

Truth

Magazine

*Taking His hand,
helping each other home.*



®


MARCH 2022 | NO. 3 | VOLUME 66

OPEN ISSUE

“... and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and your son’s son the mighty things I have done in Egypt, and My signs which I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD” (Exod. 10:1-2).



Truth Magazine

*Taking His hand,
helping each other home.* 

(ISSN 1538-0793) is published once a month by Truth Publications, Inc., 220 S. Marion, Athens, AL 35611. Postage paid at Decatur, AL and additional mailing offices.

Manuscripts should be sent to the editor:
Mark Mayberry (mark@truthpublications.com)

Subscriptions, renewals & other correspondence should be sent to:
Truth Magazine
220 S. Marion, Athens, AL 35611
subscriptions@truthmagazine.com

Book orders should be sent to:
CEI Bookstore | truthbooks.com
220 S. Marion, Athens, AL 35611
Phone: (855) 492-6657
sales@truthbooks.com

Online Website:
truthmagazine.com

Send change of address to Postmaster at:
220 S. Marion
Athens, AL 35611

DISCLAIMER:
Books in ads are screened but an ad does not mean unqualified endorsement. All books should be tested by Scripture. We appreciate readers notifying us if they find some glaring fault in ads.

pg 35



Monthly Columns

EDITORIAL: TRUTH OR FICTION?

by Mark Mayberry

pg 4

While disciples of Christ accept the Bible as eternal, unchanging truth, they recognize that God communicates His will through various literary forms. We must interpret each according to its particular genre.

MEDITATIONS: "SINCE THERE WAS A NATION"

by Kyle Pope

pg 6

Daniel prophesied a persecution of Jews between the Old and New Testaments that was one of the most brutal attacks upon faith ever known. Christians should consider these events to strengthen us to stand against trials we must face.

WOMEN'S INSIGHTS: RUNNING THE RACE BY RESTING

by Lindsay Mast

pg 8

Rest is an essential part of physical and spiritual rejuvenation. Therefore, let us learn to "Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him. . ." (Ps. 37:7).

PREACHING THE GOSPEL: AN UNCHANGING MESSAGE FOR CHANGING TIMES

by John Humphries

pg 10

Love for God and His truth, as well as love for people, must never be forgotten or left behind when one rises to stand before an assembly of people to preach the word.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT: THE HOLY SPIRIT'S ROLE IN REDEMPTION

By Shane Carrington

pg 14

The Holy Spirit redeems us by fulfilling His primary mission: to convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8), through the truth that He revealed (John 16:13).

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

by Bobby L. Graham

pg 16

A reader asks, "Why do Catholics worship Mary?"

ARCHAEOLOGY: HATSHEPSUT (EGYPT'S FEMALE PHARAOH) AND MOSES

by Leon Mauldin

pg 18

In this article, we consider the strong possibility that Hatshepsut was the daughter of Pharaoh who rescued Moses from the Nile. She went on to reign as Pharaoh herself and left behind some amazing archaeological remains.



Open Issue

LEADERS DEVELOP TRUST

pg 22

by Keith Hamilton

“Trust” in one’s relationship with others is so precious and valuable that it is vitally important that nothing is done to tarnish that characteristic.

IT’S NOT THAT COMPLICATED

pg 24

by Bob Watson

Understanding God’s plan for our life is not difficult, as illustrated in the life of one of His humble servants. The real challenge is *doing* His will.

USING INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TO PROMOTE THE GOSPEL

pg 26

by Joe R. Price

Using instrumental music to promote the gospel and entertain corrupts the Christian’s influence and worship.

HELL

pg 28

by Dennis Abernathy

The road to hell is broad and busy. As we journey the pathway of life, Jesus exhorts us to “enter by the narrow gate” and willingly walk the “difficult” way that leads to life (Matt. 7:13-14).

A ROMANS 12 SELF-EXAMINATION

pg 30

by Lance R. Taylor

An exercise of examining the ways of the world as opposites of the right behavior expected of Christians in Romans 12 to reveal the depth of our individual spirituality and faith.

VIRGIE FAYE BELL “JUDGED HIM, FAITHFUL WHO HAD PROMISED”

pg 32

by Ron Halbrook

Women of great faith in Bible times, and today, inspire us to greater faith. Virgie Faye Bell is such an example alongside Sarah in Hebrews 11.

Truth or Fiction?

by Mark Mayberry

While disciples of Christ accept the Bible as eternal, unchanging truth, they recognize that God communicates His will through various literary forms. We must interpret each according to its particular genre.

Introduction

In this article, we contrast truth and fiction. *The Oxford English Dictionary* defines “truth” as “the quality or state of being true” or “a fact or belief that is accepted as true.” In contrast, “fiction” refers specifically to literature “in the form of prose that describes imaginary events and people” or, more generally, to “something that is invented or untrue.”

Let us consider two points: (1) Is the Bible truth or fiction? (2) How should a Christian regard fiction in literature?

God’s Word Is Truth

Is the Bible truth or fiction? If you perform a web search and examine the top articles that appear in the results, you received a conflicting and contradictory set of answers: “Yes,” “No,” and “Perhaps.” Despite man’s vacillation, the Bible presents itself as absolute, objective truth.

Jesus Christ affirmed that God’s word is truth (John 8:31-32; 17:17). Indeed, as the psalmist declares, “The sum of thy word is truth” (Ps. 119:160).

New Testament Warnings Against Fables

The Greek word *muthos* refers to “a speech, story, i.e., a fable” (Thomas, 3454). The NASB renders it “fables” (1x), “myths” (3x), and “tales” (1x).

A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature defines it as “primarily, ‘speech, conversation,’ also of ‘narrative’ or ‘story’

without distinction of fact or fiction, then of fictional narrative (as opposed to λόγος, the truth of history) such as tale, story, legend, myth . . .” (BDAG, 660).

In the ensuing discussion, *muthos* is contrasted with truth/history. One cited example refers to “. . .not some contrived tale, but a true account.” BDAG cites the Greco-Roman historian’s “concern for the truth of history as opposed to mythography.” In Scripture, it is used of “cleverly devised tales. . . erroneous instruction. . . frivolous old wives’ tales. . . (and) legends.”

Louw and Nida define it as “a legendary story or account, normally about supernatural beings, events, or cultural heroes, and in the NT always with an unfavorable connotation,” and recommend that it be rendered “legend, myth, tale, story, fable.” They conclude by saying, “The term *muthos* may often be translated simply as ‘untrue stories’ or ‘false tales’” (33.13).

As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines, nor to pay attention to **myths** and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which is by faith. . . (1 Tim. 1:3-7).

Various Forms of Literature

While the Bible is truth, it contains various forms of literature, each of which must be interpreted/understood according to its particular style and subject. Sacred Scripture contains historical narratives

(Genesis, Exodus, etc.), and Jewish wisdom literature (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon). The Old Testament books of prophecy (Isaiah, Jeremiah, etc.) spoke to the present and the future. In calling the readers to repentance, warning of impending judgment, the authors often employed figurative, even apocalyptic, language. The New Testament is composed of the gospels (which record the life of Christ), the book of Acts (which records the establishment of the church and the spread of the gospel), the epistles (i.e., letters from the apostles and prophets to individuals and churches), and the Apocalypse. The Old and New Testaments contain historical narratives, which should be understood literally. Yet, the Bible also has figurative language (allegories, poetry, parables, hyperbole, and apocalyptic imagery, etc.) which should be interpreted according to its genre.

The Use of Cultural and Extra-Biblical References

References to Culture

Jesus used parables as an effective vehicle of teaching: According to *Nelson’s New Illustrated Bible Dictionary*, a “parable” is:

a short, simple story designed to communicate a spiritual truth, religious principle, or moral lesson; a figure of speech in which truth is illustrated by a comparison or example drawn from everyday experiences. A parable is often no more than an extended metaphor or simile, using figurative language

in the form of a story to illustrate a particular truth. The Greek word for “parable” literally means “a laying by the side of” or “a casting alongside,” thus “a comparison or likeness.” In a parable, something is placed alongside something else, in order that one may throw light on the other. A familiar custom or incident is used to illustrate some truth less familiar (NNIBD, s.v. “Parable”).

Paul used athletic imagery (1 Cor. 9:24-27) and military comparisons (Eph. 6:11-17).

Although he was highly educated in the Jewish religion (Acts 22:3; cf. 5:34-39), the apostle Paul (formerly known as “Saul of Tarsus”) placed his confidence in Jesus Christ, not his accumulated wisdom or scholarship (Phil. 3:4-11).

The apostle was familiar with Greek writers, citing them in his sermons (Acts 17:24-31) and letters (Titus 1:12-14).

Illustrations from Nature

The Bible contains many illustrations from nature. Solomon effectively wove characteristics of the animal kingdom into his proverbs about human conduct (1 Kings 4:29-34; Prov. 30:21-31).

Old Testament prophets (Ezek. 13:3-5) and the Lord Jesus Christ did likewise (Luke 13:31-32).

Illustrations from Fantasy

“Fantasy” refers to “the faculty or activity of imagining things, especially things that are impossible or improbable.” In literature, it identifies “a genre of imaginative fiction involving magic and adventure, especially in a setting other than the real world.”

While the Bible is truth, it contains imagery/illustrations that fall within the categories of fantasy or “science fiction.” Consider the parable of the talking trees (Judg. 9:7-20). Jotham, the youngest son of Gideon (Judg. 9:1-21), escaped death at the hands of Abimelech, one of his many brothers. When the Shechemites made Abimelech king, Jotham stood on Mount

Gerizim and pronounced judgment on Abimelech and the Shechemites by telling a parable of the trees (vv. 7-20). Fearing for his life, Jotham fled to Beer. No more is recorded of him, except that his curse was fulfilled three years later (Judg. 9:57) (NNIBD, s.v. “Jotham”).

Consider the description of the beast and false prophet in John’s Apocalypse: “I saw coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. . .” (Rev. 16:13-16).

Our Approach Toward Literature

What about our use of literature? Many Christians read a variety of literature: biographies and auto-biographies, history and historical-fiction, science and technology, how-to guides and technical journals, along with fantasy and other forms of science-fiction, etc.

We must be discerning about all forms of communication: including broadcast media, the internet, music and movies, and all forms of printed material. Don’t believe everything you see, hear, or read. Be a cautious consumer of news and information. If a TV program, movie, video, or book causes you to stumble, lay it aside.

While the writings of men often stand in opposition to the will/word of God, sometimes they echo themes found therein. Current events and cultural trends can serve as illustrations of spiritual truths; more commonly, they are cited as conflicting with New Testament Christianity.

I enjoy a wide genre of literature, and will occasionally cite current or historical events, a well-known story, or some fictional character for the sake of illustration. In teaching our children, we should regularly engage in discussions of how God’s word relates to the surrounding world (Deut. 6:4-9). We live *in* the world but are not *of* the world (John 17:13-19).

Such writings may be used as a means of demonstrating divine truth, but must never take precedence over the Bible. Nor should we think that the success of our sermon depends upon concocting or communicating a story that moves the audience to laughter, tears, or sober contemplation. The power is in God’s precepts, not in man’s poetry or prose (Rom. 1:16-17).

While I illustrate my lessons from current events, cultural references, or personal experience, the *best* illustrations come from the Bible! Consider how the writer of Hebrews repeatedly cited Israel’s wilderness experiences (Heb. 4:8-13). Jesus told parables, comparing everyday experiences to eternal principles. Yet, He never commissioned the church to host classes on basket-weaving or pottery. Paul referenced first century Greco-Roman culture, but not to the exclusion of his primary message. ■

Sources

Arndt, William, et al. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature* (BDAG). Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000.

Louw, Johannes P. and Eugene Albert Nida. *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament: Based on Semantic Domains*. New York: United Bible Societies, 1996.

Tan, Paul Lee. *Encyclopedia of 7700 Illustrations: Signs of the Times*. Garland, TX: Bible Communications, Inc., 1996.

Youngblood, Ronald, F. F. Bruce, and R. K. Harrison, eds. *Nelson’s New Illustrated Bible Dictionary* (NNIBD). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1995.



Mark Mayberry
Editor

Mark has labored with the Adoue Street church of Christ in Alvin, TX, since 1998, where he serves as the evangelist and an elder. The church website is ascoc.org. His Bible study website is markmayberry.net. He can be reached at mark@truthpublications.com.

“Since There Was a Nation”

by Kyle Pope

Daniel prophesied a persecution of Jews between the Old and New Testaments that was one of the most brutal attacks upon faith ever known. Christians should consider these events to strengthen us to stand against trials we must face.

Introduction

In Daniel chapter 11, God revealed to Daniel conditions that would exist in the period between the Old and New Testaments. It addresses the rise of “the realm of Greece” (Dan. 11:2). Prophetically, Daniel was told about the rise of Alexander the Great and the division of his kingdom among his generals following his death. In great detail, this prophecy shows how Israel would become caught in the power struggles between the Seleucids in Syria (to the north) and the Ptolemies in Egypt (to the south). It is so detailed that it has led some liberal scholars to argue that it must have been written during the time of the events described and then added to the older sections of Daniel. We reject that conclusion and consider it to be inspired revelation and powerful evidence of Divine foreknowledge.

Part of this prophecy addresses the brutal persecution of the Jews that occurred when the Seleucid king, Antiochus IV, surnamed Epiphanes, controlled Palestine (175-164 BC). This persecution is addressed immediately before chapter 12, where Daniel is told: “There shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation” (Dan. 12:1b, NKJV). This is followed by one of the most explicit descriptions of the future resurrection in the Old Testament. It reads: “Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, some to shame and everlasting contempt” (Dan. 12:2). This echoes the future post-death deliverance promised to those faithful

to the “holy covenant” (11:30) during the persecution in chapter 11: “those of understanding shall fall, to refine them, purify them, and make them white, until the time of the end” (Dan. 11:35). Daniel himself is promised that he will arise to his inheritance at “the end of the days” (12:13).

What is it about this persecution that would lead the Holy Spirit to describe it as “a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation”? Let’s consider what we know about this horrible time.

The Jewish Persecution of Antiochus IV Epiphanes

The persecution prophesied in Daniel 11 and fulfilled in the period between the Testaments was of a much different nature than anything Israelites had experienced prior to that time. The temple was not destroyed, nor were the walls of Jerusalem torn down, but it was an attempt to exterminate the Jewish religion in a way never seen “since there was a nation.” Early on, the influence of the Greeks had led to the building of a gymnasium in Jerusalem, causing many Jewish men to forsake “the holy covenant” and live as Gentiles. Some literally made themselves “uncircumcised” in some way to participate naked in these athletic contests (1 Macc. 1:14-15). When Antiochus IV took the throne, he was given the surname, Epiphanes, meaning “illustrious” but his extreme behavior led some of his own people to change his surname to Epimanes, “madman,” (Livy, *History of Rome* 41.19). That was certainly an apt description of him in his

treatment of the Jews. Following a failed effort to conquer Egypt, falsely believing there was a revolt among the Jews, he assaulted Jerusalem:

Then there were massacres of young and old, destruction of women and children, slayings of virgins and infants. Within the total of three days eighty thousand were destroyed, forty thousand in hand-to-hand fighting, and as many were sold into slavery as were killed (2 Macc. 5:13-14, NETS).

