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Truth Magazine

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MIKE WILLIS

What Did You Go Out To See?

TRUTH MAGAZINE | JANUARY 2012 | TRUTHBOOKS.NET



An interesting event occurred in the life of Jesus when some of John the Baptist's disciples came to ask

Him if He were the one who should come (the Messiah), or should they look for another (Luke 7:19). John had sent his two disciples to ask Jesus this question (Matt. 11:2).

Scholars have wrestled with why John sent his disciples to ask the question. Earlier he had preached the superiority of Jesus, saying, "I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire" (Luke 3:16). John's gospel records John's testimony about Jesus:

The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God" (John 1:29-34).

Why then did he send his disciples to ask this question of Jesus?

John's situation had changed. Because of his rebuke of Herod Antipas for dismissing his wife, the daughter of Aretas, and taking Herodias, the wife of his brother, Herod Philip, John was cast into prison (Mark 6:14-29). Josephus records that he was imprisoned at Machaerus on the east side of the Jordan (*Antiq.* xviii.v.2).

Most surely, this was not how John imagined things would work out when he became the Lord's prophet. Like the disciples of Jesus, John probably thought of the Messiah in terms of a political revolutionary who would overthrow the Romans and establish an independent Jewish state. And, he likely thought, "When that happens, I will be released from this prison." But he could neither see nor had heard of any evidence that Jesus was organizing His followers for such action. Hence, his question first arose in his own mind; subsequently, he sent his disciples to ask Jesus.

Jesus responded to John's questions by performing miracles—miracles which, of themselves, give evidence that His is God's Son (John 20:30-31), but miracles which were also the fulfillment of divine prophecy of what the coming Messiah would do while on earth. Luke wrote, "And that very hour He cured many of infirmities, afflictions, and evil spirits; and to many blind He gave sight" (7:21). Then Jesus instructed John's disciples, "Go and tell John the things you have seen and heard: that the blind see, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, the poor have the gospel preached to them. And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me" (Luke 7:22-23). In performing these miracles and sending this answer to John, Jesus was reminding him of Isaiah 35:5. Yes, Jesus of Nazareth is the Lord's Christ!

When the messengers of John had departed, Jesus began to speak to the multitudes concerning John by asking, "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? But what did you go out to see? A man

CONTINUED ON PAGE 29

- 2 What Did You Go Out To See? MIKE WILLIS
- 4 Ready To Preach The Gospel CONNIE W. ADAMS
- 6 "It Is Appointed unto Man Once to Die and after That the Judgment" STEVE WILSON
- 8 James Finney: Beloved Patriarch (1916 - 2011) MELVIN CURRY
- 10 The Pope, The Big Bang, And The Bible DAVID DANN
- 11 Have You Planned For Everything? JOHNNIE EDWARDS
- 12 "Do I Need to Tithe?" JESSE FLOWERS
- 13 Book Reviews CHRISTOPHER REEVES
- 14 Smyrna MIKE WILLIS
- 17 Question & Answer BOBBY GRAHAM
- 18 Forgiveness and Broken Trust ANTHONY GENTON
- 22 The Proper Source of Authority in Religion OLEN HOLDERBY
- 25 The Leadership of Joseph DAVID HALBROOK
- 26 Uniforms DAVID F. SIMS
- 28 The Mind of God Regarding Divorce ETHAN LONGHENRY
- 30 Murder! GARY SMALLEY
- 33 Elusive Justice DAVID FLATT
- 34 Directory of Churches



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CONNIE W. ADAMS

Ready to Preach the Gospel

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MAGAZINE



When Paul wrote the church at Rome that he was “ready to preach the gospel” to them,

I am sure he meant that he was eager to fulfill his “debt” and anxious to have part with them in the work of Christ (Rom.1:14-15). In this article, I am concerned about readiness to preach from a different standpoint.

FAITHFUL AND ABLE

Paul said to Timothy, “And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also” (2 Tim. 2:2). Faithful and able — these are the two basic qualifications for preachers. All who are able are not faithful. Those who preach ought to be “examples of the believers” (1 Tim. 4:12). But it also needs to be said that all men who are faithful to the Lord are not able to publicly proclaim the gospel effectively. There are some who earnestly want to do the work of public preaching who are not really ready to do it.

PREREQUISITES TO PREACHING

Before one can successfully preach, he must genuinely love souls. Paul said his heart’s “desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved” (Rom.10:1). Paul also said he would have given his life for the Thessalonians “because ye (they) were dear unto us” (1Thess. 2:8). John

said he had no greater joy than to know that his children walked in truth (3 John 4). One must see the need to recover souls out of the “snare of the devil” (2 Tim. 2:26). He must see preaching, not as a means of elevating himself, but as a means of enabling others to “walk worthy of God” (1 Thess. 2:12) and he must see these as his “hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing” (1 Thess.2:19).

To preach, a man must know the truth. It is impossible to preach what one does not know. The age of inspiration is over. Any man who claims that he has direct revelation from God stands in direct conflict with what the word of God teaches. The faith has been “once delivered to the saints” (Jude 3) and admits of no appendages. It is full and final. Our charge is to preach only that which is included in “the faith once delivered.” This body of truth is to be studied day and night. It is praiseworthy to see a man gather a respectable library and to use these tools to better equip himself for the work of the gospel. But it must never be forgotten that reading what men have said about the Bible is no substitute for reading the Bible itself. It is one thing to recognize our need for help from scholars who have devoted lifetimes of research, and quite another for us to let them do our thinking for us. Many errors have been taught with consequent divisions because of inordinate respect for the works of uninspired men. I may be a little old-fashioned (some think I am a *lot* that way), but it is my firm conviction that there is great value in committing as much of the Bible to memory as possible. Learn precisely what the text says without addition or subtraction. Study the context. Study other passages which treat the same thought, or where similar expressions are used, but only after you have a clear understanding of the context of the passage first under study. Let God speak through His word, and you just listen. Then, when you get up to speak, “speak as the oracles of God.” As much as possible say what you want to say in the language of inspiration itself.

If you would be a good preacher, know yourself. What are your real strengths? Capitalize on them. What are your weaknesses as a speaker? Work on them. Do not be

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

arrogant and full of pompous esteem for yourself. On the other hand, do not belittle yourself. You are made in the image of God. He made you with the power to think, to decide, and to act. If you are deficient in some areas, then resolve to improve.

It is at this point that I feel compelled to say some things which I hope will be taken in the spirit in which they are intended. It appears to me that there is a tendency these days to be almost anti-education when it comes to preachers. Some are short-changing themselves in preparation to preach. You do not have to have a degree from a college or university in order to preach the gospel, and brethren are mistaken in demanding such. On the other hand, there are far too many brethren trying to preach who have not learned the most basic things about communication. Preaching is communication of ideas from one mind to another. I see preachers with little or no eye contact with an audience. Brother, if you want the audience to give you their attention, then would you please give them your attention? Look at them. Don't pick out a spot on the wall, or glance at only two or three spots in the house. Look the people right in their eyes and they will come nearer giving you their attention.

Don't be afraid or ashamed to preach. Preaching is a proclamation. Lift up your voice. Look with suspicion upon any speech book or teacher who tries to tell you that preaching is a "conversation." It is not. It sometimes is a cry. Sometimes it must plead. It must explain. It must confide. It must challenge. It must reprove and rebuke. It must demand. But please don't develop an artificial tone so that you sound like you have a mouth full of either marbles or mush. Why should you say the word "God" any differently in the pulpit than you do out of the pulpit? Be genuine, be impassioned. Let your hearers know that they are listening to a man who really cares about their lives, their burdens, their eternal destiny. Who wants to listen to a 45 minute lecture in a monotone which requires nothing more than sheer endurance? Let your preaching give much, but also let it ask much in return. Don't leave it so people can take it or leave it. If you do, then I can tell you they are going to leave it!

Brethren, it is not impossible to learn to speak

and/or write grammatically. Put the "g" on the end of words which end with that letter. The common people will still understand you. It is just as easy to say "get" as it is to say "git." Double negatives in reality have you saying the very opposite of what you mean to say. Verb forms are important in language. It is just as easy to say "when he had gone" as to say "when he had went." The first is correct and the second is otherwise. It compounds the problem for men to tell us about the Greek when they have not bothered to learn the most basic elements of our own language.

It helps, too, if one is going to refer to historical matters, the world of science, medicine, or some other branch of learning, to have the facts. Those in your audience who know about these matters will tend to discount what you say on other things when you have not done your homework in the area they know best.

It would also help to use common sense. Every preacher cannot hold an audience for an hour every time he speaks. If all the excess baggage were eliminated, repetitions avoided, and over-kill ruled out, many sermons would not only be shorter, but much more effective. "As the peerless and beloved Apostle Paul said in his first letter to the great church at Corinth, in chapter one and down about verse 10" could just as well be shortened to "Paul said in 1 Corinthians 1:10." Does that not say as much? In preaching and writing, it helps to choose the most effective words to say a thing, rather than framing four different sentences to say the same thing using different synonyms.

Brother, if you want to preach the gospel and bring lost souls to the Lord, it would be time well spent for you to grasp the basic elements of communication in our own language. If you want to be "ready to preach the gospel" then don't short change yourself (or your hearers) by failing to make the best preparation possible. Good books are available on grammar and composition and many community colleges offer adult classes in these fields. The gospel is the most important message in the world. It deserves the best presentation we can give it. Are you ready? (Reprinted from *Searching The Scriptures*, May, 1986).

STEVE WILSON

“It Is Appointed unto Man Once to Die and after That the Judgment”

(In February, 2010, Steve Wilson, one of the elders of the congregation in Edna, Texas, was hospitalized with a life-threatening disease called acute necrotizing pancreatitis. Eighteen months would be required before anything approaching normalcy was his again. Months were spent in hospital beds. During his long and exhausting ordeal, the brethren in Edna took care of his obligations to the church, visited him as often as possible, prayed often and earnestly, and rejoiced with the family with each and every small step of improvement. Steve has now returned to work, and he appears to be able to resume a normal life.

The experience Steve had is the kind which changes a person. Steve has penned some thoughts about his illness and his response to the illness. He hopes that those thoughts freely circulated will encourage other brethren facing dire circumstances. One lesson of his comments is, in reality, a familiar one: life is short, and we have no guarantee of tomorrow.

May we all take courage from his experience. “There, but for the grace of God, go we!”

—Sherrel Mercer

I’d like to share with all of you a true story. I don’t know that “like” is the best word to use. Perhaps, as I tell you the story, you will understand why I say that. Suffice it to say, I feel that it is important for me to tell you and I hope that it will be beneficial for you.

On February 11, 2010, I began to experience a lot of discomfort and went to the local emergency room. When I left the house that evening, I had no idea how serious my condition was. I thought that my illness was something that the doctor would diagnose and treat and that I would soon be home again. As some are aware, that isn’t what happened. I even called my work place and informed them that I might not be able to make it into work the next morning and that they should go ahead and schedule someone to work in my place. I was aware when I left the hospital in Edna and was transported by ambulance to the hospital in Victoria that I had a gall stone, but had no idea that my pancreas had burst because of it, and that my condition was serious. Sometime during that night, a group of hospital personnel rushed into my room. I found out later from Juanita that she was asked to leave my room, and as she stood in the hall, she heard the call go out over the loud speaker system, “trauma team to room #467,” my room. I don’t remember them coming into the room, but I do remember being surrounded by people, and lines and tubes being put into my body. I came to the realization that my body was failing and that my surroundings were shrinking around me and beginning to disappear. I don’t remember being afraid, but in those seconds, before I passed out, I remember four thoughts that went through my mind. Is this it, am I dying? I hope that Juanita will be alright. I hope that I have been good enough. God, forgive me. That’s all the time I had and then I was out.

I was told by my surgeon in San Antonio that there were four times that I should have died and didn’t. I don’t know if that night on February

"It Is Appointed unto Man Once to Die and after That the Judgment"

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

the 11th, 2010 was one that he included, but it is the one that affected me the most. There is not a day goes by that I don't remember it. That single event has changed the way that I will look at life forever. I don't know why I am still here, except to say that it is God's will.

Everything that I have learned from that experience I have read about in God's Word many times. See if any of them sound familiar to you. I have learned that I can't depend on my next breath. I have learned that all the things in this world and worldly pursuits are vanity. I have learned how important it is simply do the right thing, in God's sight, not my own. I have learned that all the little things that I want to worry about and fuss and feud over are not important. I have learned about the love of brethren, friends, family and God. I have learned about the power of prayer. I have learned that it is important to treat others the way that I wish to be treated, regardless of the way that I am treated. I have learned that when I do the right things, that I encourage others to do the right things also. I have learned that sin will put doubt in my heart. I

have learned that it is not the faithful who die that suffer, but the loved ones who are left behind. Most of all, I have learned the importance of being "good enough." I have learned that living is hard, but dying will be easy if I am "good enough."

Death isn't something that we like to talk about, but it is as much a part of life as living is. I have known a number of people who have faced death and have survived, but I have never heard any of them talk about what thought or thoughts went through their minds when they realized that death was imminent. I believe that I know why. I believe that the reason is that those thoughts in those last few moments are personal and that they are hard to say out loud or even to write down. This true story was written to encourage us all and I felt that I was doing you a disservice by not telling it to you. You see, I want us all to be able to know "I have been good enough" when we each take our last breath. If we have done our best to please God, we have been "good enough."



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MELVIN CURRY

James Finney: Beloved Patriarch (1916 - 2011)



he term *patriarch* appropriately describes both Melchizedek (Heb. 7:4) and David (Acts

2:29). A patriarch is “a particularly noted male ancestor,” who is “father of a tribe or nation” and (or) respected for “important exploits and accomplishments” (Louw-Nida).

James Finney qualified as a patriarch because his tribe consists of four sons, three daughters-in-law, twelve grandchildren, twelve great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. He also qualified as a patriarch because he was highly respected by family and friends, and by many others both inside and outside the body of Christ.

Long Life. Like Abraham, James Finney “breathed his last and died in a good old age, an old man and full of years, and was gathered to his people” (Gen. 25:8), having been born on the fourth of July, 1916. He met Mary Louise Larkins at Freed-Hardeman College and married her on April 30, 1944. Tragically, her earthly life ended in an automobile accident on January 18, 1995. After she died, James devoted himself even more intensely in service to the Lord, to his family, and to others. His own death occurred on July 9, 2011 at age 95, and family and friends honored him in a memorial service in Colorado

Springs on July 16, 2011. He had experienced remarkably good health until within weeks of his death, and his long life had touched more people for good than most of us will ever have the privilege of influencing.

Hospitality. The patriarchs exemplified warm hospitality. And the author of Hebrews exhorted, “Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels” (Heb. 13:2). James and Mary Louis were legendary for their hospitality. Many of us enjoyed both the warmth of their home and the bounty of their table. Their door was always open to others.

Generosity. Some of the patriarchs were known for their generosity toward God (cf. Gen. 14; Heb. 7:1-4), and sometimes lavishly bestowed gifts on others. James had this same spirit of giving. Perhaps, you have been a recipient of at least one of his gifts.

Faith. Several of the patriarchs enjoyed an intimate relationship with God and were devoted to His word. They went out wherever He directed them (see Heb. 11:1-40). James Finney began preaching when he was about eighteen years old, and his first sermon was “The Parable of the Sower.” He never wavered in his commitment to proclaim God’s word, both publicly and privately. During his early years as an evangelist, like so many preachers of “the greatest generation,” James had to support himself and his family by whatever kind of secular employment he could find. He labored regularly for congregations in Pennsylvania, Delaware, Tennessee, New Jersey (in Fair Lawn for twenty-two years), and Colorado. In addition to the protracted meetings he held here in America, he preached in Nigeria, East Africa, for two years; in London, England, and in Glasgow, Scotland. At 83, when most of us would have already given in to aches and pains, he joined Harry Pickup Jr., Bob Owen, and me in evangelistic work in Ethiopia. I know first-hand the privations he experienced there, without even one complaint, and cannot imagine the conditions he and others had endured in Nigeria.

