

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Fear of the Lord

The Bible tells us in Proverbs 1:7 “The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.” But do we really understand what it is to fear the Lord? For that matter, do we understand fear or who the Lord is that we should fear Him? Most of us in our life have been scared. Some are scared of snakes or spiders. Some are afraid of heights. Some of our fears are imagined and some are real. But most of us to some degree understand the concept.

But do we understand it to the point that we should. Many like to watch scary movies; we like to be scared. But we also know that the monster can't leave the TV screen and get us. We know that scary movies are not real and so there is this safety zone. But what if that safety zone didn't exist? What if it was possible for us to get hurt or killed watching a scary movie, would we watch it then? I know that we certainly would not! How many of us understand real fear, the kind of fear that comes by having a gun put to our head with a bullet in the chamber and the hammer pulled back? Have we had such a fear that we were in terror or afraid for our life? I would have to say that I have had that experience only twice. For me that was two too many times. The first was when I crashed a semi-truck and watched as the metal began to crumple around me. The second was just recently as my gall bladder turned gangrenous and almost got me. I hope never to relive anything like that again. If you can relate to this then you have a chance to understand what it is to fear the Lord.

Why fear the Lord? First and foremost is the fact that He is real. I do not have the space here to show all the proofs of His existence, but I assure you there is more than sufficient evidence to prove it. Second, is the fact that He is a God that will punish those that do not obey Him. Just look at all those in the Bible that were punished for disobedience, King Saul, Cain, all but eight souls in the days of Noah, all but three in the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah and many more. He has promised to destroy those that will not obey. 2 Thessalonians 1:8,9 says He will come, ***“In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power.”***

We should also fear because He tells us in Matthew 10:28, ***“And fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in Hell.”*** It should terrify us that if we refuse to obey the Lord that He will punish us for all eternity. Too many of my brethren live like they do not believe that God could punish any one. I thought we believed in the Bible. I thought that we trusted God's word. But the way many live they clearly do not. Paul was convinced that God would punish the disobedient. He said in 2 Corinthians 5:10-11, ***“For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.”*** Brethren may we be like Paul and know the **Terror** of the Lord so that we might be persuaded and so that we might persuade others. Fear the Lord and be wise.

-Robert Barcroft

“Doctrinal Preaching” ... Continued (Part 2)

What about doctrinal preaching? Our speech professor makes a distinction between a doctrinal sermon and a Gospel sermon. Discrediting doctrinal sermons, he speaks with approval of “gospel sermons intended to draw inspiration and encouragement from the great religious truths of the gospel, and through this inspiration to lead audiences to apply these truths to their own lives.” Such a distinction is ridiculous! Doctrine is nothing but “the great religious truths of the gospel.” Imagine a man drawing inspiration from “great religious truths” without preaching those truths; the doctrine so people can know what the truths are?

What about doctrinal preaching? It is common to hear someone say, “We ought not to preach doctrine so much; we should exhort people more.” Not long ago a denominational preacher visited one of our services and at the close he commented: “That is just the trouble; we have too much doctrinal preaching and not enough convincing preaching.” This reminds one of the little boy who went out to shoot the birds, but did not take his shooter along. Nobody denies that we should exhort and convince people. Too many preachers, however, go out to exhort without the exhorter. They go out to convince without the convincer. Paul said that elders should exhort and convince the gainsayers, but that they should be able to do it with sound doctrine (Titus 1:9). It takes doctrine to exhort and convince people in the right way. (Frank Van Dyke)

Prayer Request

Ben Ellison was taken to Medical Center Hospital—ER Monday, February 2nd with congestive heart failure. Ben was not expected to stay in the hospital very long.

Charles Simmons had back surgery Tuesday, February 3rd. This was to remove the tinge unit wires that seem to be causing his main problems. They are attached to his spine making this a risky procedure. Keep Charles in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Burt Groves is still in Room #433 at Medical Center Hospital due to problems with his blood.