This toll of death and deportation is much higher than the biblical record reveals to us even during the fall of Jerusalem in 587 BC. However, that was only the beginning! Antiochus himself went into the temple, took away the altar, the lampstand, the table of shewbread, the veil, and the “crown” with the gold and silver vessels, and 1,800 talents (1 Macc. 1:21-24; 2 Macc. 5:15-16, 21). His slaughter was not isolated to Jerusalem:

Therefore there was a great mourning in Israel, in every place where they were; So that the princes and elders mourned, the virgins and young men were made feeble, and the beauty of women was changed. Every bridegroom took up lamentation, and she that sat in the marriage chamber was in heaviness, the land also was moved for the inhabitants thereof, and all the house of Jacob was covered with confusion (1 Macc. 1:25-28, KJV).

Antiochus commanded one of his officers, Apollonius, with a force of 22,000 to kill those “in their best age” and to sell the young and women (2 Macc. 5:24). During later incursions, Jerusalem was further plundered and set on fire

with houses and walls pulled down “on every side” (1 Macc. 1:31). The oldest portion of Jerusalem, known as the City of David, was seized and made a citadel for the forces of Antiochus.

Besides this spoil and slaughter, the focus soon shifted to a direct attack on the faith of the Jews. Daily sacrifice at the temple was stopped for three and a half years (Josephus, *Wars of the Jews* 1.1). The temple was dedicated to Jupiter with unclean sacrifices and sexual immorality practiced within its courts (2 Macc. 6:2-5). Observance of the Sabbath and Jewish festivals were prohibited, with those who disobeyed being put to death (2 Macc. 6:6, 9). Some who hid in caves to observe the Sabbath were found and burned to death, all together (2 Macc. 6:11). Circumcision was forbidden, and women who let their children be circumcised were publicly killed with their babies hanging around their necks (2 Macc. 6:10; 1 Macc. 1:60-61). All Hebrew Scriptures that could be found were burned, and anyone found with any portion of the Scriptures was put to death (1 Macc. 1:56-58). Pagan shrines were erected all throughout Palestine, and Jews were compelled to practice pagan worship. The historical books of 1 and 2 Maccabees record the details of this horrific time. Chapters 5-7 of 2 Maccabees read like a portion of *Foxe’s Book of Martyrs*, describing those tortured and killed for refusal to eat pig’s flesh and obey these ungodly commands.

The reign of Antiochus IV Epiphanes was brief, and the Jews were eventually delivered from those trials by the rise of a Jewish resistance led by Judas Maccabeus. Yet this time was so traumatic in Jewish history that it came to be commemorated annually by the Jews (including Jesus) as the “Feast of Dedication” (John 10:22), or Hanukkah. It involved a level of persecution of the Jewish faith unequalled “since there was a nation” (Dan. 12:1b). It is worth noting that Josephus, in his *Wars of the Jews*, the primary source for what we know about the fall of Jerusalem in AD 70, does not begin with an account of the

fall of Jerusalem in 587 BC, but with an account of the persecution of Antiochus IV Epiphanes that had been prophesied by Daniel.

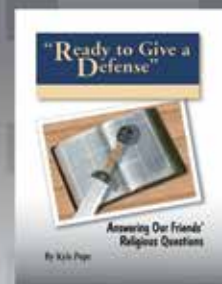
Conclusion

Paul told Timothy, “All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution” (2 Tim. 3:12). Thanks be to God that Christians living today in this country do not have to suffer the type of persecution these faithful souls faced centuries ago. While we pray that this time of peace and freedom of worship will continue, may God grant us the courage, faith, and strength of conviction that, if conditions should ever change, we, too, could remain faithful to the “holy covenant,” that we enjoy in Christ. If so, we, like them, can have the same assurance that the Lord gave to the saints in Smyrna: “Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life” (Rev. 2:10b, KJV). **T**

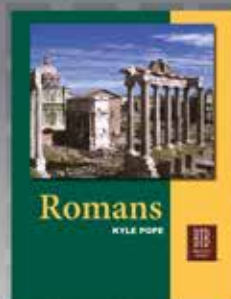


Kyle Pope

Kyle preaches for the Olsen Park church of Christ in Amarillo, TX. He has written several books published by Truth Publications, including THINKING ABOUT AD 70: CHALLENGING REALIZED ESCHATOLOGY. Visit truthbooks.com for more info. The church website is olsenpark.com. He can be reached at kmpope@att.net.



Ready to Give a Defense
by Kyle Pope
Addresses many of the issues relating to rooting out denominational concepts about salvation, worship, the organization of the church, and more.
\$9.97



Bible Text Book:
Romans
by Kyle Pope

The Bible Text Book Series contains commentary, maps, charts, and questions for each book of the Bible. In this workbook, you will find a chapter for each chapter of Romans. Perfect for class use or personal study.
\$10.97

Order today from CEI Bookstore at (855) 492-6657 or truthbooks.com

Running the Race by Resting

by Lindsay Mast

Rest is an essential part of physical and spiritual rejuvenation. Therefore, let us learn to “Rest in the LORD, and wait patiently for Him. . .” (Ps. 37:7).

If you follow any running plan, you'll find a day or two each week that most runners just hate. It's called a rest day. They can be a major nuisance. Why would you skip a day of running when you could be out there, getting endorphins and working on getting faster or stronger?

Simply put, these days are in the plan because they matter. Yet, we wouldn't take them if they weren't written on the plan. Seasoned runners accept them, though often grudgingly. Yes, we want to be out chasing something, proving something, doing *something* that feels tangible to improve our running. Silent, powerful growth occurs at the most unexpected time: when we are still. Quietly refueling, recovering, and resting becomes just as, or more important than, the running itself.

“Off days” require a relinquishing of control that is hard for us as human runners. We can't command how our bodies use nutrients. We can't quantify how much our muscles are growing in the “off times.”

Yet, because we trust whoever wrote the plan to help us become more skilled, we do what we are told. We feed our hungry bodies. We stretch our tired muscles. We sleep.

As women in Western culture, we can relate to the runner, wondering if rest days are worth anything. We have that nagging feeling that we shouldn't be resting if we are serious about our Christian race. Are we serving enough? Are we going to enough studies? Are we

doing enough for our families? Rest is simply not in our vocabulary.

Rest, though, is something God took part in and wants to share with us. Why do we resist it so? It is good for us spiritually, physically, and mentally. We simply cannot go nonstop and expect to stay healthy or to maintain a good attitude. Additionally, the constant “go-go-go” means we get things done, and gives us a sense that we are far more in control of our lives than we are.

Consider those to whom God gave the initial command of Sabbath rest. They had no grocery stores, no modern farming tools, no high-tech ways to predict the weather. Their very ability to eat, provide for and protect themselves and their loved ones was pretty high-stakes: *yes?* So it would be pretty counter-intuitive for them to think, “Twenty-four hours of rest each week, regardless of if it might be sunny, warm, and perfect for planting, harvesting, or hunting? Makes perfect sense!”

Yet, here we sit, with our Walmart pickup orders, stocked freezers, and umpteen weather apps, acting for all the world as though the sun itself wouldn't rise if we weren't running and gunning to make it do so. Yet, God wants rest for us, too. He knows we need quiet: to abide in His word and in prayer. We need time to reflect on what we have done and determine what was (or wasn't) beneficial. We need rest to recover from the simple but compounding wear and tear of living.

I urge you, runner: *rest!* Take a planned time and stop. *Just stop!* Clear the calendar of that which doesn't nourish your soul. Prep the meals ahead of time. Bagged salad and rotisserie chicken are your friends. Take the apps (you know the ones) off your phone, temporarily (or not). For twenty-four hours, relinquish control. Pick up a book. Pick up *the book*. Connect with God. Connect with someone He created. While you do, trust that God is happily taking care of what you aren't, in His time, in His way.

Then, notice how you feel afterward. Enjoy the refreshment you feel as you pick up your to-do list again and tackle it with a renewed spirit. A week later, try it again. Build the habit of rest and you will find that you are better able to flex your spiritual muscles as you go about your God-given tasks here on Earth. You'll find the muscles of trust and humility growing as your sense of self-importance dwindles. 📖

Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! (Ps. 46:10).



Lindsay Wolfgang

Lindsay Mast has dozens of medals from marathons, half marathons and overnight relays, but is eager for the only prize that matters: heaven. She left a career as a broadcast journalist to raise and homeschool her three children. She and her husband, David, worship at the Intown congregation in Atlanta, GA. She can be reached at

Study material for the whole family



shop now at truthbooks.com



Scan this link with
your camera
phone to shop our
latest sales!

An Unchanging Message for Changing Times

by John Humphries

Love for God and His truth, as well as love for people, must never be forgotten or left behind when one rises to stand before an assembly of people to preach the word.

In one sense, “there is nothing new under the sun” (Eccl. 1:9). We may call various sins by different names, but all human sin is still basically the “lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life” (1 John 2:15-17). Yet there will be moral hiccups in society as “evil men and imposters will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived” (2 Tim. 3:13). Certain selected sins may become more and more openly accepted, practiced, and defended (even by laws). This societal moral plunge is promoted by a wicked people “who know not God” (1 Thess. 4:5). In view of this, the charge of Paul to the evangelist is to “preach the word”!

Consider the context of 2 Timothy 4:1-5. In the beginning of chapter 3, Paul warns that “perilous times will come” upon the world. A long list follows of various sins that involve attitudes and actions that violate the word of God. These sins include overt immorality and some can lead to violence. There are sins involving hypocritical religionists and their deceived followers. Obviously, the devil is having a heyday among the unregenerate of our day (2 Cor. 4:3-4; 1 John 5:19; 2 Tim. 2:26).

Paul reveals that evil people can become more and more deeply involved in their sinful ways as they seek and invent “many schemes” to practice unrighteousness and ungodliness while they resist and attack the truth of God (Eccl. 7:29; Jer. 4:22; Rom. 1:18; 2 Tim. 3:8, 13). The Scriptures clearly teach that God’s people are amid a spiritual “war against the soul” (1 Pet. 2:11; Eph. 6:10-13; 2 Tim. 2:3).

Timothy is reminded that he has the teaching and example of the apostle Paul in dealing with adversity faced in the spiritual battles with Satan and unregenerate people (2 Tim. 3:10-14; Phil. 4:9; 1 Cor. 11:1; cf. 1 Pet. 2:21-23). Timothy’s mother and grandmother had taught him the word of God from childhood (2 Tim. 1:5; 3:15). The inspiration and complete adequacy of Scripture is declared in verses 16 and 17 of this chapter. So, what do we see in chapter 3? The world is lost in sin and many will resist (some with violence) the preaching of the word. There are worthy examples of the faithful who will stand for the truth. The needful spiritual preparation to preach the word has been met (cf. 2 Tim. 2:2-3). The truth has been fully revealed so that we have the “faith which was once for all delivered” (Jude 3; 2 Pet. 1:3). Therefore, Timothy, and all teachers of the word of God, will now receive the great charge of 2 Tim. 4:1-5.

I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching. 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. But you be watchful in all things, endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry (2 Tim. 4:1-5).

Note that this charge is under the authority of “God and the Lord Jesus Christ,” which takes this responsibility to the highest order. No one has greater authority than our Father and the Lord Jesus! This means, among other things, that the evangelist takes his marching orders, concerning preaching, from heaven and not from men. Now folks can ask the evangelist to preach on certain topics and teach what the word of God reveals on that subject. This is well and good. Yet, no man, or group of men, has the authority to forbid the evangelist from preaching the word of God on any Bible related subject. The evangelist is given divine orders to “preach the word,” meaning the “whole council of God,” and to “keep back nothing that is helpful” for the people, in order that he may be “free from the blood of all men” (Acts 20:20, 26-27; cf. Ezek. 3:16-21). Certainly, we are not defending any preacher or teacher who violates the other Scriptures that emphasize “speaking the truth in love,” etc. (Eph. 4:1-3, 15; 2 Tim. 2:24-26). Preach the word in a responsible way!

Divine judgment is coming when all will give an account before the Lord (Rom. 14:10-12; 2 Cor. 5:10; Matt. 25:31-46). Preach the word of God in order to save as many precious souls as possible (1 Cor. 15:1-2). The evangelist is to be “ready” to preach what is needed, to whom it is needed, and when it is needed. There is a “season” of readiness to accept the truth, but there is also an “out of season,” when men will resist the truth, having closed their ears. The charge is to “preach the word” whether people love

Truth

Lectures

Taking His hand,
helping each other home.



I Believe in Jesus: An Apologetic Defense of Faith in Jesus

2022 TRUTH LECTURES: JULY 11TH-14TH

ATHENS BIBLE SCHOOL IN ATHENS, AL

Singing will occur each evening at 7:00 P.M.

Keynote Lectures

The Heart of the
Gospel

7:30 P.M.

Day Lectures

Supernatural Things

8:00 A.M.

The Identity of Christ

9:00 A.M.

Why It Matters

10:00 A.M.

Practical Apologetics
Q&A to follow each session

11:00 A.M.

Wednesday Open Forum
Discussing Practical
Apologetics
2:00-3:30 pm

MON.	I Believe Jesus Really Lived	BUDDY PAYNE
TUE.	I Believe Jesus Died for My Sins	SHANE CARRINGTON
THUR.	I Believe Jesus Rose from the Dead	DANIEL H. KING, SR.
TUE.	I Believe Jesus Was Born of a Virgin	TYLER SAMS
WED.	I Believe Jesus Performed Miracles	PHIL STUCKEY
THUR.	I Believe Jesus Cast out Demons	SPENCER BLACKWELDER
TUE.	I Believe Jesus Was the Son of Man	JOHN HUMPHRIES
WED.	I Believe Jesus is the Christ	MIKE WILLIS
THUR.	I Believe that Jesus Is the Son of God	SHAWN CHANCELLOR
TUE.	I Believe that Jesus is the Savior of the World	NATHAN WARD
WED.	I Believe the Church Demonstrates the Glory of Jesus	BARRY BRITNELL
THUR.	I Believe Jesus Is with Believers Always	KEVIN MAXEY
TUE.	MEN'S TRACK How do I help the skeptic come to faith?	RICK BILLINGSLEY
TUE.	WOMEN'S TRACK How do I help the skeptic come to faith?	REBEKAH DUTTON
WED.	MEN'S TRACK Answering the problem of suffering	BRUCE REEVES
WED.	WOMEN'S TRACK Answering the problem of suffering	KATE MITCHELL
THUR.	MEN'S TRACK Overcoming my own doubts	KEVIN HARRINGTON
THUR.	WOMEN'S TRACK Overcoming my own doubts	RACHEL REEVES

the truth or whether they love their error more.

“Convince, rebuke, exhort” suggests that preaching seeks to persuade people who are guilty of sin and obviously need to repent and get their life in order before the Lord. Sin must be rebuked in no uncertain terms and condemned as contrary to the will of God. Also, penitent sinners must be exhorted and encouraged to remain close to the Lord and to serve Him faithfully. All of this preaching of sound doctrine must be done with long-suffering and patience. Love for God and His truth and love for people must never be forgotten when one rises to stand before an assembly of people to preach the word. The faithful evangelist must guard against becoming discouraged, impatient, or cynical, and/or insulting in the pulpit. The pulpit is not to become an opportunity to “get someone told,” or to “get back at” someone. This is demeaning the dignity of the pulpit and the high calling of preaching the word.