James Finney: Beloved Patriarch (1916 - 2011)

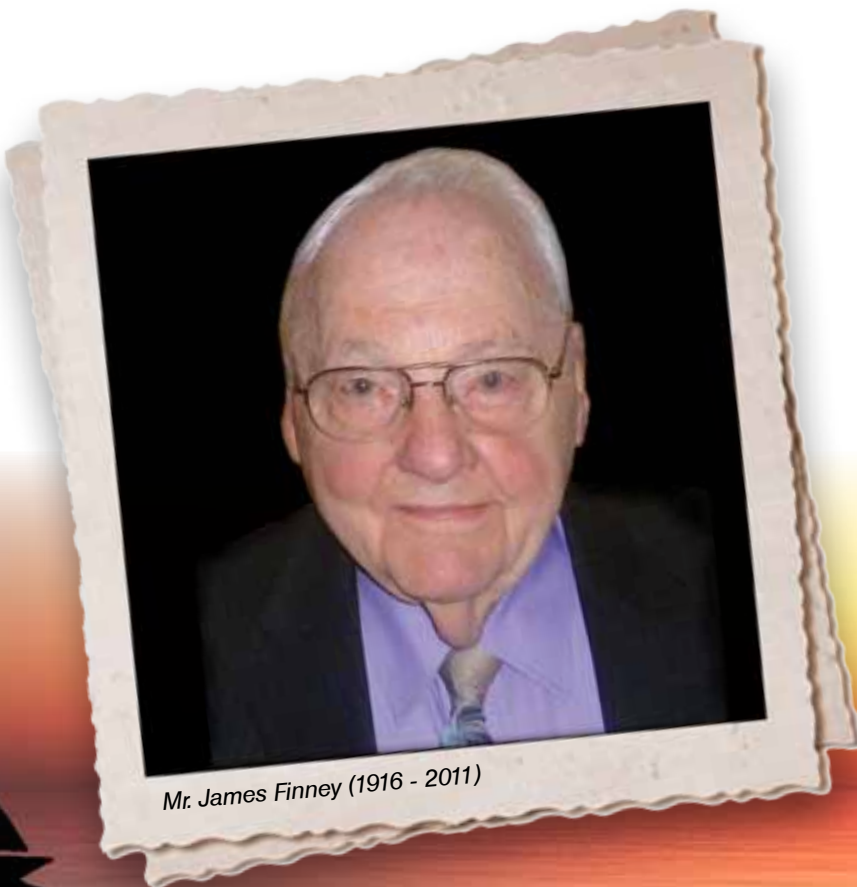
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During his final years, James loved to teach Bible classes, conduct home studies, and help with the preaching in small congregations. He was still doing this at age 94; and he often traveled 300 miles or more each way if he could be of service. In fact, the last of these trips was to Salida, Colorado, on June 5, 2011. Oh, that we had more men who would do the same!

Brother Finney sought to live what he taught. He was a man of sincere faith. This is why we loved, respected, appreciated, and admired him. He followed the example of Abraham. But, more importantly, he walked in the steps of Him who is greater than Abraham—the Lord Jesus Christ (see 1 Pet. 2:21). Yet James was quick to confess his shortcomings. No doubt, some of us

observed weaknesses in the profession of his faith, yet he triumphed over whatever faults he had.

To sum up, brother Finney was a patriarch who had a keen sense of responsibility. He personally sacrificed his time, money, and energy in the service of others. This generation has witnessed the abdication of responsible leadership by too many male Christians. Here and now, therefore, we desperately need to revive the spirit of the patriarchs, the spirit of James Finney. By God's grace, such a revival will help to renew our society, to stabilize our families, and to secure the right direction for the people of God.



Mr. James Finney (1916 - 2011)



JOHNIE EDWARDS

Have You Planned For Everything?

I recently picked up a pamphlet, at a funeral home, with this question: *“Have you planned for everything?”* You may have guessed; they were selling pre-arranged funerals. We plan for vacations, weddings, college for the kids, retirement, and the like. But have you planned for?

1. Being Saved. There are two areas of salvation. First, there is salvation from past sins. This is available when you hear, believe, repent of sins, confess faith in Christ, and are baptized (Matt. 17:5; John 8:24; Acts 17:30; Matt. 10:32; Mark 16:16). Then there is salvation eternally. Paul said, “Now is our salvation nearer than when we believed” (Rom. 13:11). Peter

wrote, “Receiving the end of your faith, even the salvation of your souls” (1 Pet. 1:5, 9).

2. Attending Services. A lot of members seem to have difficulty in faithful attendance at the church services. It takes planning to be present at all the services as taught in Hebrews 10:25. Set aside time on Saturday evening to make sure that the family has everything in order for “church” on Sunday morning. Get to bed early so all awake on time and ready to go for Bible study at 9:00 a.m. It does take planning!

3. Being on Time. It seems that the same folks come in late at every service. Wonder why this happens? It shows a lack of planning. It’s rude to always come in late. Let’s do better.

4. Teaching Others. We are taught to “teach others” (2 Tim. 2:2; 1 Tim. 4:16). Ever wonder why so little of this great work is done? No planning is the reason.

5. Child Training. Too many young people are not being trained at home, as Paul said, “And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord” (Eph. 6:4). This takes time and planning!

6. Going To Heaven. You are not accidentally going to heaven. It takes planning. John penned: “. . . be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life” (Rev. 2:10). Have you made plans?



The Pope, The Big Bang, And The Bible
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

allegory to explain it. “For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast” (Psa. 33:9).

CONCLUSION

There can be little doubt that religious leaders, such as the Pope, will continue to compromise when it comes to the Scriptures. But for those

who truly desire to follow Christ, there can be no compromise between the Scriptures and the false theories advanced by ungodly men. “For,” as inspiration states, “we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end” (Heb. 3:14).

David Dann • ddann1@hotmail.com





JESSE FLOWERS

“Do I Need to Tithe?”

If you were a Jew living under the Law of Moses, then “yes,” you needed to tithe (Lev. 27:30-32; Deut. 14:22; 2 Chron. 31:5-6; Neh. 13:12). The children of Israel were commanded by God to tithe, or give ten percent of what they possessed. The man who refused to give the full tithe was guilty of robbing God (Mal. 3:8).

However, from a study of the Scriptures, we learn that the Law of Moses was done away with (Eph. 2:14-15; Col. 2:14; Heb. 8:6-13). And we also learn that the Law of Christ (i.e., new covenant) was established when Jesus died on the cross (Heb. 9:15-22). Furthermore, the law of Christ was given to all men (Eph. 2:11-18; 3:6; Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15; Rom. 1:16).

Tithing was commanded under the first covenant, but is nowhere commanded of us to obey under the second covenant. So no one is obligated to tithe today. Now that is not to say that the people of God today have no responsibility to give of their means. But it is to say that many denominational ministers teach error when they direct their members to tithe today. They are binding an Old Testament command during the New Testament era.

Members of local churches of Christ were commanded “on the first day of the week” to “lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper”

(1 Cor. 16:1-2). First century Christians were instructed to “give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7).

From these two Scriptures we learn a great deal about the Christian and his giving:

1. When. A collection from the saints is to be gathered on Sunday, the first day of the week. Churches are in error when they take up a collection on any other day, as many practice.

2. How much. No specific amount is revealed in the New Testament like the Old Testament. Remember, the Christian is commanded to “store up as he may prosper.” Certainly families in a congregation have differing incomes. The Holy Spirit reveals that, under the law of Christ, giving is based upon our earned income. As a family makes more money, they should be more giving. So the amount you or I give may be 10%, less, or even more.

3. Planning. There needs to be some forethought behind our giving. It should not be last minute planning. It should not be a case of seeing what is left in our wallets to give. Rather, it is a matter of “laying something aside.” We give as we have *purposed* in our heart. To do this indicates we have planned and determined beforehand the amount we intend on giving back unto the Lord.

4. Attitude. Each Christian obeys a command of God when he or she contributes to the collection of the saints on the first day of the week. Yet this command is to be obeyed with a cheerful disposition. Our heart has condemned us if our giving is done grudgingly or out of necessity. We should even learn to be sacrificial in our giving (Mark 12:41-44 ; 2 Cor. 8:1-5).

No, we are not commanded to tithe today. But let us be sure to give on the right day with the right heart. If we will do that, then the amount will always be pleasing unto God.





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Giving God Control. Charles Willis. Guardian of Truth Foundation, 2010. 86 pages, softback. ISBN:978-158427-290-8.

There is no question that new Christians and mature Christians alike need to keep growing in their faith. A recent workbook by Charles Willis is a good resource to use in Bible classes to help Christians keep on growing. Willis uses Paul's writing in Colossians 3 as the basis for his 13 lessons. He encourages the reader to give God control over various aspects of his life. Willis focuses his point that God must have control over our priorities, body, tongue, attitudes, emotions, problems, religious practices, marriage, child rearing, and whatever we do. The author writes the following about Colossians 3 in the Foreword of his book: "Most who are young in the faith will likely need to keep 'seeking' in putting off the things mentioned in this text. Those who are more mature may have accomplished the putting off fairly well, but are still lacking in putting on the attributes identified. Individuals who stop 'seeking,' start dying in faith. It is on account of this that so many Christians grow stagnant and weak in faith. They have stopped growing. Truly, they have stopped seeking the things above. God knew that we would need encouragement of this sort and has provided it through the inspired writing of the Apostle Paul." *Giving God Control* is a good textual study of Colossians 3 and a good workbook promoting individual Christian growth.

Contemporary Paganism: Listening People, Speaking Earth. Graham Harvey. New York University Press, 2000. 250 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-8147-3620-3.

According to the *American Religious Identification Survey* (ARIS) taken in 2008, the number of Wiccans in the United States more than doubled from 2001 to 2008, from 134,000 to 342,000. Paganism in general is one of the fastest growing religions in America. Experts say this growth reflects a rise in the social acceptability of Paganism in our culture. Both the Internet and the media (such as the *Harry Potter* movies or the *Charmed* T.V. series) have fueled Paganism's growth. Many Wiccans and Pagans today are pushing farther into mainstream American society with their beliefs. If you know little about Paganism but want to be "in-the-know" about this dangerous religious trend, *Contemporary Paganism* by Graham Harvey will give you a broad-based and balanced introduction to the subject. Harvey covers a number of Pagan related subjects including celestial seasons, Druidry, the craft of witches, magic, ecology, rites of passages, and Paganism's approach to other religions. What Harvey has to say about the authority of Paganism is very informative and will help the reader understand why Paganism is so popular today. Harvey writes: "Pagans celebrate diversity, individual experience and intuition. They do not bow to creeds or dogmas – or to those who assert them" (212-213). *Contemporary*

Paganism is now a little over ten years old, but the material is still relevant and helpful. This book is a good primer on the subject for those who want to learn more about perilous plight of Paganism.

The Dark Side of Charles Darwin: A Critical Analysis of an Icon of Science. Jerry Bergman. Master Books, 2011. 270 pages, softback. ISBN: 978-0-89051-605-8.

It can safely be said that "Darwin has become dogma." The ideas of Charles Darwin have penetrated many aspects of our culture, including science, religion, and education. Darwin is revered worldwide as a scientific pioneer. But who really was Darwin? What is the whole story behind this man? Dr. Jerry Bergman, Professor of Sciences at Northwest State College, is among a hand-full of contemporary authors who are willing to take the reader behind the popular façade of Darwin and unveil what kind of a person he really was. Bergman exposes Darwin's agnostic views of religion, his poor mental health, his borrowed and flawed theory of evolution, and his contributions to modern racism and sexism. (Bergman's exposure of Darwin's low view of women is not often documented in books of the same kind.) *The Dark Side of Charles Darwin* is a recommended exposé that is sure to inform the truth-seekers of faith and rock the ivory towers of academia.



MIKE WILLIS

The columns lined the ancient agora, the market place of Smyrna.

Smyrna

Smyrna is located on the western coast of Turkey in a natural harbor of the Aegean Sea, into which flows the Hermus River. Known today as modern Izmir, the ancient city of Smyrna has not and cannot be well excavated because so much of it lies beneath the modern city. The city was first settled in the 10th century B.C. (contemporary with King Solomon). That area is known as “old Smyrna” and it has been excavated.

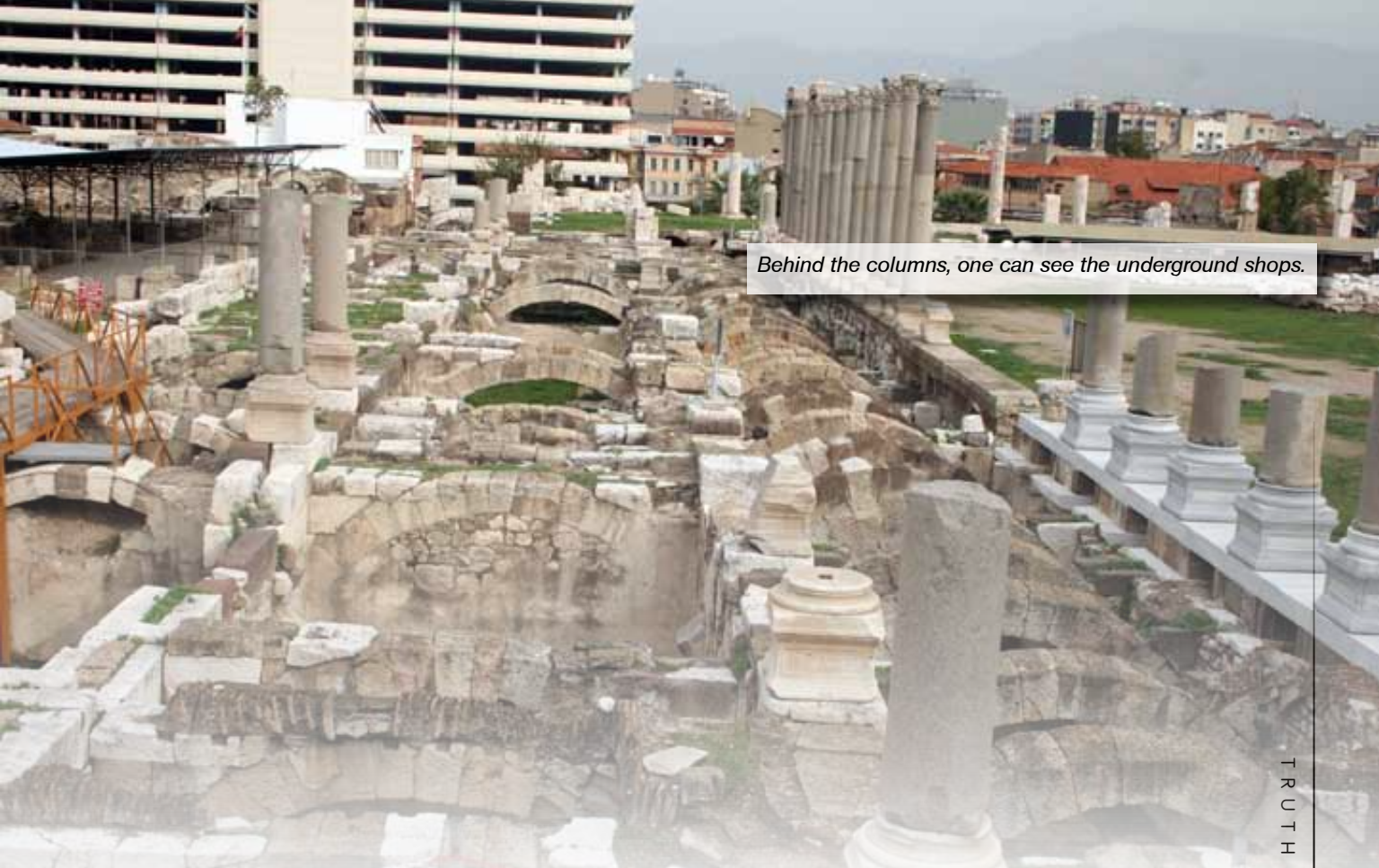
Smyrna came into conflict with the emerging Lydian kingdom and was destroyed in about 600 B.C. The inhabitants scattered to surrounding villages. In 334 B.C., when Alexander the Great invaded the area, he refounded the city in its present location. King Lysimachus put the city on the map after his reorganization of Asia Minor, following the battle of Ipsus (301 B.C.).

Ancient Smyrna competed for trade with Ephesus and eventually became the leading trading center of the area. Some ancient coins called Smyrna the “first of Asia,” though this was contested, according to the coins of Pergamum and Ephesus (Ramsay, 1909, 255). Strabo called it the most beautiful of all cities (Blaiklock, 1983, 418). Smyrna boasted that it was the city of the famed Greek author Homer, who wrote the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. Even today, Izmir is one of the largest and busiest commercial centers in the region.

