

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## A History of the Popes

As we look at the “History of the Popes,” we must first note that in the Scriptures, the word “Pope” is not found anywhere. We do find the early church was commanded to **“ordain elders in every city”** (Titus 1:5). The elders were also called “bishops,” “overseers” and “shepherds”. One quickly learns that these men had to meet certain spiritual qualifications (see Titus 1:5-9 and I Timothy 3:17). They always served with equal authority in plural numbers, having the rule over the local congregation only. Elders were stewards, being accountable to the only Head of the church, Jesus Christ. This relationship is clearly seen in Hebrews 13:17-20).

Note, about the history of their Popes, Catholics say: “Christ founded the Church in the form of a visible, hierarchical society, being made up of subjects and superiors who rightfully rule the subjects. Christ made Peter the first head of the Church, the first Roman Pontiff” (Primer on Roman Catholicism, p.4).

We see a great departure here from God’s design given in the Scriptures we have noted. Each congregation of the New Testament church was subject unto Christ, its only Head. Elders were, under this same subjection, to lead and feed the flock (Acts 20:28). The Catholic Church from its earliest days set up two classes, clergy and laity. The Pope was given reign over the priests, with all ruling over the lower class subjects. In the Bible, Christ only has all authority (Matthew 28:18).

The doctrine that Peter was the first Pope is also in complete error. Jesus said, **“And I say also unto thee, that thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it”** (Matthew 16:18). The word for “Peter” in Greek is *petros*, meaning a small piece of rock. The Greek word for “rock” is *petra*, a feminine word, referring to a massive rock. It is upon this rock (*petra*), and not Peter, that the church is built. Jesus, Himself, is the only foundation and chief cornerstone (I Corinthians 3:11; Ephesians 2:20).

Therefore, Peter had no special power or headship over the other apostles or the church. He was simply one of many spiritual stones, not unlike Peter’s own description of every Christian in 1 Peter 2:5: **“Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood.”** It is plain that all Christians are priests under Jesus our High Priest, Peter was a married man, as both Matthew 8:14 and I Corinthians 9:5 strongly confirm. This, as well, made it impossible for him to be a Pope. To teach that Peter was the first Pope is to both wrest the Truth and fabricate a lie.

Follow their reasoning in the doctrine of Apostolic Succession beginning with Peter: “...this power was to be passed on from one Bishop of Rome to another pope, who serves on earth as Vicar of Christ” (Primer on Roman Catholicism, p. 5; see also A Catechism of Christian Doctrine, pp. 112-113). Jesus entrusted the apostles with His Word, which was safely and surely delivered through the Holy Spirit (John 16:13). Being completed and finished, the bible remains our sole guide long after the apostles departed this life (Jude 3).

The doctrine of the Popes sprang up in the midst of a falling Roman Empire and from men departing from God’s way. That the early church was, by and large, going to depart from the Truth was no surprise to believers. Paul warned of this coming departure: **“Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them”** (Acts 20:30). The Holy Spirit knew what would happen when men coveted the power and glory reserved for the Lord only. Paul recorded in I Timothy 4:1-3, in remarkable detail, the coming fall. This fall, being spiritual in nature, has had an even greater impact on the world than the fall of the Roman Empire.

Blind ambition raised up the Popes. Note these words: “If Rome is Queen of cities, why should not her pastor be the king of bishops? Why should not all nations be her children, and her authority their sovereign law? It was easy for the ambitious heart of man to reason thus. Ambitious Rome did so”. (History of the Reformation, p. 8)

The History of the Popes really began in A.D. 606 when Boniface III was first installed Pope (by man, not God). Remember Proverbs 16:18: ***“Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.”***

—Glen Alexander

### ***Placed Membership***

Sunday, February 14th, **Mike and Nancy Roemisch**, as well as their daughter, **Amber Peppentenza**, expressed their desire to be a part of Eisenhower congregation of the Lord’s church and to work under the guidance and leadership of the eldership here. We want to welcome Mike, Nancy and Amber.