Sadly, there will be “factions” among the brethren, and some will not “love the truth” as they “depart from the faith” (1 Cor. 11:29; 2 Thess. 2:10; 1 Tim. 4:1-2). Rejecting sound doctrine, they seek false teachers who will scratch their itching ears by telling them what they want to hear (2 Pet. 2:1-3; Acts 20:29-30). This means that the evangelist must be watchful and aware of the spiritual dangers and pitfalls that endanger the church of the Lord. Whenever error is detected as launching an attack against the truth, the faithful evangelist is to arise and, “*preach the word,*” exposing the false doctrine.

It is certainly needful to always teach the truth when one is preaching or teaching a Bible class. One may do this for weeks and years while the brethren are being carried away with some error. This is made possible because the elders, teachers, and evangelist either ignore, or are blissfully ignorant of the devil’s attack upon truth in the local congregation.

Martin Luther said it well:

If I profess, with the loudest voice and the clearest exposition, every portion of the truth of God except precisely that little point which the world and the devil are at that moment attacking, I am not confessing Christ, however boldly I may be professing Christianity. Where the battle rages, the loyalty of the soldier is proved; and to be steady on all the battle-field besides is mere flight and disgrace to him if he flinches at that one point.

There are times when the truth has been preached in love to brethren who will not accept it. They not only will not listen, but will give the preacher a hard time. They engage in constant quibbling and being obnoxious in Bible classes that the evangelist is teaching. Some give him a quick insult or put down as they leave the building after dismissal of the service. Some succeed in getting the brethren to ask the preacher to go elsewhere (fire him). It does not happen very often in the US, but some evangelists have been physically attacked because of teaching the truth. Paul and the brethren (and some in parts of the world today) were not only insulted, ridiculed, and misrepresented, but were often physically assaulted. Nevertheless, Paul tells Timothy (and all evangelists) to “endure” whatever the devil and evil men bring against them and to not give up. The evangelist is to “do the work” and faithfully “preach the word” until the Lord calls him home! This will “fulfill” his responsibility.

Paul speaks of the wonderful reward that awaits the faithful proclaimer of God’s word:

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing (2 Tim. 4:6-9).

Paul knew that his time upon this earth was nearly up. Still, he proclaims his

victory in the battle for truth (Phil. 4:13; Rom. 8:31-39; Rev. 14:13). In the ebb and flow of the spiritual conflict Paul endured, he not only faithfully “preached the faith,” but as a true soldier of the Lord, “*kept the faith*” until the end (Gal. 1:23; 2 Tim. 4:7; Rev. 2:10).

May all who “preach the word” have this same glorious anticipation and expectation when the blessed Lord calls us home! 🏠



John Humphries

John has labored with churches of Christ in MD, PA, VA, NY, KY, and AL, and engaged in evangelistic efforts in numerous foreign countries, including over forty trips to India. He preached his first gospel sermon in South Carolina in 1955. He has served as an elder for churches in KY and AL. He has authored commentaries on Isaiah, Jeremiah and Lamentations for the Truth Commentary series. He currently lives in Calvert City, KY, with his wife, Edna. He can be reached at humphries.john@aol.com.

You and your church need trustworthy resources, so we publish and provide Bible-based materials to help you grow closer to God.



Looking for Bible class or homeschool resources? We carry curriculum!



Needing communion supplies? We have pre-filled cups!

In search of the perfect Bible? We have over 400 to choose from!



Wanting to upgrade your song books? Check out ours!



220 S Marion St
Athens, Alabama



truthbooks.com
(855) 492-6657

The Holy Spirit's Role in Redemption

by Shane Carrington

The Holy Spirit redeems us by fulfilling His primary mission: to convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:8), through the truth that He revealed (John 16:13).

Introduction

We need Jesus for redemption: His incarnate life, sacrificial death, victorious resurrection, and glorious enthronement. Without Jesus. . . there is no salvation!

We need God the Father for redemption: His gracious plan to rescue us from ourselves by sending His Son (Eph. 1:3-6). Without the Father. . . there is no salvation!

What about the Holy Spirit? Answer this with another question: How much would we know about the saving plan of the Father or the redeeming work of Christ without the revealing work of the Spirit? Absolutely nothing. We would possess 2,000 years of guesswork. If you have ever played the “gossip game,” where you sit in a circle, whisper a prompt into your neighbor’s ear, and repeat the message around the room? At the end, the answer is a distortion—bearing little or no resemblance to the original words. It sounds nothing like the original. Imagine playing this game over a 2,000 year period through various cultures! We would know little about the true gospel that way. Fortunately, through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, God insured preservation of the gospel, not distortion. Without the Holy Spirit. . . no salvation!

A Panoramic View of the Holy Spirit's Work

Before studying the Spirit's primary role in our redemption, behold a breathtaking panorama of activities in which He was or is involved. He. . .

1. Prophesied the coming of Jesus (Luke 24:25-27; 1 Pet. 1:10-12)
2. Was integral in the incarnation of Jesus (Matt. 1:18-20)
3. Shared fellowship in the ministry of Jesus (Acts 10:38)
4. Empowered the resurrection of Jesus (Rom. 1:4; 8:11)
5. Revealed and confirmed the message of Jesus (John 16:7-15; Eph. 3:3-5)
6. Convicts and converts people to Jesus via the word (1 Thess. 2:13; John 16:7-15)
7. Transforms the lives of the people of Jesus (Eph. 6:17; Heb. 4:12)
8. Produces spiritual fruit in the true disciples of Jesus (Gal. 5:22-24)
9. Shapes the redeemed into the true temple of Jesus (Eph. 2:17-22)
10. Produces spiritual life in the people of Jesus (Rom. 8)

The breadth of His work in human redemption runs quite the gamut, showing us His true importance. Now contemplate His primary role in redemption.

The Holy Spirit's Primary Role

Revelation and confirmation combine as the Holy Spirit's primary role in redemption. He revealed the message of salvation (John 16:13; 20:30-31), and He confirmed it through miracles, signs, and

wonders worked through first century disciples whom He empowered (Mark 16:15-20; Heb. 2:1-4).

Jesus's words about the Holy Spirit's work recorded in John's Gospel give great insight into the process through which God preserved His word for all time (read John 16:5-15).

The departure of Jesus from living on this earth paved the way for the Holy Spirit's coming to the apostles (John 16:7). While Jesus instructed disciples during His earthly ministry, He would hand the baton to the Spirit, whose primary job would be “to convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:8). Jesus taught them while on earth, but when He ascended, He sent the Spirit to reveal the rest of God's instructions (John 16:12-13). By inspiration, the Holy Spirit would guide the apostles “into all the truth” (John 16:13). What God wanted recorded in written fashion would also be inspired by the Spirit (John 20:30-31; cf. Eph. 3:3-5; Jude 3). Since God accomplished that through the Spirit in the first century, we should not tolerate additions to, or subtractions from, this message (Rev. 22:18-19; 2 John 9; Jude 3). God's written word (Eph. 3:2-5) is powerful and life-changing (Heb. 4:12; John 20:30-31), because it is “the sword of the Spirit” (Eph. 6:17) designed to “convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment” (John 16:8).

Three Important Tasks

Understanding the primary role of the Holy Spirit—a combination of revealing and confirming the word of God—compels us to three important tasks:

Read, Study, and Meditate upon Scripture.

By yourself. With others. The written word declares the plan of the Father, the redeeming work of Jesus, and the revelation of the Holy Spirit of all we need to know and do. Let God speak to you through Scripture, transforming your heart and life.

Teach It to Others.

They are lost and need salvation. God no longer addresses men directly; rather, He uses saints to appeal to the lost with the words of salvation. We might wonder why God used disciples to make disciples, but that is His plan (Matt. 28:18-20). Read the book of Acts. How many people did God save directly—on the spot—without a human soul-winner? None. Even Saul of Tarsus was told to go into the city, where He was instructed, “Now why do you delay? Get up and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on His name” (Acts 22:16; cf. 2:21, 36-38). Like the pattern God implemented, He used a disciple (Ananias) to make this disciple (Saul/Paul). Teaching the gospel supersedes political viewpoints and personal opinions. May we have the vigor to teach the soul-saving word of the Spirit to those lost and dying all around us. They need Jesus—not our preferences.


Listen to the Spirit by Listening to the Written Word.

Some are reading “signs of the times” like tea leaves, assuming that God is “leading” them apart from the written word’s instructions. Often these “nudgings of the Spirit” are perceived to be leading them to practices contrary to what Scripture teaches. God does not speak to us directly—Mt. Sinai-

style. He does not whisper to us in still, small voices. The written word is our bread through which God nourishes us spiritually (Matt. 4:4). Crave it and consume it, and thus follow the Spirit’s true leading, for *He* revealed it.

Conclusion

Consider a few summary observations: (1) The Holy Spirit is integral to all of the above. Like the Father and the Son, we cannot do without Him; (2) We have no spiritual life without the Spirit—no redemption from our past sins, transformation in our present lives to be more like Jesus, nor eternal glorification after final judgment. Like Jesus said, “It is the Spirit who gives life. . . the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life” (John 6:63); (3) Trying to be “spiritual” without the word revealed by the Holy Spirit is impossible (John 6:63). “It is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth” (1 John 5:8c). Claiming to be “spiritual” without being “religious” is deceptive, for discipleship requires participation in the Holy Spirit-revealed word (cf. Jas. 1:21-27).

Along with Father (designer) and Son (savior), the Holy Spirit (revealer) saves us. We need the work of all three (Eph. 1:3-14)! We need God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—for new birth and spiritual growth. Praise God for redeeming us and adopting us as His true, spiritual family (Rom. 8:14-17), the church (Heb. 12:23)! 



Shane Carrington

Shane has worked with the Southside church of Christ in Sulphur Springs, TX, for twenty-three years. He and his wife, Kelly, have two children. The church website is churchofchristss.com. He can be reached at bshanec@mac.com.

Love what you’re reading?

SUBSCRIBE TO TRUTH MAGAZINE TODAY!

Receive trustworthy content in your mailbox or inbox each month! Subscribe for yourself, gift to a friend, or request bundles for your congregation!



SUBSCRIPTION	PRICE
Print Edition	36.95/yr
Kindle Edition	1.45/mo
Digital Edition	14.95/yr

Subscribe at truthbooks.com or call 855-492-6657



Q.

By Bobby L. Graham



A.

QUESTION.

Why Do Catholics Worship Mary?

ANSWER.

To answer this question fully would require more space than this column allows. There would have to be quotations and citations from Catholic authorities. We plan to deal with this matter in broad outline form, leaving many details to further study.

Because Mary is so special in Bible history, it is easy to assume for her some special position and the worship associated. Many centuries ago, during the Middle Ages, devotees of Mary accumulated a rich tradition based upon both fact and fiction, which led to frequent supposition. They derived from this tradition powers, prerogatives, and privileges which the Bible never allowed.

Basically, we know little about Mary's background—birth, parents, etc. What we know from the Bible is that she was with child while betrothed to Joseph and was married to him before Jesus was

born. She lived in Nazareth with Joseph and the child Jesus, went to Jerusalem where Jesus was presented in the Temple, from Nazareth fled to Egypt to escape Herod's decree, and later returned to Nazareth (Matt. 2; Luke 2). She was present at the wedding in Cana for Jesus's first miracle (John 2). Much later, Mary and her other sons asked to speak to Jesus (Matt. 12:46-50). She was present at the Crucifixion when Jesus gave her into John's care (John 19:25ff). After the resurrection, Mary was present with Jesus's apostles for prayer in the upper room (Acts 1:14). The Epistles are silent concerning her life, death, character, and status except in Galatians 4:4, where she is the unnamed "woman." Despite the Bible's silence concerning these significant areas, more legends have arisen around her than perhaps any other New Testament character, contributing to what is now known as Mariolatry. Yes, she deserves special veneration/worship, according to Roman Catholic doctrine.

We here give brief attention to such legends:

1. **Mother of God:** This is the basis of the unscriptural powers and prerogatives attributed to Mary. While it is true that Jesus has ever been Deity/God, and that He was born of Mary, *no* biblical teaching supports the notion that Mary is mother of His divinity. He was God "in the beginning" (John 1:1-3).
2. **Perpetual Virginity:** While certain passages are used to justify this notion, the NT only speaks of Mary's virginity before Jesus's conception (Matt 1:25; 13:55-56. Luke 1:34).
3. **Freedom from Personal Sins:** Mary acknowledged Jesus to be her Savior, implying her sin, so that she needed a Savior (Luke 1:47).

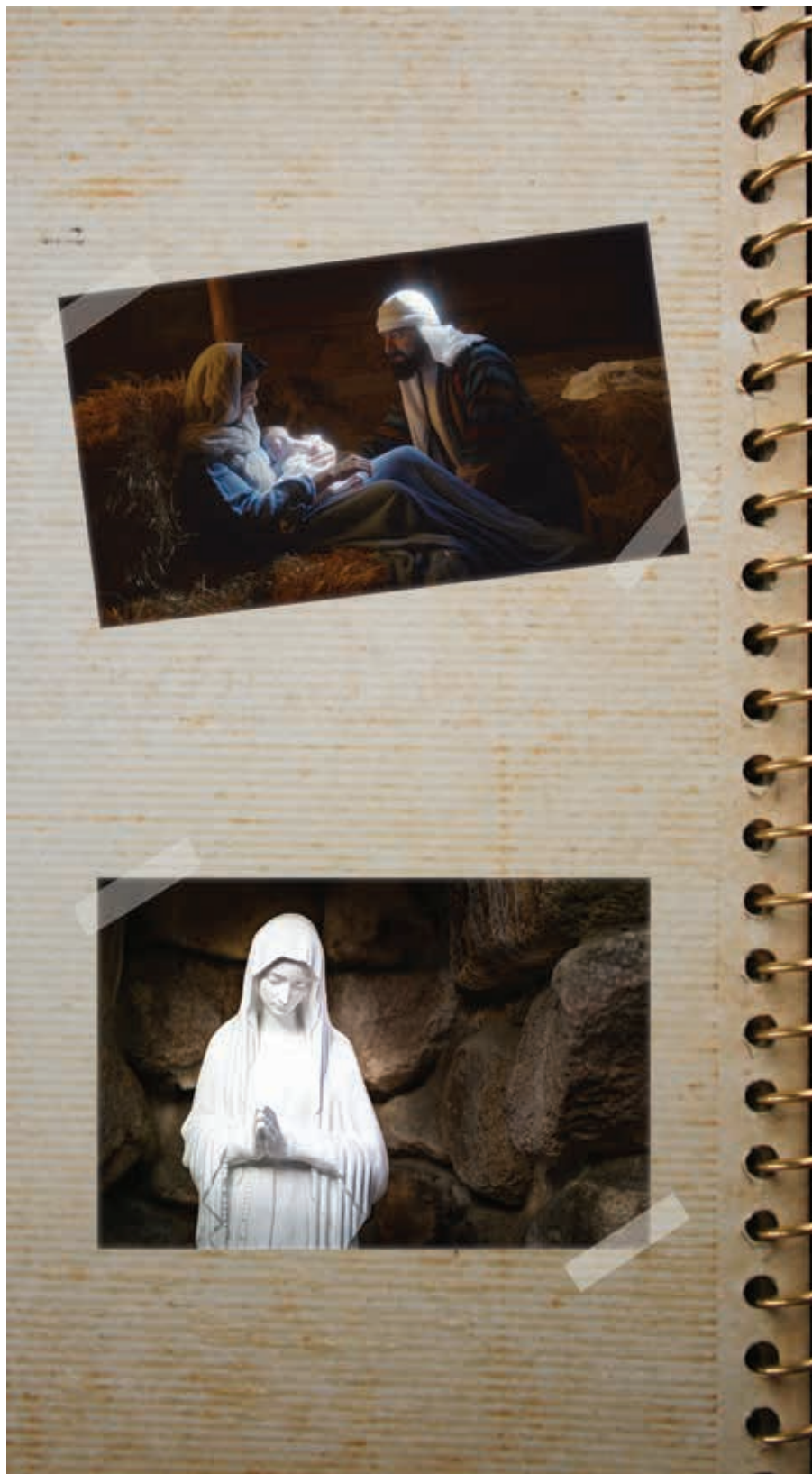
4. **Immaculate Conception:** Mary was uniquely conceived without the stain of original sin. This doctrine resulted from their false concepts about original sin/total inherited depravity (Rom. 5:12)
5. **Bodily Assumption:** This doctrine affirms that God miraculously took the body of Mary, but this conflicts with John 3:13 and Hebrews 9:27.
6. **Worship of Mary:** In Roman Catholicism, Mary is an object of worship, although, supposedly, not the same worship given to God, angels, and saints (Luke 1:42; 11:27-28. Read John 4:24; Acts 10:25-26, and Rev. 22:8-9).
7. **Praying to Mary:** She is considered the “Second Eve,” through whom comes life. Again, this is an unrevealed and unscriptural doctrine (Acts 10:26; Rev. 19:10; Col. 3:17).
8. **Mary as Mediatrix:** Supposedly, she cooperated in our redemption and intercedes in heaven for us. Again, this is an unrevealed and unscriptural doctrine (1 Tim. 2:5; Heb. 4:15-16).