William Ramsay writes, “As early as 195, when Antiochus was still at the height of his power, Smyrna built a temple and instituted worship of Rome; this bold step was a pledge of uncompromising adherence to the cause of Rome, while its fortunes were still uncertain” (1909, 254).

The town is only mentioned two times in Scripture (Rev. 1:11; 2:8). The church at Smyrna may have been established during the period that Paul preached in Ephesus and all Asia heard the gospel (Acts 19:10). There may be an allusion to ancient practices in the “crown of life” expression in Revelation 2:10. “Ancient writers often referred to the ‘crown of Smyrna,’ which perhaps referred to a crown of flowers worn by worshipers of the goddess Cybele” (Blaiklock, 1983, 418). However, Ramsay believes the “crown of Smyrna” “arose from the appearance of the hill Pagos, with the stately buildings on its rounded top and the city spreading down its rounded sloping sides” (1909, 256). Ramsay continues to write about the “crown” of Smyrna saying,

The comparison of Smyrna to a flower has a close connection with the “crown.” The crown or garland was usually a circlet of flowers; and the mention of a crown immediately aroused in the ancient mind the thought of a flower. Crowns were worn chiefly in the worship of gods. The worshipper was expected to have on his head a garland of the flowers or foliage sacred to the god whose rites he was performing. The guests at an entertainment were often regarded as worshippers of Bacchus and wore the sacred ivy: frequently, also, the entertainment was a feast connecting



Behind the columns, one can see the underground shops.

Smyrna

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 14

with the ritual of some other deity, and the crown varied accordingly. Thus the ideas of the flower and the crown suggest in their turn the idea of the god with whose worship they were connected, *i.e.*, the statue of the god. The tutelary deity of Smyrna was the Mother-goddess, Cybele; and when Aristides pictured Smyrna as a statue sitting with her feet on the sea, and her head rising to heaven and crowned with a circlet of beautiful buildings, he had in mind the patroness and guardian of the city, who was represented enthroned and wearing a crown of battlements and towers (1909, 258).

Whether or not Ramsay is correct about his interpretation of the “crown,” the coins from Smyrna show the mother-goddess Cybele adorned with a “crown.”



West Gate entrance to the agora.

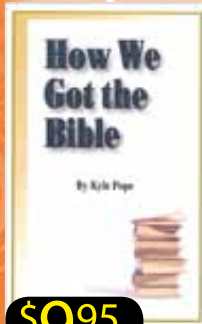
The letter in Revelation indicates that there was at least one (perhaps more) Jewish synagogue in the city. "I know thy works, and tribulation, and poverty, (but thou art rich) and I know the blasphemy of them which say they are Jews, and are not, but are the synagogue of Satan" (Rev. 2:9). Most probably the animosity of the Jews toward Christians was stirred by the conversion to Christ of many Jews and God-fearing Gentiles (see Acts 10:1-2, Cornelius; the term "God-fearer" is a technical term for Gentiles who attended the synagogue but were not fully converted to Judaism).

The text also indicates that saints in Smyrna would suffer persecution, even to the point of losing their lives. John writes, "Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Rev. 2:10). In A.D. 156, the eighty-six-year-old Polycarp was executed at Smyrna along with eleven others from Philadelphia (*The Martyrdom of Saint Polycarp*, 19). And, although the execution occurred on a Sabbath, the Jews were zealous in lending a hand to gather wood for Polycarp to be burned alive (*The Martyrdom of Saint Polycarp*, 8, 13).



Fountain from the underground shops of the agora.

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How We Got the Bible
by Kyle Pope.
This study reviews the formation of the Scripture as we understand the process. It recounts the history of the Bible coming into English and considers how modern day discoveries of Biblical manuscripts affect translations. As a result the reader's faith will be increased and doubts erased.



\$9.99

Churches of the New Testament
by Ethan R. Longhenry. This study explores the world of first century Christianity by examining what Scripture reveals about the local churches of God's people. It examines background information about the geography and history of each city, as well as whatever is known about the founding of the church there. Consideration is also given to the instruction given to each church and why. In addition, the author discusses what happened to each church after the first century by exploring Biblical and historical evidence. Ultimately, learning from the example of each church reviewed.

Questions & Answers



Question:

Explain the phrase “purging all meats” in Mark 7:19 (KJV).

Answer:

In the early section of Mark 7, the Lord was dealing with the insistence of the Pharisees and the scribes that Jesus’ disciples wash their hands before eating food. Their insistence had nothing to do with cleanliness of the hands, nor did the disciples’ refusal to honor their tradition have any connection with hygiene. It all was a matter of keeping traditions established by men and imposed as being on the level with divine law — in fact, they viewed it as superior to God’s law in some instances, causing them to reject God’s law of honoring parents by designating whatever money they would have used for their parents’ upkeep as something for God (“corban”). They thought that their dedicating the money to God enabled them to evade their God-given duty to help their parents (Mark 7:8-13; cf. Matt. 15:1-20). Not so!

After his condemnation of their approach to divine law on this matter, the Lord then turned to the specific tradition that prompted their question of the disciples’ failure to do as they did — eating with unwashed hands (Mark 7:5). Notice that Jesus immediately indicted them for their heartless approach to such matters, as they substituted man’s precepts for God’s word (vv. 6-7). The Lord’s teaching then also clearly and pointedly demonstrated that their tradition had nothing to do with true spiritual purity or defilement (vv. 14-23). It is what enters a man’s heart, not his stomach, that defiles him in this way. In verse 19, the one our questioner raises, Jesus gave the reason why no food can defile in the true sense: “because it entereth not into his heart, but into the belly, and goeth out into the draught, purging all meats.”

The final phrase is the one which we now address: “purging all meats.” To say, as Barnes does in his commentary, that the passing of all meats through the physical processes in the body and then out of the body is what purges (cleanses) all meats (by the separation of the nutrients from the non-nutrients), is to revert to the physical type, which Jesus here used to point them to the spiritual antitype under the gospel. Evidently these words are those of Mark, the inspired writer of this gospel account of the Lord’s life and teaching. As such, they are the Spirit’s comment on what the Lord was here teaching or an explanation of such. The point is that the effect of the teaching of Jesus in this matter of meats was a declaration that all meats were clean. The American Standard Version (“This he said, making all meats clean.”) and the New King James Bible (“thereby purifying all foods”) are also helpful here.

Though Jesus here declared all foods to be clean, thus having no power to defile, it was done in anticipation of the abrogation of the Law and the inauguration of the gospel under Christ the King. He did not mean that the ordinances of the Law were immediately loosed, but He did preview their loosing beginning on Pentecost (Col. 2:14). For that matter, Peter clearly learned the same principle before going to Cornelius’ house in Acts 10:15; he later set forth the result of what he learned in Acts 10:34. The necessary implication of his announcement in verse 34 is that the Law, distinguishing clean meats from unclean ones and standing between Jew and Gentile, was removed, as illustrated in the cleanliness of all foods in verse 15.



ANTHONY GENTON

Forgiveness and Broken Trust

Should the past of a forgiven person never be brought up and/or talked about? Is it ungracious to make a reference to past sin(s) that have been reportedly repented of and forgiven? What about sins that have impacted others . . . how should the offender be dealt with after forgiveness?

Certain crimes and sins carry stigmas (cf. James 2:25). And yes, thanks to God, sin(s) can be forgiven (1 Cor. 6:9-11), but it is very hard to live down those consequences in other people's eyes, especially when trust has been broken. Even as God forgives, so should Christians. But, notice that the Christians of the first century were not so quick to receive a murderer of Christians named Saul, even after he had repented, was forgiven, and thus became a Christian (Acts 9:26; cf. 1 Tim. 1:15). We probably would be the same way, especially if he had just been persecuting our brethren the year before . . . our family. Let me reason this way with you.

Think about forgiveness from the standpoint of broken trust and not necessarily from the standpoint of the consequences of sin.

Would you be so quick to have a known child molester, who repented, still around you, your children, your home, and your business? Consider, for example, a Bible class teacher who molested children can repent and be forgiven,

but **because they broke the trust, you would never** put them back into any arrangement dealing with children. Why? (1) **broken trust**, (2) **not putting them into a place of temptation** (again), and (3) **to protect the children**. Think about that as you talk to your neighbors about becoming Christians and coming to church with you, and these neighbors have children. The church would have to act in such a way to demonstrate that they as a church of God's people, shining a beacon of light in a community, are **above reproach** (cf. Col. 1:21). This would have taken place even as the sinning (child molester) brother repented and was forgiven (we would hope). He is now restored, within our membership, but it does not mean we restore him as a Bible class teacher. Why? Wisdom and trust.

. . . A shoplifter can repent and be forgiven, but because of repeated occurrences of shoplifting (say at Wal-Mart for example), Wal-Mart banishes him from ever coming into their store. Why? **Broken trust**.

Would your wife have a known prostitute, who repented and was forgiven, in your home doing things with you (or her son[s])? Would your wife turn her back for a minute on this forgiven prostitute . . . as if she had never had a history of being a prostitute? Would you have a known rapist/fornicator/adulterer, who repented and was forgiven, in your home doing things with your wife (or your daughter[s])? Would you turn your back for a minute? Common sense dictates **great prudence and great cautiousness!**

What about a "preacher" who commits adultery? When his sin is found out, he repents and is forgiven, is the church/congregation then to continue to let him "preach" as if nothing ever happened? Is he a faithful man according to 2 Timothy 2:2, or would that not be something that needs to be re-established over the process of time? What about the man who serves as an elder and commits adultery? When his sin is found out, he repents and is forgiven, is the church/congregation then to continue to let him continue to oversee the congregation as if nothing ever happened? (I have heard this

nonsense argued before!) The Holy Spirit had the apostle Paul to write into the qualifications of an elder that “he must have a good report of them which are without” (1 Tim. 3:7). Our **past reputation** goes before all of us, whether we like it or not . . . and yes, even after, maybe **long after** we have repented and been forgiven.

It must first be remembered that every soul is a “novice” (cf. 1 Tim. 3:6) when he is converted (or when the erring have repented and is cleansed). Yet many new converts and those young in the faith want to be treated as if they are **mature** Christians having been in **good standing for years**. The Greek word used in 1 Timothy 3:6 translated “novice” means that which is “newly planted.” Thus, it would mean a plant that was not strong, or not fitted to bear the severity of storms; that had not as yet struck its roots deep, and could not resist the fierceness of a cold blast. Then the word comes to mean a new convert (and would include a restored brother); one who has had little opportunity to **test** his own faith, or to **give evidence to others** that he would **be faithful** to the **trust committed** to him (from *Barnes’ Notes*). This is one who has not yet had time to discover his/her limitations. He does not fully understand yet his true position as a faithful Christian; and thus, he can easily overestimate himself. For these reasons a “novice” is peculiarly liable to instability, and to the other weaknesses and sins connected with an inflated opinion of his own powers (from ISBE). A “novice” needs to grow, to mature . . . and that takes time, a lot of time.

Second of all, just because someone claims that he has repented and asked God for forgiveness, and made public and private confession of sins and asked forgiveness, does not make it so. How would you or anyone know that he truly meant what he claimed (that he repented and he asked forgiveness)? You are not God . . . you cannot read his heart. Again, common sense dictates **prudence** and **cautiousness**! This is especially demanded of repeated offenders. Why? If my relationship with any supposedly forgiven sinner puts someone else into harm’s way due to my lack of wisdom and carelessness, then I foolishly sin against the

innocent. I need to remember that **the souls and safety of others is an equal consideration**.

A broken trust issue that needs to be rebuilt may take a lot of time in some cases . . . and in a few cases complete trust may *never* be able to be completely restored because of the nature of the sin and the person . . . and the life history of that person. But that still does not mean you cannot forgive them.

DOES FORGIVENESS REQUIRE IMMEDIATE TRUST?

In understanding forgiveness versus reconciliation — forgiveness doesn’t always necessitate full reconciliation in some particular matters. Just because one is forgiven does not mean that everything will be exactly as it was before. Reconciliation cannot happen without forgiveness, but reconciliation is not the same as forgiveness. Reconciliation has to do with making two things that were at odds with each other, now compatible and consistent. Reconciliation requires a level of trust. If trust is broken, I can forgive, but it doesn’t mean that I will fully trust. For example — one may “forgive” his spouse for adultery but choose not to reconcile with her in the marriage (Matthew 19:9). Or if the innocent spouse chooses to forgive and reconcile — it may take weeks — months — years to rebuild full trust. God commands forgiveness and reconciliation, but that does not mean we cast wisdom aside. When I forgive, I need to remember that **the souls and safety of others is an equal consideration**. Thus, rebuilding trust and making restitution; in fact, in many instances is a healthy requirement, for it holds the person accountable for his repentance (thus the fruits of repentance).

Finally, think about it this way. If you are severely cut or injured repeatedly over the years by someone, and then the person doing that to you stopped and asked forgiveness, maybe even provided restitution to a point, that person could be forgiven. But could you ever forget what was done? How? Consider that **the scars** are there for the rest of your days to remind both you and the offender of what happened.

I think of Paul's statement of what he suffered being a Christian:

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 – "in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness — besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches."

Acts 16:22-24 – "Then the multitude rose up together against them; and the magistrates tore off their clothes and commanded them to be beaten with rods. And when they had laid many stripes on them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to keep them securely. Having received such a charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks."

The Holy Spirit had these words preserved forever. How do you think the Philippian jailer of Acts 16 felt as the passages were read publicly . . . knowing that he had personally inflicted some of this suffering against the apostle Paul years before?

Yes, what a blessing it is when we are forgiven, for God remembers our past sins that we have repented of "no more" (Heb. 8:12). In other words, those sins will not be held against us in the Day of Judgment. But does God forget those sins . . . meaning that He will never bring them up as if they never happened? Yes, God does forget forgiven sins . . . meaning that He will not hold us accountable for those sins previously committed when they are repented of and covered by the precious blood of Christ (1 John 2:2). But the sinful behaviors of forgiven sinners are not ignored by God as if they never took place. Consider that He has used certain forgiven sinners to teach others (even us) the insidious nature of sin and its destructive

consequences. Numerous Bible examples bear this out, in order that we might be reminded, instructed and warned (1 Cor. 10:1-12). Did not the Holy Spirit preserve the record of David's horrible sin with Bathsheba for our attention to this day? Was David not forgiven of that sin? Sure he was. And, did not the Holy Spirit preserve the record of Peter's sin in denying the Lord Jesus three times? Was he not also forgiven of that sin? Sure he was. God forgives the penitent sinner, and lifts him up . . . He does not hold him down. The same all-knowing God of Heaven is also "faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

Yes, we all must forgive others (Eph. 4:31-32) and learn to forget (cf. Gen. 41:51). And yes, we must lift up and never hold down the forgiven. Let us never be careless and cavalier in our behavior toward the offender who has sought to change and to receive the cleansing of his soul. But too, let us never cast aside wisdom and trust. And let us not fail to wisely warn, teach, and exhort either. Also, healing takes time. Let us all allow the healing to take place.

Several thoughts are from unknown sources, except... PowerPoint charts on Forgiveness_7times by Steven J. Wallace

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OLEN HOLDERBY

The Proper Source of Authority in Religion

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I have planned to write to you at this time on the subject of “The Proper Source of Authority in Religion.” We both have an obligation in this article: My obligation is to present all the truth I can in the space we have; and to make that truth as easily understood as is possible. Your obligation is to learn all the truth presented that you possibly can. If we both discharge our obligation, this article will be a profitable one.

One of the first things which we need to do is to define some terms: **Authority** — “Right to command and to enforce obedience” (Funk & Wagnalls Dictionary). The definition of the Greek word for authority is not at variance with this definition; **Anarchy** — “Absence of or utter disregard of government; lawless confusion and disorder” (Funk & Wagnalls). Anarchy may exist under either of two conditions: (1) Where there is no authority, (2) Where there is not the proper respect for authority. We are told in 1 Corinthians 14:33, that “God is not the author of confusion,” thus, God cannot endorse anarchy. The very definitions of these terms demonstrate the necessity of proper authority in any organized society (few or many).

I am writing to an audience which has limited ability; and, I have news for you — the one writing to you is also of limited ability. All of us

are so limited! That is the reason Jeremiah said, “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps” (Jer. 10:23). This means that man is going to have to look outside himself for proper guidance: he cannot be subjective and please God, he must be objective. And this brings us to our first point.