### ***Sympathy***

Condolences go out to the family of **Everardo Ibarra** who passed away February 10th, 2016 at Medical Center Hospital. His visitation was held Monday, February 15th 1:00–9:00 p.m and his services were held at 10am Tuesday, February 16th at 6th & Jackson Church of Christ. Everardo preached for the Hispanic congregation at 6th and Jackson in 1998.

### ***Prayer Request***

Please keep **Bill Gibbons** (June Smith’s brother-in-law) in your prayers. Bill had stents put in his heart. The surgery went well and no further surgery is needed. Bill is recuperating at home.

**Montrella Ruffner** was taken to Odessa Regional Medical Center. She has a kidney infection and pneumonia. Montrella is in room #505.

Prayers are requested for the **Ruby Marquez** family. Saturday night, February 13th, her son was struck and killed by a vehicle while standing beside his stalled car. Ruby is a co-worker of Charles Wood.

### ***Concerns Update***

Elder McCarty’s eco-cardiogram was re- scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th.

### ***Prayer List***

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Helen Jones; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Anna McGlothlin; Elder McCarty; Jack McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patty Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Connie Phelps; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Lisa Wells; Ann Wilson; Toya Zambelli

### ***Eisenhower’s Shut-ins***

We have several dear members of this congregation who, because of illness and/or advanced age, are not able to assemble with us on the Lord’s Day for Bible Study and Worship as they would like. They mean a great deal to us and we love them very much. These members are: Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Winford Hambright; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

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

## **Thank You**

“Thank You” for the food basket, the cards and the visits for my mom, Anna McGlothlin. It means a lot to us! She’s been moved to Room 205-B at Madison.  
Love, Eugene & Anita Smith

## **Events**

Today there is a “**Family Devotional**” following our evening service. Everyone is invited.

## **Youth**

### **Bible Quiz Question...**

Who was the son of Nun?

### **Last Week’s Bible Quiz answer...**

Joseph’s bones were buried at Shechem.

## **FYI**

“*In Search of the Lord’s Way*” is having some trouble with their time slot on Channel 7. Another program is being shown in their spot. The problem is trying to get solved. We will post when everything is back to normal.

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.

## **Office News**

The “**New Mexico Children’s Home**” will be back in Odessa Tuesday, March 1st, 2016 for a food pick up. They are requesting **tomato sauce and tomato paste**. If you can help out with this request it is greatly appreciated. Monetary donations also accepted.

The **Tipton Children’s Home** will be here March 8th-10th for their food drive. They are requesting: **Assorted Cereal, Assorted Soup, Ritz Crackers, Assorted Spices, Tomato Sauce, Vegetable Oil, Microwave Popcorn, Enchilada Sauce, Cough Drops, Toilet Bowl Cleaner and Disinfectant spray.**

### **February 21, 2016**

#### **A.M.**

#### **P.M.**

Announcements

Allen Weakland

Allen Weakland

Song Leader

John Carroll

John Wood

Sermon

Allen Weakland

Allen Weakland

Opening Prayer

Allen Weakland

Allen Weakland

Scripture

Josh Wells

Scot Straw

Second Prayer

Bill Tolbert

Charles Wood

Closing Prayer

Jr. Munoz

Larry May

Lord's Supper

West...

Jacob Carson

Chris Butler

Bill Ryan

Communion

Dex Dennard

(In Library)

East...

Don Easlon

Richard Siler

Dylan Straw

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder* : Allen Weakland 362-1403; *Deacon*: Bill Ryan 272-5507; *Pulpit*: Bill Butler 362-7486; *Table*: Chris Butler 362-7486; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Rudy Ochoa 432-214-0398 *Collections*: Rudy Ochoa 432-214-0398

**Sunday AM**

*"The Tent without the Camp"*  
(Exodus 33:7-11)

**Sunday PM**

*"Partiality"*  
(James 2:1-13)

**Our Records**

*Bible Class*... 96  
*Morning Worship*...135  
*Evening Worship*...85  
*Wednesday*...81  
*Contribution*...\$5,489.00



