

## News

**Deborah Brown**, Pat's daughter, had a stroke at home and was having seizures, was taken to a hospital in Dallas a week ago Friday. She was brought back to Mt. Pleasant this past Friday and was being put on Hospice. She will be at Pat's home—**Brenda Munn** wasn't doing as well Thursday as she was the day before. She is in the hospital and they are trying to determine what her problem is. She does not have pneumonia or Covid-19—**Tonette Harrel** had her biopsy this past week and the lump was malignant—**Judy Hinson** (continued on page 3)

### ELDERS:

**Bob Arnold** 563-2977  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809  
**Kendall Johnson** 717-0265  
**Richard Montgomery**  
936-577-4819

### DEACONS:

**Ricky Davis** 572-9428  
**Ken Ferguson** 572-4135  
**Pat Marshall** 572-9347

### SERVICES:

#### Sunday

**Bible Study** 9:45 AM  
**Worship** 10:30 AM  
**Worship** 5:00 PM

#### Wednesday

**Ladies Class** 10:00 AM  
**Bible Study** 7:00 PM

### PREACHERS:

**Drew Nelson** 254-541-3815  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809

### ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

**May 31, 2020**

#### Serving The Lord's Supper

#### Sunday Morning

Scripture:

#### Sunday Evening

\*\*\*\*\*

### PRAYERS

Sun. AM--- (Opening)

— (Closing)

PM— (Opening)

— (Closing)

\*\*\*\*\*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—

P.M.—

(call Pat Marshall if unable to serve)

**Think It Over**—If you were to die today...Where would you spend eternity? To all who love God, and to those who do not, but should, to all who are weary and heavy laden; to all who are lonely and sad; to all who sin and need a Savior, and to whosoever will come a hearty welcome is extended.

Southside  
Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 242  
Mt. Pleasant, TX 75456

# Southside Church of Christ

## Bulletin

1220 E. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455

(903) 572-2148

Website: [www.thesouthsidechurch.com](http://www.thesouthsidechurch.com)

Volume XXVII

May 31, 2020

Number 15

## Who Is Jesus of Nazareth?

By Paul Earnhart

“Who say ye that I am?” is the question with which Jesus confronted the twelve at Caesarea Philippi. Men and women of our day are no less challenged to answer the same question, a question upon which hangs the very meaning of life itself. Who is this man whose influence has cast itself powerfully across nineteen centuries?

The only Jesus we may know is the one whose story is written in the New Testament by His close companions and disciples. This is the “historical Jesus.” If we attack their simple, straightforward accounts as unreliable, we have burned the only bridge by which He may be known. We have also assumed the burden of proving what hoped-for reward could have moved these men who spoke so often of truth to enter into a gigantic hoax, and to sacrifice their lives rather than confess it. We must accept or reject the Jesus of the New Testament simply because there is no evidence or testimony for any other.

### *The Christ of Prophecy*

The best way to get an answer to the question, “Who is Jesus” is to let Jesus speak for Himself. When the Samaritan woman assured Jesus that she knew when the Christ (Messiah) came He would declare all things, He replied, “I that speak unto thee am he” (**John 4:25-26**). To His disciples just before His ascension, He said, “These are my words which I spoke unto you, while I was with you, that all thing must needs be fulfilled which are written in the law of Moses, and the prophets and the psalms concerning me...Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer, and rise again the third

Several hundred years before the birth of Jesus, Isaiah declared that the Christ would be descended from Jesse and David (11:1-9; 9:6-7; John 7:42) and be born of a virgin (7:14; Matthew 1:18-23). At the same time the prophet Micah spoke of Bethlehem as His birthplace (5:2; Matthew 2:3-6). Yet, in spite of His human birth, Isaiah spoke of Him as “the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father” (9:6-7); and Micah said His goings forth were “from everlasting” (5:2).

More than four hundred years before His conception the prophet Zechariah spoke of His entrance into Jerusalem riding on an ass (9:9-10). Isaiah chronicled His suffering and death for the sins of the world long before they occurred and spoke beforehand of His burial with a rich man (53:1-9). David revealed the details of the crucifixion fully one thousand years before it transpired (Psalm 22:1-18), and prophesied of the resurrection that would follow (Psalm 16:9-10; Acts 2:25-32). A scheming deceiver might have contrived to seemingly fulfill some of the Messianic prophecies, but, however shrewd, no man has control of the circumstances of his birth and death.