In reality, all eight legends could be labeled as “unrevealed doctrines.” In most instances, their acceptance as doctrine or dogma had to wait for several centuries. Not one of them arises from a fair treatment of any New Testament text. If it were not for fertile imaginations, supposed visions, and false doctrines already received, there would be none of these and little else remaining in Roman Catholic faith and practice, because there would be nothing driving the agenda. **TL**



Bobby L. Graham

Bobby actively participates in fill-in preaching, Belize trips, teaching an hour each day at Athens Bible School, and in gospel meeting work. He and his wife, Karen, have three children. He can be reached at bobbygraham@pclnet.net.



Hatshepsut (Egypt's Female Pharaoh) and Moses

by Leon Mauldin

In this article, we consider the strong possibility that Hatshepsut was the daughter of Pharaoh who rescued Moses from the Nile. She went on to reign as Pharaoh herself and left behind some amazing archaeological remains.

The book of Exodus begins with the great affliction of Israel in Egypt as the setting. Hebrew male babies born at that time were literally under a death sentence from Pharaoh. Moses's mother hid him three months—"but when she was no longer able to hide him, she took a papyrus basket for him and sealed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and set it among the reeds along the edge of the Nile" (Exod. 2:3, NET). In God's good providence, Pharaoh's daughter had compassion on the Hebrew baby and allowed him to live. She gave him the name *Moses* (2:10), and secured a Hebrew nurse, Moses's mother! The New Testament records the faith of Moses's parents as the motivation for their defiance of the king's command (Heb. 11:23), as well as the faith that Moses made his own! (Heb. 11:24-28).

These events happened during Egypt's Eighteenth Dynasty (Walter C. Kasier, Jr. dates this period as 1570-1320 BC, and dates Moses' birth at 1526 BC, and the Exodus at 1446 BC). Using Egyptian chronology, this would place Moses' birth during the last year of Amenhotep I (1546-1526 BC) or the first year of Thutmose I (1526-1512 BC). Many suggest that the princess, Pharaoh's daughter who rescued baby Moses, was Hatshepsut, daughter of Thutmose I. Though not dogmatic, Kasier states, "There is no doubt, however, that the chronology suggested here would fit nicely with her, and that she was a most unusual person for her times, possessing a strong personality and unusual gift of leadership, which she eventually used to claim the throne for herself" (Kaiser,

88). She reigned as Pharaoh in Egypt 1503-1483 BC (Note: scholarly dates on Egyptian chronology vary; this does not impact the historicity of Scripture). In his newly published *Origins of the Hebrews*, Douglas Petrovich concludes, "All of the evidence points to Hatshepsut as the best candidate for Moses's stepmother" (Petrovich, 148).

Hatshepsut certainly left her imprint, much of which can still be viewed today. Her mortuary temple is located in Thebes (at Deir el-Barhr) on the western bank of the Nile. "The temple at Deir el-Bahri remains Hatshepsut's most enduring monument. Built of limestone and designed in a series of terraces set against the cliff wall in a bay formed



Hatshepsut Wall Carving at Hathor © Leon Mauldin




Hatshepsut Temple at Hathor © Leon Mauldin



Hatshepsut, Metropolitan Museum © Leon Mauldin

naturally by river and wind action, the temple called ‘Holy of Holies’ (*djeser djeseru*) was Hatshepsut’s most complete statement in material form about her reign” (Shaw, 232). The Valley of the Kings, burial site of the Pharaohs of the 18th Dynasty, is behind Hatshepsut’s temple and cliff in our photo.

We are also including a relief of the Egyptian goddess Hathor, carved in relief on a column in Hatshepsut’s temple. Also, you can see a large kneeling statue of Hatshepsut, excavated from her temple. 

Sources

Kaiser, W. C., Jr. *A History of Israel: from the Bronze Age through the Jewish Wars*. Nashville, TN: Broadman & Holman, 1998.

The NET Bible First Edition (NET Bible). bible.org. Biblical Studies Press, 2005.

Petrovich, Douglas. *Origins of the Hebrews*. Nashville, TN: New Creation, 2021.

Shaw, Ian. *The Oxford History of Ancient Egypt*. Oxford, NY: Oxford University Press, 2000.



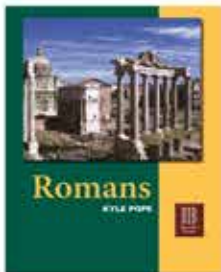
Leon Mauldin

Leon has worked with the Hanceville church of Christ in Hanceville, AL, for 31 years. He and his wife, Linda, have three children and nine grandchildren. The church website is hancevillechurchofchrist.com. His websites are leonmauldin.com, blogandmauldinbiblelandtours.com. He can be reached at leonmauldin@gmail.com.

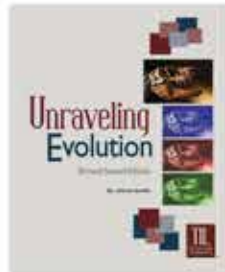


HELPING YOU BRING THE CLASSROOM TO YOUR KITCHEN TABLE

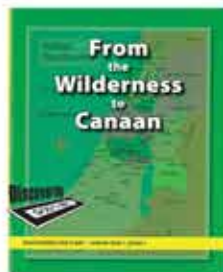
Looking for resources that you can use at home?
Give us a call or visit truthbooks.com



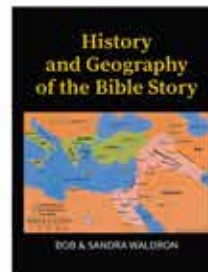
Study the Bible book by book with **The Bible Textbook Series**. Each book includes commentary, charts, maps, references, and end of chapter questions.



The **Truth in Life** series walks students through book, chapter, verse teaching on topics of interest to every Christian. Great for teens and adults.



Discovering God's Way contains 15 years worth of study material that is divided up into 13 lesson quarters. Workbooks for nursery thru adult.



Teens and adults take a walk through the **History and Geography of the Bible Story** with this 52 lesson book, a complete survey from Genesis to Revelation.



The **Lamp to my Feet** series contains 9 books that cover the entire Bible in 3.5 years. Each study guide contains commentary, maps, pictures, and more.

During this unprecedented time, **we are here to help you and your family grow closer to God.** We have a wide selection of workbooks that are suitable for individual, class, or homeschool studies.
Let us know how we can help!

CEI Bookstore

truthbooks.com

Truth

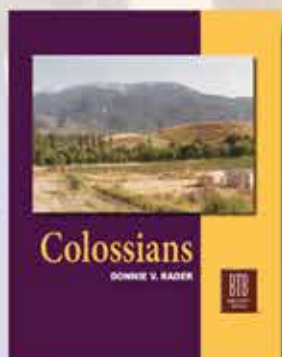
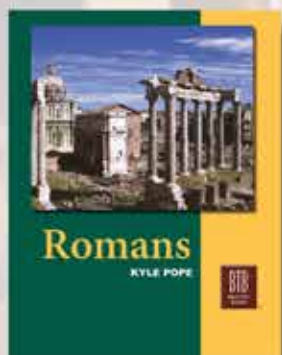
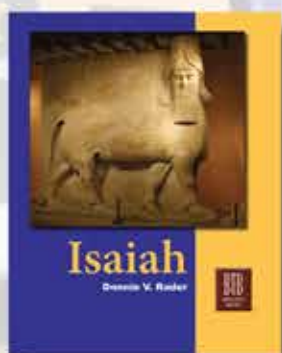
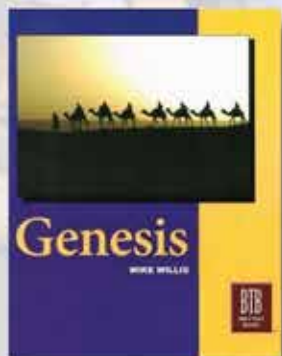
Publications

Taking His hand, helping each other home.

Truth

Publications

Taking His hand,
helping each other home.

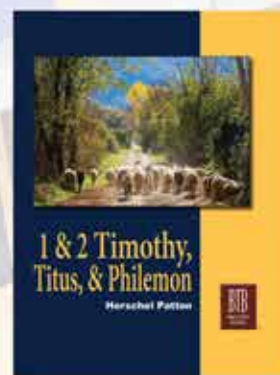
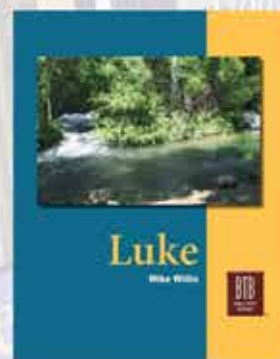
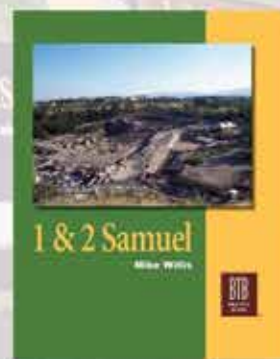


Bible Text Books

Study through the Bible with the Bible Text Book series! Each book is filled with maps, charts, photos, questions, and commentary from reliable authors!

Perfect for personal or class use.

Shop now at truthbooks.com



Old Testament		
Genesis	Mike Willis	\$10.97
Exodus & Leviticus	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Numbers & Deuteronomy	Mike Willis	\$10.97
Joshua, Judges, & Ruth	Mike Willis	\$9.97
1 & 2 Samuel	Mike Willis	\$10.97
1 & 2 Kings	Mike Willis	\$9.97
1 & 2 Chronicles	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Ezra, Nehemiah, & Esther	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Job	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Psalms	Randy Blackaby	\$9.97
Proverbs	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Ecclesiastes & Song of Solomon	D. King, Sr & M. Willis	\$9.97
Isaiah	Donnie V. Rader	\$9.97
Jeremiah & Lamentations	John Humphreys	\$11.97
Ezekiel	Daniel H. King, Sr	\$9.97
Daniel	Daniel H. King, Sr	\$9.97
Minor Prophets 1	Marc Gibson	\$9.97

New Testament		
Matthew	Marc Gibson	\$9.97
Mark	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Luke	Mike Willis	\$11.97
John	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Acts	Jason Longstreth	\$9.97
Romans	Kyle Pope	\$10.97
1 Corinthians	Mike Willis	\$11.97
2 Corinthians	Mike Willis	\$9.97
Galatians	Randy Blackaby	\$9.97
Ephesians	Chris Reeves	\$9.97
Philippians	Paul Blake	\$9.97
Colossians	Donnie V. Rader	\$10.97
1 & 2 Thessalonians	Mark Mayberry	\$9.97
1 & 2 Timothy, Titus, & Philemon	Herschel Patton	\$11.97
Hebrews	Daniel H. King, Sr	\$9.97
James	Rick Billingsley	\$9.97
1 & 2 Peter & Jude	Paul Blake	\$9.97
1, 2, & 3 John	Michael Hardin	\$9.97
Revelation	Daniel H. King, Sr.	\$9.97

Leaders Develop Trust

by Keith Hamilton

“Trust” in one’s relationship with others is so precious and valuable that it is vitally important that nothing is done to tarnish that characteristic.

Introduction

“Trust.” With that word, I would begin a discussion with members of management. I would add, “That is the only thing you have going for you as a manager. If you destroy the trust that the people have in you, you destroy your credibility. Your ability to lead them is gone.” That conclusion was not made lightly and resulted from years of observation. I understand that a person by virtue of the “position of command” might be able to get people to do what they tell them to do because they are the “boss.” However, bossing people and leading them are two different things. Leaders accomplish great things because of the willingness of people to follow. That is why it is so important that a leader gains/earns the trust of others. Folks think that, when I discuss these leadership principles, I am just applying them to the business or corporate environment. I hope that such is not the case with those who are reading this. Whether one is leading in the home, workplace, school, civic group, and even in a local congregation of the Lord’s people, it is vitally important that you, as a leader, have the trust of those you are trying to lead. How can a husband lead a wife who does not trust him? How can parents lead their children if they do not have their trust? How can an eldership lead a congregation that does not trust them? “Trust” in one’s relationship with others is so precious and valuable that it is vitally important that nothing is done to tarnish that characteristic. Once lost, it is almost impossible to regain. Also,

establishing trust is necessary when dealing with trying times. Raymond Berry (former head coach of the New England Patriots) stressed how important it was to develop a trusting relationship with his players. He stated his reason for such in this way, “When bad times come, and they will come, you *will* have the relationship with others necessary to work together to overcome adversity.” It is one thing for leaders to get others to follow them when things are fine. The question is, “Do you have their trust to where they will trust your judgment and follow you when things are bad?” Many organizations are struggling with their ability to lead others today. “Trust” has been lost in our highly skeptical world. Leaders are not effective because they do not have the trust of others. One of the reasons given for such is that leaders are not viewed as “authentic.” Therefore, one of the trending discussions for organizations is that of “Authentic Leadership.” Just do a Google search of “authentic leadership” and see the results. I never cease to be amazed at things people struggle with. The same principles found on the “old paths” of the Bible that have guided people for thousands of years are just as relevant today (Jer. 6:16). Christians should not have a problem with being “authentic.” We are taught not to be hypocrites, i.e., fake or pretenders (Matt. 6:2, 5, 16). Our Lord is the example of an authentic leader. Jesus was who He was and was confident in Himself, regardless of the opinions of others. He could eat with sinners and commune with those that were deemed “unfit” without others affecting

Him in a negative way. Jesus influenced others! He did not allow people to pour Him into the mold they made. That is what leaders do. They shape, mold, and influence others. They are not negatively affected by the opinions of others. They are determined to do good to help others regardless of who they are with and opinions to the contrary. Yes, Jesus is the greatest example of leadership to which one may look. Let us look at a few points to help develop trust.

