 A.M

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RAVENSWOOD, WV Church of Christ 1101 Gallatin St.

Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:30 A.M. Worship 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 PM Evangelist: Rick Christian 273-0261 or 273-3267

WELLSBURG, WV Charles St. Church of Christ 836 Charles Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 10:20 A.M. Worship

6:30 P.M. Evening Wednesday 7:00 P.M.

(304) 527-4438 or 737-3124

MILWAUKEE, WI Metropolitan Church of Christ 1029 S. 58th St. West Allis Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Girardot (414) 257-3035

Church: 258-8520 MORGANTOWN, WV CANADA Glen Oaks Church of Christ Calgary, Alberta Greenbag Road Northside Church of Christ Bible Study 9:30 A.M. 803 - 20 A Ave. N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E ISI 10:20 A.M. Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Sunday 10, 11, 6 7:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M Wednesday (304) 296-9793 (403) 276-8088

CANADA Jordan, Ontario Jordan Church of Christ 2861 Regional Road 81 (Highway #8) Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Wednesday Preacher - Chad Comfort (905) 562-4739

CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 126 Ottawa St. N. Mailing Address: 33 Highcliffe Ave. L9A 3L3 10:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. Bible Study Worship Monday 7:00 P.M. 7:00 P.M. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437

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

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2009 Truth Magazine Lectures Great Truths From Historic Controversies June 22-25

Carroll Knicely Convention Center 2355 Nashville Road * Bowling Green, KY 42101

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday		
8:00 a.m. Large Room		Jesus Is The Son of God: The Controversies Over Jesus Steven J. Wallace	We Cannot Deny It: Miracles and the Charismatic Movement <i>Danny McKibben</i>	No Creed But Christ Mark Dunigan		
9:00 a.m. Large Room		I Came Not To Destroy But to Fulfill: Conflict With the Judaizers Jim Deason	What Must I Do To Be Saved? <i>Joe Price</i>	The All-Sufficiency of Scripture John Gibson		
9:00 a.m. Small Room		Walking in the Light: Conflict with Gnostics Dan King Whosoever Will: Conflict with Calvinism Ethan Longhenry		In Vain Ye Do Worship Me: Conflicts with Instrumental Music Charles Willis		
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 Keith Greer	The Pillar and Ground of the Truth: Conflict over Institutionalism <i>Tom Roberts</i>		
10:00 a.m. Small Room		Childrens Cl	asses: Joy Alexander and	Christy Rogers		
11:00 a.m. Large Room		Was Peter The First Pope? Conflict with Catholicism Greg Litmer There Is One Body: Conflict over Oneness of the Church Justin Monts		By What Authority? Ray Warfel		
11:00 a.m. Small Room Ladies Class		The God of All Comfort Sue Cooper How Feminism Affects Women in the Church Lorie Baker		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 Steven Deaton	That Ye All May Be One: The Efforts to Find a Basis for Unity Scott Finley	Singing Approximately 9:00 p.m.	Building on A Rock (Matt. 7:24-28) <i>Johnie Edwards</i>		