

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



July 25, 2021

Contact Us:

3201 4th Street
Brownwood, TX 76801

325-646-7102

www.4thstreetcoc.org
office@4thstreetcoc.org

Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 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 Person Transformed By Christ

The person transformed by Christ lives a completely different life than before. There is a new attitude, a new focus, a new goal. The old person dies and is buried. The new person is raised to live a new life.

Paul wrote the letter to the Colossians from a Roman prison about AD 62. It is not known who started the church at Colossae but Paul had a deep interest in these brethren. In the epistle to the Colossians he gave a powerful look at the person transformed by the power of Christ.

The person transformed by Christ is **raised with Christ**. Paul said, *"If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God"* (Col. 3:1). This is the same thought Paul had addressed in Colossians 2:12 where he said, *"Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."* These brethren had been baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3; Gal. 3:27). They had been buried and raised with Him in baptism. At baptism they stopped being "out of Christ" and they were united with Him—"in Christ." Thus being united with Christ, they should seek to live a life pleasing to Him.

The person transformed by Christ will **seek Heaven**. The mind of the transformed person will be set on heaven. Paul said, *"Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth"* (Col. 3:2). Those who have been baptized into Christ should seek heaven. Their thoughts and their actions are focused in a heavenly direction. Those transformed by Christ live daily with heaven on their mind. Their desire is for that place where, *"...God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away"* (Rev. 21:4) These transformed ones have both the heart and the action of those longing for heaven.

The person transformed by Christ is **dead to the old life**. When a person becomes a Christian they die to self and sin. Paul said, *"For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God"* (Col. 3:3). In becoming a Christian you die and give your life over to Christ. The Christian lives because Christ lives in Him. *"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me"* (Gal. 2:20). If you are a Christian, life is no longer your life, you now belong to Christ.

The person transformed by Christ has a **new life**. Literally, the Christian has given up the life of sin and all unchristian attitudes to have a "new life." This new life is life in Christ. *"When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory"* (Col. 3:4). Living the life of Christ causes us to look to that day when the Lord will appear again. He is coming again! *"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also"* (John 14:3) *"And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven"* (Acts 1:10-11).

(Continued on page 2)

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

(Continued from page 1)

The person transformed by Christ must **put to death the sins of the flesh**. Paul said, *“Mortify [put to death] therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry”* (Col. 3:5). As Christians we must put to death *“the body of the sins of the flesh”* (Col. 2:11). Illicit sexual relationships have no place in the life of a Christian. To avoid sexual sins we must also avoid “evil desires.” Christians must be pure both inwardly and outwardly. Also, covetousness has no place in the life of a transformed person. *“For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live”* (Rom. 8:13).

The person transformed by Christ **avoids the wrath of God**. God’s wrath will be poured out on those who practice the sins of Colossians 3:5. These people are called children of disobedience. *“For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience”* (Col. 3:6). God’s wrath will be poured out against every sinful act of men. In the book of Romans we read, *“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness”* (Rom. 1:18). Paul wrote, *“To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life: But unto them that are contentious, and do not obey the truth, but obey unrighteousness, indignation and wrath, Tribulation and anguish, upon every soul of man that doeth evil...”* (Rom. 2:7-9). The transformed person avoids the wrath of God.

The person transformed by Christ **had before lived a life of sin**. Paul said before becoming a Christian these people both walked and lived in sin. He said, *“In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them”* (Col. 3:7). He wrote to the Corinthians saying, *“Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are*

justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Cor. 6:9-11). Moral wickedness is always a serious problem for all those living without Christ. The Colossians, like the Corinthians, had walked and lived in fornication, uncleanness, passion, evil desires and covetousness. These people are not alone in their walking and living in sin.

The person transformed by Christ **puts off anger, hatred and filthy language**. Paul started the discussion in Colossians 3:5 concerning certain things Christians must remove from their lives. *“But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth”* (Col. 3:8). The list in Colossians 3:5 focused on sexual sins. Now he turns his attention to anger, hatred and filthy language. Certain actions have no place in the life of a Christian. As Christians we must learn to control our tongues and tempers.

The person transformed by Christ **must tell the truth**. How could it have been said with more simplicity? *“Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds”* (Col. 3:9). It is impossible for lying and the Christian character to coexist.

