

# 4th & Stewart church of Christ

"...upon this rock I will build my church;  
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."  
~Matthew 16:18



June 13, 2021

## Contact Us:

3201 4th Street  
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

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office@4thstreetcoc.org

## Meeting Times:

### Sunday:

Bible Study .....9:45 AM  
Worship .....10:40 AM  
Care, Inc. Service ..... N/A  
Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class ..... N/A  
Bible Study ..... 7:00 PM

## Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Mike Bannister

Billy Chism... Johnny McCaghren

## Deacons:

John Barnum..... Don Smith

## Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

## Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children  
Gospel Broadcast Network  
Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)  
Mission Printing  
Rohan Jones, Africa  
World Bible School

## The Tentacles of Humanism

During the past year a deadly pandemic, coronavirus, has been reaching into every facet of society. It has advanced into our homes destroying the physical health of thousands and bringing physical death to a multitude of families. Everyone has been aware of this pandemic.

There is a spiritual pandemic that has been spreading its poison into the hearts of millions. It advances an anti-God *virus* with a deadly infection without the knowledge of most of the people it is affecting. It is called Humanism. It has tentacles that reach into a large indefinite number of directions. In this article, the avenues used by Humanism will be examined and exposed so Christians can be prepared for the battle for their souls and remove the virus from their hearts.

Paul directed the Christians in Ephesus and all Christians to undergo training and instruction for the spiritual war between good and evil.

*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand (Eph. 6:10-13).*

### Defining Humanism

In every time period of mankind, there has been a common teaching coming from an antagonistic and non-religious segment of society that rejects God and all things supernatural. Their main teaching is there is no life after death or a resurrection from the dead. This was also the core doctrine of the Sadducees at the time of Christ (Matt. 22:23).

Today, they are called Humanist because they believe man can survive solely on human reason. Modern-day humanism can be traced back to around 490 b.c. *Webster's Dictionary* defines Humanism as "Any system of thought or action based on the nature, interests, and ideals of humanity; specif., a modern, nontheistic, rationalist movement that holds that humanity is capable of self-fulfillment, ethical conduct, etc. without recourse to supernaturalism."

In general, Humanism replaces the teaching of God from His inspired Word, the Scriptures, for the teachings of men. Humanists reject the Biblical account of creation for the unverified theory of evolution. Humanists reject also the Biblical teaching that man has an everlasting soul for the doctrine that man is just flesh and bones and ceases to exist at death. James and Solomon teach differently from the atheist views of Humanism. "*For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also*" (Jam. 2:26). "*Then the dust will return to the earth as it was, And the spirit will return to God who gave it*" (Eccl. 12:7). Humanism rejects Jesus as God's Son and salvation made possible by His death on the cross. Yet, Jesus proclaimed that He is the only way to Heaven: "*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*" (John 14:6).

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Let us know if you want to study  
the Bible to know more about  
Christ and His Church.

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### The Tentacles of Humanism and the Death of Truth

The Bible has a great deal to say about truth. Man is to speak “the truth in his heart” (Psa. 15:2). Wise men desire to be led by truth: “Lead me in Your truth and teach me, For You are the God of my salvation; On You I wait all the day” (25:5). Jesus said we can know the truth: “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). The Lord proclaimed that God’s Word is truth: “Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth” (17:17). Paul taught that everyone who rejects truth for a lie will be put under a strong delusion (2 Thess. 2:9-12).

The agenda for Humanism is man-centered and not God-centered. Everything in their teaching is based on man’s interests and ethical standard. Humanism has a drastic and far-reaching change in the way man should think to a twisted change in behavior. To attain their goal, Humanists rewrite history to advance their social interests on society to accept a false view of the Feminist Movement and the Homosexual agenda. Humanists understand that truth, God’s Word rejects their agenda and revolution.

Humanists teach that Biblical truth is morally offensive and arrogant. It is overbearing, unwarranted, and prideful. They claim that no one should discuss false teaching and error in anyone’s religious beliefs. To disagree with anyone’s beliefs is malicious and offensive.