Keep Your Word

The fidelity of God is without dispute (Heb. 11:6). God keeps His word. That much is certain. We too must keep our word. Leaders cannot retain the trust of others when they do not keep the commitments they make. When you make a commitment to someone, *keep it*—even if it makes things hard for you. Keep it even if there is something else you would rather do with your time. Keep it even if a “better opportunity” comes your way. In identifying the person who would “reside” with the Lord, King David describes that person as “One who walks with integrity,” and “He takes an oath to his own detriment and does not change” (Ps. 15:1-5, NASB). If you want to be an effective leader, keep your commitments (word) to your boss, fellow workers, brethren, and—importantly, your family. Their willingness to trust and follow you depends on it.



No Quid Pro Quo

I have often advised managers and warned them to never bargain with their direct reports. When one bribes others or bargains with them by saying, “If you do this, then I will do that” you are creating a relationship that is mercenary. I cringe when I hear some parent use this with their child. Stop it! A trusting relationship is one where people do what they should without seeking a reward for doing the “right thing.” As a parent, I wanted my children to learn to do what was right when others around them were not. I wanted them to know to do the right thing when I was not around and could not see or praise them for making the right choice. As a manager, I trusted those who reported to me to do the right thing. I wanted them to trust me so that they knew I would support them for doing the right thing when I was not there. A leader has the trust of others when they can get them to do what is right without receiving recognition or a reward for so doing. “When you do a charitable deed, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing” (Matt. 6:3, NKJV)

Set the Example

“Yea, they bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger” (Matt. 23:4, ASV). Jesus points out the observable hypocrisy of the Scribes and Pharisees. As the religious leaders of the Jews who sat in “Moses’ seat,” their style of leadership could turn people away from religion and the true God. People want and need to see their leaders “out front.” When leaders set the example, they earn respect and trust. Contrast the actions of the scribes and Pharisees with that of our Lord. Jesus rose from the supper table, girded Himself with a towel, and washed the feet of His disciples (John 13:3-5). As their leader, Jesus stooped to serve them (exhibiting “servant leadership”). The impression was indelible. Later, He said, “If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another’s feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you” (John 13:14-15). Jesus set the example and the bar high for His disciples. He expected nothing of them that He was not willing to do Himself. Leaders need to learn this principle if they wish to gain the trust of those whom they are leading. Do not

expect others to do what you are not willing to do yourself.

Be the Leader

A friend who had been reading my thoughts on leadership recently sent me a note. He said, “When I was in the military, we were all trained to be leaders. There would come a time when we would be expected to lead.” I smiled when I read his note. He got it. Everyone needs to learn to be a leader and then lead. Take the initiative and be proactive. Do not wait for others to take the lead in a situation when you have the opportunity. Yes, it is not always easy. That first step may be scary. It is possible that you will fail, be criticized, and even ridiculed. You may be afraid of the risks. However, I would encourage you with the words of Mordecai to Esther, “For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father’s house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?” (Esther 4:14). “*For such a time as this.*” Those words are haunting. We are in a time when we need Christians to be leaders. Gain the trust of others by keeping your word, letting your “yea be yea and your nay be nay” (Matt. 5:37), setting the example and then take the lead. I pray these series of lessons have been helpful and welcome discussions on this important subject. May the Lord bless you in your efforts to lead others home **TL**



Keith Hamilton

Keith has worked with the Midway church of Christ in Sewanee, TN, since 2009. He and his wife, Carlin, have two daughters and five grandchildren. He can be reached at hamiltonkeith1956@gmail.com.

It's Not That Complicated

by Bob Watson

Understanding God's plan for our life is not difficult, as illustrated in the life of one of His humble servants. The real challenge is *doing* His will.

Introduction

On a chilly day in January of this year, I stood by the graveside of a dear friend of mine. I had the honor of performing the graveside portion of his funeral. Brother Don Gregg was a simple man, but he certainly was not a simpleton. He was a humble man. God lifts those who are humble (Jas. 4:10). The choices he made in his life were not complicated. Don used his free-moral agency, which God has granted to all humanity, to make wise choices in his life. Often, many people complicate and clutter their lives by making poor choices. The consequences of their choices lead to complicated lives. They often wonder, "How did my life get so tangled up?" I wonder what prescription my dear brother would offer people in order to live an uncomplicated life.

Choose Christ First

I am confident that this would be the first piece of advice that my Christian friend would offer. We all must choose whom we will serve. Joshua of old challenged the people of his day by saying, "Choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve. . ." (Josh. 24:15). We all must make a choice about whom we will serve. Jesus said that we cannot serve two masters, "You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt. 6:24). Many years ago, my dear friend heard the gospel message and believed it (Rom. 10:17). He believed that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (Acts 8:35-38), repented of his sins (Acts 17:30), confessed his faith in Jesus (Matt. 10:32), and was baptized for the

remission of his sins (Acts 2:38). He also made the choice to live as a Christian all the remaining days of his life. We often sing the hymn, *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*. Following Jesus, following God, and letting our lives be guided by the Holy Spirit inspired word is a choice (2 Pet. 1:19-21). My friend fought the good fight, finished the course, and kept the faith (2 Tim. 4:7). His formula was not a complicated one.

Choose to Be a Worker

My friend took to heart the words of Ecclesiastes 9:10, "Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with your might." He was a blue-collar worker, an electrician by trade, working well into his eighties. Unfortunately, today we see many folks who can work, but refuse to work. Some

live off the government subsidies, even when they could hold a job. They should recall Paul's admonition, "If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat" (2 Thess. 3:10). Work is good for us all. Idleness hinders advancement in life. The Scriptures repeatedly warn against laziness (Prov. 6:6-11; 12:27; 13:4; 15:19; 19:15; 20:4; 21:25-26; 22:13; 24:30-34; 26:13-16). Parents should drill into their children the necessity of establishing an excellent work ethic in their lives. It will serve them well. This part of his formula certainly is not complicated.

Choose to Be a Dedicated Family Member

My friend let the Lord build his house (Ps. 127), and enjoyed the fruit of that decision in his life (Ps. 128). Husbands



and wives need to follow God's pattern for the family (Eph. 5:22-33). Likewise, children need to be in obedience to their parents (Eph. 6:1-2). Fathers should not provoke their children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:4). A marriage built on biblical principles will not only last, it will be pleasing to our heavenly Father (Rom. 7:1-2). People complicate their lives by rejecting God's pattern for their family. Unscriptural marriage, divorce, and remarriage muddies the water. God's prescription is not really all that complicated (Matt. 19:3-10).

Choose to Be an Active Member of the Church

I must ask myself, "What am I contributing to the local body of Christ?" Am I really helping the work of the Lord where I worship? My friend was an active member of the congregation. He was one of our song leaders (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). When asked to do so, he would deliver invitations and spiritual talks. He ministered to saints who were in need. He welcomed families into his home for social gatherings, and opened his home to strangers (Heb. 13:2). During gospel meetings, he hosted visiting preachers and their families. He was a light in the community (Matt. 5:16). He was solid in the Scriptures (Acts 17:11). He knew the Bible and stood up for what it taught (1 Tim. 4:13). He never tried to shirk his responsibilities in spiritual matters, but could always be counted on to do his part (Eph. 4:16). None of these actions was complicated. They were things that a Christian should do.

Conclusion

While it is not an exhaustive list, these are some areas where we can uncomplicate our lives. These represent some of the admirable areas in the life of my friend that seemed to stand out so vividly. There are many more issues we could tackle, but this point is clear: God's instructions from Scripture are not difficult to understand. The British

author, G.K. Chesterton, once said, "The Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried." Understanding what one must do to please God is not difficult; rather, making the difficult choices in life (by doing the right thing) is the challenge. We must have the courage to make tough decisions in our lives. Some folks create a mess of their lives because they have made choices that make life complicated. When in reality, understanding God's will is not complicated. Finally, the apostle Paul counseled, "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore, do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is" (Eph. 5:15-17). **T**

Sources

Chesterton, G.K. Quote taken from "Part One: The Homelessness of Man-Section Five: The Unfinished Temple-Paragraph 3" of *What's Wrong with the World*. New York, Sheed and Ward, 1956. Gutenberg.org



Bob Watson

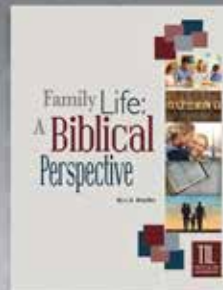
Bob has been a gospel preacher for forty years. He currently preaches for the Mt. Zion church of Christ in Athens, AL, where he has worked for seven years. He and his wife, Stephanie, have four children. The church website is mtzionchurchofchrist.org. He can be reached at bwatsonswatson@yahoo.com.



TIL Christians in a Secular Age by Mike Willis

It has become increasingly difficult to take a stand for the absolute truth as presented in God's word. What are Christians to do? This workbook helps answer this important question.

\$9.97



TIL Family Life: A Biblical Perspective by L.A. Stauffer

Looking for an overview of the plan for the home as laid out in scripture? This 13 lesson workbook covers God's plan for marriage, dating, raising children, and more.

\$11.97

Order today from CEI Bookstore
at (855) 492-6657 or truthbooks.com

Using Instrumental Music to Promote the Gospel

by Joe R. Price

Using instrumental music to promote the gospel and entertain corrupts the Christian's influence and worship.

Introduction

An unknown number of brethren received the following email in 2011:

What are your thoughts on hymns with instrumental accompaniment, as a form of entertainment? How about a Christian performing spiritual songs with instrumentation? I am looking for any and all opinions on the subject, and would be most grateful if you would be willing to share your opinions with me.

This subject remains relevant ten years later. Some brethren use instrumental music to advertise churches and Bible teaching events on the radio and the internet. (If one may promote the gospel with an instrumental accompaniment, why not use an instrumental accompaniment during a gospel invitation to prompt people to obey Jesus? Where is the stopping point? Only in man's imagination where such additions to God's word began.) In addition, an increasing number of churches of Christ are adding instrumental music to their worship services. This subject deserves our diligent Bible study, not to entrench ourselves in "Church of Christ tradition" or personal opinions, but to seek, find, and apply the will of God (Matt. 28:20).

My reply to the above email from ten years ago (with minor changes and elaborations) follows:

The Scriptures reveal God's truth on this matter. To that extent, therefore, this is a matter of faith—not opinion. Such clarification is needed, especially since you asked for "opinions on the subject." I intend to be careful not to

offer a personal opinion but what God's word teaches on this vital subject (Eph. 3:3-4; 5:17). The worship-related nature of the topic you raise makes it clear that the issue is *not* one's opinion, but rather, "What do the Scriptures say? If I misapply the Scriptures, please point it out for my careful consideration and correction where needed.

First, one must establish the Bible authority for adding instrumental music to the singing of hymns (1 Thess. 5:21-22; Eph. 5:19). Also, one must provide the Bible authority to remove singing and replace it with playing hymns. The exclusive New Testament pattern of singing binds us to sing and does not allow for alterations. To add playing, regardless of the purpose, violates the authority of Christ (Col. 3:17; 2 John 9).

Secondly, "songs and hymns and spiritual songs" are designed for worship, not entertainment (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16; Heb. 2:12; Jas. 5:13). The whole notion of performing hymns and spiritual songs as entertainment is foreign to the word of God. That purpose is an addition made by men. Adding musical performance for entertainment to the God-given purpose of music for worship goes beyond what God has written (1 Cor. 4:6; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Gal. 1:6-10).

Thirdly, to turn the worship activity of singing into a form of entertainment is an act of irreverence, not worship (John 4:24). In truth, turning any act of worship into entertainment is will-worship (i.e., self-made worship) akin to when Nadab and Abihu offered "profane fire" to the Lord that He had not commanded

(Lev. 10:1-3; Col. 2:23). In this case, the difference includes the addition being for people (to entertain them) and not for the Lord. We would not dream of offering prayers as "entertainment," for such would make a mockery of God and prayer. Similarly, changing the music God approves by adding instruments, then altering its purpose from worship to entertainment, becomes acts of disobedient, irreverent, vain worship (John 4:23-24; Matt. 15:7-9). These innovations are not the will of the Father (Matt. 7:21-23).

Fourthly, Ephesians 5:19, Colossians 3:16, and the other New Testament passages that address musical worship exclude solos, quartets, and other entertainment performances. The silence of the Scriptures on the topic does not give us consent but is God's constraint against sinful errors. When we sing, Christians speak to "one another" and teach and admonish "one another." All are engaged in speaking, teaching, and admonishing through song. This interaction of saints, blending their voices in praise to God, is the worship God wants. By doing so, we engage in concurrent instruction, admonition, and praise. Yes, individuals may sing praises of joy (Jas. 5:13). However, worship is not a performance for the mere enjoyment of the participants. Remember, worship is not entertainment; rather, it is homage given to God.


Finally, Christians who use instrumental music (with or without vocal accompaniment) to advertise, promote, and even worship should



consider their influence when doing so (1 Pet. 2:11-12). These actions leave an impression that God agrees with the instrumental presentation of the gospel. Those who practice this will have a hard time teaching others that singing is the only God-approved music for worship when their behavior has (1) used instrumental music to introduce them to the gospel, and/or (2) added entertainment as another purpose of worship music. By doing so, we tarnish influence for the truth of the gospel while those who use instrumental music in worship applaud such (unscriptural) changes. By such actions, Christians become the innovators' excuse to continue using instrumental music in worship vainly (cf. Rom. 2:23-24). You have taught them it is okay to offer God worship which He has not commanded. That is an unenviable position for any Christian (2 Cor. 6:14-7:1).

Conclusion

My brethren, we must not view worship as a matter of opinion, custom, and tradition shaped and molded by human preferences and rationalizations. Emboldening the alteration of God-revealed worship for unscriptural practices, devised and endorsed by men, is a sin against God and jeopardizes souls (Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:21-23; Col. 2:8). While the aids we employ to expedite worship will change from time to time, they will not alter the authorized worship that honors God (John 4:23-24; Col. 3:17). Instrumental arrangements of songs, hymns, and spiritual songs corrupt the action and purpose of musical worship. We must refuse the enticement to be like all the nations around us. As God's "own special people," we must follow His will (1 Sam. 8:4-7; 1 Pet. 2:9). Altering God's revealed and approved

worship is off limits (Gal. 1:8-10; 2 John 9-10). God's word reveals true, acceptable worship. Christians are bound by faith in Christ to offer it to God (John 4:24). 



Joe R. Price

Joe has worked with the Mt. Baker church of Christ in Bellingham, WA, for twenty-five years. He and his wife, Debbie, have four children. His website is bibleanswer.com. He can be reached at joerprice@mail.com.

Hell

by Dennis Abernathy

The road to hell is broad and busy. As we journey the pathway of life, Jesus exhorts us to “enter by the narrow gate” and willingly walk the “difficult” way that leads to life (Matt. 7:13-14).

Introduction

The subject of hell has always fascinated people. This is evident, not only in modern media and entertainment, but also in ancient volumes such as Dante’s *Inferno* and Milton’s *Paradise Lost*.

Because of today’s technology, like MapQuest, we can calculate how many miles away from hell we live, and determine what roads lead to it. We can also know that its population is 266 souls and its zip code is 48169. Of course, I’m speaking of Hell, Michigan!

