

NEWS

Lorene Tigert, Tom Davis' mother-in-law, passed away last weekend. We express our sincere sympathy to Tom and his wife and all the family—**Deloris Traugher** was sick with an upper respiratory infection last week—**Kenneth Amerson** was sick week before last and not able to be in services—**Relda and Pat Marshall** will be going back to M.D. Anderson in Houston this coming Wednesday—**William White** will have pre-op tomorrow and then back surgery Wednesday, March 4—**Carla Chapman** was not feeling (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 717-3788
Leon Goff 572-6809

ASSIGNMENTS FOR:

March 1, 2015

Serving The Lord's Supper

Sunday Morning

Scripture: **Ron Burns**

Pat Marshall **Ken Ferguson**
Chris Hill **Enoch Waldrep**

Sunday Evening

Pat Marshall **Ken Ferguson**

PRAYERS

Sun. AM—Thomas Hockaday (Opening)

—**Tom Davis (Closing)**

PM—Kenneth Amerson (Opening)

—**Colton Fulmer (Closing)**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A.M.—Leon Goff

P.M.—Bob Arnold

(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

Volume XXII

February 22, 2015

Number 8

The Way By Hugh Delong

“But Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any belonging to **the Way**, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem” (Acts 9:1-2).

You will notice that in prosecuting the disciples of the Lord, he was persecuting “any belonging to **the Way.**” “**The Way**” will be used to designate the religion of the Christians six more times in the book of Acts (Acts 18:25f; 19:9, 23; 22:4; 24:14, 22).

As with many phrases in the New Testament, this is a descriptive phrase concerning those who were disciples of Jesus. The church of Christ is the people/group/church that belongs to Jesus. Hence, it is the church of God for they also are God's people. Many of them were the church of the gentiles in that it described their ethnic roots. All of these also made up ‘**the way.**’ In Acts 18:25 the phrase was lengthened to ‘**the way of the Lord.**’ As with the word ‘church,’ it was a collective way of speaking of Christians. Thus, Paul persecuted ‘**the way**’ in that he persecuted the disciples of the Lord (Acts 9:1-2).

In one sense, the ‘**way**’ is like a journey in that it has a beginning and is heading towards a destination. It begins with some knowledge and then grows. The beginning knowledge may be accurate but simply incomplete (as with Apollos in Acts 18:25). “He had been instructed in the way of the Lord. And being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things concerning Jesus though he knew only the baptism of John.” Hence,

Christians are to constantly be growing (2 Pet. 3:18). As with Apollos, we often need to have someone explain to us “the way of God more accurately” (Acts 18:26).

It is not simply ‘another way to heaven.’ In each of these cases there is the definite article attached; i.e. it is THE way. The exclusiveness of this is seen when Jesus said of Himself: “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me” (John 14:6). In our pluralistic world, such exclusiveness is usually rejected off hand without due consideration of its validity. IF Jesus is THE son of God. IF Jesus is God manifest in the flesh, IF Jesus was raised from the dead and given all authority in heaven and upon earth, THEN this statement is simply a statement of truth. Jesus IS the way and NO MAN comes unto God except by Him. There is no other name given whereby men MUST be saved (Acts 4:12). The question is not about its exclusiveness but about its truthfulness.

It is evident from the preaching and teaching of the people of ‘the way’ that they understood this claim. It may be spoken against, but that doesn’t make it untrue. It may be persecuted, but that doesn’t invalidate its message. It is what it is.

Becoming part of the way is to become a follower of Jesus who IS the way. The apostles made disciples by baptizing

them and then teaching them to observe all things the Lord of the way had taught (Matt. 28:18-19). Being part of the way involves not only understanding Jesus’ teaching, but the practice of living what we are taught. It is a way of life that has its foundation in teaching but is then lived out. Are you in the way?

—*Think on These Things*, Franklin Dr. Bulletin, 2/8/15

=====

Three Key Words

God describes His word in many different ways. Note this powerful verse about our hope and heaven...because of the hope which is laid up for you in **the truth of the gospel** (Col. 1:5)

God’s word for us today is “**the gospel.**” This word means “good news” or “glad tidings.” What a wonderful blessing from God that He provides forgiveness from our past, strength for our present, and hope for our future through Jesus who lived, died, was buried, and arose. Do you ever need good news? There is no better message than the gospel.

God’s word is also “**the word.**” The Greek “word” is *logos*, which means “message.” In other words, the gospel is not just “a word” from God, but the entire message. The gospel is complete — and completely written down (Jude 3; 2 Tim. 3:16-17). No latter day prophets or revelations needed, because God long ago revealed all He wants us to know.

God’s word is also “**the truth.**” “Truth” means “reality,” for everything God has revealed — from magnificent historical events like the flood to teachings to promises — is true. Bible “stories” are not myths, they are real events upon which God’s teachings, promises, and redemptive work are built. Though sometimes spoken in figures of speech, every word in scripture is true and reveals reality.

God’s message of truth is good news indeed. And you can take that to the bank! (see Matt. 6:19-21)

—Shane Carrington, *Southside Church of Christ Bulletin*, 2/8/15

=====

How I Make It Through The Day

All of us have tough days. Others are easier. But how do you make it through the tough days?

Keep your chin up. “...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13). Jesus will come from heaven to take us home. Keep looking up, and you will make it!

Keep yourself in check. Humility improves your expectations, attitudes, relationships, life, and gives you hope of heaven. “...all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for ‘God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble’” (1 Pet. 5:5).

Keep your hand to the plow. “But Jesus said to him, ‘No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God’” (Luke 9:62). Stay busy with wholesome things. Look for opportunities to be a servant to God and others, and you will have no time for a pity party. Keep busy). The day will pass more quickly, and you will feel productive when the day is done. Make a phone call; write a card; get out of the house and make a difference.

You will make it! And be stronger for it.

—Shane Carrington, *Southside Church of Christ Bulletin*, 1/25/15

=====

Our Spring Meeting

Kris Emerson from Beaumont, TX will be the speaker in our spring meeting **April 19-24, 2015**. Kris is another outstanding young preacher.

=====

CD’s from our Ladies Day are ready to be picked up.

=====

News (continued from back page) well Wednesday and was not in the service—**Gerald Winters’** surgery went well—Remember **Kris Ferguson, Jr., Relda Marshall, Pat Brown, Dorothy and Charles Kyle, Deborah Brown, Tammy Willeford, and Judy Hinson**—Remember our **Shut-ins:** *Clayton Bellamy, Loyd Clark, Shirley Ferguson, Lenelle Latimer, Maurine Lee, Irma May, and Lelda Thompson.*