Humanist rejection of truth is known as Postmodernism, which rejects absolute truth leading to relativism. They teach that truth is ever-changing and is tailored to the tastes of the individual. In the mind of the Humanists, truth is dead! Humanists change their mindset from the worship of God to worshipping self.

There is a standard for truth! It is God and His Word! “He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true” (John 3:33). Jesus is truth: “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me’” (14:6). The Lord taught very plainly that man can know truth: “And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (8:32). The revealed truth in God’s Word is infinitely more valuable than all the humanist teaching of men. Truth is not dead! But sadly, it is dead in the hearts of multitudes who have been influenced by Humanism. Therefore, all are encouraged to buy the

truth and never sell it. It is written, “Buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding” (Pro. 23:23). We buy the truth by trusting in God and obeying His Word.

### The Tentacles of Humanism and the Death of Outrage

One of the many things that accompanies Humanism is the death of outrage. People are not shocked or horrified at the absence of morals in society. Immorality is forced on every segment and facet of life. People have lost the ability to blush. Jeremiah saw the same problem in his day. “Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No! They were not at all ashamed; Nor did they know how to blush. Therefore they shall fall among those who fall; At the time I punish them, they shall be cast down, says the Lord” (Jer. 6:15). How long has it been since you have blushed?

Humanism advances sin with the teaching of individual subjectivism. This view teaches that man sets the standard, not God or Jesus. Yet, Scripture teaches differently.

*And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ. But he who does wrong will be repaid for what he has done, and there is no partiality (Col. 3:23-25).*

The rejection of God and Christian morality is looked upon as out of date and harmful. The distinction between good and evil, right or wrong is blurred in our school systems from grade school through college. There is a void of motivation based on right and wrong. Where is the outrage?

Sin is a taboo subject from many pulpits and the word sin has vanished from the vocabulary of many preachers and elders. Sadly, families are laid waste in a flood of sin. Where is the outrage? God will not accept such an attitude from His people. God views sin as vile, corrupt, and an abomination. Co-habitation treats marriage as useless and many even glorify their wicked lifestyle. The nation has been demoralized with sin and many have forgotten the Old Testament proclamation against sin: “But if you do not do so, then take note, you have sinned against the Lord; and be sure your sin will find you out” (Num. 32:23). Where is the outrage?

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#### Television

In Search of the Lord’s Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:00am on KTAB

#### Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

#### Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

#### God’s Plan for Redeeming Man

**Hear** Learn the saving message of Christ’s sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

**Believe** Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

**Confess** Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

**Repent** of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

**Live faithfully** (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

#### Bible Reading Schedule

[video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/](http://video.wvbs.org/access/interactive-bible-reading-plan/)

**June 13** Numbers 13—14; Prov. 13  
**June 14** Numbers 15—16; Prov. 14  
**June 15** Numbers 17—18; Prov. 15  
**June 16** Num. 19—20; Pro. 16 (video)  
**June 17** Numbers 21—22; Prov. 17  
**June 18** Numbers 23—24; Prov. 18  
**June 19** Numbers 25—26; Prov. 19  
**June 20** Numbers 27—28; Prov. 20

*“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”*

(2 Timothy 2:15)



### Visitation Meeting

- ◆ Last week **21** contacts were made.

### Announcements

- ◆ **Baby Shower for Jayce and Dex Dennard** after worship this evening.
- ◆ **Summer Youth Series** this week is at Dublin (7:00pm—information on bulletin board)
- ◆ If you have not turned in your **Work Assignment Sign-up Sheet**, please do so as soon as possible. If you have not received one, see Johnny.

### Upcoming Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 10—We host Summer Youth Series
- ◆ October 17-20—Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Ross Haffner

### Upcoming Area Events

- ◆ June 8—August 10: **Summer Youth Series** each Tuesday evening at 7:00pm (except camp weeks; see flyer on bulletin board for locations and topics)
- ◆ June 27—July 1—**Junior Camp**
- ◆ July 18-23—**Senior Camp**

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## The Tentacles of Humanism and the Death of the United States of America

*Freedom* is a wonderful word, and people who are free are truly blessed. As citizens of the United States of America, we are granted the freedom to speak plainly without fear. The First Amendment to the Constitution grants this right to all citizens of the United States.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for redress of Grievances (Amendment I, Constitution of the United States).

