

NEWS

James Johnson passed out a week ago yesterday, was taken to the ER, then admitted to the hospital and came home last Monday. He was low in sodium. He is doing much better and was in our service Wednesday night—**Charles and Dorothy Kyle** have both been sick with upper-respiratory problems. In addition, Dorothy had surgery on a toe. They missed a few services but were both back with us Wednesday night—**Judy Hinson** had colon cancer surgery this past Thursday at Harris Hospital in Ft. Worth. She came through (continued on page 3)

ELDERS:

Bob Arnold 563-2977
Leon Goff 572-6809
Kendall Johnson 572-9306

DEACONS:

Ron Burns 577-9978
Ricky Davis 572-9428
Ken Ferguson 572-4135
Pat Marshall 572-9347

SERVICES:

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 AM
Worship 10:30 AM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

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

PREACHERS:

Jared Rogers 682-300-3602
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

March 23, 2014

Serving The Lord's Supper Sunday Morning

Scripture: Thomas Hockaday
Zach Willeford **Bob Arnold**
Colton Fulmer **Stephen Hall**

Sunday Evening
Zach Willeford **Bob Arnold**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Ron Burns (Opening)
—Willie Don Davis (Closing)
PM—Kenneth Amerson (Opening)
—William White (Closing)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Ken Ferguson
P.M.—Paul Chapman

(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
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Southside Church of Christ

Bulletin

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Volume XXI

March 16, 2014

Number 11

Spiritual Arrival

By Todd Banning

I like to think that at some point I'm going to have Christianity figured out.

Here's what I mean: I want to be able to answer every question or critique of scripture. I want to have totally mastered every temptation the devil could throw my way. I want to be the textbook example of godly behavior to others. I want to have mastered the art of being a Christian. I'm talking about the place where you can look at your spiritual life and say, "I've finally figured it all out." No more difficult questions with which to wrestle. No more nagging sin that needs forgiving. No areas of weakness in prayer, Bible study, daily devotion, personal priorities, or worship.

I want to "arrive."

But I'm not there. I'm not even close to that point, (and I would guess you feel the same way). Which is why we need the reminder of II Peter 1:5-8.

"But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue, to virtue knowledge, to knowledge self-control, to self-control perseverance, to perseverance godliness, to godliness brotherly kindness, and to brotherly kindness love. For if these things are yours and abound, you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

Peter reminds all of us that growing in godliness is a constant process of addition. Christianity involves the lifelong pursuit of becoming *more* faithful, *more* self-controlled, *more* godly, *more* knowledgeable, and *more*

loving. In fact, Peter says that if disciples are not continually adding, they will prove themselves to be “barren” and “unfruitful.”

No one has “arrived.” Not elders, preachers, seminary professors, not even the apostles. Christianity is about the pursuit; the constant push forward toward godliness. Maybe Paul said it best in Philippians 3:13-14.

“Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Nobody “arrives.” But we can be determined to move toward that goal every day!

Could the Church Be Wrong?

Robert Turner

Could “the church” be wrong? Is it possible that a portion—or even all of the members of a congregation (including their elders) could be in error with respect to doctrine and/or practice? Could several congregations be wrong? Could a majority of congregations be wrong?

One of the most basic fallacies of Roman Catholicism is its conception of the “infallible” church. But someone says, “The church of the New Testament could not be wrong!” WHICH ONE will you use as your example? The one at Corinth? Ephesus? Laodicea? But you say “I’m referring to the ‘whole’ church, the body of Christ.” And I remind you that this organism, this relation of individuals to Christ, does not exist as a functional organization. The characteristics of the perfect church must be gleaned piece by piece from the divine records. By command, example,

and necessary inference we learn what Christ would have us be and do as a local church. The divine purpose and intent alone is without fault. In all functional churches—and here the N.T. allows us to speak only of individual congregations—the human element is present, and we are forbidden to use such a church as a pattern (2 Cor. 10:12).

The New Testament, the covenant or law of Christ, is that which was set up on the first Pentecost after the resurrection (Isa. 2:1-2; Joel 2; Acts 2) and the body of people who accepted this law, and by a practice of its instructions brought into being the Jerusalem congregation, were the product—not the makers of a divine standard. The same principle continues to this good day, and both the First and Twentieth Century churches could and do err. (See Rev. 2-3).

In every century, in every generation, each congregation must prove its right to the name “church of Christ” by showing identity with the divinely approved church characteristics found in the New Testament. We must pay more than lip service to this principle. When we begin to think a thing is right because a “Church of Christ”—or a majority of the “Churches of Christ”—or ALL of the “Churches of Christ” do or teach it, we have become sectarian in our conception of the church, and need to revise our thinking. God’s word is the pattern by which a true church must be cut. Did you ever cut 2x4s to frame a wall, or pickets for a fence? If you obtained a pattern, cut the first by that pattern, then threw the pattern aside and cut the second by the first—and so on—you learned the fallacy of identity by succession. Any slight difference in the second was passed to the third—and the slight difference of the third was added to the error of the first, and passed on. To cut a true wall, or fence, we must measure each cut by the original pattern. This is no less true with reference to the church.

A crying need of our time is a firm resolve to determine right by an appeal to God’s truth, rather than to “a well defined and clear-shown majority of the Churches of Christ in Texas.”

—Via *Think on These Things*, Franklin Dr. Church bulletin, Texarkana, TX, 3/9/14.

Preaching

Jared Rogers will be preaching here at Southside this morning and **Clark Dugger** will be preaching in the service tonight.

Leon Goff is in a Gospel Meeting this week, today through Friday night, in El Reno, OK.

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NEWS (continued from back page) the surgery alright, but they now know that her cancer is stage 4. Stephen says she will be in the hospital about 2 weeks—**Clayton Bellamy** fell early Wednesday morning, was taken to the ER and treated for scrapes and bruises and was sent back home. Friday morning he passed out, was taken to the hospital, admitted to ICU, and had a pacemaker installed Friday afternoon—**Lenelle Latimer** went back to the home after spending a couple of weeks in the Pittsburg hospital. Much of that time was spent in giving her therapy—**The Moss’** have been sick and **Brantley** has had Strep—**Maurine Lee** is not doing very well. Let’s remember to pray for her and all these who are mentioned—Remember **Relda Marshall, Michele Williams, Maurine Lee, Pat Brown, Dorothy Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, Shirley Ferguson, Howard Shelby, and Ronald Stringer**—Remember our **Shut-ins: Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Maurine Lee, Irma May, Lelda Thompson.**