1. There are three possible sources of authority in religion: Satan, Man, and God. Christianity was established in opposition to Satan; though many walk in some of his ways, none on his authority in religion. Satan does not care that we do not own him, just as long as we follow his way(s). Since Satan is the archenemy of God, he has no rightful place in Christianity. Then, Jeremiah rules man completely out, man not being able to “direct his steps.” When man looks outside himself, to whom shall he look? Or, to where shall he look? I suggest to you that man must look to God. “Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey, whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?” (Rom. 6:16). This brings us to our second point.

2. God has a rightful claim to this authoritative position for at least two reasons: (1) God is our Creator (Gen. 1:26-27). The Psalmist declared, “. . . it is he that made us, and not we ourselves. . .” (Psa. 100:3). We have absolutely no right to question God’s authority: “Nay but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honor, and another unto dishonor?” (Rom. 9:20-21). (2) Secondly, the characteristics of God give Him this right: God is eternal, “The eternal God is our refuge!” (Deut. 33:27). His “eternal power” is clearly seen (Rom. 1:20). God is just! Moses declared, “Just and right is he” (Deut. 32:4). God, also, has unlimited wisdom, “O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable are his judgments, and his ways past finding out!” (Rom.

The Proper Source of Authority in Religion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

11:33). Thus, God is the one to whom man must turn. Having absolutely established God's right to exercise absolute authority in religion, we now turn to point number three.

3. God exercises His authority through His Son. "God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son. . ." (Heb. 1:1-2). "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth" (Matt. 28:18). "For the Father judgeth no man, but hath committed all judgment unto the Son" (John 5:22). Not only are authority and judgment given to the Son, but God's message to man was also given to the Son (Deut. 18:18-19; Acts 3:22-23; John 12:49). Christ is the mediator between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5); and, no man can come to the Father but by Him (John 14:6). Through, and only through, the Son does God exercise His authority; this excludes any other man or men.

4. Since Christ is not, in a physical sense, on earth, He has personal representatives through whom He exercises His authority. These are His apostles! Paul declared, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us; we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God" (2 Cor. 5:20). Please notice that Paul said that the apostles spoke "in Christ's stead," in the place of Christ. They were His spokesmen; and they also had the message which Christ received from the Father (John 17:8). Christ promised these apostles that the Holy Spirit would guide them into all truth (John 16:13). Further, to reject the word of the apostles was to reject Christ, and to reject Christ was to reject God (Matt. 10:40; Luke 10:16). One more passage before going to our next point. "How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him; God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will" (Heb. 2:3-4). Please notice that this was first spoken by the Lord, confirmed by His apostles, and God was bearing witness — perfect harmony! God's message was given to His Son, His Son gave that message to His apostles (whom He had chosen), and God

placed His eternal stamp of approval upon the work of those chosen few. Now, in addition to preaching that message, what did those apostles do with that message? We are now ready for point number five.

5. In answer to the above question, the apostles wrote that message down. In Ephesians 3:3-5, we are given several facts: (a) This message was not made known in previous ages, (b) It was now made known, by the Spirit, to the apostles, (c) It was a mystery now revealed, and (d) We are to read what they wrote in order to understand. The Spirit gave the apostles the very words to be used in their writing the message down (1 Cor. 2:13). The noble Bereans offer us a fine example of how we should search the Word (Acts 17:11). God's Word is the truth (John 17:17), hearing that Word produces faith (Rom. 10:17) without which we cannot please God (Heb. 11:6). "But the word of the Lord endureth forever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you" (1 Pet. 1:25).

From the above points what may we conclude? The answer, to me, seems rather obvious — *that authority is now in the written word*. Can anyone possibly miss this? Here is "The Proper Source of Authority in Religion."

6. Accepting the above, how do I determine what is right? What is by divine authority? The answer is simple: If it is from God, it is right; if it is not from God, it is not right (Matt. 16: 13-18; 21:23-27). This is, and always has been, the dividing line between truth and error. But, how may I know if a thing is from God? Again, simple! Is it in the written word (2 Tim. 3:16-17; Rom. 1:17)? We cannot add to that word or take away from it without reaping the wrath of God (Rev. 22:18-19). To transgress that word is to be without God (2 John 9); and, this same passage shows that we are guilty of that same transgression when we encourage one in his transgression. Can anyone, then, fail to see the importance of the simple statement in 2 Timothy 2:15, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"?



DAVID HALBROOK

The Leadership of Joseph

In Joseph, the son of Jacob, many of the traits of a true leader can be found. Delving into the details of his life probably explains the development of those traits, but for our present study we'll only consider the fruits of those details, seen in three specific traits of Joseph which made him a wise and discerning leader.

1. *Joseph went out over all the land of Egypt* (Gen. 41:45-46). Egyptians were typically suspicious of Hebrew people (Gen. 43:32). How

could the Egyptians trust this foreigner to be their leader? Joseph proved himself trustworthy by personally going throughout Egypt to assess what plans should be made for the upcoming famine. Instead of staying in the comfort and security of the palace, Joseph was a visible leader and worker.

This is a trait needed by all leaders, but especially among the Lord's church. The work of an elder is a "people"-oriented work. Like the duties of Joseph, it requires planning and foresight, but those plans can only aptly be made by being among the people who are being led. The assemblies provide the most convenient opportunities for this, but elders must prove themselves hospitable (1 Tim. 3:2). Personal expressions of interest and kindness are essential to build the people's confidence in any leader. Yes, the elders have much work that can only be done "behind closed doors," but this is only fruitful for those who "go out" like Joseph.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 25

The Proper Source of Authority in Religion

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

Now, before leaving our subject, we need to make application to, at least, a few things. This great and eternal truth that *the proper source of authority in religion is in the written Word of God*, should ever be at our finger tips when determining what is right and what is wrong. Remember, only Jesus has authority in religion, and He exercises that authority through the written word. We are told to "prove all things" (1 Thess. 5:21); and if we wish the approval of heaven behind our decisions, that proof must come from the written word. Why should we have difficulty in determining the proper items of worship? We are given the pattern and the items are listed (John 4:24). Why should we have difficulty determining the moral standard for our lives? We are plainly told that the gospel

is that standard and not the world (Phil. 1:27; Rom. 12:2). Why should we have difficulty trying to determine the answers for divorce and remarriage? Jesus plainly stated the truth on the subject (Matt. 19:9); and, all the twisting which men may do will not change what Jesus said. Why should we have difficulty in determining the role of women in religion; Paul settled that question nearly two thousand years ago (1 Tim. 2:12).

The point is, my friends and brethren, that when we make up our minds to accept only the written word of God, all of it (Acts 20:27), and determine to do exactly as it says, most of our many problems will disappear. How so very wonderful, the thought!



2. *Joseph was a temperate, gentle, and firm leader.* In Genesis 42:7-25, as Joseph's brothers appear before him for the first time since they sold him, Joseph makes many decisions "on the spot." Without knowing the current character of his brothers, Joseph acts wisely. Anger and revenge might have been on the mind of many leaders in his position. Other leaders might have been overwhelmed by family affinity and given them whatever they asked. Joseph avoids being overcome and led by emotion allowing him to make wise, fair decisions. By this, he slowly gains the respect of his brothers, and they slowly earn his trust. By remaining soberminded during emotionally charged situations, Joseph was a fair leader.

All leaders today need the qualities of fairness. Whether in the work place, home, or church, many of us have seen leaders who led by emotion. Their decisions were often made based upon who they liked or disliked. They were unfairly gentle toward the ones they liked and unfairly firm toward most others. Being fair requires being in control of one's emotions, thus the bishop must be temperate and soberminded (1 Tim. 3:2). Without those traits how will spiritual leaders deal with family problems that arise within the church? Will they deal fairly with those who, in the past, have not always dealt fairly with them? Practically every situation that Joseph faced may confront spiritual leaders today. The Lord needs men who are developing the ability to always be temperate, even in controversy — men who will be gentle when it is needed and firm when it is needed. Husbands and fathers, ruling your house this way prepares you for future work in the kingdom (1 Tim. 3:4-5).

3. *Joseph had and showed compassion for his followers.* Remember that Joseph was appointed to a position of authority because there was an upcoming famine. Famine can break the spirit of a nation: hunger begets hopelessness, fear rises as crops fail, starving livestock become an unproductive drain on the owners, etc. American presidents who lead during days of economic hardship have a hard time keeping their "approval ratings" high. In Genesis 47:13-25, Joseph stays

in tune with the suffering of the people and acts in wisdom and compassion to provide their needs. He does not set up a social system of handouts but provides for the legitimate needs of the people and fair plans of payment. In verse 24-25, Joseph gives the people seed to sow "for those of your households and as food for your little ones. So they said, 'You have saved our lives; let us find favor in the sight of my lord, and we will be Pharaoh's servants'" (Gen. 47:25). It seems that Joseph's approval ratings did just fine because, as conditions progressively worsened, Joseph acted in the interest of the people. His compassion was a light in dark times for the Egyptians.

Every individual, family, and church will face famines of some sort. For such times, God intends for elders, by reason of physical and spiritual maturity and experience, to have a combination of compassion and discernment. Individuals may be led by Satan into a land of spiritual famine, like the prodigal son. When they are ready to return, who will welcome them back like the prodigal's father? Compassionate leaders will because they have labored to bring him back. Due to a famine of leadership in the home, families may not be on schedule in their spiritual growth (Heb. 5:12). Who will recognize the cause for their weakness and on those "have compassion, making a distinction" (Jude 22; 1 Thess. 5:14)? Churches who face suffering due to spiritual trials or natural disasters need help from a compassionate brotherhood (1 Pet. 2:17). And when every church has compassionate leaders, there will be an equality among all the churches who willingly give to meet urgent needs (2 Cor. 8:13-14). The life of the Chief Shepherd stands as an enduring example of compassionate leadership (1 Pet. 5:4; John 10:11; Matt. 9:36).

CONCLUSION

A record of the life of men like Joseph is written and preserved for our learning. If we will dig into and "mine" the texts of the Old Testament, we will find practical lessons vital for life and godliness today. Let us pray for, help develop, and become leaders like Joseph for the days of spiritual feast and famine that are a part of life under the sun.

DAVID F. SIMS

Uniforms



When I arrived at my deployment location in Kabul, Afghanistan, the first thing I noticed was

all the different uniforms. This is a NATO base with over 2200 soldiers from forty-two different nations. The U.S. military is in the minority, and my particular service branch (the Air Force) is a small piece of that group. With so many different uniforms, it is easy to recognize the Air Force service members. You might even say the Air Force members stick out like a sore thumb. This actually serves as a source of comfort to me. When I look around and find myself surrounded by people from different nations, the sight of just one U.S. Air Force member makes me feel a little safer, a little reassured, a little more confident, and a little braver.

When I see all these other soldiers here, I'm fairly confident that they are here to defend freedom like I am. But the U.S. Air Force member is my true brother-in-arms, for he has received much of the same training I have received and has the same perspective on many things as I have. I have many things in common with other U.S. Air Force members. I have several things in common with members of other branches of the U.S. I have a few things in common with the soldiers of our allied nations. And of course I have almost nothing in common with those who are enemies of freedom.

While I am here, I am required to always wear an authorized uniform. The command authorities

prohibit me from wearing civilian clothes. In other words, I'm not supposed to look like the rest of the world. I'm supposed to look like a soldier representing the United States of America. And I'm supposed to do that all day, every day. Why? There are several reasons. This uniform reminds me of who I am; it reminds me of my duties and loyalties. It also identifies me to others. Other U.S. Air Force members may be comforted in seeing me nearby, just as their presence strengthens me.

Members of other allied forces also know that the United States is represented by my presence. And the enemies know who I am, too. To some, my presence in this uniform may deter them from a hostile act. To others, my presence in this uniform makes me a target. Either way, I wear this uniform proudly, and if necessary I may even die in this uniform.

Today is my second full day here, and since the only people I know here so far were busy with other things, this evening I went to supper alone. I walked down a poorly lit road and got in line with many strangers to enter the dining facility. I looked around, but did not see anyone I knew. So I sat alone to eat. When I finished, I went to dispose of my tray, and there at the trash can I ran into someone I knew from years ago at a previous duty station. I was surprised, and I almost wanted to hug him because I was so happy and comforted to see a friendly face. He said he recognized me when he saw me, and he could tell I was new here because of the dazed and confused look on my face. (He was correct in his assessment!) But I was thankful to see him, and even if I never run into him again while I am here, I am glad to know that he is here too.

Perhaps it is a good thing that all the militaries in the world wear different uniforms. Otherwise how would I know the allies from the enemies? How would I know who I can trust and who I can count on to watch my back? I am thankful for this uniform and I consider it an honor that my country trusts me to wear it.

Christians wear uniforms, too. The Christian uniform is his way of life . . . the behavior that he

puts on display to the world. When we look around the world, we see many different people wearing many different “uniforms” in their religious and moral views. Even among those who claim the Christian faith there are different uniforms. I’m not talking about the tall hats of the Catholic Cardinals or the matching gowns of Protestant choir members. I’m talking about the way they live and the doctrinal beliefs they hold.

The Christian uniform serves the same roles as the military uniform. It identifies who you are and who you serve. Just like my military allies wearing uniforms from other nations, I can spot those with strong religious or moral views by their behavior, and I am glad to know I am in the company of basically good and law-abiding people. But spiritually speaking, my true brother-in-arms as a Christian is another Christian.

It is dangerous, even treasonous, for the Christian to take off his Christian uniform. Indeed, some people “put on” their religious uniform at certain times (to go to church service) and “take off” that uniform at other times to suit their desires. When I go into the world, I am surrounded by people of all sorts, some good and some not so much. But when I see another real Christian, it gives me strength, it gives me courage, it helps me remember who I am, and it comforts me to know that there are other Christians in the world with the same perspective on things as I have.

Here is why it is treasonous for the Christian to behave like he is not one: when another Christian is struggling with temptation or trials, he needs to know that he has support from other Christians. Perhaps he is trying to overcome some addiction, such as alcohol or immorality or gambling. If he knows another Christian is nearby, he may be encouraged to resist the temptation. But if the only nearby Christian has set aside his Christian uniform and is wearing the uniform of worldliness, that Christian has abandoned his brother in need and has delivered up his struggling brother to the clutches of Satan and sin. That Christian has committed spiritual treason against his God and his brothers. He has fled from the side of good and taken up arms on side of the enemy.

Even if he is not actively encouraging sin, we must remember that all that is necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.

Remember the story I told about seeing the friend in the dining facility? He could have just as easily ignored me, and I would have never known. But I’m glad he didn’t ignore me. And when you and I as Christians go out in the world, we need to identify ourselves as Christians so that others can recognize us, for even a brief meeting between two passing Christians is comforting to them. Maybe you spot another Christian in the grocery store or the mall: greet him, let him know you are there, and take comfort in his presence as well. Consider that, as Jesus prepared to face the cross, even He was comforted by the presence of someone familiar: “An angel from heaven appeared to Him, strengthening Him” (Luke 22:43).

The Christian way of life makes him a target. Satan doesn’t have to target people who are already lost in sin . . . they are already under his control. Satan is after those he does not control: Christians. Your behavior sets you apart from the rest of the world (1 Pet. 2:12). Non-Christians in the world may also target you for your beliefs and practices to persecute you. We are in good company, that of Jesus and Peter and Paul, if we suffer for wearing this uniform properly. We are in poor company if we suffer for looking like the rest of the world (1 Pet. 3:17).

Why wear the Christian uniform? “So that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world” (Phil. 2:15). If you are a Christian, please know that when I am out in the world, I am looking for your light. Please don’t disguise yourself as the “gentiles” in the world. Please don’t take off your Christian uniform. There aren’t many of us in the world, and I need to know you are there. And I won’t know you are a Christian if you aren’t acting like one. Christians, wear your uniforms every day everywhere you go! If you die, wouldn’t you rather stand before God’s judgment seat (2 Cor. 5:10) wearing the Christian uniform than wearing the garb of worldliness?



ETHAN LONGHENRY

The Mind of God Regarding Divorce



In an account of the recent controversies regarding marriage, divorce, and remarriage, many brethren despair of ever coming to a good understanding of God's will on the subject. This despair is especially tragic considering that God has clearly revealed how He feels about divorce.