Wilene is slowly getting stronger/eating better now. She has been out 17 weeks now! Please keep us in your prayers. Song #19 “He Knows Just What I need!” We love you all and are indeed thankful for the Lord’s church and all our loved ones! Jack & Wilene Wright

Prayer List

Jerry Anderson; Elaine Armentrout; Cody & Kala Ausbrook; Velma Betts; Susan Bosse; Elsie Bradford; Beth Carrell; Neva Carrigan; Don & Hazel Cavanaugh; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Doug Dowell; James Drake; Ben Ellison; Jake & Summer Finley; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Burt & Anna Groves; Winford & Jean Hambright; Linda Horton; Lon Howard; Wyatt Kody; Susan Lee; Shannon McAfee; Elder & Glenna McCarty; Caleista Millican; Loy Mitchell; Juan & Estella Morolez; Allison & Nathan Moyers; Judy Phillips; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Carmen Settle; Nancy Slife; Marilyn Upshaw; George & Jurlean Warren; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells; Janet Wesson; Wilene Wright

Shut-Ins

Mildred Bell; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Lester Whisenant.

Events

Branyon May will present a “Documentary Report” on Noah’s Ark Saturday March 21st. Since this will be an (all day) session, we will have a potluck luncheon around noon. Please mark your calendars and do your best to come learn some pertinent facts about Noah’s Ark. Please invite your family, friends and neighbors.

The **New Mexico Children’s Home** will be in Odessa March 3rd for a food drive. They are requesting Nestle’s Quik and Kool Aid. Also, there are coin cans on the table in the east foyer if you would like to save your change for them. The coin cans and food will be picked up at the same time. Monetary donations are also welcomed.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Baptism... (What book and chapter?)

Last Week’s Bible Quiz answer...

The Lord said to the Pharisees, “Ye are of your father the devil”.

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called **“Take Aim”** at 6:30 each Tuesday night. Tune your radio program to the gospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch *“In Search of the Lord’s Way”* every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the *“Speaking the Truth in Love”* program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Upcoming Wednesday Night Devotional Speakers

February 11th—Josh Wells

February 18th—Bill Brown

February 25th—Doug Guynn

March 4th—Dex Dennard

Thank You

To my Odessa Church Family,

Thank you for all the cards, prayers and well wishes from everyone at Eisenhower. It has been very much appreciated and the prayers are working.

Love,

Susan Bosse

Office News

Odessa Christian School has a fifth grade teaching position open. Interested applicants should contact the school at 362-6311.

Odessa Christian School’s **“Eighteenth West Texas Christian Track Meet”** is right around the corner, April 18th, at Ratliffe Stadium. They are taking requests for ad space at this time for the program. The deadline for sponsorship and ad sales is March 3rd. All sponsorship and ads placed will be compensated with a tax letter. The size and cost of the ads is listed on the bulletin board. Please stop by and check it out if you are interested.

Remember to **“Save the Date”** May 16th, 2015. This is the day that Craig Wesson and Kallie Culp will be united in Holy Matrimony. An invitation will follow.

“Strengthening the Family Group #2” will meet in the Annex for a potluck luncheon following this morning’s service. All the visitors are invited to join them.

Please take a look at the **“Edifier Prayer List”** and if you have a family member or a close friend that can be removed, please let the office know.

Food for Thought ...

Cheap giving is cheap living

February 8, 2015

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

A.M.

Jeff Wesson

Rudy Ochoa

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

Jr. Munoz

John Carroll

Bill Tolbert

P.M.

Jeff Wesson

Craig Wesson

Allen Weakland

Jeff Wesson

Josh Weakland

Jr. Munoz

Larry May

Lord's Supper

West...	Don Easlon Trinidad Wood Richard Siler	Jacob Carson Communion (In Library)
East...	Josh Wells Ed Fisher Isaiah Armendarez	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon:* Josh Wells 770-6753 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486
Table: Jacob Carson 940-3775 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Tom Sorenson 631-2518
Contributions: Tom Sorenson 631-2518

Sunday AM”

“Habits of Spiritual Growth”
(Romans 6:4)

Sunday PM

“Fasting”
(Mark 2:18-22)

Our Records

Bible Class...72
Morning Worship...125
Evening Worship...70
Wednesday...76
Contribution...\$4,791.00

