

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Church of Christ: What is It?

The church of Christ is not a human invention, but a divine institute. It did not originate with man, but with God. It is not a denomination or sect, but the whole body of true believers in Jesus Christ, the only begotten son of God. It is heavenly in its origin and its nature, for it is called the **“kingdom of heaven”** (Matthew 16:18-19). This church of the Lord is not revealed in the Old Testament but is distinctly a New Testament institution. Under the title of a kingdom, John the Baptist first proclaimed its near approach (Matthew 3:1-2). After Jesus was baptized, He also preached the coming kingdom (Matthew 4:17). Later Jesus sent out the twelve and said, **“as ye go, preach, saying, the Kingdom is at hand”** (Matthew 10:1-7). Later, He sent out seventy other disciples to proclaim the coming of the kingdom (Luke 10:1-9).

From the days of John the Baptist to the ascension of Christ, the kingdom or church existed only in preparation. John, Jesus, “the twelve” and “the seventy” all labored in preparing material for the kingdom and during this time the kingdom is almost invariably spoken of as future.

On the first Pentecost after the resurrection of Christ, just fifty days after Jesus was crucified in the city of Jerusalem, the church or kingdom was fully set up and established and at once began the work for which it was created.

The Head of Any Institution is the Ruler Thereof

The church is featured in the bible as a family and all members as children. This spiritual family, like all other families, must have a head or ruler. Christ is the head and ruler of the family of God—the church of the Lord: **“and he put all things in subjection under his feet and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is his body”** (Ephesians 1:22-23). Christ then is the head and ruler of the church. He is the one lawgiver.

The church must be subject to Him in all things. **“For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church ... But as the church is subject to Christ, so let the wives also be to their husbands in everything”** (Ephesians 5:23-24). Trouble comes when a husband is not recognized and respected as the head of the household. Even so, trouble comes to the church when Christ is not recognized and respected and the head and ruler thereof!

The Name of the Church

When one opens the Sacred Book and begins to search for the name of God’s institution, one finds it most frequently called “the church.” In Ephesians 5:23-32 the expression “the church” is found seven times. **“Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church.”** is an example of its use. In the New Testament the term “the church” is found more than fifty times.

In these days of many church organizations the term “the church” may not be descriptive enough for some. In the days of the apostles, when there was but ONE church, the term “the church” was all sufficient. “The church” then meant the only church, of course. It should be so now.

This same church is also called **“the church of God”** (Galatians 1:13). This identification further suggests that the church is not a manmade institution but is of divine origin. It is also called **“the church of the first born”** (Hebrews 12:23); then, speaking of the local congregations, Paul calls

them “*churches of Christ*” (Romans 16:16). “The church” in any community may be called “the church of Christ” in that community. Christ is the head of “the church” (Ephesians 1:22; 4:15; 5:23). He built “the church” (Matthew 16:18). He gave Himself for “the church” (Ephesians 5:25). He is the foundation under it and the door into it. Why should it not be called by His name?

—via Southside Church of Christ

Prayer Requests

Lavern Couch was scheduled for outpatient surgery last week. She had requested a part in our prayers that everything goes well and that her surgery recovery time will be short. Continue to keep LaVern in your prayers.

Marissa Alanis (Maria Anaya’s granddaughter) had surgery last Tuesday, February 9th, in Lubbock. Please keep her in your prayers.

Betty Leeth (Devida’s cousin) is not doing very well after having the Covid 19 virus. She cannot regain her strength. Betty is struggling with leukemia. Please keep her in your prayers that she can get the right treatment for more energy.

Concerns Update

Tim Garvin (Wilene Wright’s son-in-law) is still in ICU in Waco, TX. He had to have a tracheotomy and is on a feeding tube. Tim is also dealing with pneumonia and paralysis on his left side. Since being hospitalized three weeks ago, there has been no improvements. Please keep Tim in your prayers at this time.

Prayer List

Wayne Anderson; Betty Brooks; Bill & Mary Brown; Abessa Chavez; Jon Cooper; June Deavers; Doug Dowell; Kim Drake; Andrew Durfee; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Tim Garvin; Hattie Gilmore; Irma Gomez; Paul Gunn; Opal Hager; Phil Halbert; Liz Leach; Mildred Lee; Betty Leeth; Miguel Lozano; Vanessa Machuca; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Rudy Ochoa; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Jackie Rex; Corina Rodriguez; David Ryan; Diane Salinas; Gary Schwulst; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Luke Wells; Janet Wesson; Carolyn Wilkerson; 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 spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question ... (Fill in the Blank)

When Paul was bitten by a snake on the island of Malta, the natives at first thought he was receiving justice as a _____, but when no harm came to him, they changed their minds, calling him a _____.

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer ...

The answer was False. Jesus predicted that persecution would be so intense that family members would betray one another (Matthew 10:21)

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

Office News

The New Mexico Christian Children’s Home will be here March 2nd. They are requesting **Chicken Bouillon Cubes**. They also accept monetary donations.

Our “Spring Quarter Bible Classes” will begin on Wednesday, March 3rd. Please check with one of the Coordinators if you would like to teach or become a helper in a classroom.

Food for thought...

When you think about it, success is really picking yourself up one more time than you fall down.

There is no place to hide sin without the conscience looking in.

Now, it's Your Turn

Some brethren, in an attempt to avoid the commitment of marriage in Matthew 19, have affirmed that the gospels do not apply to us in the Christian era, since they belong to the old law. But the very structure of Matthew's gospel shows differently; “*Then Jesus went throughout at the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues preaching the good news of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and sickness*” (Matthew 9:35).

This verse is almost identical to that of Matthew 4:23. The two verses frame the beginning of Christ's ministry, describing the nature of what He does. He teaches and proclaims (chapters 5-7) and heals (chapters 8-9).

In the conclusion to this section of the gospel, immediately following the verse above, Jesus tells his disciples to pray so that God would send more workers into the harvest (verse 35). Next, in chapter 10, he sends his own disciples. (Don't pray for something you're not willing to do).

Jesus sends them to do exactly what he has done, heal and preach. Though there are limits within this truth, for them, geographical (they go first only to Galilee) and, for us, ministerial (we cannot operate miracles today), the principle applies both to the message (“all I have commanded you,” 28:19) and to the practice and the fulfilling of the mission. What Jesus did, let us also do. What Jesus taught, let us also teach.

—J. Randal

February 14, 2021	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Larry May	Larry May
Song Leader	Oliver Hernandez	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Larry May	Larry May
Scripture	Jackie Perkins	Bill Ryan
Second Prayer	Tom Sorenson	Jaxon Straw
Closing Prayer	Craig Wesson	Scot Straw
Lords Supper		Richard Siler
<u>Scripture Reading:</u>	Jeff Wesson	Communion (In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 – *Deacon:* Tommy Garcia 312-5332 – *Pulpit:* John Wood 413-7444– *Table:* Richard Siler 556-2151– *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990– *Recording Sermons:* Trinidad Wood 413-8508 – *Collections:* Trinidad Wood

Sunday AM

“Example of Hospitality”
(III John 1:5-8)

Sunday PM

“Foundation of Faithfulness”
(2 Thessalonians 2:13-17)

Our Records

Bible Class... 56
Morning Worship ...71
Evening Worship ...39
Wednesday...55
Contribution... \$4,520.42