In Malachi 2:13-16, God powerfully affirms that He hates divorce and expects people to live in faithfulness in the covenants of marriage that they establish. Jesus affirms these truths in Matthew 19:4-6, 8-9, indicating that what God has joined man is not to separate, and that those who divorce their spouses for reasons other than sexually deviant behavior and marry another commit adultery. When God wishes to convey to the Israelites the great pain and misery that their idolatry has caused Him, He speaks to them in the metaphors of adultery and divorce (Jer. 3; Ezek. 16; Hos. 1-3; etc.).

God's view is clear: He hates divorce. Where there is divorce, there must always be sin—either the divorce itself is sinful, or the sin of sexually deviant behavior was committed that led to the divorce (Matt. 19:9). Where there is sin, there is pain, misery, sadness, and separation, and without repentance, death (cf. Isa. 59:1-2; Rom. 6:23; Tit. 3:3-4; Jas. 1:15). Let us remember that sin is offensive to God and required the precious blood of Jesus to cover it

(cf. Hab. 1:13; Rom. 5:1-11). Divorce is never portrayed positively in Scripture, and for good reason—there is nothing positive about it!

We must be prepared with this mentality when we go out into the world. We understand the value of sober-mindedness and preparedness when it comes to the temptations of sexual immorality, lying, and other similar sins of passion: if we make a firm decision beforehand not to fall into snares, it is easier to resist the temptations (cf. Prov. 4:1-13; 5:1-2). Would this not also be true in terms of divorce scenarios?

There is no end of heart-wrenchingly tragic stories of divorce in this sin-sick world, and it is natural for us to feel compassion for people caught in such circumstances. Jesus, after all, often felt compassion for people (Matt. 9:36; 14:14; Luke 17:3). It is very easy to feel compassion for people in terrible circumstances and seek to find ways to “bend the rules” to justify them. Yet notice that Jesus never justified sin on account of His compassion (cf. John 8:1-11)!

Is divorce different from other sins? Are there not heart-wrenching stories out there about women who went through terrible circumstances and then aborted their children, or people who turned to homosexuality, or impoverished people who turned to stealing in order to survive, or people who immigrated illegally in order to eke out an existence? Are there not horror stories of people who have experienced child abuse or sexual abuse and gone on to commit various sins? In all or most of these circumstances, even though we may feel compassion for people because of the tragedies they experienced, we would never think to compromise what God has said in order to justify their sinful conduct. We believe that abortion, homosexuality, stealing, breaking of laws, and other such sins are still sinful no matter what the circumstances.

Divorce is no different. God hates divorce. It is one thing to have compassion on people in terrible circumstances, but we must never misdirect that compassion and justify what God has declared to be sinful. If we arm

The Mind of God Regarding Divorce

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 28

ourselves with this way of thinking—recognizing that God hates divorce, that divorce either is sinful or is directly caused by sin, and that pain, misery, and suffering are there whenever divorce is present—we will find ourselves better

equipped to proclaim God's truths regarding marriage, divorce, and remarriage in sober-mindedness. Let us share God's mind regarding the evils of divorce, and proclaim that truth with all diligence!



What Did You Go Out To See?

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

clothed in soft garments? Indeed those who are gorgeously appareled and live in luxury are in kings' courts. But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.' For I say to you, among those born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he" (Luke 7:24-28).

Jesus' appreciation for John is based on John's character. He was a man of conviction; he was not spineless and yielding to the political pressures of his community or nation. The attributes of John resembled the character of Elijah, the prophet who stood up to Ahab and Jezebel. Here are two of the character traits of John which Jesus praised and which should be models of conduct for all gospel preachers:

1. John was not a reed shaken by the wind.

This figure describes the lack of backbone of a person who caves to the desires of the people. Paul described such a preacher as one who scratches the itching ears of his audience (2 Tim. 4:3). Most of us have known preachers without a backbone. If the "powers that be" of a congregation are openly practicing some sins, he ignores preaching on them and calling upon them to repent or speaks of their sins so mildly that one goes away without feeling any pressure to repent. If the congregational leaders want to social drink, allow their children to attend dances, allow them to dress immodestly (as most cheerleaders do and as occurs at the city swimming pool and public beaches), and/or allow their children to miss worship for sporting events

and extracurricular school activities, this kind of preacher has practically nothing to say about it.

In an earlier generation, such preachers who worked with congregations tottering on the brink of going institutional avoided the subject and, subsequently, such churches almost invariably went institutional. Do we think anything will be different if we studiously avoid the issues of today — divorce and remarriage, the undenominational nature of the church, etc.?

What kind of preacher do you want where you attend? Do you want a reed shaken by the wind or one who will preach the truth, regardless of whose "toes he steps on"?

2. John was not a peacock. Jesus asked if the crowd went into the wilderness to see someone dressed in gorgeous apparel and living delicately. Sometimes men give more attention to their appearance than their message. And, some churches seem very concerned about how their preacher dresses.

This comment is not intended to say that giving no attention to one's appearance is preferable. In teaching young men to preach, Johnie Edwards would say, "The church doesn't want a stinking preacher." There is no virtue in ugly, unkempt, shabby, sloppy, disheveled, grubby, grungy clothing! However, the preacher is not trying to be the style setter for the local church.

CONCLUSION

Would you have been attracted to John the Baptist? Would your congregation invite him to "try out" should it be looking for a preacher? Or, would he have been too controversial, confrontational, and too poorly dressed to match the needs of your congregation?



GARY SMALLEY

Murder



he shame of any society:
murder! Murder is wrong!
Murder is sin (Exod. 20:13;
Deut. 5:17; Rom. 13:9)!

The possessor of superior wisdom recorded it: "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a disgrace to *any* people" (Prov.14:34). What awful disgrace we bear!

The US Department of Justice survey of crime victims shows more than 6.6 million violent crimes (murder, rape, assault, and robbery) are committed each year in our beloved country. Homicides in our homeland are still among the highest in the industrialized world: 14,748 recorded murders, one every 35 minutes in America the beautiful. America is baseball, apple pie, and murder – we barely noticed. With 55 million innocent murdered since *Roe v. Wade*, Hitler, Stalin, and Pol Pot look like Boy Scouts.

There is a foul smell on this earth that won't go away, a stench that even with strong detergent, will not wash off! The notorious coward Pilate tried to wash off the guilt and responsibility for shedding the blood of the innocent by scourging and crucifixion (Matt. 27:26), but self-declaration and attempts at self-appointed vindication with a mere wash pan never dispose of responsibility for shedding innocent blood. Among the seven "things which the LORD hates, . . . which are an abomination to Him: . . . hands that shed innocent blood" (Prov. 6:16, 17).

The vile stench caused by the deeds of the manslayer never escape notice by the God who sees all: "And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are open and laid

bare to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do" (Heb. 4:13). There will be an accounting: "So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God" (Rom. 14:12). From those who shed blood, and their supporting accomplices, it is required (Luke 11:47-51; cf. Matt. 27:25; Acts 7:51-53). With crystal clarity, the Apostle John spoke plainly, ". . . you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him" (1 John 3:15b).

Laws in our nation prohibit murder. But because the law reveals what is wrong, that knowledge does not always turn the offender away from the crime. There will be those who violate law: ". . . those who are lawless and rebellious, for the ungodly and sinners, for the unholy and profane, for those who kill their fathers or mothers, for murderers and immoral men and homosexuals and kidnappers and liars and perjurers, and whatever else is contrary to sound teaching" (1 Tim. 1:9-10). Those who violate God's law, "the perfect law, the law of liberty" (Jas. 1:25; 2:12) should tremble in fear of God (Rom. 3:15-18; Luke 12:5)! But we are seeing a new generation of people who have absolutely no sense of eternity, believing that death is simply a termination of personal existence. Incidents of murder-suicide will continue to increase in places where politicians, educators, scientists, and various activists continue to fight the influences of the Bible, ridiculing its principles of divine judgment and accountability to man's Maker. If there is no eternal, conscious doom for the wicked, then rebels will have no remorse for violent killing and no fear of inevitable dying.

Like other wicked deeds, murder begins in the heart of people, a fact also shown by the accompanying adjective in the phrase "*premeditated* murder." Of the seven abominations mentioned earlier, one is "a heart that devises wicked plans" (Prov. 6:18a). Jesus said, "but the things which proceed out of the man are what defile the man." When questioned further by His disciples, He helped their understanding: "Do you not understand that whatever goes into the man from outside cannot defile him, because it does not go into his

heart, but into his stomach, and is eliminated? . . . That which proceeds out of the man, that is what defiles the man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed the evil thoughts, fornications, thefts, murders, adulteries, deeds of coveting *and* wickedness, *as well as* deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride and foolishness. All these evil things proceed from within and defile the man” (Mark 7:15b, 18b-23). One who murders has previously consented in his heart to do it!

When Jesus taught on the subject of murder, He went back of the commission of the evil act to forbid the anger and the disgraceful words which always precede murder and are likely to lead to murder (Matt. 5:21-22). He cuts off the abominable evil of murder at its lowest root. One who never allows himself to generate hatred and to select dishonorable words to launch against someone will never commit the act of murder.

MURDER IN MY FAMILY

Premeditated homicide, murder, splatters its permanent stain onto the lives of other people! Late on the night of Thursday, April 11, 1985, a knock at the back door woke me. As I turned on the porch light I saw the police uniform and my heart sunk. The ten o'clock news report of a 23-year-old Columbia man murdered in Nashville, with identification withheld pending notification of the family had an ominous sound, but my eye lids prevailed in closing. Now it was real. Murder, something that had always been “out there” was now “in here,” and its stain splattered on my family. Worst of all contemplations: my murdered brother was not a Christian. My parents lost a son and agonized over the gory details ferreted out by news reporters in the heart of Tennessee. It wasn't an “accident.” It wasn't what followed a diagnosis of “terminal.” It was the heart of another human being who allowed himself to first accept the thought, and then do the deed of murder. Our family and friends were shaken to the core. A soul more valuable than the world was lost!

Last Sunday night, November 6, 2011, 29-year-old Trinity Glass Sledge was gunned down in her home while her 10-year-old daughter watched. She then saw the manslayer, her

mother's estranged boyfriend, shoot himself, resulting in his Tuesday-morning death. Trinity, who was struggling to overcome difficulties of her past, had attended evening worship with the people of God, but had once again left the assembly without responding to the invitation of Christ. The small community of north Alabama, where she lived and was known, will never be the same. Once again, the permanent stain of premeditated murder splatters its filth on the lives of her family and friends. And it makes life feel rotten. Next month's newspapers will have other headlines, but this family will still be locked into the repeated remembrance of day-after headlines that tore into their hopeful hearts. Their spirits are broken (Prov. 15:13b). They are crushed in the aftermath of horrible tragedy.

Who is capable of such a heinous crime? Who robs us of our family members, stealing their lives prematurely and sending their spirits back to God unprepared to meet Him? You cannot detect capability merely by looking at someone, for the potential to act is in the hidden man of the heart (1 Cor. 2:11a). Who is capable of such a dreadful wrong? Any man is capable! Man's will has free course, and he is unrestrained in thought, too often following his own desires. Any controls placed on man's thoughts must be self-directed, self-imposed. We become what we think. Truly, as Solomon declared, “For as he thinks within himself, so he is” (Prov. 23:7a). How effective are we at self-control?

At times, the media is flooded with the controversy of how to deal with guilty murderers. The public fight over the best way to treat the symptoms would have prompted my Grandmother to respond, “An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.” How can we prevent the sin of murder? If the action is to be prevented, the thought of doing it and also the desire to do it must be eliminated from the heart. Whatever is in the heart that would lend support to, promote, entice, encourage, incite, provoke, inflame, rouse, goad, spur, egg on, stimulate, motivate, lure, charm or beguile one into the actual commission of the act must be eradicated. Heart-evil must not be pampered. It must be

Murder

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

destroyed immediately and decisively! Jesus never described a simple “easy as pie” plan that would transform the heart into what it needed to be; the effective action required is radical surgery! “If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you” and “If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you” (Matt. 5:29, 30). Such drastic measures are better than going to hell (Matt. 18:8-9)! Sin is destructive. It must be put to death (Col. 3:5).

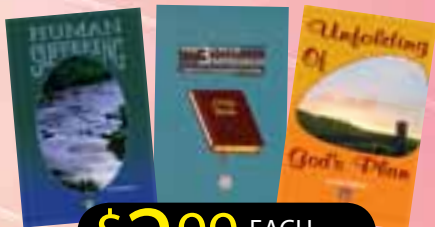
Murder and other sins are prevented at their source when evil thoughts are not allowed to take up residence in the heart. Rather, the heart is exercised unto godliness in the Apostle Paul’s admonition: “Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things. The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you” (Phil. 4:8-9). We are to be transformed by the renewing of the mind (Rom. 12:2). We are to be renewed in the spirit of our minds (Eph. 4:23). We must have the

mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16; Phil. 2:5). The law of God must be put into our minds and written in our hearts; God will be our God and we will be His people (Heb. 8:10). The gospel of Christ must be in the heart; we must receive it, believe it, stand in it and we will be saved by it (1 Cor. 15:1-2). *May God help us to guard our hearts from thoughts that hatch hellish sin!*

Victims of violent crimes: be careful what you allow yourselves to think! Do not allow hatred and bitterness to find a nesting place in your hearts. The sins that follow evil thoughts will drag you to hell! Take Peter’s advice: “Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler” (1 Pet. 4:15). Let the ones who suffer “entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right” (1 Pet. 4:19b). “Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you” (Jas.4:7-8a). The fear of the Lord will keep you from evil (Prov. 16:6b). “The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much.” (Jas.5:16b). “Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.” (Heb. 4:16).

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Elusive Justice

Late last year, I watched a documentary on PBS about the trials and attempted prosecutions of former Nazis. The documentary was entitled *Elusive Justice*. We are all familiar with the horror and inhumanity of the Nazis during World War II. Following the end of the war and the demise of the Nazi party, attempts were made to bring Nazi leaders to justice. Most notably, higher ranking Nazi officials were tried, convicted, and punished through the Nuremberg Trials.

While the convictions at Nuremberg symbolized a victory for justice, they were just the tip of a much deeper iceberg. Thousands of German citizens were drafted into service of the Third Reich during the war. Thousands of German citizens assisted in the murder of millions. During the period of reunification of Germany following the war, laws were passed which granted amnesty to these people. Others responsible for the atrocities of the Holocaust, as it would become known, fled Germany. Many sought asylum in places like France, Brazil, and Argentina. More surprisingly, an estimated 10,000 known former Nazis immigrated to the United States with their families. They lived the American Dream.

Victims of the Holocaust and advocates of justice have sought to find and prosecute many of these murderers. Many of these people, men and women, were the ones who literally carried out the orders of the Nazi leaders. They were the “triggermen.” Efforts to bring these people to justice have been exhaustive. An argument has been made by some to end such efforts to bring former Nazis to justice. The argument goes something like this: *The crimes happened over sixty years ago. Many of these people are old and near death. Just leave them alone.*

In our country, the crime of murder has no *statute of limitation*. In other words, the passage of time does not void the crime of murder. This is not a law unique to our country. This is a law unique to the law of justice. The concept of justice comes from a higher moral authority than the United States legal system or the European Court of Justice. Justice comes from God. David wrote, “*Justice and judgment are the habitation of thy throne: mercy and truth shall go before thy face*” (Psa. 89:14).

God’s court of justice knows no statute of limitation for crimes committed against Him. The passage of time does not preclude God from punishing past offenses. Moses warned Israel about disobeying the commands of God regarding the conquest of Canaan. If they disobeyed God, He would know. *Their sins would find them out* (Num. 32:23). For some former Nazis, their sins and crimes caught up to them many years later. However, greater justice awaits them and all who refuse to obey God.


The apostle Paul wrote, “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad” (2 Cor. 5:10). We sometimes refer to this great day as the day of reckoning. Old scores will be settled. Justice will be served by the Judge of All, Jesus Christ. Justice may be elusive in our world; however, in the next world it will not.

Many in life are greatly wronged. However, children of God can take comfort knowing God will punish those who have perpetrated evil in this world. Paul wrote, “And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power” (2 Thess. 1:7-9).

The evil in our world is great. Sometimes the evil seems greater than the good. The justice of man seems small in the face of something as evil as Nazi Germany. Nevertheless, the justice of God is greater than all. Let us diligently work to see we do not become the recipients of God’s punishment. Instead, let us obey Him and look forward in hope to our exoneration.

