

# NEWS

**Charlyn Harrel** fell last Saturday and broke her ankle. She is now in a cast—**Daphne Nelson** had a virus this past week and Meagan, Clara and Drew got the stomach virus. Drew had to come home from his class in Ft. Worth Thursday evening due to the sicknesses—**Nova Montgomery**, has learned that she has a spot on her lung, and she had her first chemo treatment Friday—**Karen Ferguson** had a fever last Sunday and was not in our services—**Paul Relph** is probably coming back to Mt. Pleasant Monday or Tuesday of this next week (continued on page 3)

**ELDERS**  
**Bob Arnold** 563-2977  
**Leon Goff** 572-6809  
**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

March 6, 2022

**Scripture and Lord’s Supper**  
**Terry Jordan**

**Song Leader**  
**Roger Lambert**

\*\*\*\*\*

## PRAYERS

**Sun. AM—Ricky Davis(Opening)**  
—Willie Don Davis (Closing)  
**PM—Leon Goff (Opening)**  
—William White Closing

\*\*\*\*\*

## Announcements

**A.M.—Ken Ferguson**  
**P.M.—Ken Ferguson**

(call Ken Ferguson if unable serve)

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

**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

## Bulletin

**1220 E. Ferguson Rd. Mt. Pleasant, Texas 75455**  
**(903) 572-2148**

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

**Volume XXVIX**

**March 6, 2022**

**Number 10**

## Acts 15 and Bible Authority # 5 (By Randy Harshbarger)

The question we should always ask when thinking about what to do in our service to the Lord is this: *What does the Lord authorize?* What does His will say about what we want to do or what we think we need to do? Do we have some kind of teaching from the Lord about any given matter? Let’s return to three common ways the Bible teaches us—*direct command, approved apostolic example, and necessary inference.* How does **Acts 15** help us understand and apply these principles from God’s word? Or, can we even find these principles in **Acts 15** (or, elsewhere in the Bible)?

Peter’s speech (**Acts 15:7-11**) recounts his work with Cornelius, the first Gentile convert (**Acts 10**). His words are predicated on what happened in **Acts 10 and 11**; from this a necessary conclusion can be drawn. In **Acts 10** Peter saw in a vision animals of all kinds coming down from heaven. When he was told to arise and kill and eat, he said: “*Not so, Lord! For I have never eaten anything common or unclean. And a voice spoke to him again the second time, what God has cleansed you must not call common*” (**Acts 10:14-15**). Peter got the point. He said: “*In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality*” (**Acts 10:34**). At the conclusion of his sermon he asked: “*Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?*” (**Acts 10:47**). Of course, no one could forbid baptism for Cornelius.

The speech Paul and Barnabas made in **Acts 15:12** illustrates the validity of approved apostolic examples. Their work (**Acts 13 and 14**) involved preaching to the uncircumcised; God approved of what they did by the miracles they worked (**Acts 13:11-12**). **Acts 14:27** says: “*Now when they had*

come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.” GOD was working among the Gentiles; GOD approved the actions of Paul and Barnabas; GOD said the Gentiles could be saved by the gospel, without circumcision. **Acts 15:12** is a summary of what Paul and Barnabas had done in their work among Gentiles.

James, in **Acts 15:13-21**, provides a direct statement from scripture. The scripture is **Amos 9:11-12**. James mentions what Peter had said and done. James then says: “*And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written.*” That is, the Old Testament prophets had anticipated the inclusion of the Gentiles into the family of God; they and Peter were in agreement. “*It is written.*” This is what God expressly said. Paul, Barnabas, Peter, and James all recognized that God wanted the Gentiles to hear and obey the gospel.

In fairness, we would admit that **Acts 15** does not resolve all of the questions that might be asked about Bible authority. But a larger consideration remains. It is this: When we are trying to find out what God wants us to do in our service to Him, how do we go about that task? Do we just jettison God’s word and say it doesn’t matter? Or, do we do the hard work of studying—with good and honest and open hearts—what the Bible says, as we seek answers to the questions that are very real and important to us as Christians? If our constant desire is to

know what God says, then we are on the right track. Anything less than a desire to seek God’s counsel disrespects His authority.

=====

**Story Of The Text 12**

*(By Robert F. Turner)*

Sir Walter Scott, upon his deathbed, asked his attendant to bring him “the book”. When asked, “What book?” he replied, “The Book, the Bible! There is only one Book.” This, from a man of letters, poses the question: If the Bible is “the only Book” by which to die, is it not truly the one Book by which to live?

My mother taught me **respect** for God’s book, long before I knew much of its **content**, or critical details. Early teachers, such as N. B. Hardeman and L.L. Brigance, enriched that respect with analytical information, organized and interrelated. The challenges of skeptics in a state university forced me to examine evidences for it **canonicity, integrity, and credibility**; and hunger for the **purest truth** led me to long hours of study in Greek, the language of the text. BUT YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE USE OF GOD’S WORD IN MY LIFE have taught me its greatest lessons, and its value.

We close this series on the text with this anonymous eulogy of the Bible, kept in our notes since 1934.

=====

“Many years ago I entered the won-

derful temple of God’s revelation. I entered the portico of Genesis, and walked down through the Old Testament Art Gallery where the pictures of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Joshua, Samuel, David and Daniel hung on the wall.

I entered the Music Room of the Psalms where the Spirit swept the keyboard of inspiration and brought forth the dirge-like wail of the weeping prophet, Jeremiah, to the grand impassioned strains of Isaiah; until it seemed that every reed and harp in God’s organ of nature responded to the tuneful touch of David, the sweet singer of Israel. I entered the chapel of Ecclesiastes where the voice of the Preacher was heard; and passed into the conservatory of Sharon where the lily of the valley’s sweet-scented spices filled and perfumed my life. I entered the business room of the Prophets where I saw many telescopes of various sizes, some pointing to far off events, but all concentrated upon the Bright Morning Star, which was soon to rise over the moon-lit hills of Judea, for our salvation.

I entered the audience room of the King of Kings and was enlightened from the standpoint of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; entered the Acts of the Apostles where the Holy Spirit was doing His office work in the forming of the church; passed into Correspondence Room where sat Paul, Peter, James, Jude and John penning their epistles. I stepped into the Throne of Revelation, where all towered

into glittering peaks. I got a vision of the King seated upon His throne in all His glory, and I cried:

**“All Hail the power of Jesus’ Name”**

=====

**Gospel Meeting**

**Shawn Chancellor** is the speaker in the Gospel Meeting at the **Southside Church of Christ in Sulphur Springs, TX**, this next week, **March 6-9, 7:00 Weeknights**.

=====

**Our Gospel Meeting**

**Wilson Adams** will be the speaker in our meeting **May 8-13, a Sunday through Friday meeting**, with night service at 7:00 through the week and three morning services Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday at 10:00.

=====

**NEWS** (continued from back page)

If he stays in the Rehabilitation Center in Tyler, they will start charging him \$172 per day—**Margaret Martinez**, Alma’s sister, is in a hospital in California with heart issues and a blood clot—Remember **Dale Rockett, Bob Arnold, Charles Davis, Rance Hockaday, Kenneth and Beverly Amerson, Kenny Ferguson, Ricky Davis, June Johnson, Randy Blackmon, Frank White, Willie Don, William and Yvonne White, Judy Hinson and Catherine Moss**—Remember our Shut-in: *Marion Shurtleff*