The person transformed by Christ **must put on the new man**. The Colossians had put off the old man and now they must put on the new man. *“That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God”* (Col. 1:10). Christians must *“walk in newness of life”* (Rom. 6:4). They have “learned” better and now they must “live” better. Now that Christians know to live better, they should continually seek God’s fellowship.

To become a transformed person you MUST:

- **Hear** the saving Gospel (Rom. 10:17),
- **Believe** in Jesus (John 8:24),
- **Repent** of your sins (Acts 17:30),
- **Confess** Christ as Lord (Rom. 10:9-10), and
- **Be Baptized** into Christ (Gal. 3:27).
- After being immersed in water you must, **Continue** to seek that heavenly home (1 Cor. 15:58).

Charles Box (Seek The Old Paths, July 2021)

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/

July 25	Judges 16—18; Psalm 24
July 26	Judges 19—21; Psalm 25
July 27	Ruth; Psalm 26
July 28	1 Samuel 1—3; Ps. 27 (video)
July 29	1 Samuel 4—6; Psalm 28
July 30	1 Samuel 7—9; Psalm 29
July 31	1 Sam. 10—12; Ps. 30 (video)
Aug. 1	1 Sam. 13—15; Psalm 31

“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 **27** contacts were made.

Announcements

- ◆ There are two new **Spiritual Swords** on the back table. The April and the July editions.
- ◆ **SYS this week will be at Hico** (Tuesday, 7:00pm).
- ◆ As of yesterday, there were 8 slots left for the **Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat**. If you plan to go, get you need to get your reservation in today!
- ◆ We will be assembling the food containers for our SYS next Sunday evening at 5:00pm. All who can help are welcome.

Upcoming Events at 4th & Stewart

- ◆ August 10—We host **Summer Youth Series**
- ◆ August 29—**World Bible School** presentation (Bible class) and Training (afternoon)
- ◆ September 26—**Cherokee Home for Children** update presentation.
- ◆ 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)
- ◆ August 5-8—**Bible Lands Museum & VBS @ San Saba** (see flyers on bulletin board)
- ◆ Sept. 18-22—**Ladies' Day & Gospel Meeting @ 9th & Main** (San Angelo)
- ◆ Oct. 7-9—**Texas Ladies in Christ Retreat**

Can We See Who We Really Are?

A preacher was recently going through airport security when he saw an unusual sight. At the point where boarding pass holders must empty their pockets and send carry-ons to be checked, a blind man, being guided by his friend or relative, was removing large gold chains and charms from around his neck and placing them in the bin to send through the x-ray machine. Why would a blind man wear all that “bling, bling”? Whatever the reason, the preacher thought, “Wow! All that sparkle, and he can’t even see himself.”

There is a greater spiritual lesson to this scene. Sometimes, a Christian can act in such ways that others legitimately wonder, “Does he actually realize what he’s doing and how counterproductive that is to what he claims?” For example, do Christians who promote or defend immodesty, homosexual practice, or other acts of immorality, whether on Facebook or face to face, actually realize how they look to God and to worldly people? Do Christians who forsake assembling with the local church because they are too involved with recreation not realize they are idolizing passing pleasures of this world in place of the eternal satisfaction of spiritual enrichment? Do Christians whose actions show they love this world more than God not realize the jeopardy in which they place their souls and the harm their influence brings on the local church?

The only true way to see ourselves as we really are is to look into the mirror of God’s Word. *“For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does”* (Jas. 1:23-25). May each of us constantly examine ourselves with God’s Word, not comparing ourselves with others (2 Cor. 10:12-18). **The more we see ourselves as God sees us, the better we can adjust to be more like Jesus!**

Brian R. Kenyon (Gospel Gazette Online, July 2021)

Celebrate

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



Records

	July 11, 2021	July 18, 2021
Bible Class	42	43
AM Worship	46 + [4]	49 + [8]
PM Worship	34 + [8]	45 + [6]
Wednesday PM	40 + [4]	38 + [3]
Contribution	\$2,006	\$2,640