Directory of Churches


The following congregations have paid for advertising in *Truth Magazine*. Inclusion of churches in this list is not an attempt by *Truth Magazine* to certify their faithfulness to God. We do believe the vast majority are striving to uphold the Word in faith and practice.

<p>BIRMINGHAM, AL Pine Lane Church of Christ 3955 Pine Lane • Bessemer, AL (N. side of Exit #6 at I459) Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Deason (205) 425-2352</p>	<p>MONTGOMERY, AL Eastbrook Church of Christ 650 Coliseum Blvd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Bldg: (334) 272-4232 Evangelist: Brian Moore 279-1077 Carroll Puckett 288-1461; Charles Martin 283-2983</p>	<p>TUCSON, AZ Church of Christ 145 N. Country Club Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Hugh Delong 326-3634 or 722-3179</p>	<p>HARRISON, AR Capps Rd. Church of Christ 407 Bella Vista Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Sewell www.cappsroad.org 741-9104 or 741-5151</p>	<p>TEXARKANA, AR Church of Christ 2301 Franklin Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc R. Hinds</p>	<p>FREMONT, CA Centerville Church of Christ 3885 Beacon Ave., Ste D Fremont, CA 94538 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. (510) 794-7659</p>
<p>BIRMINGHAM, AL Pinson Church of Christ 4233 Glenn Brook Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ken Chapman (205) 681-6231 or 680-5770</p>	<p>NORTHPORT, AL Northwood Church of Christ 4601 Northwood Estates Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David Hartselle</p>	<p>TUCSON, AZ Tucson Church of Christ 2020 N Forbes Blvd., Suite 107 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. 520-622-8986 www.tucsonchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>JACKSONVILLE, AR Church of Christ 1807 McArthur Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (501) 982-6413 - church bldg (501) 982-6776 - William Engel</p>	<p>ALAMEDA, CA Alameda Church of Christ 2167 Santa Clara Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Olen Holderby (510) 523-9547 www.alamedacc.org</p>	<p>HEMET, CA Church of Christ 203 W. Acacia Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Will Wilson (951) 846-9174</p>
<p>BIRMINGHAM, AL Vestavia Hills Church of Christ 2325 Old Columbiana Rd. (near I-65 & Hwy. 31) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Harold Comer and Jason Cicero (205) 822-0018 or 822-0082</p>	<p>OWENS CROSS ROADS, AL Church of Christ at Elon In Elon Community 4021 Hobbs Island Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Charles Maples 256-539-0772</p>	 <p>WWW.TRUTHBOOKS.NET</p>	<p>JONESBORO, AR Stone Street Church of Christ 1607 Stone St Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dick Blackford (870) 933-9134</p>	<p>BELLFLOWER, CA Rose Ave. Church of Christ 17903 Ibbetson Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (562) 866-5615</p>	<p>LONG BEACH, CA Church of Christ 3433 Studebaker Rd. Bible Study 9:50 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Darryl Smelser (562) 420-2363 Mark Reeves (562) 420-9577 www.JustChristians.org</p>
<p>FLORENCE, AL College View Church of Christ 851 N. Pine St. (Next to University Campus) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Mark White (256) 766-0403</p>	<p>PARRISH, AL McArthur Heights Church of Christ 5082 Hwy. 269 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (205) 686-5978 or 686-5620</p>	<p>BATESVILLE, AR Church of Christ Quail Valley 4104 E. Harrison St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. David Halbrook & Leonard Westbrook, Sr. (870) 793-6700 or 612-8409</p>	<p>LITTLE ROCK, AR Church of Christ 7115 West 65th St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Don McClain Res. (501)847-6677 Study (501) 568-1062</p>	<p>CANOGA PARK, CA (San Fernando Valley) Church of Christ 7054 Winnetka Ave. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Afternoon 2:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Minister: Bruce Evans (818)795-5566 Spanish congregation (818)701-0112</p>	<p>OCEANSIDE-VISTA, CA Church of Christ 2020 Sunset Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lowell C. Bell (760) 940-8003</p>
<p>HUNTSVILLE, AL Chapman Acres Church of Christ 2137 Penhall Dr., NE (I-565, Exit 21, left on Maysville Rd., left on Chapman Ave., right on Penhall Dr.) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Reeder (256) 536-5296 www.chapmanacres.org</p>	<p>SCOTTSBORO, AL Eastside Church of Christ John T. Reid Pkwy. (Hwy. 72, 2 mi. E. of Hwy. 35) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Wayne Chappell, Sr. (256) 574-1603 or 575-2664</p>	<p>CONWAY, AR Hwy. 65 Church of Christ 271 Highway 65N Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bruce Reeves Bldg: (501) 336-0052</p>	<p>MARSHALL, AR Marshall Church of Christ (North Central, AR) Hwy. 27 N, 1 Mi. from 65 Jct. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Searight (870) 448-2055</p>	<p>DUBLIN, CA Tri-Valley Church of Christ 11873 Dublin Blvd. Dublin, CA 94568 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua Higgins (925) 828-8747</p>	<p>ARVADA, CO (Denver) Northgate Church of Christ (Lincoln Academy Charter School) 6980 Pierce Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Afternoon Class/ Worship 1:30 P.M. (303) 456-4895</p>
<p>MOBILE, AL West Mobile Church of Christ 129 Hillcrest Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 11:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (251) 342-4144 or 342-2041</p>	<p>FAIRBANKS, AK Chena Small Tracts Road Church of Christ 5033 Chena Small Tracts Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (907) 479-8918</p>	<p>CONWAY, AR Prince Street Church of Christ 2655 Prince St. (Hwy. 60) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (501) 339-6917</p>	<p>PINE BLUFF, AR Church of Christ 4700 W. 28th St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:35 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Clarence W. Fell (870) 879-2097</p>	<p>EL CAJON/SAN DIEGO, CA Church of Christ 523 S. Johnson Ave El Cajon, CA 92020 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brent Hunter (619) 444-6106 (619) 922-0395</p>	<p>FT. COLLINS, CO Foothills Church of Christ 1200 Raintree Drive Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:30 A.M. Call (970) 482-9690 for Wednesday Service (Meets in home.)</p>
<p>MONTGOMERY, AL Church of Christ 800 Perry Hill Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marshall McDaniel 244-1675, 277-9155, 271-4679</p>	<p>GLENNDALE, AZ Church of Christ 6801 N. 60th Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:40 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steven Harper</p>	<p>FT. SMITH, AR South 46th St. Church of Christ 2323 South 46th St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Shawn Chancellor (479) 648-2898 or 782-0588</p>	<p>ROGERS, AR Central Church of Christ P.O. Box 763 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (479) 636-7484 (479) 366-9493</p>	<p>FOLSOM, CA Church of Christ 900 E. Natomas St. P.O. Box 492 Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: David Posey (530) 676-9514 or (916) 608-4866 www.folsomchurch.com</p>	<p>GRAND JUNCTION, CO Valley Church of Christ 491 Sparm Road P.O. Box 40531 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Rex Cornwell www.ValleyChurchofChrist.net</p>

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<p>MONTROSE, CO San Juan church of Christ 1414 Hawk Parkway, Unit C Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Evangelist: Richard Thetford (970) 626-5558 or (970) 249-8116 www.sanjuanchurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>FORT LAUDERDALE, FL Northside Church of Christ 912 NW 19th St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (305) 763-1404</p>	<p>KEY LARGO, FL Key Largo Church of Christ 100695 N. Overseas Hwy. 33037 m.m. 100.7 on US 1 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: William LeDent (305) 451-1194</p>	<p>PALMETTO, FL Palmetto Church of Christ 1575 14th Avenue W. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. www.palmettochurchofchrist.com (941) 722-1307</p>	<p>ZEPHYRHILLS, FL Church of Christ 5444 4th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Assembly 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (813) 788-9587</p>	<p>ABINGDON, IL Abingdon Church of Christ 209 N. Main Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: John B. Wilson (309) 462-5368</p>	
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<p>MILTON, DE Lighthouse Church of Christ 14574 Coastal Hwy. Rt. 1 Worship 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (302) 644-7379</p>	<p>FORT MYERS, FL Southside Church of Christ 13641 Learning Ct. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David P. Schmidt 433-2838 or 482-2158</p>	<p>MERRITT ISLAND, FL Church of Christ 512 Plumosa St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (321) 453-3320</p>	<p>PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL Beach Church of Christ 8910 Front Beach Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ben Ligin (850) 234-2521 or 234-1368</p>	<p>CONYERS, GA Rockdale Church of Christ East Metro Atlanta, 705 Smyrna Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Forrest Bacon, elder (770) 918-1932; Wendell Holland, elder (770) 761-6987, Building (770) 929-3973</p>	<p>CHICAGO, IL Church of Christ 1514 West 74th Street Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James E. Scott Bldg. (773) 224-9279 (708) 339-6126</p>	
<p>MIAMI, FL Church of Christ Eglise du Christ de Miami 8343 NE 3rd Ct. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Minister: Junot Joseph (305) 244-8295</p>	<p>FT. WALTON BEACH, FL 6 Lane Dr. Mary Esther, FL Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joey Rankin (850) 244-9222</p>	<p>MIAMI, FL Flagler Grove Church of Christ (Nearest to Airport) 500 N.W. 53rd Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: John Buttrick (305) 634-5924</p>	<p>PANAMA CITY, FL Church of Christ 3339 Florida Ave. (Between Baldwin Rd. & Hwy. 390) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin Hudson (850) 265-6539</p>	<p>CORDELE, GA Crisp County Church of Christ 120 Emmaus Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Jimmy Tuten Call for directions: (229) 271-1964 (229) 382-8766 (229) 3263715</p>	<p>DOWNERS GROVE, IL Church of Christ 1236 63rd St. (1 and 1/2 mile E. of 1355) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (630) 968-0760 • www.dgccc.org</p>	
<p>BRONSON, FL Church of Christ 894 E. Hathaway (Hwy. 27A) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Zellner (352) 528-3058</p>	<p>FROSTPROOF, FL Church of Christ 40 W. "A" St. Frostproof, FL 33483 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Jimmy Ford, preacher (863) 635-2607 or 635-4278</p>	<p>MIAMI, FL Church of Christ 12780 Quail Roost Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Clark Pace (305) 233-9590 or (954) 430-1437</p>	<p>PENSACOLA, FL Church of Christ East Hill Church of Christ 2078 E. Nine Mile Rd. at Camberwell Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Stan Adams 479-2130 or 994-7749</p>	<p>PINE MTN. VALLEY, GA Church of Christ Route 116 (near Callaway Gardens) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tommy W. Thomas (706) 628-5117 or 628-5229</p>	<p>GLENN ELLYN, IL Church of Christ 796 Prairie, 60137 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph T. Novak (630) 529-2149 (630) 858-2290</p>	
<p>BROOKSVILLE, FL Church of Christ 604 W. Fort Dade Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: V.C. McCormick (352) 796-9803</p>	<p>GENEVA, FL Church of Christ Ave. C and 2nd St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. (407) 349-9998</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL Pine Hills Church of Christ 890 Hastings St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ray West (407) 293-2851 or 290-8650</p>	<p>SEFFNER, FL Church of Christ 621 E. Wheeler Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Bobby Witherington (813) 684-1297 www.seffnercoc.org</p>	<p>SAVANNAH, GA Costal Church of Christ 7201 Johnny Mercer Blvd Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Nelson ronaldnelson1@gmail.com (912) 306-4631 www.coastalchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>MATTOON, IL Southside Church of Christ 1100 S. 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (217) 234-3702</p>	
<p>CHIPLEY, FL Church of Christ 1295 Brickyard Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (850) 638-2366 www.chipleychurch.com</p>	<p>HOLLYWOOD, FL Harding St. Church of Christ 5828 Harding St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (954) 961-4112</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL Azalea Park Church of Christ 6800 Lake Underhill Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: James P. Needham (407) 277-7931 or 628-2995</p>	<p>PUNTA GORDA, FL Church of Christ 2300 Taylor Road PO Box 511069 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (Nov.-Mar.) 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Paul Branch (941) 347-8425</p>	<p>VALDOSTA, GA Church of Christ 4313 North Valdosta Rd. (Located 1 mile E. of Exit 22 of I-75) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. (No evening worship) Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (229) 244-8630</p>	<p>PALATINE, IL Church of Christ (N.W. Chicago Suburb) 1050 N. Deer Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (847) 967-9667</p>	
<p>DELAND, FL North Blvd. Church of Christ 823 N. Woodland Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Owen (386) 734-6907 or 734-4311</p>	<p>JACKSONVILLE, FL Junglton Creek Church of Christ 1630 State Rd 13N Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (904) 703-2277 Denny Freeman www.jcccoc.com</p>	<p>ORLANDO, FL S. Bumbo Church of Christ 3940 S. Bumbo Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joshua C. Creel (407) 851-8031 or (321) 235-3307</p>	<p>ST. PETERSBURG, FL Church of Christ 901 49th St. South Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Barlar (813) 321-2721</p>	<p>HI - ISLAND OF OAHU Leeward Church of Christ 94-1233 Waipahu St. Waipahu, HI 96797 (15 mi. from Honolulu; 18 mi. from Waikiki) Bible Study 9 am Worship 10 am Evening 6 pm Wednesday 7 pm www.leewardchurchofchrist.org Anthony Gentry: (808) 671-0239</p>	<p>CLARKSVILLE, IN Clarksville Church of Christ 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kipp Campbell (502) 593-6868 or (812) 944-2305 www.cvcoc.org (812) 944-1878 or 948-9917</p>	