Nonetheless, the hell of the Bible is described as a much different place, populated by the Devil and his angels (Matt. 25:41). Although many deny there is such a place, and dislike hearing sermons on the subject, the Bible emphatically teaches hell’s reality. Once a weak member who didn’t like such lessons admonished the preacher, “Preach about the meek and lowly Jesus.” In response, the preacher replied, “That’s where I got my information about hell!” Jesus spoke of the eternal abode of the lost more than any of the apostles and prophets. Of the twelve times that “hell” (Greek: *gehenna*) appears in the New Testament, Jesus used it eleven times. Truly, He was meek and lowly, but the Lord Jesus Christ was also a “hellfire and brimstone” preacher!



Just as there is a proper place called heaven, there is an actual place called hell. How can people reject the biblical doctrine of the reality of hell, and, at the same time, accept biblical teaching on the reality of heaven? Some assert that, whereas the righteous go into everlasting bliss, the wicked simply cease to exist. However, Matthew 25:46 teaches that hell will “last” as long as heaven does. The same Greek word for “eternal” or “everlasting” is used to describe both the “punishment” and the “life” in verse 46. If the *punishment* is not everlasting, then neither is the *life* in verse 46. And vice versa! If the life is everlasting, so is the

punishment (Roper, 375). Thus, to deny the punishment of hell is to deny the joys of heaven!

Hell is graphically described as a place where there is “a furnace and lake of unquenchable fire and brimstone where the smoke of torment rises” (Matt. 3:12; 13:42, 50; Rev. 19:10; 20:10; 21:8); and where there is “black darkness” (Jude 13; Matt. 8:12); and where there is “wailing and gnashing of teeth” (Matt. 13:42, 50). It is an “eternal” place where “their worm does not die” (Jude 13; Mark 9:42, 46, 48), and a place “prepared for the devil and his angels” (Matt. 25:41).

Interstate-75 leads to Hell, Michigan, but there is also a road that leads to the devil's hell. This road to hell is "broad" (Matt. 7:13-14). It is a road spacious enough to accommodate people's sins, for it is a one-way street to destruction and damnation! The road to hell is "enticing" because it is the road of sin and its pleasures, and sin is enticing (Prov. 1:10-11; Heb. 11:25). Such pleasures are passing and short-lived and lead only to death. The road to hell is fraught with *easy choices*. It is popular to take drugs, drink alcohol, smoke pot, engage in illicit sex, cohabit, gamble, etc. Therefore it is easy to blend in with the multitude (Exod. 23:2). The choices are easy and appealing, but the consequences are serious and hard (Prov. 13:15; Rom. 6:23). The road to hell is filled with multitudes of people because the way of sin is easy and popular. The ways of sin and this old world will pass away, and then there is *hell!*

The good news is that nobody *has* to go to hell. Hell is a prepared place for unprepared people, while heaven is a prepared place for prepared people. You can begin your preparation for heaven by obeying the gospel of Christ. If you are currently on the road to hell, you can change your destination by choosing to obey God. If you believe that Jesus is the Son of God, are willing to repent of your sins, confess with your mouth what you believe in your heart, you can be baptized for the remission of your sins (Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; Rom. 10:9-10; Acts 8:37). You can remain on the right road by continuing to walk in the light and confessing sins committed (1 John 1:7-9).

One day, "when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire," and He takes "vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ," will *you* be one of those punished "with everlasting destruction" from His presence and the glory of His power? (2 Thess. 1:7-9).

Many fear a lot of things they ought not fear and do not fear the one thing they *ought* to fear. If we are going to be afraid, may it be over the eternal loss we can suffer at the hands of God. "Fear not them which can kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell" (Matt. 10:28).

Conclusion

If I were to leave my home in East Texas and travel north toward Hell, Michigan, you could say I was on the road to Hell. After arriving there and traveling back home, you could say that I had been to Hell and back. Friend, if you go to the hell described in the Bible, you won't *ever* be coming back! There you will enter and there you will stay! If there were a sign at the entrance of hell, it would surely read: "He who enters this place leaves all hope behind!" Think seriously about these things. **TM**

Sources

Roper, David. L. *Truth for Today Commentary: Life of Christ*. Vol. 2. Second Edition. CA: Resource Publications, 2011.



Dennis Abernathy

Dennis has preached for the White Oak church of Christ in White Oak, TX, for thirty-three years. He and his wife, Kay, have three daughters and six grandchildren. He can be reached at dennis.abernathy845@gmail.com.

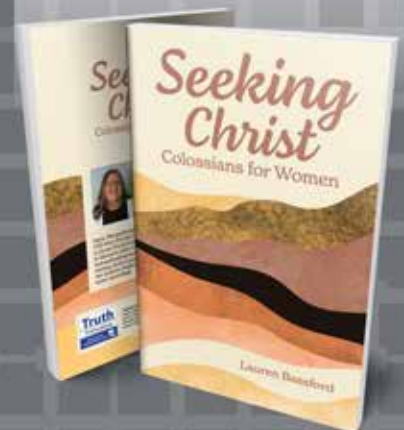


Seeking Christ: Colossians for Women

by Lauren Bassford
A thirteen-lesson study of the book of Colossians for ladies' classes and personal use. Lauren takes the student through the text of Paul's epistle considering themes and issues especially important to Christian women.

It's a true textual study, that goes through the text of the entire book. It makes a great group study or a fantastic tool to study through the book on your own.

\$16.97



Order today from CEI Bookstore
at (855) 492-6657 or truthbooks.com

A Romans 12 Self-Examination

by Lance R. Taylor

An exercise of examining the ways of the world as opposites of the right behavior expected of Christians in Romans 12 to reveal the depth of our individual spirituality and faith.



Have you ever studied Romans 12 and realized that the behaviors commanded to us are not so natural? We certainly strive to learn and model the commands given here and throughout the Scriptures, but a careful examination reveals that, left to our own inclinations, we often struggle to do the righteousness of God on our own, by nature, if you will, or by selfish choice, or by following influences in this world.

The very beginning of Romans 12 expresses that struggle with the admonition in verse 2:

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God (NKJV).

Conforming to the world is the easy choice from day to day. We can see ways to blend in with everyone in everything in this life. Whether it be at our job, in school, in our homes, in our marriage, in our friendships, in our hobbies, and even in our local congregation. The easy way in many (if not most) cases would be to go along with popular opinion and blend in with the surrounding world.

Being transformed—that is, choosing to practice the righteous will of God from day to day is *truly* the narrow way, the difficult path. Presenting your body as a living sacrifice is *never* easy. The first verse has Paul beseeching (urging) us to give ourselves to God, in His service, as “a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God.” By coming to God this way, we are seeking to please *Him*, not ourselves, and

certainly not the world. It truly is a life-changing choice when our mind is set on being “acceptable to God” instead of pursuing acceptance in this world.

With that foundation in mind, I would like to give attention to the specific admonitions in verses 9-21 and note the often natural (worldly) opposites of each.

Verse 9 admonishes us to “Let love be without hypocrisy.” The worldly way entices us to be hypocritical with our love. To love our closest family and friends more than anyone else, to show favoritism to those

we love the most, to prefer to love those who love us in return. In many moments, each of us may naturally even feel a real familial instinct to love our own family (spouse, child, parent) in a very special “mother bear” or “papa bear” way. The choice, then, must be made to follow the righteous will of God and love others without hypocrisy. God is the ultimate example of such complete love.

The text continues, saying, “Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good.” This seems like an obvious choice, but upon examination of our world and the actions often taken, we will realize that it is not so obvious after all. Every day, we must choose between the good and the bad. The failures of us all reveal that we are imperfect in choosing correctly many times. The evil we see and experience

each day around us in this world also reveals that this is not such an obvious choice for mankind. Even in our innocent childhood, it seems we often attempt to “toe the line” of right and wrong. Have you ever seen a small child seemingly “testing” the line with his parents? If we look in the mirror closely, then we may find that we far too often test the line as God’s children. The admonition here is to draw a hard line and always choose good over evil.

Now, having established the approach to understanding the challenge of each admonition by seeing the opposite (often natural) worldly actions, let us look more briefly at verses 10-21, focusing on the worldly way that we must reject.

Verse 10 says, “Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another.” The worldly way would entice us to be selective about our love and give preference to ourself.

Verse 11 exhorts believers to “not [be] lagging in diligence, [but] fervent in spirit, serving the Lord.” The worldly way would entice us to be lazy, give up, do things that serve ourselves, and be fervent in the things that make us the happiest.

Verse 12 says that the redeemed are those who should be “rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer.” The worldly way would have us fearful of lost hope, impatient in any struggle, seeking an immediate cure for our pain, and even give up on faith in God or prayer when in such trials.

Verse 13 declares that we should be actively “distributing to the needs of the saints, [and be] given to hospitality.” The worldly way is enticing us more and more to be isolated from one another and look out for our own well-being and interests before anything or anyone else.

Verse 14 encourages believers to “bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.” The way of the world is an eye for an eye and tooth for a tooth. The need to retaliate and get even prevails and is promoted in this world.

Verse 15 reminds us to “rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep.” The way of the world harbors jealousy and resentment toward the success of others. The worldly would rather find a place to enjoy pleasure instead of going to the side of those who are experiencing sorrow.

Verse 16 commands, “Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.” The worldly way elevates self, is mindful of self-first, and is always looking for the next great thing for self. The high things of this world are related to wealth, possessions, fame, and pleasures. Personal intelligence and standing vs. others is constantly measured, pursued, and awarded in the world.

Verse 17 warns, “Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men.” The worldly way is to get revenge, and to have regard for the things that matter to our peers in order to gain acceptance and favor. This means that we are tempted to desire revenge, even in thoughts, if not in action, and be tempted to lower our standards in order to fit in with others.

Verse 18 pleads, “If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.” The world is a place of unrest and warring among people constantly. The world would entice us to join the battles, join the divisions, and stake a place of our own in the continual debates. A little extra note here: I am saddened to see so-called Christians take to social media in ways that stoke fires of division and do not promote peace.

Verse 19 exhorts, “Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, ‘Vengeance in Mine, I will repay,’ says the Lord.” The world encourages us to avenge ourselves and not to take wrongdoing passively. There is an ongoing battle between the avengers and the offenders in this world. On which side are we to be as Christians?

Neither. God alone is the righteous Judge worthy of exacting vengeance.

Verse 20 counsels, “Therefore, if your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head.” The worldly way is to either avoid or attack the enemy. Doing good to an enemy is not typical in this world. Christians should stand out to an obvious extent!

Verse 21 concludes, “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.” The worldly way will lead to a life full of evil thoughts and deeds, but a life submitting to the will of God will pursue good, as defined by God, and overcome the evil of this world. The world frequently promotes evil for evil, or perhaps justice for evil, but rarely returning good for evil.

This exercise of examining the ways of the world as opposites of the right behavior of Christians may seem to be very elementary. However, the depth of our individual spirituality and faith is largely revealed when our thoughts, intents, and actions are compared to both sides (good and evil) of the teachings in Romans 12. May God give us the faith and strength to be transformed according to His will—His word! **T**

Sources

Scriptures are referenced/quoted from *The New King James Version (NKJV)*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982.



Lance Taylor

Lance and his wife, Moriah, live in Toney, AL with Maicy (11) and their son Leo (3) and daughter Dolly (1). Lance works with Sandlin Road church of Christ (sandlinroadchurch.com) in Elkmont, AL. He is also the Director of Operations for CEI Bookstore and Truth Publications, Inc. (truthbooks.com). He can be reached at lance@truthpublications.com.

Virgie Faye Bell “Judged Him Faithful Who Had Promised”

by Ron Halbrook

Women of great faith in Bible times, and today, inspire us to greater faith. Virgie Faye Bell is such an example alongside Sarah in Hebrews 11.

Introduction

The roll call of heroes of great faith in Hebrews 11 includes women. “Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised” (vs. 12). Sarah was Abraham’s constant companion while they journeyed as “strangers and pilgrims on the earth,” longing for “a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city” (vv. 13, 16). In like manner, Virgie Faye Bell labored at the side of her husband Clifford as they journeyed toward that heavenly home. He died April 30, 2006, at ninety years of age, and she died January 24, 2022 at ninety-nine years.

After graduating from Florida College on April 22, 1966, Donna Bell and I traveled with Doug and Bonnie Kanatzer to Texas, where they dropped us off at 1903 Richardson Lane in Baytown. Meeting brother and sister Bell for the first time, I could not foresee what deep impressions for good they would imprint on my heart and life. I flew home on May 2 to work as a bricklayer’s helper for several weeks before driving to Pine Bluff, AR, to work with Leonard Tyler in a preacher training program. Donna flew up for a visit during that time. As we traveled together during a Bible lands tour the next summer, I asked her to marry me. We were married at the



Pruett and Lobit St. Church of Christ in Baytown by brother Tyler on December 26 and began our lives together in Athens, AL, where I was teaching at Athens Bible School.

Thus began my 56 years of blessed association with brother and sister Bell. I draw on those many years of precious memories to make the following observations. “Sister Bell,” as I always called her, exemplified a Christian wife and mother, a sacrificial servant, and a true soldier of Christ.

A Christian Wife & Mother

God created the woman with a unique feminine nature and a wide range of talents, which she may use in many walks of life. She never rises higher than when fulfilling her unique design and role as a wife and mother. God created woman from Adam’s rib to stand at his side as a wife. “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and they shall be one flesh” (Gen. 2:24). God repeatedly reaffirmed and emphasized the importance of this role. “Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD” (Prov. 18:22).

Virgie Young was born September 12th, 1922 in Abbott, TX. Clifford Bell married her on October 18, 1945, and they served God and each other as faithful companions for over 60 years. She proved herself to be the virtuous wife of Proverbs 31, by her fidelity to her God, her husband, and their children. “She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. She looketh well to the ways of her household, and eateth not the bread of idleness. Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her. Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all” (vv. 26-29).

The Bells were blessed with four daughters: Donna (spouse Ron Halbrook), Marilyn (spouse Randy Harshbarger), Denise (spouse Ron

Kirkwood), and Kathy (spouse Mark Walker). They led their daughters to Christ, raised them in a godly home, and taught them that God's people are distinct from the world (Rom. 12:1-2). Their girls did not attend dances because dancing promotes lasciviousness. When these young ladies married and started their families, they had no pictures of themselves in shorts and swimsuits with boys, no pictures in skimpy cheerleading outfits, and no prom pictures to explain away as their children matured. These four daughters presented her with her beloved 19 grandchildren and 27 great grandchildren.

I prayed thousands of prayers for God to guide me to find a godly wife and to have a Christian home. By His loving providence, He answered that prayer through the good work of brother and sister Bell. I could never thank Him, or them, enough!

A Sacrificial Servant

In John 13, Jesus went beyond providing water for the disciples to wash their weary feet by washing their feet! "So after he had washed their feet, and had taken his garments, and was set down again, he said unto them, Know ye what I have done to you? Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet" (John 13:12-14). Again he said, "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another" (vv. 34-35). Washing feet was not a religious ritual, but was a loving act of humble service and hospitality. Sister Bell exemplified this godly character as described in 1 Timothy 5:10, "Well reported of for good works; if she have brought up children, if she have lodged strangers, if she have washed the saints' feet, if she have relieved the afflicted, if she have diligently followed every good work."