	This Week: 7/25/21	Next Week: 8/1/21		
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	<p>July 2021 Make Announcements: Dex Dennard Prepare Communion: Duaine / Edwards Clean Building: Duaine / Edwards</p> <p>August 2021 Make Announcements: John Barnum Prepare Communion: Rudloff Clean Building: Wilcox / Milam</p>	
Greeters	—	—		
Opening Prayer	Ken Maninger	James Fuller		
Communion	Dex Dennard, Kyle Duiane Daniel Edwards, Ryan Rudloff	Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell Coyce Reed, Ryan Settles		
Closing Prayer	Chase Churchwell	Tom Wilcox		
Attendance Cards	—	—		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: Tom Wilcox	Song Leader: Dex Dennard		
Opening Prayer	John Barnum	Don Smith		
Scripture Reading	Mike Bannister (Mk. 8:9-21)	Don Smith (Mt. 16:13-20)		
Communion	Dex Dennard	Ken Maninger		
Closing Prayer	Randy Huckaby	Ryan Rudloff		
Wednesday Devotionals:	July 28 Don Smith	August 4 Prayer Night	August 11 James Fuller	August 18 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 July 25, 2021

Sunday Class *1 Corinthians 16:1*
 Wed. Class *Leviticus 20:10*

When Is a Tradition Bad? [Traditions – Pt. 2]

(Mt. 15:7-20; Mk. 7:6-8, 14-23)

- I. A Tradition Is Bad When It Violates An Expressed Command of God (last week).
- II. A Tradition Is Bad When It Is Bound on Others (Mt. 15:7-9; Mk. 7:6-8).
 - A. "Hypocrites! ... These people draw near to Me with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men'" (Mt. 15:7-9).
 - B. **Binding Traditions as Thought They Were Commandments.**
 - C. **Distinguishing Between Traditions and Commandments.**
 - D. Everything we believe, teach, and do must be scrutinized **in light of what the Scriptures teach.**
- III. A Tradition Is Bad When It Takes on Undue Significance (Mt. 15:10-20; Mk. 7:14-23).
 - A. "There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man" (Mk. 7:14-15).
 - B. **A Heart Problem Then.** Jesus emphasized that the Pharisees' primary problem was a **heart** problem.
 - C. **A Heart Problem Now?**

"In matters of faith, unity; in matters of opinion, liberty; in all things, love."

Another Withdrawal from Herod's Territory

(Mt. 15:39 – 17:23; Mk. 8:10 – 9:32; Lk. 9:18-45)

- I. In Galilee, another attack by Jesus' enemies – followed by another withdrawal (Mt. 15:39 – 16:12; Mk. 8:10-21).
 - A. We last saw Jesus and His disciples on the east side of the Sea of Galilee.
 - B. They got into a boat and crossed over to the west side of the Sea – to the region of *Magdala* and *Dalmanutha*.
 - C. When Jesus arrived, His old adversaries, the Pharisees, showed up and began to dispute with Him (Mk. 8:11a).
 1. Strangely, they were accompanied by the Sadducees (Mt. 16:1).
 2. They asked Jesus for a sign from heaven, testing Him (Mk. 8:11b).
 - a. According to Mark, the confrontation of the Pharisees and the Sadducees caused Jesus to sigh *deeply in His spirit* (Mk. 8:12).
 - b. Jesus gave them a short answer: They were able to look at the sky and predict what the weather would be, but they *cannot discern the signs of the times* (the signs that Jesus was performing that proved the arrival of the Messiah and His kingdom).
 - D. "A wicked and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign shall be given to it except the sign of the prophet *Jonah*" (Mt. 16:4a).
 - E. If Jesus had planned to spend time in Galilee, the prompt arrival of His enemies rendered that impossible; thus, *He left them and departed* (Mt. 16:4b).
 1. During the trip back across the sea, Jesus gave His disciples a warning: "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees" (Mt. 16:6). He also said, "Beware of ... the leaven of Herod" (Mk. 8:15).
 2. The disciples misunderstood, assuming he was talking about bread.
 3. Jesus was disturbed by their lack of understanding: "O you of little faith" (Mt. 16:8). A lack of faith, unbelief, was the problem of the Pharisees.
- II. In Bethsaida: Two-Step Healing of a Blind Man (Mk. 8:22-26).
 - A. As Jesus and His disciples begin a journey north, the *came to Bethsaida* (Mk. 8:22a).
 - B. There, the people brought a blind man to [Jesus] to be healed (Mk. 8:22b).
 - C. Instead of the usual immediate healing characteristic of Jesus' healing, He uses a 2-stage approach to heal the blind man. Why? We do not know.
 - D. Nevertheless, the power was in the Person of Christ, not the procedure.