<p>ELLETTSVILLE, IN Church of Christ 303 W. Temperance St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Isaac Edwards (812) 876-2285</p>	<p>Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 855-49-BOOKS 855-492-6657</p>	<p>EL DORADO, KS Emporia St. Church of Christ 1154 S. Emporia Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (316) 250-7123</p>	<p>DANVILLE, KY 385 E. Lexington Ave. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 11:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Scott Vifquain (859) 236-4204</p>	<p>BOSSIER CITY, LA Bossier Church of Christ 2917 Foster Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 747-4308 or 742-4557</p>	<p>CEDAR SPRINGS, MI Grand Rapids Area W. Michigan Church of Christ Sr. Citizen Center, 44 Park St. Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 12:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joseph Gladwell (616) 975-2778 westmichcofc10@yahoo.com</p>
<p>HAMMOND, IN Woodmar Church of Christ 2133 169th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (219) 845-8942</p>	<p>RICHMOND, IN Gaar Road Church of Christ 1835 Gaar Rd. (1 mi. S. of I-70 off Hwy. 227) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Douglas R. Clark (765) 935-2911</p>		<p>FRANKLIN, KY 31-W North Church of Christ 1733 Bowling Green Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Monts (270) 586-3978 www.franklinchurch.com</p>	<p>LEESVILLE, LA White Park Church of Christ 17801 Nolan Trace; 20 mi. from Fort Polk (5 mi. W. of Leesville) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:35 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (337) 239-4614 www.whiteparkchurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>DULUTH, MN Church of Christ 4401 Glennwood St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Nick Krumrei (218) 728-3233</p>
<p>HOBART, IN Church of Christ 300 N. Liberty St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Cleek (219) 942-2663</p>	<p>SALEM, IN Westside Church of Christ 2000 West State Rd. 56 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Evan Casey (812) 883-2033 www.westsidechurchofchrist.info</p>	<p>AUSTIN, KY Peter's Creek Church of Christ 856 Thomerson Park Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening (Nov-Mar) 5:00 P.M. Evening (Apr-Oct) 6:00 P.M. Evangelist: Justin Monts (270) 404-2171 or 646-0498 www.peterscreekcoc.com</p>	<p>GLASGOW, KY East Main St. Church of Christ 106 Carnation Dr. (across from Gorin Park) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Doug Lancaster (270) 404-0346 or 651-7141</p>	<p>MANY, LA Lakeside Church of Christ 12095 Texas Hwy. (Hwy. 6 W.) 12 miles west of Many Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (318) 256-9396</p>	<p>ROCHESTER, MN Church of Christ 2002 Second St., SW Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Russ Jones (507) 254-3929</p>
<p>INDIANAPOLIS, IN Castleton Church of Christ 7701 East 86th St., 46256 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (317) 842-3613</p>	<p>TRAFALGAR, IN Spearsville Rd. Church of Christ, 6244 S. 500W. (1.2 mi. S. of Hwy. 135) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ed Rangel (317) 878-5969 www.trafalgarchurch.com</p>	<p>BEAVER DAM, KY Church of Christ 1235 Williams St. Worship 10:00 A.M. Bible Study After Worship Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike Thomas (270) 274-4451 or 274-4486</p>	<p>LEITCHFIELD, KY Mill St. Church of Christ Highway 62 E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:55 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (270) 259-4968</p>	<p>STONEWALL, LA N. DeSoto Church of Christ 2071 Highway 171 (South of Shreveport) Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Bobbitt (318) 925-2733</p>	<p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP</p>
<p>JAMESTOWN, IN Church of Christ (1 Mi. south of I-74) Cor. Darlington & Mill Sts. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Greg King (765) 676-6404 or (317) 892-6285</p>	<p>DES MOINES, IA Church of Christ 1310 N.E. 54th Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (515) 262-6799</p>	<p>BOWLING GREEN, KY Eastside Church of Christ 1706 Smallhouse Rd Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wed. 10:00 A.M. & 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Gary Kerr (270) 843-9925 www.mightyisthelord.com</p>	<p>LOUISVILLE, KY Valley Station Church of Christ 1803 Dixie Garden Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Dudley Ross Spears (502) 937-2822</p>	<p>WEBSTER, MA Church of Christ Webster 168 Main St. Sunday Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Sunday Worship 10:30 A.M. Wed Bible Study Call for details (401) 440-5117 Preacher: Robert Weltzin</p>	<p>ST. CHARLES, MN Church of Christ 636 Whitewater Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Bible Study 2:45 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Lehnertz (507) 534-2905 or 932-3521</p>
<p>MARION, IN South Marion Church of Christ 3629 S. Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Alan Jones (765) 922-7602</p>	<p>LENEXA, KS Lenexa Church of Christ 7845 Cottonwood Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Stauffer (913) 631-6519 or 764-9170</p>	<p>BOWLING GREEN, KY West End Church of Christ 300 Blue Level Rd., 42101 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Lowell Sallee (270) 842-7880 www.westendchurch.com</p>	<p>LOUISVILLE, KY Church of Christ 4401 West Broad St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Wright, Jr. (502) 772-3026 or 491-9372</p>	<p>PORTLAND, ME Church of Christ 856 Brighton Ave. (Breakwater School) Leave Maine Turnpike at Exit 48 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Second service immediately following morning worship. Mid-week Bible Study—Please call for times & places (207) 839-3075 or 839-8409</p>	<p>BOONEVILLE, MS Oakleigh Dr. Church of Christ 101 Oakleigh Dr. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Building: (662) 728-1942</p>
<p>MUNCIE, IN Church of Christ 301 N. Calvert Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Sulc (765) 284-5299 or 286-5488</p>	<p>TOPEKA, KS 17th Street Church of Christ 5600 SW 17th St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (785) 235-8687 or 273-7977 www.17thstreetchurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>BRANDENBURG, KY Brandenburg Church of Christ 612 Broadway Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: Charles J. White (270) 422-3878</p>	<p>OWENSBORO, KY Southside Church of Christ 2920 New Hartford Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (270) 683-5386 or 264-7869</p>	<p>ARBUTUS, MD Arbutus Church of Christ 5205 East Dr., Suite D (East Drive Shopping Center) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Church phone: (410) 247-1396, (410) 590-2852</p>	<p>CLINTON, MS McRaven Rd. Church of Christ 301 McRaven Rd. (120, exit 36) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Leonard White (601) 925-9757 or 924-2645</p>
<p>OOLITIC, IN Church of Christ 400 Lafayette Ave. P.O. Box 34 Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (812) 279-4332</p>	<p>WICHITA, KS Westside Church of Christ 2626 W. 47th St. South Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mike O'Neal (316) 729-9302 or 942-1649 www.cocwestside.com</p>	<p>CAMPBELLVILLE, KY Sunny Hill Dr. Church of Christ (near the Dairy Queen) AM Worship 9:30 A.M. AM Bible Study 10:30 A.M. AM Worship 11:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Lee stevelee4510@windstream.net (270) 789-1651</p>	<p>REGINA, KY Road Creek Church of Christ 7 miles west of Elkhorn City on Route 460 & Route 80 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jarrod Jacobs (606) 754-9883, 754-8642 or 754-5398</p>	<p>SEVERN, MD Southwest Church of Christ 805 Meadow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brandon Trout (410) 969-1420 or (410) 551-6549 www.swcofchrist.com</p>	<p>COLUMBUS, MS Woodlawn Church of Christ 359 Sanders Mills Rd. Steen Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Willis Logan (601) 356-6629</p>
<p>PEKIN, IN Church of Christ (First St. & Karnes Ct.) Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John Henry (812) 967-3437 or 967-3520</p>	<p>GRINNELL, IA Church of Christ 1402 Third Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (641) 236-1955 (641) 521-6485 (641) 236-3883</p>	<p>CANEYVILLE, KY Caneyville Church of Christ 103 N. Main St. (near the 4 way stop) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Barnes (270) 274-3065, (270) 259-0306 or (502) 724-2231</p>	<p>BATON ROUGE, LA Park Forest Church of Christ 9923 Sunny Cline Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Bill Crews 275-4684 or 273-1105</p>	<p>RIVERDALE, MD (Washington, D.C. area) Wildercroft Church of Christ 6330 Auburn Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Antoine Holloway (301) 474-7460 or (301) 741-0012</p>	<p>GULFPORT, MS Morris Rd. Church of Christ 1 blk. N. of Dedeaux Rd. & 3 Rivers Rd. on Morris Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steven Carmack (228) 832-5529</p>

Directory of Churches

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<p>MERIDIAN, MS Grandview Church of Christ 2820 Grandview Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (601) 482-0543 or (601) 679-8542 youngins@omcast.net</p>	<p>HALLSVILLE, MO Hallsville Church of Christ 5855 E Hwy 124 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Raymond Breuer (573) 696-0003 Kenneth Shern (573) 442-8475</p>	<p>BEATRICE, NE Church of Christ 7th and Bell Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. 233-4102 or 228-3827 www.churchofchrist7bell.com</p>	<p>CHARLOTTE, NC Harris Blvd. Church of Christ 5424 E.W.T. Harris Blvd. Worship 8:30 A.M. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Various members of local congregations Don Moeller (704) 532-9242</p>	<p>DAYTON, OH West Carrollton 28 W. Main Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:25 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Michael Grushon (937) 866-5162, 434-3090 or 848-3779 E-mail: www.wc-coc.org</p>	<p>NEW CARLISLE, OH Church of Christ 235 Funston Ave. (Near Wright-Patterson AFB) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Randy Blackaby (937) 849-1643 or 845-8467 (bldg.)</p>
<p>MERIDIAN, MS 7th St. Church of Christ 2914 7th St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. (601) 483-3101</p>	<p>KANSAS CITY, MO Nashua Church of Christ 11425 N. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Broyles (816) 532-4270 or 734-4142</p>	<p>LAS VEGAS, NV Vegas Dr. Church of Christ 3816 Vegas Drive Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (702) 648-4827</p>	<p>CHARLOTTE, NC Charlotte Church of Christ 5327 S. Tyrone St. Worship 9:00 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Wendell Powell (704) 525-5655 or 522-9971</p>	<p>FRANKLIN, OH Church of Christ 6417 Franklin/Lebanon Rd. State Route 123 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Eston Vandever (937) 746-1249 or (513) 422-2466</p>	<p>NEW LEBANON, OH Church of Christ 1973 W. Main St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marvin L. Eads (937) 236-6521 or 546-8828</p>
<p>SOUTHAVEN, MS (Memphis area) Church of Christ 2110 E State Line Rd. (Exit I-55) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James A. Brown (662) 342-1132 - Church Building</p>	<p>KENNETT, MO Church of Christ 703 Harrison St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 888-6778 or (870) 650-1648 Nolan Glover, Preacher www.westsidchurchofchrist.us</p>	<p>RENO, NV Central Church of Christ 2450 Wrondel Way, Ste. A Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (775) 786-2888</p>	<p>DALLAS, NC Deepwood Forest Church of Christ 2002 Lineburger Rd., Hwy. 275 (Between Dallas & Stanley) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Louis Wooliums (704) 922-8985</p>	<p>FREMONT, OH Church of Christ 3361 W. State St. 1 mi. W. of Fremont on U.S. Rt. 20 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (419) 849-3340 or 849-2980 www.freemontchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>NEW RICHMOND, OH Church of Christ 550 Washington St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Dave Wylie (513) 553-6414 www.nrchurchofchrist.com</p>
<p>BLUE SPRINGS, MO Southside Church of Christ 4000 SW Christiansen Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Brett Hogland (816) 228-9262</p>	<p>LILBOURN, MO P.O. Box 270 211 Benton St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Shane Williams (573) 688-2234 or 748-5204</p>	<p>SPARKS, NV Sierra Nevada Church of Christ 2425 Pyramid Way Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Monday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Triplett, Sr. (775) 972-4911 retriplett@triplettweb.com</p>	<p>HOPE MILLS, NC Gray's Creek Church of Christ Gray's Community Bldg. School Road Worship 10 am Bible Study 11am (910) 321-9023 (910) 424-2372</p>	<p>HAMILTON, OH Westview Church of Christ 1040 Azel Ave. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:45 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: David A. Stansberry (513) 868-9988</p>	<p>NORTHWOOD, OH (Toledo Area) Church of Christ 4110 Frey Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donald Jarabek 893-3566 or 691-0688</p>
<p>CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO North Cape Church of Christ 121 S. Broadview St. Suite 2 Cape Girardeau, MO 63703 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry Lee Westbrook (573)334-9673</p>	<p>RAYMORE, MO Raymore Church of Christ 107 N. Woodson St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ryan Boyer (816) 322-0042 www.raymorechurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>PISCATAWAY, NJ 258 Highland Ave. Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Bible Classes 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gary P. Eubanks (732) 463-1323</p>	<p>MARION, NC Hwy. 70 Church of Christ 18 Peachtree St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (828) 652-7504</p>	<p>HILLIARD, OH Church of Christ 4840 Cemetery Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (614) 876-4089</p>	<p>UHRICHSVILLE, OH Church of Christ 638 Parrish Street Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 6:30 P.M.</p>
<p>Shop online @ truthbooks.net</p>	<p>RAYTOWN, MO Sterling Ave. Church of Christ 5825 Sterling Ave. (Near Sports Complex) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Norman E. Fultz (816) 358-3096 or 554-0836 www.sterlingavechurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>VAUXHALL, NJ Church of Christ Milbourn Mall Suite 6 2933 Vauxhall Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Harry A. Persaud Home: (908) 964-8570 Church: (908) 964-6356</p>	<p>BEAVERCREEK, OH Knollwood Church of Christ 1031 Wellford Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Afternoon 3:00 P.M. Wed. Afternoon 1:00 P.M. Wed. Evening 7:30 P.M. (937) 426-1422 www.knollwoodchurch.org</p>	<p>Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 855-49-BOOKS 855-492-6657</p>	<p>WAVERLY, OH 207 Mullins St. Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 947-7122 or 289-3401</p>
<p>COLUMBIA, MO Eastside Church of Christ 5051 Ponderosa Columbia, MO 65201 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. 445-5497 or 636-0224</p>	<p>ST. JAMES, MO Church of Christ 685 Sidney St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Lynn Huggins (573) 265-8628</p>	<p>ALBUQUERQUE, NM Albuquerque Church of Christ 1908 Sunshine Terrace SE Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (call to confirm time) 764-9277</p>	<p>CINCINNATI, OH Blue Ash Church of Christ Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Russell Dunaway, Jr. 891-3174</p>	<p>MANSFIELD, OH Eastside Church of Christ 326 Grace Street Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Evangelist: James Bond (419) 526-2888</p>	<p>OKLAHOMA CITY, OK Seminole Pointe Church of Christ 16300 N. May Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: John M. Duvall (405) 340-3189 or 513-6691 www.seminolepointecocf.org</p>
<p>DONIPHAN, MO Southside Church of Christ Hwy. 142 E. ½ mile (P.O. Box 220) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (573) 996-3251 or 996-3513</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH, MO County Line Church of Christ 2727 County Line Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 279-4737 www.countylinechurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>ALBUQUERQUE, NM Heights Church of Christ 7801 Zuni Road, S.E. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Darrel Yontz (505) 266-7577 www.heightschurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>CLEVELAND, OH Lorain Ave. Church of Christ 13501 Lorain Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (216) 476-0660 or (330) 725-3960, 723-0111</p>	<p>MANSFIELD, OH Southside Church of Christ 687 Mansfield-Lucas Road Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Leon Bond: 525-3684 Glenn Bond: 522-1965</p>	<p>TULSA, OK Woodland Hills Church of Christ 9119 E. 61 St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Ross Oldenkamp (918) 252-1220</p>
<p>FAIR GROVE, MO Church of Christ 217 N. Orchard Blvd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Walter Myers (417) 830-8972 or (417) 736-2663</p>	<p>ST. JOSEPH, MO Prairie Hills Church of Christ 14273 County Rd. 307 (.7 mi. E of Intersection I-29 & Hwy. 169) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (816) 233-6485 Evangelist: Erik Smith</p>	<p>BUFFALO, NY Greater Buffalo Church of Christ 3578 Walden Ave Lancaster, NY 14086 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Daniel Bailey (716) 870-3259</p>	<p>COLUMBUS, OH Laurel Canyon Church of Christ 409 McNaughton Rd. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (614)868-1375 www.lccoc.net</p>	<p>MARIETTA/RENO, OH Jct. St. Rt. 7 & County Rd. 20 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (740) 222-9160 (Daniel Ruegg) or 473-9028 (Steve Foutly)</p>	<p>MEDFORD, OR Church of Christ 1850 Spring St. (Roxy Ann Grange Hall) Corner of Spring/Valley View Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Thursday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dean Blackwell (541) 773-2649</p>

