

Eisenhower Church of Christ

“My Kingdom Is Not of The World”

Pilate put the question to Jesus: “Art thou a king?” He answered affirmatively, but followed the answer with what had been evident from His course and teaching all the time, but what His friends up to this time, and even later, never understood: “My kingdom is not of this world” (John 18:36). This had in it an explanation, but one not then understood and not intended to be then understood, but intended to be understood afterward, and to show to the ages to come that He saw what was coming and that everything was working out according to the eternal purpose of the one divine mind seen running through the Bible from side to side.

In all the vacillating of the disciples in the lifetime of our Lord, their wavering, errors, mistakes and blunders, misunderstandings and disappointments, it is clear that there was one mind there that never erred, wavered, or was disappointed. Anyone who will observe all He taught and did can see that He moved right on according to the eternal purpose, carrying out the designs of the Almighty Father, without wavering, changing or disappointment. He was never taken on surprise. He knew what was in men, what they would do and in instances of a most astonishing nature he told them what they would do; yet they understood not, but went on blindly, and did the very things He told them they would do, not seeing either, that they were fulfilling His words or the predictions of the prophets.

The explanation in the Lord’s words, “My kingdom is not of this world,” is of immense value to us now; showing that He intended no civil government, and no kingdom that would meddle in the civil affairs of any country; that He would be no earthly or temporal king; no civil ruler; that He would be no rival or Caesar in any sense. There is no better evidence that any religion is not from heaven than to see it striving to grasp civil power; tampering with civil officers, and trying to control State Affairs; trying to grasp and control the schools and the like. Our Lord sweeps all this away with one grand sentence: “My kingdom is not of this world.” As if He had said, “I am no rival of Caesar; my kingdom is spiritual and heavenly; my government is not of this world. A man may be loyal and an obedient servant of Caesar in every particular and at the same time, be a true subject of my kingdom.”

This is an end to all union of church and State and State matters and shows that they must remain distinct. True, becoming a citizen of the kingdom of Messiah does not destroy a man’s relation to the State. He is a citizen of this world and the State after he is in Christ as much as he was before and required to pay tax and obey the laws of the State by the law of God. But he is, at the same time, a citizen of another kingdom, a kingdom not of this world.

It is of God and in it is the only light for man that can penetrate beyond the grave; the only light that shines into; “house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens;” the only light, that can bring to our view “a kingdom that cannot be moved;” the only city, the New Jerusalem; the new heavens and the new earth wherein righteousness dwells. How dark and dreary is this world without this light and what a poor citizenship is that which is only of this world and bounded by time, compared with a citizenship in a kingdom that cannot be moved, not of this world, not bounded by time, nor by mortality, but extends beyond the river of death. May our hope ever be

anchored there and may our citizenship ever be in heaven, whence we look for the Savior; the Lord Jesus the Christ, Who shall change our vile bodies and fashion them like to His glorious body. Blessed by His name forever and ever.

—Benjamin Franklin

Prayer Requests

Opal Hager (Christy's grandmother) was diagnosed with the second strand of the Covid virus. Please keep her in your prayers that she will be able to overcome this virus as well.

Linda Tate is still dealing with some issues, from the Covid 19 virus, that are still lingering and improving slowly. The doctor told her it would just take some time; that all of it was Covid related. Keep Linda in your prayers that she will have a speedy recovery soon.

Ishmael Lujan, the Associate Principal at Permian High School, is in the hospital with the Covid virus. Prayers have been requested for him.

Andrew Durfee (a friend of Hannah Weakland) is also in the hospital with the Covid 19 virus. She has requested prayers for him.

Concerns Update

Betty Leeth (Devida's cousin) was released from the hospital only to be re-admitted the next day because she was coughing profusely. Betty has since been allowed to go home and seems to be doing okay now. She still needs prayers.

Prayer List

Maria Anaya; Wayne Anderson; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; Abessa Chavez; Jon Cooper; Doug Dowell; Kim Drake; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Phil Halbert; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Jr. & Julie Munoz; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Gary Schwulst; Tom Siler; Sheila Stanton; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Janet Wesson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Roberta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley and Marilyn Upshaw.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (Multiple Choice)

What specific doctrine taught by the apostles was especially offensive to the Sadducees? (a) The resurrection from the dead (b) the ascension of Jesus or (c) the deity of Jesus

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

It is true that Martha thought Jesus was talking about the resurrection in the last day when Jesus told her, "Your brother will rise again."

Events Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" Sunday mornings at 7:30 am on KWES TV 9.

Food for Thought...

Living is like licking honey off of a thorn.

Office News

We are resuming both our “Sunday & Wednesday Bible Classes” starting this week.

“The Real Problem”

Perhaps you have seen the news stories of the Occupy Wall Street protests that have sprung up. Their main gripe is with our free market system of economics. Greed; they say, goes hand in hand with capitalism and shuts out all but a fortunate few. It is true that in a capitalist economy some make a little and others make a lot, but greed is not an inherent tenet of capitalism. Greed is a result of sin.

Capitalism used the right way is a tremendous force for good. The virtuous woman of *Proverbs 31* is a shining example of this point. *Proverbs 31:6* points out that she “considers a field and buys it and from her profits she plants a vineyard. *Proverbs 31* goes on to praise this woman for helping the poor and needy (*verse 20*) supporting her family (*verses 28 and 29*) and even providing for herself (*verse 31*).

Likewise, the free market was helpful to the first century church. The book of *Acts 2:44-45* and *4:34-35* says that all who believed sold their possessions and goods and divided the proceeds among those who had need. So, in the church those who had things to sell for profit shared those profits with those who had needs. So, we can see that capitalism in and of itself is not a bad thing when coupled with the right attitude.

On the other hand, consider Ananias and Sapphira (*Acts 5:1-10*). They, as husband and wife and members of the first century church, also sold what they had to help their brethren. They kept part of the proceeds but reported that they had given all of it. Peter rightly described their lying actions in *Acts 5:4* telling Ananias “*you have not lied to men but to God.*”

Therefore, it is apparent that greed is born of sin and can infect anyone who is willing to walk contrary to the will of God. Greed can and does exist under every economic system, every form of government and every type of organization where men choose to sin. So, in truth, the occupy protestors should really change the focus of their protest from Wall Street banks and economic systems to the age-old root cause of the problem of mankind; sin.

—Joe Engelbird
West Georgia church of Christ
Carrollton, GA

January 10, 2021	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Oliver Hernandez	John Wood
Second Prayer	Bill Ryan	Richard Siler
Closing Prayer	Jr. Munoz	Jacob Carson
Lords Supper		
<u>Scripture Reading:</u>	Craig Wesson	Tom Sorenson
		Communion (In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547— *Deacon:* Jacob Carson 940-3775 — *Pulpit:* Scot Straw 288-4533— *Table:* Tom Sorenson 638-9447 — *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990— *Recording Sermons:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 — *Collections:* Tommy Garcia

Sunday AM

“Bond of Truth”
(II John 1:1-3)

Sunday PM

“Change in Expectation”
(I Thessalonians 4:13-18)

Our Records

Bible Class... —

Morning Worship ...80

Evening Worship ...52

Wednesday...—

Contribution... \$4,230.00