### *The Son of God*

Jesus also made a clear claim to being, in a unique way, the Son of God. To Nicodemus He spoke of Himself as the “only-begotten Son of God” (John 3:16). He made the same clear assertion to a man

he healed of life long blindness (John 9:35-37) and blessed Peter for declaring Him to be “the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:15-17). His other claims reflect His deity indirectly. He claimed to be eternal (John 8:58), sinsless (John 8:46), able to forgive sins (Mark 2:5-10) and give life to the dead (John 5:21,28).

No mere man could make such claims as these unless He were mad or an arch-deceiver. If we reject Jesus as God’s Son we are compelled to place Him in one of these categories. We are left to decide if we are willing to attribute to insanity or wicked deception the finest hour of human history.

Jesus is also declared to be the Son of God by His resurrection from the dead (Romans 1:4). And the evidence for His resurrection is formidable. Both His friends and enemies agree on three facts: He died, was buried, and the tomb was empty. His enemies, unable to produce the body, bribed the sepulchre guards to tell the puerile story that “while we slept” His disciples came and stole the body away. Is it conceivable that men who ran away in fear while Jesus was alive would afterward risk their lives for possession of His corpse? There is only one explanation of the empty tomb which answers to all the facts and explains the testimony of the disciples and their transformation into a joyous, militant band of preachers. Clearly, as they said, He had risen from the dead and they had seen

Jesus also claimed that He was the very embodiment of truth and life and the only means of access to God (John 14:6; Matthew 11:27). It should be no surprise then that He demanded from all men a supreme and absolute loyalty (Matthew 10:37-38).

We would do well to ponder carefully the question, “Who is Jesus of Nazareth?” It is not the kind of question we can escape, and it sounds very much like our answer will determine our ultimate destiny (John 8:24).

---

### **Faith and Action**

*By Dennis Abernathy*

A management axiom illustrates a spiritual truth that is important to keep in mind as we read and study God’s word. “To look is one thing. To see what you look at is another. To understand what you see is a third. To learn from what you understand is something else. But to act on what you learn is all that really matters.”

Concerning salvation and our service to God, it seems obvious that it is action, based on faith that ultimately counts. That means faith that saves is always faith that acts, and faith that acts is faith that obeys!

The following quote is from a preacher debating the subject of the baptism and it’s relation to salvation. This preacher is saying that baptism is not essential to salvation and is affirming that salvation is by faith only (alone). Hear him: “I am going to maintain that there is no act at all that any man in the Old Testament or the New ever had to perform in order

to be saved. Salvation is received by faith, and faith is the only thing you can do without doing anything. Faith submits to the Lord and doesn’t pretend to do; as long as you attempt to do, you are working it yourself and not depending upon the Lord.” *Hardeman-Bogard Debate p. 93.* Such is a misunderstanding of saving faith. For example, Rom. 5:1-2 says we “are justified by faith” and “have access by faith into God’s grace.” But the faith that justifies and gives access into God’s grace, is FAITH THAT BELIEVES WHAT GOD SAYS AND DOES WHAT HE REQUIRES!

Therefore, it is ACTION, based on faith that ultimately counts. James 1:22 says, “Be you doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.” James 2:24, says, “You see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by FAITH ONLY.” Why is that true? It is true because “faith without works is DEAD.” (Jas. 2:20, 26). Thus, faith without action (obedience), works) is dead. Can a dead faith save anyone? Yes, or no? Think on these things.

---

(NEWS, continue from back page)

continues her battle with cancer and her next Chemo is June 9th. Continue to remember all in your prayers—**Terry Jordan** will see his sinus doctor this Thursday and hopes to be released so he can schedule his heart valve surgery with his cardiologist—Remember **Kenny Ferguson, June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Willie Don Davis, Judy Hinson, William White, Catherine Moss, Pat Brown, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford**—Remember our **Shut-ins: James Johnson, Betty Rust, Wanda Sikes,**