God alone knows how many people ate at the Bell's table where, among other good things, she served delicious cinnamon rolls! Only God knows how many plates of food they delivered to the sick, how many wounded hearts they comforted, how many tears they shed with those who wept, how many hospital and nursing home visits they made, or how many kind and encouraging words they quietly spoke to the penitent, the weak, and the discouraged. Everyone who has known them has been touched by their unselfish love! Sister Bell continued such deeds of kindness and hospitality long after the passing of brother Bell, and wept when physical frailties finally ended her ability to do so.

A True Soldier of Christ

The New Testament is replete with examples of godly women who were outstanding soldiers in the Lord's army. Time and space would fail us to recount the names and the occasions recorded (see the list of women's names in Romans 16 alone!). Lydia laid the groundwork for the planting of the church at Philippi in Acts 16, and Paul later reminded that church of "those women which laboured with me in the gospel" (Phil. 4:3).

Sister Bell obeyed the gospel at a young age, married a Christian, helped raise four daughters to become Christians, served as an elder's wife for 30 years, and fought the good fight of faith to the end. The strength of her character is well described by the qualifications of the wives of deacons and elders: "grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things" (1 Tim. 3:11). She was a great source of strength and encouragement to her husband as he bore the heavy duties involved in shepherding souls.

God alone knows how many precious children that sister Bell taught in Bible classes at the Pruett and Lobit St. Church through the years. The Bells accompanied brother and sister H.E. Phillips to Italy in 1977 because the church was supporting an Italian preacher. They encouraged Italian Christians and saw the work

firsthand. When Jesse Flowers preached for the church from 2008 through 2020, sister Bell literally labored with him in the gospel. He recounted in his excellent funeral sermon many occasions when she helped arrange Bible studies with people, resulting in dozens of souls hearing the true gospel for the first time, some of whom submitted to Christ.

Though sister Bell suffered the aging process, she remained largely free of disease and injury until the last month of her life. Yet, even on her deathbed, she continued to ask nurses and attendants where they went to church, invited them to the services at the Pruett and Lobit St. Church, and encouraged them to search the Scriptures to learn the true way of salvation.

Truly, like Sarah, sister Bell was a mother in Israel who focused her faith on God and His word, "because she judged him faithful who had promised" (Heb. 11:12). She believed the promises of heaven and the warnings about hell in the Bible to be true. She was determined to enter that better heavenly country prepared by God for His faithful saints. If we will run our race to the finish by faith in God as she did, we too can enter that home of the soul to spend eternity in fellowship with our God, our Creator, our Savior, our Friend. 🙏

Note

To view Vergie Bell's obituary and funeral service, go to the following links:

<https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/baytown-tx/virgie-bell-10548246>

<https://www.facebook.com/earthmanbaytown/videos/234726902184342/>



Ron Halbrook

Ron has preached for the Hebron Lane church of Christ in Shepherdsville, KY for twenty-four years. He and his wife, Donna, have three children. The church website is hebronlanechurchofchrist.com. He can be reached at halbrook@twc.com.

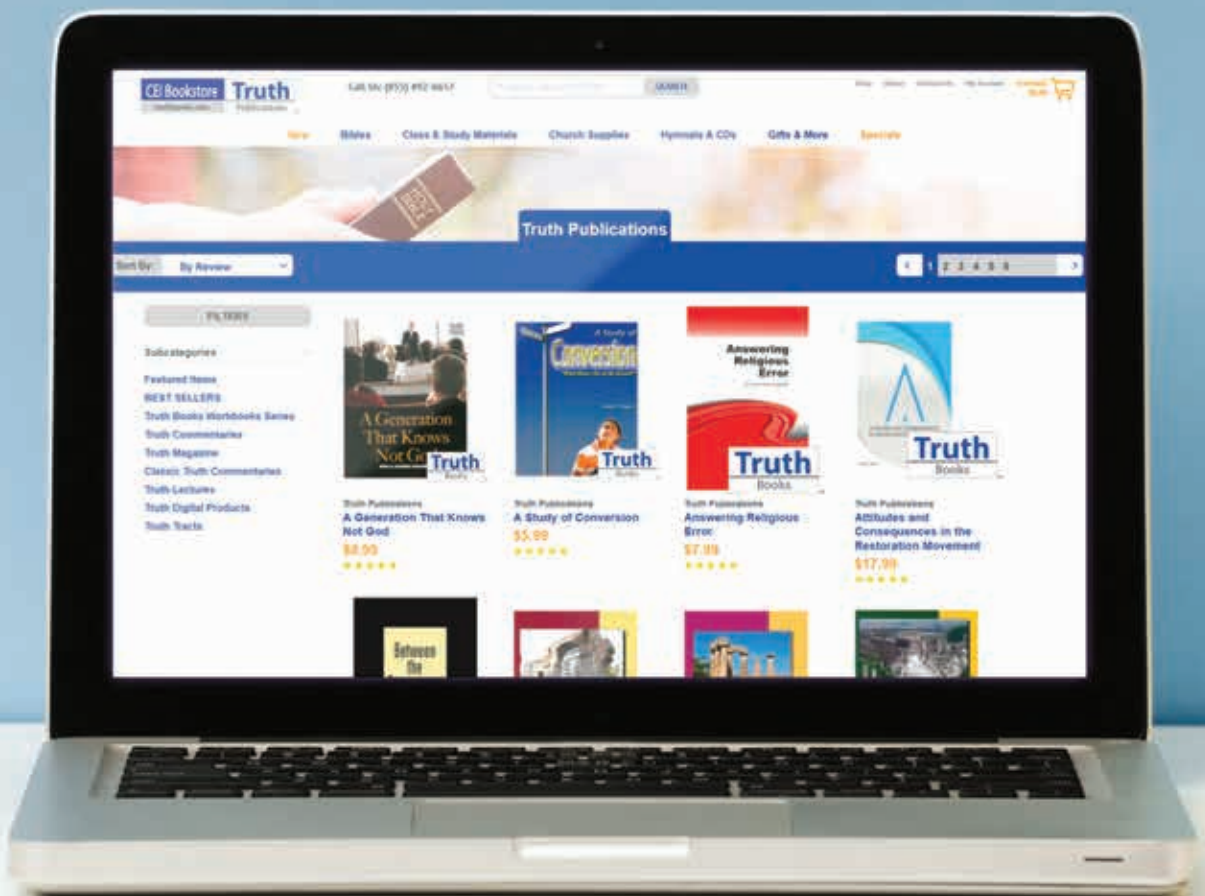
Truth Publications

Taking His hand,
helping each other home.



TM

Trustworthy materials for your church, classroom, and home



shop online at truthbooks.com

ALABAMA

ATHENS

Jones Road Church of Christ

17312 Jones Rd, Athens, AL 35613
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship: 10:20 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: John Gibson | jonesroad-church.org

Market Street Church of Christ

514 W Market St, Athens, AL 35611
Sun. Bible Class 9:45 am | Sunday Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: David A. Cox | 256-232-1525 | marketstreet-church.com

BIRMINGHAM

Vestavia Hills Church of Christ

2325 Old Columbiana Rd. (near I-65 & Hwy. 31)
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelists: Zack Lee | 205-822-0018

Elkmont

Sandlin Rd Church of Christ

19965 Sandlin Rd. Elkmont, AL 35620
Sun. Bible Class 10:00 am | Worship: 11:00 pm & 5:00 pm (Worship & Study) | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Lance R. Taylor | 256-777-0990 | sandlinroadchurch.com

FLORENCE

College View Church of Christ

851 N. Pine St. (Located next to University campus)
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:15 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Kenny Moorer | 256-766-0403

MOBILE

West Mobile Church of Christ

129 Hillcrest Rd, Mobile, AL 36608
Sun. Worship 9-9:30 am | Bible Study 9:30-10:30 am | Worship 10:30-11:30 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Ken Sils | 765-307-8048 | 251-342-4144 or 342-2041 | westmobilechurch.com

ARKANSAS

CONWAY

Hwy 65 Church of Christ

271 Highway 65 N, Conway, AR 72032
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Bruce Reeves | Bldg: 501-336-0052 | hwy65churchofchrist.org

Prince St. Church of Christ

2655 Prince St., Conway, AR 72034
Sun. Worship 9:00 pm | Bible class 9:50 am | Worship & Lord's Supper: 10:40 am | Wed. Bible Class 7:00 pm
501-450-8640

FORT SMITH

South 46th St. Church of Christ

2323 South 46th St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: John Hagenbuch | Bldg: 479-782-0588 | churchofchristfortsmith.com

HARRISON

Capps Rd. Church of Christ

407 Bella Vista Dr.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:15 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell | 870-741-9104 or 870-741-5151 | cappsroad.org

JONESBORO

StoneRidge Church of Christ

514 Airport Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Dick Blackford | 870-933-9134

PINE BLUFF

Hwy 79 S Church of Christ

4341 S Camden Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:45 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Clarence W. Sell | 870-879-2097

ARIZONA

TUCSON

Church of Christ

145 N. Country Club Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Brenden Ashby | 520-326-3634 | churchofchristtucson.org

CALIFORNIA

BELLFLOWER

Rose Ave. Church of Christ

17903 Ibbetson Ave.
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:50 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
562-866-5615 | roseavenue.org

LONG BEACH

Church of Christ

3433 Studebaker Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:50 am | Worship 10:45 am & 5:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
JP Flores | 562-420-2363 or Mark Reeves | 562-377-1674 | justchristians.org

SAN DIMAS

San Dimas Church of Christ

449 W. Allen Ave., Suite 120, San Dimas, CA 91773
Sun. Bible study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 4:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
909-788-9978 | sandimaschurchofchrist.com

COLORADO

FORT COLLINS

Poudre Valley Church of Christ

126 West Harvard St. | Suite 6
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am
Evangelist: Richie Thetford | poudevalleychurchofchrist.org

MONTROSE

San Juan Church of Christ

1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C
Sun. Worship 11:00 pm | Bible Study 2 pm & 1:30 pm
970-249-8116 | sanjuanchurchofchrist.org

FLORIDA

DESTIN

South Walton Church of Christ

64 Casting Lake Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
850-622-3817 | southwaltonchurchofchrist.com | Location change coming in 2022: 497 Church St Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

GENEVA

Church of Christ

Ave. C & 2nd St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:45 am | 407-349-9998

MARY ESTHER

Church of Christ

6 Ln. Dr.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Joey Rankin 850-244-9222

ORLANDO

Church of Christ at S. Bumby

3940 S. Bumby Ave.
Sun. Communion: 9:30 am | Bible Study 10:00 am | Praise & Preaching: 10:55 am (No pm Service) | Wed 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Ken Chapman
Office: 407-851-8031 | bumby.org | Note: Please call for current worship and Bible study times.

PANAMA CITY BEACH

Beach Church of Christ

8910 Front Beach Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
850-234-2521

SEFFNER

Church of Christ

621 E. Wheeler Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 10:50 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Bobby Witherington | 813-684-1297 | seffnercoc.org

GEORGIA

PINE MTN. VALLEY

Church of Christ

Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens)
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas | 706-628-5117 or 628-5229 | pmvchurch.com

IDAHO

BLACKFOOT

Church of Christ

370 N. Shilling | P.O. Box 158-83221
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
208-785-6168 or 681-1552

IOWA

DES MOINES

Church of Christ

1310 N.E. 54th Ave.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:40 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
515-262-6799

ILLINOIS

DOWNERS GROVE

Church of Christ

1236 63rd St. (Dir: 1.5 miles E of I355)
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 9:55 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Steve Wolfgang | 630-968-0760 | dgcoc.org

GLEN ELLYN

Glen Ellyn Church of Christ

796 Prairie Ave.
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm
Evangelist: Keith E. Brown | 630-858-2290 & 630-377-3990

MATTOON

Southside Church of Christ

1100 S. 17th St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
217-234-3702

SOUTH HOLLAND

Southeast Church of Christ

16224 S Vincennes Ave.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 4 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Donald Hawkins | 708-339-1008 | southeastchurchofchrist.com

WASHINGTON

Tazewell County Church of Christ

Meeting @ Sleep Inn Suites and Motel |
1101 North Cummings Lane, Washington, IL 61571
Sun. Worship: 11:30 am | Bible Study: 12:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 6:30 pm @ home of Tim Sundlie, call for address
Evangelist: Tim Sundlie | 608-796-9028 | sunbeads1@gmail.com | tazewellcococ.org

INDIANA

CLARKSVILLE

Clarksville Church of Christ

407 W. Lewis & Clark Parkway, 47129
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Brian Anderson | 812-944-2305 or 812-948-9917 | clarksvillechurchofchrist.org

JAMESTOWN

Church of Christ

Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:25 am & 4 pm | Wed. 7:00 pm
765-676-6404 | jamestowncoc.com

NOBLESVILLE

Stony Creek Church of Christ

15530 Herriman Blvd, 46060
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: John Smith | preacher-john54@att.net | 317-501-8035 or 317-501-0249 or 317-701-1204

OOLITIC

Church of Christ

400 Lafayette Ave. | P.O. Box 34
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. 7:00 pm
812-279-4332

PEKIN

Church of Christ

(First St. & Karnes Ct.)
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Jeremy Goen | 812-967-3437 or 967-3520 | pekinchurchofchrist.com

KANSAS

TOPEKA

17th Street Church of Christ

5600 SW 17th St, Topeka, KS 66604
Sun. Bible Study 9:15 am | Sun. Worship 10:30 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
785-235-8687 or 785-273-7977 | 17thstreetchurchofchrist.org

KENTUCKY

BEAVER DAM

Church of Christ

1235 Williams St.
Sun. Worship 10:00 am | Bible Study After am Worship & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Jerid Gunter | 270-274-4451

BENTON

Fairdealing Church of Christ

8081 US Hwy 68-East, Benton, KY 42025
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am | Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm
270-354-9451 | fairdealingmarc@gmail.com | churchofchristatfairdealing.com | Conveniently located near Kenlake State Resort Park on the western shore of Kentucky Lake.

