

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Is the Church Jesus Built on the Earth Today? (Part 1)

We are not interested in a church “like” the church Jesus built any more than we are interested in a Savior “like” the Son of God. It either is or it isn’t; He either is or He isn’t. A cow is like a horse in that it has four legs and a tail, but a cow is not a horse.

The worship of Cain and Abel was similar (both worshipped the same God, at the same time), but Cain’s was rejected and Abel’s was accepted (Gen. 4:4-5; Heb. 11:4). Tares and wheat were close in appearance, but one is edible and desirable and the other was poisonous and hated (Matthew 13:24-30).

We are interested in finding the same church Jesus promised to build (Mt. 16:18). On that occasion Peter did not say that Jesus was “like” the Son of God. He called Him “the Son of the living God” (Mt. 16:16).

No church can prove historically that it has existed from the time of the New Testament, but is it possible that the New Testament church still exists today? Yes, because it is not necessary to trace a line of succession back two thousand years. That possibility is easily proved by considering three simple principles.

Consider the Seed Principle

If we wanted to grow Alabama tomatoes in Texas, would we need to stretch a row of tomatoes across Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana into Texas? No, just take the seeds from Alabama to Texas, plant them, and they will grow. The succession of the plant is in the seed, not in the row. One of God’s eternal laws is that a seed produces “after his kind” (Genesis 1:11-12). When we plant beans we reap beans, not watermelons or corn. Paul used this fact to illustrate a spiritual lesson, saying, “*Whatever a man soweth, that shall he also reap*” (Galatians 6:7). All institutions on earth—from Chinese Communism to Dell computers, from pro football to the Army—are perpetuated by their “seeds” (doctrines). So are all religious organizations. Each has a body of doctrine that it plants as seed. What is planted (taught) determines what grows.

“*The seed is the word of God*” (Luke 8:11). When planted in the first century it produced Christians (individually) and the church of Christ (collectively). Apply the seed principle to today’s religious situation:

- Do we have the same seed today as what was planted in New Testament times? Yes, we have the Bible (I Peter 1:22-25).
- Has the seed become inert? No, it is alive (I Peter 1:22-25).
- Do we have the same soil? Yes, human hearts (Mt. 13:19-24). It grows the same thing that it did then—Christians (Acts 2:22-47; 11:26). What else could it produce?
- What church will the seed produce? The same one it produced then; the one Jesus died to purchase, over which He reigns and which bears His name (Acts 20:28; Romans 16:16).

The perpetuation of the church is in the pattern, not in the history of following it. It is

in the seed, not in a perennial crop. It makes no difference how long the Gospel seed may have been stored. If there had not been a church upon the earth after the New Testament order for a thousand years, so long as God's Word still survived, then Christ's church would sprout up when people read, understood and obeyed the Gospel.

—Southside's Salute
Next week (Part 2)

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Kayla Easlon in the loss of her grandmother, **Mattie Ruth Wilson**. Mattie was 80 years old. Her services were conducted on Saturday, March 23rd at the Hillcrest Church of Christ in Abilene. Kayla is the wife of David Easlon.

Prayer Request

Patsy Mitchell is scheduled for knee surgery Tuesday, April 16th at Medical Center. Please keep her in your prayers that her surgery goes well and that she has a speedy recovery.

Ora McAfee was hospitalized a week or so ago for a stomach virus. She was so weak from dehydration that she fell and hit the back of her head. Ora is home recuperating.

Lupe Valeriano (co-worker of Julie Driver) is having test run to determine why she is in pain. Julie is requesting prayers for her.

Terresia Weaver came forward last Sunday evening requesting prayers for her son, **Todd Weaver**, who is being check out by a Neurologist and also an ENT doctor. Please pray for the right diagnosis and that it will be treatable. He is home and feeling somewhat better.

Also, Wednesday, March 20th Terresia's sister, **Connie Conley**, was diagnosed with breast cancer. Terresia is requesting prayers for her that all will go well and the things done will be the best treatment for her and that God will use them to heal her body.

Eddie Chavaz (Ashley Carson's father) will undergo brain cancer surgery on April 9th. Prayers have been requested that the surgery will go well and that he is the victor over this disease.

Concerns Update

Carolyn Morrison's back surgery last Tuesday went well. She is home recuperating but still is experiencing some pain. Carolyn is Devida's sister.

Jenny Fuls (Nancy Easlon's sister) is back at Compass in Midland being treated for breathing problems. She is still waiting for surgery.

Prayer List

Crissy Arroyo; Brian Basaldua; Dennis Betts; Harshad Bhavsar; Betty Branson; Bill Brown; Brad Bundick; Bill Butler; Sylvia Campos; Eddie Chavez; LaDonna Chism; Jon Cooper; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Paul Gunn; Wayne Gunn; Winford Hambright; Roberta Hamil; Letha Hooper; Jennifer Jones; Paul Ketchell; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Carolyn Morrison; José Padilla; Sharion Price; Bonnie Pursley; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Paisleigh Grace Shepherd; Janelle Shirley; Charles Simmons; Reda Sowell; Jack Straw; Linda Tate; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Beth Ann Warren; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Sondie Williamson; Charles Wood; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

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

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

How many Philistines did David kill as a dowry to marry Michal, Saul's daughter; (a) 100 (b) 200 or (c) 75?

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer...

James and John's father was Zebedee and their mother was Salome.

Events

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

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 the 1st week in June for a food pick up. No food items were given at this time. Monetary donations are also accepted.

JUST BECAUSE!

Ask a child why they did something wrong and you will receive any number of reasons, but it all comes down to one simple truth. "I did it because." That's right, just because they wanted to do whatever it was that they shouldn't have done. But what is strange to me is that as adults we still use the same type of thinking.

There are many who want to claim that they are victims; victims of their genes, poor parenting, or of someone else's actions. Few want to state the truth and say "I did it just because I wanted to." Yet Jesus is clear on the matter, we get what we sow, we reap the consequences of wrong choices and poor judgment. The apostle Paul uses the statement. "Act like men." In other words simply grow up.

God will hold each of us accountable for the things we have done in this life (I Corinthians 5). He will know that we did what we did just because we wanted to.

—Floyd C. Johnson
Huntington Park church of Christ
Shreveport, LA

March 31st, 2019

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Allen Weakland
Oliver Hernandez
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Richard Siler
Jr. Munoz
Josh Wells

P.M.

Allen Weakland
Cody Wesson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
John Wood
Josh Weakland
Bill Brown

Lord's Supper
(Scripture Reading) Jacob Carson

West... Kevin Wilcox George Warren
 Tom Sorenson Communion
 Tommy Garcia (In Library)

East Trinidad Wood
 Doug Guynn
 Josh Wells

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Allen Weakland 254-8209 *Deacon*; John Wood 413-7444 *Pulpit*; Bill Tolbert 381-5564 *Table*; George Warren 557-2171— *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Sermons*; Craig Wesson 934-4633 *Collections*: Craig Wesson 934-4633

Sunday AM

“Christ Provides Reconciliation”
(Colossians 1:20-23)

Sunday PM

“Overcoming Discontentment”
(Psalm 23:1-2)

Our Records

Bible Class... 68
Morning Worship...109
Evening Worship...72
Wednesday...99
Contribution...\$4,799.00