Citizens have the right to speak without fear. They have the right to travel throughout this wonderful country without having papers to cross state boundaries. They have the right to worship God as it is authorized in the New Testament (John 4:24). All citizens must cherish, treasure, and value this freedom. Humanism is seeking to put to death this freedom by socialism.

*Socialism* is defined as “Any of various social systems based on shared or government ownership and the administration of the means of production and distribution of good” (Webster’s). Socialism has the goal of centralized government and the redistribution of wealth.

How does the humanist doctrine of socialism affect the work and operation of Christianity? Socialists will silence the teaching of pure New Testament Christianity by controlling the pulpits. Preachers will depend on the government for entitlements and the government will demand churches to join the collective. In the Humanist Manifesto II, their goals are plainly set forth. “We urge that parochial loyalties and inflexible moral and religious ideologies be transcended.” This statement simply means preachers and the church cannot speak against false doctrines of man, homosexuality, cohabitation, or any number of moral issues. Humanists will destroy our nation and Christianity!

### Conclusion

The spiritual pandemic is destroying the foundation of society and will affect the church and all that Christianity stands for. The tentacles of Humanism reach in many directions. The corrupting influence of Humanism has silenced the voice of many Christians. They have lost the ability to blush and no longer view the wickedness of society as outrageous.

Christians must stand against this spiritual pandemic before it is too late. “*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil*” (Eph. 6:10-11). Are you ready to stand against Humanism?

*Paul Vaughn* (Defender, L:5 (May 2021), 1,3,4)

## Celebrate

“*Rejoice with those who rejoice...*” (Romans 12:15)

**June Birthdays:** Mike Bannister (4), Loutrell Dobbins (8), **Donna Sublett (19)**, David Greer (26), Ashley Kahlich (29).

**June Anniversaries:** Dex & Jacey Dennard (7), Johnny & Cindy McCaghen (8), **Wayne & Mileen Kahlich (19)**, David & Lisa Greer (28).

*Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...*



## Records

	May 30, 2021	June 6, 2021
Bible Class	36	38
AM Worship	40 + [13]	44 + [10]
PM Worship	30 + [5]	40 + [5]
Wednesday PM	35	27 + [5]
Contribution	\$2,120	\$1,600

# Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work," (Titus 3:1)

	This Week: 6/13/21	Next Week: 6/20/21		
<b>Sunday AM:</b>	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<b>June 2021</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Ken Maninger <b>Prepare Communion:</b> John Barnum Family <b>Clean Building:</b> John Barnum Family	
<b>Greeters</b>	_____	_____		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Randy Huckaby	Don Smith		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger, Coyce Reed Don Smith, Tom Wilcox	John Barnum, Daniel Edwards Ryan Rudloff, Ryan Settles		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Kyle Duaine	Tom Wilcox		
<b>Attendance Cards</b>	_____	_____		
<b>Sunday PM:</b>	Song Leader: Dex Dennard	Song Leader: Ken Maninger		
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	James Fuller	Dex Dennard	<b>July 2021</b> <b>Make Announcements:</b> Dex Dennard <b>Prepare Communion:</b> Duaine / Edwards <b>Clean Building:</b> Duaine / Edwards	
<b>Scripture Reading</b>	Mike Bannister (Mt. 14:13-21)	Chase Churchwell (Jn. 6:60-69)		
<b>Communion</b>	Ken Maninger	John Barnum		
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Chase Churchwell	Mike Bannister		
<b>Wednesday Devotionals:</b>	June 16 Johnny McCaghren	June 23 Rafe Smith		

## Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

### Studies for the week of June 13, 2021

Sunday Class ..... *1 Corinthians 15:26*  
 Wed. Class ..... *Leviticus 17:4*

#### Causes of Unbelief (03)

- I. **Intellectual Intimidation.**
  - A. It is not pleasant to be labeled as *dumb, stupid, or ignorant.*
  - B. "Hundreds of thousands of scientists can't be wrong, can they?"
    1. Any argument based on "counting heads" is misleading.
    2. The prestige of a position's advocates has nothing to do with whether that position is true or false.
    3. The idea of strict objectivity in intellectual circles is a myth.
    4. On occasion it has been the "intellectuals" who have championed what can only be called "crazy" concepts.
- II. **Evil, Pain, and Suffering.**
  - A. One of the most frequent, and thus one of the most important, causes of unbelief is the existence of evil, pain, and suffering in the world. What shall we say in regard to their accusations against their Creator?
  - B. At the end of His six days of creation (Gen. 1:31), God surveyed all that He had made and proclaimed it "*very good*"; however, in Genesis 3 Moses discussed the breaking of the covenant relationship between man and God, the entrance of sin into the world, and the curse(s) that resulted.
    1. One writer correctly concluded: "*...the cause of all that is wrong with the earth is not godliness but rather ungodliness.*"
    2. Mankind now reaps the consequences of the misuse of freedom of choice (i.e., the sin) of previous generations.
    3. Man – not God – must bear the blame.
  - C. God created a world ruled by natural laws established at the Creation.
    1. All of nature is regulated by these laws – not just the parts that we find convenient.
    2. Everyone must obey them or suffer the consequences.
  - D. There are times when suffering actually is beneficial.
  - E. Instead of blaming God because evil, pain, and suffering exist, we should turn to Him for strength, and let tragedies, of whatever nature, remind us that this world never was intended to be a final home (Heb. 11:13-16).
  - F. No one can suggest – justifiably – that suffering per se is contrary to the existence or goodness of God in light of the series of events that transpired at Calvary.

#### Jesus' Withdrawal from Herod's Territory – and Return

- I. **Return of the Twelve and Retirement to the East Coast Of the Sea of Galilee** (Mt. 14:12b-13; Mk. 6:30-32; Lk. 9:10; Jn. 6:1).
  - A. Jesus completed His tour, and He and His apostles regrouped.
    1. They were again thronged by persistent crowds.
    2. Then disturbing news came about the death of John.
  - B. "When Jesus heard it" (Mt. 14:13a), He proposed to His disciples that they go to a secluded location (Mk. 6:31).
    1. It would remove Jesus and His followers from Herod's territory.
    2. The withdrawal should give Jesus needed time alone with His apostles.
  - C. Once more, they headed east across the Sea of Galilee.
- II. **Feeding 5,000 Men** (Mt. 14:13-21; Mk. 6:33-44; Lk. 9:11-17; Jn. 6:2-14).
  - A. As they approached the shore, a multitude gathered.
    1. Jesus graciously "*was moved with compassion for them.*"
    2. The crowd continued to swell until it numbered in the thousands.
  - B. Jesus asked Philip, "*Where shall we buy bread, that these may eat?*"; He then said to them, "*They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.*" He was testing their faith.
    1. A poll of the crowd only produced a boy's snack – 5 small loaves and 2 tiny fish.
    2. Jesus instructed the crowd sit down on the grass for a meal – a test of their own faith – to which they complied.
    3. The meal itself was an added test – test of how they perceived Jesus and His mission. They concluded, "*This is truly the Prophet who is to come into the world.*"
- III. **Walking on the Water** (Mt. 14:22-36; Mk. 6:45-56; Jn. 6:15-21a).
  - A. The crowd was ready to "*take Him by force to make Him king.*"
  - B. Jesus sent the apostles back across the sea, sent the crowd away, then went up on a mountain to be alone and pray.
  - C. As the apostles struggled against a storm on the sea, Jesus approached them walking on the water.
    1. The apostles "*were troubled, saying, 'It is a ghost!'*"
    2. After Jesus calms their fears, Peter request to walk to Jesus.
    3. The apostles "*worshipped Him, saying, 'Truly You are the Son of God'*"