

Eisenhower Church of Christ

Preaching the Whole Counsel of God

During the closing stages of Missionary Journey Number Three Paul met briefly with the Ephesian eldership at Miletus. Acts 20:17-38 relates that historic meeting. In a trio of verses Paul said,

“And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publicly, and from house to house...Wherefore, I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God” (Acts 20:20, 26-27).

E. A. Elam, great preacher of the past once said that some men are praised for their power and others for their pathos. He desired most of all to be remembered as one that shrank not from declaring the whole counsel of God. The rugged Elam had caught a generous measure of the Pauline philosophy of effective proclamation of God’s glorious Gospel.

Why Preach God’s Whole Counsel?

Seven weighty reasons can be given. Numbered and noted they are:

1. Because God gave his whole counsel to be proclaimed. Like Jonah we must do the preaching he has bidden us to do (Jonah 3:2).
2. This is the holy heartbeat of that mighty, marching, militant and magnificent Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-16; Luke 24:47; John 20:23).
3. Such is profitable to men. Its absence is damnable to men (Acts 20:20).
4. This we must do to be pure from the blood of men (Eph. 3:17 ff; Acts 20:26-27).
5. Such will make us like Paul who charged us to follow him as he followed Christ (1 Cor. 11:1; Philippians 3:16-17).
6. It shows the loyalty of our love for Deity (1 John 5:3; John 14:15; 15:14).
7. There should really be no desire on our part to ever preach anything else except God’s Word and all of it.

What does It Mean to Preach God’s Whole Counsel?

Eleven prudent points answer with force and finality.

1. It means preaching biblical inspiration, infallibility, authority of all-sufficiency.
2. It means making at all times the right division of truth (2 Timothy 2:15).
3. It means preaching Christ and his church (Ephesians 5:32).
4. It means preaching the gospel with commands, facts, promises, warnings, and implications.
5. It means proclaiming God’s law of pardon for aliens and his second law of pardon for erring members (Romans 10:17; John 8:24; Luke 13:3; Romans 10:9-10; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:22; James 5:16; 1 John 1:9).
6. It means preaching both negatives and positives and aiming at proper balance in the same.
7. It calls the exposure of all falsehood (Psalm 119:104, 128).
8. It calls for setting forth the Christian life as work, worship, watching and waiting (1 Corinthians 15:58; John 4:24; Mark 13:32-27; 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10).
9. It means preaching the supreme necessity of winning souls.

10. It means preaching fulness of truth relative to Biblical Finals.

11. It means preaching God's law of marriage, divorce, and remarriage with no tampering in any of these.

—Robert R. Taylor, Jr.

Prayer Requests

Wilene Wright was admitted into MCH last Monday. An MRI showed that she had an acute stroke. So far there are no signs of paralysis just periods of dementia. She is in Room #954. Visits are okay.

LaDonna Chism has been at Encompass over two weeks going through rehab. She is in Room #252-B. LaDonna is in need of our prayers.

Hattie Gilmore was sick last week and unable to attend services. She is in need of prayers.

Mary Anchondo is having trouble walking and just not feeling well.

Mary Anchondo has requested prayers for her sister, **Rosa Ramirez**, who has been put under Hospice Care. Please keep Rosa in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Doug Guynn's cancer treatment procedure was changed. Hopefully, this will be a positive change.

Jon Easley's cancer surgery last week went well. It appears they got all the cancer and there were no signs of it spreading. Keep Jon in your prayers for a full recovery.

Prayer List

Maria Baeza; Betty Branson; Mary Brown; Naomi and Adelynn Bustillos; Glenna Callendar; Arthur Campos; Sylvia Campos; Charlie Carson; LaDonna Chism; James Drake; Jon Easley; Cathy Eastwood; Daniel Eastwood; Hattie Gilmore; Paul Gunn; Doug Guynn; Lon & Lana Howard; Charles Lewis; Leigh Ann McFarland; Juan & Estella Morolez; Joe Morrison; Bruce & Trina Plyler; Linda Straw; Linda & Bill Tate; Marilyn Upshaw; Terresia Weaver; Carolyn Wilkerson; Jefferson Wood; John Wood; Natalynn Wood.

