

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Church Government—All Alike

The church as God's divine institution should be studied from every angle that is revealed to us in the New Testament. We need to know all that is revealed concerning it, or God would not have revealed it to us. The fact that we find this institution, with its government, mission and worship in in the New Testament, is sufficient evidence that we should study it. How does God govern His people today?

What is the relation of local organizations to one another? They are all on equality before God. The size of the group or the number composing the group has nothing to do with determining the blessings that the church shall receive; neither will the number great or small, prevent it from fulfilling its mission. The local congregations stand before God on equality. There is no first church, in the sense of superiority or in the sense of receiving special blessings from God. No church is central in the sense of superiority or in the sense that other churches must depend upon the other church. There is no authority above the local church to which this church must bow in submission or pay homage, save that of the Lord Jesus Christ. All the local churches are organically separate from each other. There are no churches after the New Testament pattern whose organization makes it dependent on some other church. One church is independent of all others; that is, the local congregation can function and fill its mission without being dependent on any other congregation. It is independent in its organization, which means that its organic functioning can be done without the authority or assistance of any other congregation. It matters not whether the church be in Japan or America, if it, is patterned after the New Testament order, then it is like all other churches in organization that are patterned after the News Testament order. That is to say that whatever it takes to constitute the full and complete organization of one church, it takes that same organization to complete the organization of every other church. The churches are one in organization, as well as one in faith, in hope, in mission. Whatever may be the officers of one congregation that is patterned after the New Testament order these officers will be found in every other congregation that follows the New Testament pattern. All the congregations have the same mission; all have the same order of worship; all are guided by the same law.

There are no organizations of churches. The only organization that is taught in the New Testament is the organization in the local congregation. There are no officers of any kind that may make laws or govern any group of churches. If the church follows the New Testament order, there will be no organization within the church that in any way hinders the free functioning of the church as ordained in the New Testament. The simple, independent functioning of the congregation must be left free to act as directed by the Word of God. The only organization that the New Testament teaches is the organization of the local congregation with its elders and deacons. It was physically impossible for all Christians scattered over the earth to meet in the same place for worship so it became necessary to localize the church for the convenience and development of its members. It was necessary for the church in the general sense to take the form of local congregations in order that God might govern the members of His body. We are impressed with the extreme simplicity which God has given to the local congregation. Whatever authority Christ left with the church was vested in the elders. There is no higher earthly authority in the churches than that found in the eldership, if authority it may be called.

The elders neither made the laws by which the church is to be governed, nor can they unmake these laws. The members of the body did not and cannot enact the laws by which the church of our Lord is to be governed. The elders, as servants of the church, just simply execute the law of Christ. They rule by the Word of the Lord. They dare not assume any authority not delegated to them by the Lord. They must not manufacture any expedient nor substitute anything for the government of the church, save that which is found in the New Testament.

—H. Leo Boles

Prayer Requests

Please keep in your prayers, all those who have lost loved ones or who are now sick because of the Coronavirus. This devastation has touched so many lives throughout the world. Let us pray that God will see us through this storm and that He will guide those who are looking for a cure.

Concerns Update

Trina Plyler is still in the hospital from undergoing major surgery on March 25th in Ft. Worth. Please continue to keep her in your prayers that she will have a complete recovery and that all will be well for her.

Maddie Clay (Devida's great niece) underwent several tests for MS in Columbus, OH two weeks ago. The Cleveland Clinic will issue the results soon.

Prayer List

Jack Aaron; Brian Basaldua; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Lavern Couch; Emma Craig; Kim Drake; Loyce Driver; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Kyle Foshee; Thomas Garcia; Hattie Gilmore; Winford Hambright; Irene Hernandez; Leo Holloway; Letha Hooper; Vertie Howard; Liz Leach; Betty Leeth; Charles Lewis; Jed Martin; Alyssa May; Ora McAfee; Krysta McMullen; Melissa Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Jr. Munoz; Maxine Newton; Tanya Nichols; Juanita Orosco; Trina Plyler; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Danna Robertson; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Teresa Simmons; Princess Tadashi; Mark Thompson; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Jackie Wallace; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Tom Wilcox; John Wood.

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Robertta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley

Youth

Bible Quiz Question (True or False?)

King Saul gave his daughter Michal as wife to another man while she was still married to David.

Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...

According to Jonah the population of Nineveh was more than 200,000. (Jonah 4:11)

Events

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

NOTE:

Dear Family & Friends,

There has been a change of plans for the wedding celebration of Atasi & Clinton that was set to take place on Saturday, May 9, 2020. Due to unforeseen circumstances, we have decided to postpone the celebration of our wedding to a later date. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused and look forward to celebrating our marriage with you in the future. For more information, please visit atasiandclinton.minted.us.

Live a Life That Matters

Ready or not, some day it will all come to an end.

There will be no more sunrises, no minutes, hours, days.

All the things you collected, whether treasured or forgotten, will pass to someone else.

Your wealth, fame and temporal power will shrivel to irrelevance.

It will not matter what you owned or what you were owed.

Your grudges, resentments, frustrations and jealousies will finally disappear.

So, too, your hopes, ambitions, plans and to-do lists will expire.

The wins and losses that once seemed so important will fade away.

It won't matter where you came from, or on what side of the tracks you lived.

At the end, whether you were beautiful or brilliant, male or female, even your skin color won't matter.

So what will matter? How will the value of your days be measured?

What will matter is not what you bought, but what you built; not what you got, but what you gave.

What will matter is not your success, but your significance.

What will matter is what you learned and what you taught.

What will matter is every act of integrity, compassion, courage or sacrifice that enriched, empowered or encouraged others.

What will matter is not your competence, but your character.

What will matter is not how many people you knew, but how many will feel a lasting loss when you're gone.

What will matter is not your memories, but the memories that live in those who loved you.

Living a life that matters doesn't happen by accident.

It's not a matter of circumstance but of choice...

—Michael Josephson

Sunday, April 5th, 2020

Due to the Coronavirus spread in Odessa and surrounding areas, the Eisenhower Church of Christ elders have made the decision to "Live Stream" all their services on Facebook since we can have no more than 10 people in attendance. Below are our scheduled services:

Sunday Worship – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Service -- 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Class -- 7:00 p.m.

Sunday AM

"Stability of Our Times"

(Isaiah 33:5-6)

Sunday PM

"Reception of Sinners"

(Luke 15:11-24)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder of the Month:* Jeff Wesson 556-5547 –*Deacon:* Richard Siler 556-2151–*Pulpit:* Josh Wells 770-6753–*Table:* Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 – *Song Leaders:* Larry May 638-3990–*Recording Sermons:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702– *Collections:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702