BRANDENBURG

Brandenburg Church of Christ

612 Broadway
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 6:30 pm
Evangelist: Charles J. White | 270-422-3878

CAMPBELLSVILLE

Sunny Hill Dr. Church of Christ

107 Sunny Hill Dr.
Worship 9:30 am & 11:30 am | Bible Study 10:30 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Steve Lee | 270-789-1651 | sunnyhillcoc.com

CANEYVILLE

Caneyville Church of Christ

103 N. Main St. | P.O. Box 233
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 10:45 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs | 270-589-4167 or 270-274-3065

DANVILLE

Church of Christ

385 E. Lexington Ave.
Sun. Worship 10:00 am | Bible Study 11:15 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: B.J. Sipe | 859-236-4204

FLORENCE

Northern Kentucky Church of Christ

18 Scott Drive, Florence, KY 41042
Sun. Worship 9:30 am & 5:30 pm | Sun. Bible Study 10:30 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
859-371-2095 | nkcofc.com

FRANKLIN

31-W North Church of Christ

1733 Bowling Green Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Steve Monts | 270-776-9393 | 31wchurchofchrist.com

LEITCHFIELD

Mill St. Church of Christ

733 Mill St. Hwy 62 E.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 10:55 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Dan McMahan | 270-971-1492 | millstreetchurchofchrist.org

LOUISVILLE

Valley Station Church of Christ

1803 Dixie Garden Dr.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Michael Hardin | michaelhardin1123@att.net | 502-937 2822

Shepherdsville

Hebron Lane Church of Christ

3221 East Hebron Lane
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Ron Halbrook & Connie W. Adams | 502-957-5115 or 502-955-1748 | hebronlanechurchofchrist.com

LOUISIANA

GONZALES

Southside Church of Christ

405 Orice Roth Rd. | 70737 (Baton Rouge area)
Sun. Bible Class 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: R.J. Evans | rjevans@eatel.net | 225-622-4587

MANY

Lakeside Church of Christ

12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.)
12 miles west of Many
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
318-256-9396

MAINE

PORTLAND

Church of Christ

856 Brighton Ave. (Breakwater School) |
Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm w/ second service immediately following am worship | Mid-week Bible Study (please call for times & places)
207-839-3075 or 839-8409

MICHIGAN

KENTWOOD

W. Michigan Church of Christ

3084 Creek Drive SE, #1-C, Kentwood, MI 49512 | P.O. Box 8446, Kentwood, Mich. 49508 (Grand Rapids area)
Sun. Worship 11:00 am | Sun. Bible Study 12:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell | cedar-springs98@gmail.com

ROSCOMMON

N. Michigan Church of Christ

414 South Main Street
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 am | Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm
Evangelist: Ryan Thomas | 810-837-1302 or 989-389-3226 | northernmichigan-churchofchrist.com

MISSISSIPPI

CLINTON

McRaven Rd. Church of Christ

301 McRaven Rd. (I20, exit 36)
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Leonard White | 601-925-9757 or 924-2645

MERIDIAN

7th St. Church of Christ

2914 7th St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am

Grandview Church of Christ

2820 Grandview Ave.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Sun. Worship 11:00 pm | Wed. 6:30 pm
Ron Cooper: 601-934-3675 | roncooper@bellsouth.net
Ricky Ethridge: 601-737-5778 | rickymarsha@bellsouth.net

SOUTH HAVEN

Church of Christ

2110 E State Line Rd. (Exit I-55) (Memphis area)
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: James A. Brown | Bldg: 662-342-1132

MARYLAND

SEVERN

Southwest Church of Christ

805 Meadow Rd, Severn, MD 21144
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Sun. Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Brandon Trout | 410-969-1420 or 410-551-6549 | swcofchrist.com

MISSOURI

BLODGETT

Blodgett Church of Christ

422 N Linton St., Blodgett, MO 63824
Sun. Worship 10:00 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Russell Rice | 573-475-0417

BLUE SPRINGS

Southside Church of Christ

4000 SW Christiansen
Sun. Worship 9:00 pm | Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Brett Hogland | 816-228-9262

BRANSON

Eagle Rock Rd. Church of Christ

432 Eagle Rock Rd.
Sun. Worship 9:30 am | Bible Study 10:30 am | Sun. Evening Worship 2 pm | Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm
Evangelist: Philip North | 417-239-1036 | primrosenor@suddenink.net | eaglerock-roadchurchofchrist.org

CAPE GIRARDEAU

Cape County Church of Christ

2912 Bloomfield Rd
Sun. Bible Study 9:15 am | Worship 10:00 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Seth McDonald & Jerry Lee Westbrook | 573-837-1001 | capecountycoc@gmail.com | capecountycoc.com

FAIR GROVE

Church of Christ

217 N. Orchard Blvd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am & 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Walter Myers | 417-830-8972 or 417-736-2663

KENNETT

Church of Christ

703 Harrison St.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Nolan Glover | 573-888-6778 or 870-650-1648 | westsidechurchofchrist.us

SAINT JAMES

Church of Christ

685 Sidney St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:15 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Lynn Huggins | 573-265-8628

SAINT JOSEPH

County Line Church of Christ

2727 County Line Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 9:50 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
816-279-4737 | countylinechurchofchrist.com

NEBRASKA

BEATRICE

Church of Christ at 7th & Bell

Bell St & S 7th St. Beatrice, NE 68310
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 6:30 pm
402-233-4102 or 402-228-3827 | churchofchrist7bell.org

NORTH CAROLINA

CHARLOTTE

Charlotte Church of Christ

5327 S. Tryon Street
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship 10:30 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
704-525-5655 | charlottechurchofchrist.org

LINCOLN

Lincoln Church of Christ

3781 East Highway 27, Iron Station, NC 28080
Sun. Bible Study: 10:00 am | Sun. Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Stan Adams | 704-748-9777 (Bldg) & 704-748-3747 (Jerry) | lincolnnc-church@gmail.com | lincolncoc.com

OHIO

BEAVERCREEK

Knollwood Church of Christ

1031 Welford Dr, Beavercreek, OH 45434 (located a few miles E of Dayton)
Sun. Short Worship: 9:30 am | Bible Study 10:05 am | Sun. Worship 11:00 am | Wed. Bible Study Adults: 1:00 pm & All ages: 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Heath Rogers | 937-426-1422 | knollwoodchurch.org

DAYTON

West Carrollton Church of Christ

28 W. Main St., 45449
Sun. Worship 9:00 pm | Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:25 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelists: Michael Grushon 937-866-5162 or Alan Beck 937-469-3311 | wc.coc.org

FRANKLIN

Franklin Church of Christ

6417 Franklin-Lebanon Rd. 45005
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 10:45 am | Tues. Bible Study 6:30 pm
Evangelist: Josh Lee | 937-789-8055 or 937-746-1249 | franklin-church.org

MANSFIELD

Southside Church of Christ

687 Mansfield-Lucas Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 10:45 am | Wed. Bible Study 4:30 pm
James Bond: 419-564-3878 | Mr. Kim Walton: 419-651-3488 | Bldg: 419-522-8982 | northsidecoc.us

NEW LEBANON

New Lebanon Church of Christ

1973 W Main St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am, & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Bruce Hastings | 937-687-7150 or 937-478-0367

MARIETTA-RENO

Marietta-Reno Church of Christ

80 Sandhill Rd. Reno, OH 45773
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Mark Childers | 304-615-1091 | 740-374-9827 | mariettarenochurchofchrist.org

NORTHWOOD

Frey Rd. Church of Christ

4110 Frey Rd. (Toledo Area)
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Donald Jarabek | 419-893-3566 & 567-694-5062

OKLAHOMA

MCALESTER

North A St. Church of Christ

2120 No. A St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:45 am & 5:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Rob Lungstrum | 918-931-1362 or 918-423-3445

OREGON

SWEET HOME

Church of Christ

3702 E. Long St.
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 7:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Bldg: 541-367-1599

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

Mt. Airy Church of Christ

7222 Germantown Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19119
Sun. Bible Study 10:15 am | Sun. Worship: 11:15 am | Tues. Bible Study: 7:00 pm
Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. | 215-248-2026 | mtairychurchofchrist.org

ChurchDirectory

SOUTH CAROLINA

SUMTER

Woodland Church of Christ

3370 Broad St. Extension
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. | 803-499-6023

WEST COLUMBIA

Airport Church of Christ

4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302)
Note: See our web site for current assembly schedule.
Evangelist: Terry W. Benton | 803-834-6978 | airport-church-of-christ.com

TENNESSEE

COLUMBIA

Mooresville Pike Church of Christ

417 Mooresville Pike | (Located .8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell)
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 3:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
931-388-5828 or 931-381-7898 | mooresvillepikecoc.com

COSBY

Cosby Church of Christ

4894 Hooper Hwy. | 37722 | (Located 15 mi. E. of Gatlinburg on Hwy. 321)
Sun. Bible Study 10am | Worship 11:00 pm & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 6:00 pm
Evangelist: Olie Williamson | 423-487-5540 or 423-748-0844

KINGSTON SPRINGS

Kingston Springs Church of Christ

350 North Main St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Steve Walker | kscoc.com

MOUNT PLEASANT

Locust St. Church of Christ

108 Locust St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Daniel H. King, Sr. | 931-379-3704 or 931-964-3924 | lscoc.com

MURFREESBORO

Cason Ln. Church of Christ

1110 Cason Lane
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Bldg: 615-896-0090 | casonlanchurch.org

Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ

2091 Pitts Ln, Murfreesboro, TN 37130
(located at the corner of Northfield Blvd and Pitts Lane)
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: David Bunting | 615-893-1200 | GodsRedeemed.org

NASHVILLE

Hillview Church of Christ

7471 Charlotte Pike
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Lee Wildman | 615-952-5458 or 615-356-7318

Perry Heights Church of Christ

423 Donelson Pike
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 9:55 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Johnny Felker | 615-883-3118 | perryheights.faithweb.com

TEXAS

ALLEN

Twin Creeks Church of Christ

1414 W. Exchange Pkwy
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 10:00 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Jerry King 214-504-0443 or 972-727-5355 | twincreekscoc.com

ALVARADO

I-35 Church of Christ

E. Service Rd. off I-35, N. of Alvarado
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
817-295-7277 or 790-7253

ALVIN

Adoue St. Church of Christ

605 E. Adoue St., Alvin, TX 77511
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Mark Mayberry | mark@ascoc.org | ascoc.org

BAYTOWN

Church of Christ at Pruett & Lobit

701 North Pruett St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:45 am | Worship 10:40 am & 6:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Bldg: 281-422-5926 | Weldon: 713-818-1321 | biblework.com

BEAUMONT

Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ

3060 Dowlen Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Max Dawson | 409-866-1996 | dowlenroad.com

DICKINSON

Dickinson Church of Christ

2919 Main St/FM 517 E., Dickinson, TX 77539
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Sunday Worship 11:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
713-298-6673

EDNA

Church of Christ

301 Robison St.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Phillip Stuckey | 361-782-5506 or 361-782-2844 | ednachurchof-christ.org

EL PASO

Eastridge Church of Christ

3277 Pendleton Rd.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
915-855-1524

GALVESTON (BACLIFF)

Bacliff Church of Christ

4303 18th St, Bacliff, TX 77518
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Sun. Worship 10:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Richard Lay | bacliffchurchof-christ.org

FORT WORTH

West Side Church of Christ

6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
817-738-7269

GRANBURY

Old Granbury Rd Church of Christ
4313 Old Granbury Rd, Granbury, TX 76049
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Chip Foster | 817-913-4209 or 817-279-3351 | oldgranburyrdchurch.org

HOUSTON

Fry Rd. Church of Christ

2510 Fry Rd. (77084)
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:20 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Mark White | fryroad.org

IRVING

Westside Church of Christ

2320 Imperial Dr. (Located close to DFW Airport)
Sun. Bible Study 9:00 am | Worship 9:50 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:30 pm
Evangelist: Mark Roberts | 972-986-9131 | justchristians.com

LUBBOCK

Indiana Avenue Church of Christ

6111 Indiana Ave, Lubbock, TX 79413
Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Sun. Worship 9:00 am & 11:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
806-795-3377 | lubbockchurch.com

MANSFIELD

Northside Church of Christ

1820 Mansfield Webb Rd, Mansfield, TX 76063
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship: 10:20 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 5:30 pm.
Evangelist: Tom Roberts | 817-996-3926 | northsidecoc.us

NACOGDOCHES

Stallings Dr. Church of Christ

3831 N.E. Stallings Dr.
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:20 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor

SAN ANTONIO

Pecan Valley Church of Christ

268 Utopia Ave. (Dir: I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley)
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Jesse Garcia | 210-660 0409 | pecanvalleychurchofchrist.org

SHERMAN

Westwood Village Church of Christ

314 N. Tolbert
Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
Evangelist: Ronald Stringer

TEMPLE

Leon Valley Church of Christ

4404 Twin City Blvd.
 Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship
 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:30 pm
 Evangelist: Jason Garcia (yourfriend-
 jgar@gmail.com) or (leonvalleychurch@
 gmail.com) | 254-939-0682 | leonval-
 leychurch.org

TEXARKANA

Franklin Dr. Church of Christ

2301 Franklin Dr.
 Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship
 10:15 am | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Bryan Garlock | 870-772-
 0746 | txkchurch.com

WACO

Sun Valley Church of Christ

340 E Warren St. (in Hewitt, a suburb
 of Waco)
 Sun. Bible Class 9:30 am | Worship
 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Marc Smith | 254-292-2482
 or 652-7698

VIRGINIA

CHESAPEAKE

Tidewater Church of Christ

217 Taxus St.
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship
 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Steven Matthews | 757-436-
 6900 | tidewaterchurchofchrist.com

RICHMOND

Courthouse Church of Christ

8330 Doublecreek Court, Chesterfield,
 VA 23832 (Located in teh Metro Area;
 Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct. 2.2
 miles S of Rt. 288)
 Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship
 10:30 am & 5:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Nathan L. Morrison | 804-
 778-4717 | courthousechurchofchrist.
 com

Forest Hill Church of Christ

1208 W. 41st St.
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship
 11:00 pm & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. | 804-233-5959

RIDGEWAY

Church of Christ

2970 Old Leaksville Rd.
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship
 11:00 pm & 5:30 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 276-956-6049 | churchofchristatridge-
 way.com

ROANOKE

Blue Ridge Church of Christ

929 Indiana Ave. N.E. (5 min. from
 Roanoke Convention Center)
 Sun. 1st Lesson 9:15 am | Bible Study
 10:00 am | Worship 11:00 pm | Wed.
 Bible Study 7:30 pm
 Evangelist: Brent Paschall | 540-344-
 2755 | blueridgecoc.org

VIRGINIA BEACH

Southside Church of Christ

5652 Haden Rd.
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship
 11:00 pm
 Robert Mallard | 757-464-4574

WASHINGTON

BELLINGHAM

Mt. Baker Church of Christ

1860 Mt. Baker Hwy.
 Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Worship
 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Joe Price | 360-752-2692
 or 360-920-6965 | bibleanswer.com/
 mtbaker

TACOMA

Manitou Park Church of Christ

Meeting at Gray Middle School, 6229 S.
 Tyler St., Tacoma, WA 98409
 Note: Please see webpage for updated
 meeting location and times.
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship
 11:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study 7:00 pm
 (Online)
 253-242-3098 | tacomachurch@gmail.
 com | tacomachurch.com

WEST VIRGINIA

CLARKSBURG

Westside Church of Christ

7 Old Davisson Run Rd
 Sun. Worship 9:30 am
 304-622-5433 | westsidechurchof-
 christwv.net

FAIRMONT

Eastside Church of Christ

1929 Morgantown Ave.
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Worship
 10:45 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 304-363-8696 or 304-844-2437

MOUNDSVILLE

Moundsville Church of Christ

210 Cedar Ave, Moundsville, WV 26041
 Sun. Bible Study 9:30 am | Sun. Worship
 10:30 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible Study
 7:00 pm
 Evangelist: Tony Huntsman | 304-845-
 4940 | cedarsower.com

CANADA

CALGARY, AB

Northside Church of Christ

803 20A Ave NE, Calgary AB T2E 1S1
 Sun. Bible Study 10:00 am | Sun. Wor-
 ship 11:00 am & 6:00 pm | Wed. Bible
 Study 7:00 pm
 +1-403-452-5116 | churchofchristcal-
 gary.com

Truth

Publications

*Taking His hand,
helping each other home.*



220 S. Marion Street • Athens, AL 35611
Change Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID
DECATUR, AL
PERMIT NO.
376

SAVE THE DATE

2022 Truth Lectures
I Believe in Jesus
An Apologetic Defense for Faith



JULY 11TH-14TH, 2022

Truth
Lectures

ON THE CAMPUS OF
ATHENS BIBLE SCHOOL

Check TruthLectures.com for updates