Eisenhower's Homebound...

Glenna Callendar; James & Joyce Drake; Ronda Lyne; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley & Marilyn Upshaw.

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

Events

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

Guest Speaker:

Please mark the date: October 21st and 22nd. Dave Miller will be here to present an AP Seminar on "**God and Government**" We will have more details later. Please plan to attend these sessions if you possibly can.

Office News

Crib Shower: We are hosting a "**Diaper and Wipes**" crib shower for Beth Ann Easlon. Baby Lily Ann's crib is set up in the east foyer.

Today is our "**Potluck Luncheon**" after the morning service followed by our PM service. All our visitors are welcome to join us.

There will be a “**Deacon’s Meeting**” today following the PM service.

Thoughts to remember ...

God’s delays are not God’s denials.

Straws in the Wind

Straws moving in the air indicate the direction of the blowing of the wind. There are religious trends in the country that are “straws in the wind” Some point to progress in the right direction; some indicate a dangerous trend.

There is a trend today of an overall decline in attendance in the churches. We can understand why many “liberal” churches have declined. “Liberalism” does not work. Man’s basic needs are not fulfilled by a social “gospel,” but by a close, personal, and obedient walk with God and His Word. The decline in these churches is an opportunity for Bible churches to present the power of the Gospel.

There is the trend to think that one can be a good Christian and not attend church. In a survey, eight out of ten unchurched and seven out of ten who are connected with some church, felt that a person can be a good Christian even if he or she does not attend church at all. While many churches are only interested in noise, nickels and numbers, the Lord’s church is alive and is interested in works of faith, labors of love and patience of hope. Faithful Christians will not forsake the assembly (Hebrews 10:25).

There is a trend today toward turning “preachers” into “counselors.” Counseling has its proper place, but people need to be told to conform their lives to the Word of God. The approach should still be: what does the Bible say about this? The Gospel is the only thing that really offers “peace.”

There is a trend today to get away from citing the Bible as proof. It is not unusual to hear sermons that do not appeal to biblical proof. Some are more interested in relating to people than in relating the Word of God to people. Bible proof is foolish to some. But a “thus saith the Lord” is more important than three points and a poem from a counseling manual.

Let us turn to the Lord and walk in His ways; and then when life’s race has been run, its battle fought, and its victories won, the God Almighty will bid us to enter the celestial city. We may then sweep through the gates into the grandeur of our Father’s home, across which no shadow will ever fall.

—J. Noel Merideth

August 27, 2023

Announcements

Song Leader

Sermon

Opening Prayer

Scripture Reading

Second Prayer

Closing Prayer

A.M.

Larry May

Oliver Hernandez

Allen Weakland

Larry May

Jr. Munoz

David Baldwin

Don Easlon

P.M.

Larry May

Jon Roemisch

Allen Weakland

Larry May

Jackie Perkins

Charles Wood

Caleb York

Lords Supper

Scot Straw

Bill Ryan

Trini Wood

Steven Easlon

Jacob Carson

Communion

(In Library)

Other Responsibilities: *Elder:* Larry May 638-3990 *Deacon:* Jacob Carson 940-3775 —*Pulpit:* Craig

Wesson 934-4633 — **Table:** Jacob Carson 940-3775 — **Song Leaders:** Cody Wesson 934-4646 —
Recording Sermons: Cody Wesson — **Contributions:** Jacob Carson

Sunday AM

“Thinking to Benefit Others”
(Romans 12:3-8)

Sunday PM

“Saul”
(Acts 8:1-3)

Our Records

Bible Class... 73

Morning Worship...96

Evening Worship ... 70

Wednesday...70

Contribution...5,546.25