Directory of Churches

<p>SWEET HOME, OR Church of Christ 3702 E. Long St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Building: (541) 367-1599</p>	<p>WEST COLUMBIA, SC Airport Church of Christ 4013 Edmund Hwy. (Hwy. 302) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. 803-894-3973; 803-429-4009 http://airport-church-of-christ.com</p>	<p>KNOXVILLE, TN Chapman Hwy. Church of Christ 7604 Chapman Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Tim Shepherd (865) 573-6638</p>	<p>PIGEON FORGE, TN King Branch Road Church of Christ 560 King Branch Road Worship 10:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Facilities available for Sunday evening services upon request. Evangelist: Roger Williams (865)430-5980 www.KingBranchRoadChurchOfChrist.org</p>	<p>AUSTIN, TX Colonade Center Church of Christ 9025 Research Blvd. - Unit 175 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 2:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ron Lehde</p>	<p>DICKINSON, TX Church of Christ 2919 FM 517 Rd. E. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 9:45 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (281) 534-4870</p>
<p>AVONDALE, PA Avondale Church of Christ 1606 Glenn Willow Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (610) 268-2088 Randy Frame (610) 869-4146</p>	<p>To make changes to your ad, contact us at tmmikewillis@gmail.com</p>	<p>MARYVILLE, TN Smockey Mt. Church of Christ 2206 Montvale Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Harold Tabor (865) 977-4230 Lon Spurgeon (865) 388-8749 http://tinyurl.com/smchurch</p>	<p>ROCKWOOD, TN Church of Christ Highway 70 East 5080 Roane State Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Woodall (865) 806-6387</p>	<p>BAYTOWN, TX Church of Christ at Pruett & Lobit 701 North Pruett St. Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:40 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jesse Flowers (281) 515-8939 Building (281) 422-5926 Weldon (713) 818-1321</p>	<p>HELP VACATIONING CHRISTIANS FIND YOUR PLACE OF WORSHIP</p>
<p>EXTON, PA Exton Church of Christ 217 N. Whitford Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (610) 363-8042</p>	<p>COLUMBIA, TN Jackson Hts. Church of Christ 1200 Nashville Hwy., Hwy. 31N Bible Study 9:15 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Mid-week 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Andrew Roberts (931) 388-6811</p>	<p>MEMPHIS, TN Rocky Pt. Road Church of Christ 516 E. Rocky Point Rd., Cordova Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Contact: Mitch Stevens (901) 372-5580 or 758-4006</p>	<p>SHELBYVILLE, TN El Bethel Church of Christ 1801 Hwy. 41-A North Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Donnie V. Rader (931) 685-1113 or 931-607-9099 dvdrader@hughes.net</p>	<p>BAYTOWN, TX East Side Church of Christ 3107 N. Highway 146 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Kris Emerson (281) 427-8729; 837-9259 422-8800; 573-1940</p>	<p>DUNCANVILLE, TX Whispering Hills Church of Christ 2126 S Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (972) 298-2522 info@whchurchofchrist.net</p>
<p>PHILADELPHIA, PA Church of Christ 7222 Germantown Ave. Bible Study 10:15 A.M. Worship 11:15 A.M. Tues. night 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: James H. Baker, Jr. (215) 248-2026 www.mtairychurchofchrist.org</p>	<p>COLUMBIA, TN Mooreville Pike Church of Christ 417 Mooreville Pike (.8 mi. N. of Hwy. 50/Jas. Campbell) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (931) 388-5828; 381-7898; 380-1226 www.moorevillepikecoc.com</p>	<p>MURFREESBORO, TN Cason Lane Church of Christ 1110 Cason Lane Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 896-0090 (Building) www.casonlanechurch.org</p>	<p>SHELBYVILLE, TN Shelbyville Mills Church of Christ 1222 W Jackson St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff Curtis Phone: 931-607-9118 djcurtis1963@hotmail.com</p>	<p>BEAUMONT, TX Dowlen Rd. Church of Christ 3060 Dowlen Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Max Dawson & David Banning (409) 866-1996</p>	<p>EDNA, TX 301 Robison Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (361) 782-5506 or 782-2844 Elders: R. Dunham, J. Mercer S. Mercer, G. Nordin, S. Wilson</p>
<p>BEAUFORT, SC Church of Christ 2101 King St Parris Island: call for times Sunday Morning 10:00 A.M. Sunday Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 P.M. Daniel Hedges, Evangelist (843) 524-4400</p>	<p>DAYTON, TN Rhea Church of Christ 1367 Market Street, Suite 2 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (423) 413-7675 or 332-4604 www.rheachurchofchrist.org www.jesusisnomyth.com</p>	<p>MURFREESBORO, TN Northfield Blvd. Church of Christ 2091 Pitts Ln. at Northfield Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: David Bunting (615) 893-1200</p>	<p>TULLAHOMA, TN Church of Christ 1625 W. Lincoln St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Mickells (931) 455-0273 or 563-7312</p>	<p>CLEBURNE, TX Nolan River Church of Christ 1705 Longfellow Ln at 1700 S. Nolan River Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Tim E. Stevens (817) 645-2353</p>	<p>EL PASO, TX Eastridge Church of Christ 3277 Pendleton Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (915) 855-1524</p>
<p>COLUMBIA, SC Lower Richland Church of Christ 3000 Trotter Rd. (Hopkins, SC) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (803) 776-0754 http://lowerrichlandchurch.org</p>	<p>FAIRVIEW, TN New Hope Church of Christ 7500 Jingo Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Shannon Shaffer (615) 289-1721 or 799-0162 www.newhopecoc.com</p>	<p>MURFREESBORO, TN South Ridge Church of Christ 488 Barfield-Crescent Rd. • PO 2257 (I-24, Exit 81, South 1.5 miles on Hwy 231, turn right) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 425-6300 www.southridgechurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>ALLEN, TX West Allen Church of Christ 1414 W. Exchange Blvd. (2 miles w. of Hwy. 75) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jerry King (214) 504-0443 (972) 727-5355 (bldg)</p>	<p>CLEVELAND, TX Church of Christ 310 E. Houston Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davis (281) 592-5676</p>	<p>FORT WORTH, TX Woodmont Church of Christ 6417 Landview (at Altamesa) Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 11:00 A.M. Afternoon 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jeff S. Smith (817) 292-4908 or 426-2242 woodmontchurch.org</p>
<p>ORANGEBURG, SC Southside Church of Christ 1502 Binnicker Bridge Rd. (Grange Building - Hwy 70) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evangelist: Fred England (803) 939-0672 www.southside-church.org</p>	<p>JACKSON, TN Sunset View Church of Christ 3618 Hwy 70 East (Exit 87 off I-40, 7mi. @ Spring Creek) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Wilkerson (731) 987-2200 or 968-9851</p>	<p>NASHVILLE, TN Bell Road Church of Christ 1608 Bell Road Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Davenport (615) 833-4444 or 331-7377</p>	<p>ALVARADO, TX I-35 Church of Christ (E. Service Rd. of I-35, N. of Alvarado) Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 295-7277 or 790-7253</p>	<p>CLUTE, TX Church of Christ 343 S. Main Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (979) 265-5283 or 265-2933</p>	<p>FORT WORTH, TX West Side Church of Christ 6110 White Settlement Rd. 76114 Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (817) 738-7269</p>
<p>SUMTER, SC Woodland Church of Christ 3370 Broad St. Extension Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: A.A. Granke, Jr. (803) 499-6023</p>	<p>JOHNSON CITY, TN Brookmead Church of Christ 2428 Lakeview Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Kevin Kay 423-282-6251 or 426-1836</p>	<p>NASHVILLE, TN Hillview Church of Christ 7471 Charlotte Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (615) 952-5458 or (615) 356-7318 Evangelist: Lee Wildman</p>	<p>ALVIN, TX Adoue St. Church of Christ 605 E. Adoue St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Mayberry (281) 331-4953 or (832) 837-9038</p>	<p>CONROE, TEXAS Woodland Hills Church of Christ 410 Woodland Hills Dr. (77303) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist Kurt G. Jones www.conroechurch.com 936-756-9322</p>	<p>FRISCO, TX (North Dallas-Plano) 4220 Preston Rd. (Holiday Inn) Call for times of services. Glenn Henderson (972) 378-3621 Rex Payne (972) 740-1486 Al Payne (972) 712-9274</p>
<p>TAYLORS, SC (Greenville Area) Taylors Church of Christ 400 E. Main St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Luther Pratt (864) 268-5224 or 877-2728 www.taylorschurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>KINGSTON SPRINGS, TN Kingston Springs Church of Christ 350 North Main St. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dan King, Sr. (615) 952-5720 or 797-2280</p>	<p>NASHVILLE, TN Perry Heights Church of Christ 423 Donelson Pike Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:55 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Johnny Falcker (615) 883-3118 http://perryheights.faihtweb.com</p>	<p>ANGELTON, TX Kiber St. Church of Christ 200 East Kiber Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Zeke Flores (979) 849-8376</p>	<p>CORPUS CHRISTI, TX Hwy. 9 church of Christ Worship 10:00 am Bible Study 11:00 am Worship 12:00 noon Wednesday 7:30 Call for location: Gary Madden (361)289-1439 or Patrick Frazier (361) 225-4792</p>	<p>GRANBURY, TX Old Granbury Rd. Church of Christ 4313 Old Granbury Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (817) 573-6878</p>

Directory of Churches

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<p>HOUSTON, TX Fry Rd. Church of Christ 2510 Fry Road (77084) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Bob Pulliam (281) 832-4633</p>	<p>MESQUITE, TX (East Dallas) Westlake Church of Christ 427 Gross Rd., 75149 Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Ashley Sharkey (972) 285-1610</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Place Your Ad Today!</p>	<p>NEWPORT NEWS, VA Harpersville Rd. Church of Christ 315 Harpersville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (757) 595-9564</p>	<p>BELLINGHAM, WA Mt. Baker Church of Christ 1860 Mt. Baker Hwy. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Joe Price (360) 752-2692 or 380-2960 www.bibleanswer.com/mtbaker</p>	<p>WELLSBURG, WV Charles St. Church of Christ 836 Charles Street Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jessie Daniels (304) 527-4438 or 737-3124</p>
<p>HOUSTON, TX (Southwest) Murphy Rd. Church of Christ 2025 Murphy Rd., Missouri City Worship 9:30 A.M. Bible Study 10:45 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Gene Mabry (281) 265-8071 or 261-5216</p>	<p>MIDLAND, TX Woodcrest Drive Church of Christ 1401 Woodcrest Drive Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Danny Hooper (432) 689-0955 (432) 694-3482</p>		<p>TEMPLE, TX Leon Valley Church of Christ 4404 Twin City Blvd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Warren King (254) 939-0682 or 228-5038 www.biblemoments.org</p>	<p>RICHMOND (Metro), VA Courthouse Church of Christ Courthouse Rd. at Double Creek Ct. (2.2 miles S of Rt. 288) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evang: Gene Tope (804) 790-1629 www.courthousechurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>SUNNYSIDE, WA Sunnyside Church of Christ (sound) 1312 East Edison Bible Study 2:00 P.M. Worship 3:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steven J. Wallace (509) 837-2813 www.sunnysidechurchofchrist.com</p>
<p>HOUSTON, TX Spring Woods Church of Christ 9955 Neuens Rd. at Witte Rd. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist (281) 794-0837</p>	<p>NACOGDOCHES, TX Stallings Dr. Church of Christ 3831 N.E. Stallings Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Randy Harshbarger & Jay Taylor</p>	<p>TEMPLE, TX Southside Church of Christ 2003 S. 5th Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (254) 773-0931</p>	<p>RICHMOND, VA Forest Hill Church of Christ 1208 W. 41st St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 4:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Bise, Jr. (804) 233-5959</p>	<p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 522 Daugherty St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 346-2112 or Kent Clark (304) 342-0237 mansuper1965@hotmail.com oakwoodroadchurchofchrist.com</p>	<p>RANCHESTER, WY Church of Christ Hwy. 14 West Ranch Mart Mall Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 6:30 P.M. Contact: Bob Reici (307) 655-2563</p>
<p>IRVING, TX Westside Church of Christ 2320 Imperial Dr. (closest to D/FW Airport) Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark Roberts (972) 988-9131 www.JustChristians.com</p>	<p>ODESSA, TX Crescent Park Church of Christ 1415 Royalty Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Dale Garrison (432) 366-5071 or 413-7759</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Subscribe Today! Truth Magazine 855-49-BOOKS 855-492-6657</p>	<p>RICHMOND, VA West End 4909 Patterson Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Stacy Crim (804) 358-7933</p>	<p>CHARLESTON, WV Church of Christ 873 Oakwood Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Jonathan Chaffin (304) 342-5637</p>	<p>CANADA Calgary, Alberta Northside Church of Christ 803 - 20 Ave. N.E. Calgary, Alberta T2E 1S1 Sunday 10, 11, 6 Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (403) 452-5116</p>
<p>LANCASTER, TX Pleasant Run Church of Christ 311 W. Pleasant Run Rd. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 227-1708 or 227-2598</p>	<p>PLANO, TX (North Dallas Suburb) Spring Creek Church of Christ 2100 W. Spring Creek Pkwy. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 10:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (972) 517-5582 www.planochurch.org</p>	<p>WACO, TX Sun Valley Church of Christ 340 E. Warren St. (In Hewitt, a suburb of Waco) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Marc Smith (254) 666-1020 or 420-1484</p>	<p>RIDGEWAY, VA Church of Christ 2970 Old Leaksville Rd. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Robert Byrd (276) 956-6049</p>	<p>CLARKSBURG, WV Westside Church of Christ Davison Run Road Sunday Morning 9:30 A.M. (304) 622-5433</p>	<p>CANADA Hamilton, Ontario 126 Ottawa St. N. Mailing Address: 33 Highcliffe Ave. L9A 3L3 Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Monday 7:00 P.M. Tuesday 7:00 P.M. Steve Rudd, Evangelist (905) 575-8437</p>
<p>LUBBOCK, TX Indiana Ave. Church of Christ 6111 Indiana Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (806) 795-3377</p>	<p>RED OAK, TX Methodist Street Church of Christ 211 Methodist St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (972) 576-3119 or 363-7672 info@methodiststreet churchofchrist.com</p>	<p>THE WOODLANDS, TX Woodlands Church of Christ P.O. Box 7664-77380 3987 Wellman Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (281) 367-2099 www.simplychristians.net</p>	<p>ROANOKE, VA Blue Ridge Church of Christ 929 Indiana Ave. N.E. 5 min. from Roanoke Convention Center 1st Lesson 9:15 A.M. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (540) 344-2755</p>	<p>FAIRMONT, WV Eastside Church of Christ 1929 Morgantown Ave. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 10:45 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (304) 363-8054</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ADVERTISING RATES ON CHURCH AD PAGES</p>
<p>LUFKIN, TX Timberland Dr. Church of Christ 912 S. Timberland Dr. Bible Study 9:00 A.M. Worship 9:50 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelists: Harold Hancock Reagan McClenny 634-7110 or 632-7070</p>	<p>SAN ANGELO, TX Green Meadow church of Christ (Off Loop 306, sw part of the city) 3438 Green Meadow Dr. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Boyd Jennings (325) 224-2848 or (325) 944-8147</p>	<p>CHESAPEAKE, VA Tidewater Church of Christ 217 Taxus St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Steve Schlosser (757) 436-6900</p>	<p>STAFFORD, VA Stafford Church of Christ 767 Jefferson Davis Hwy. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Mark McNabb (540) 379-4915</p>	<p>MOUNDSVILLE, WV Church of Christ 210 Cedar St. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Mid-week 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Brian Price (304) 845-2820, 845-4940</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rates are \$25 per quarter or \$95.00 per year (when paid in advance).</p>
<p>MANSFIELD, TX Northside Church of Christ 1820 Mansfield-Webb Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:20 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelists: Tom Roberts (817) 466-3160</p>	<p>SAN ANTONIO, TX Pecan Valley Church of Christ 268 Utopia (I-37 S.E. Exit Pecan Valley) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Clyde W. Carter (210) 337-6143</p>	<p>CHESTER, VA Chester Church of Christ 12100 Winfree St. (Central to Richmond, Hopewell, Petersburg, & Colonial Heights) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Church Building: (804) 796-2374 (804) 497-3638 or (804) 271-0877</p>	<p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Southside Church of Christ 5652 Haden Rd. Worship 11:00 A.M. Robert Mallard (757) 464-4574</p>	<p>MOUNDSVILLE, WV Roberts Ridge Church of Christ Bible Study 9:45 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Don Terrill: (304) 845-2344 Mail to: Sam Wood (304) 845-2202 406 Jefferson Ave. Glenn Dale, WV 26038</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The ads are run once each month -12 times a year. Help travelers find your place of worship!</p>
<p>McKINNEY, TX Central Church of Christ 1805 White Ave. Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jack Howard III (214) 544-3035</p>	<p>SHERMAN, TX Westwood Village Church of Christ 314 N. Tolbert Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 6:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. Evangelist: Jim Smelser</p>	<p>COLONIAL HEIGHTS/ PETERSBURG, VA Appomattox church of Christ 117 Orange Avenue (Fl. Lee Area) Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:30 A.M. Evening 5:30 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. Evangelist: Lenny Chapman (804) 526-6464 or (804) 675-0216</p>	<p>VIRGINIA BEACH, VA Virginia Beach Church of Christ Pembrook Manor Recreation Building 4452 Hindsdale St. Bible Study 10:00 A.M. Worship 11:00 A.M. Wednesday 7:00 P.M. (757) 486-6639</p>	<p>PARKERSBURG, WV Marrown Church of Christ 825 Marrown Road Bible Study 9:30 A.M. Worship 10:15 A.M. Evening 7:00 P.M. Wednesday 7:30 P.M. (304) 861-0342 or 422-7458</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TOLL FREE: 855 855 49 492 BOOKS 6657</p>



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Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 AM		O Worship The King 1 David Maravilla	O Worship The King 2 David Maravilla	O Worship The King 3 David Maravilla	
9:00 AM		Purer In Heart Tommie Andrews	I'll Never Forsake My Lord Cecil Cox	Train Your Children Huey Hartsell	
10:00 AM		O Happy Day! Dan King	There Is A God Mike Willis	The Army of Our Lord Steven Deaton	
11:00 AM		There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood David McClister	Day by Day Bob Waldron	We Will Glorify the King Jeremy Paschall	
2:00 PM		Revive Us Again 1 Congregation Building Series Steve Niemeier	Revive Us Again 2 Congregation Building Series Steve Niemeier	Revive Us Again 3 Congregation Building Series Steve Niemeier	Open House & Sale CEI Bookstore 1:00 – 5:00 PM
3:00 PM		Q & A with editors of Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs	Q & A with editors of Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs	Q & A with editors of Psalms, Hymns, & Spiritual Songs	
7:00 PM	Singing	Singing	No Singing	Singing	
7:30 PM	Emmanuel David Cox	Jesus Saves Connie Adams	No Lecture	There's A Great Day Coming Wayne Chappell	Singing With New Hymnal 7:00-8:30 PM