

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## If We Lose the Sense of Pattern

One of the greatest of all points useful in the work of calling men back to the Standard of God is the idea of *pattern*. So very many have turned away from sectarian and denominational systems due to an examination of their present spiritual/doctrinal status, and in seeing that they had been led away from the New Testament of the Christ. In seeing deviation, they saw the will of God and how their own moves had been against that will. Men in the period of the Restoration Movement sounded forth the call, “*let us return to the pattern!*” It had appeal then, and it has appeal now, where men are found who are good and honest of heart.

The idea of *pattern* is not new among the followers of God. Indeed, when God gave instructions to the Israelites in the book of Exodus, He followed with the exhortation through Moses: “*look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shewed thee in the mount*” (Exodus 25:40). The idea of pattern was very much a part of the content of Hebrews, with so many contrasts between Old and New covenants. And the reminder was given: “*for, See, saith He, that thou make all things according to the pattern shewed to thee in the mount*”. (Hebrews 8:5).

The idea of pattern rests in the idea of the Word as authority. And on that point, all of the problems in the church in these last several years finally boil down to rejection of authority by some. But when the Word of God is set forth as the authority, with instructions that we dare not go beyond it (2 John 9), and when that same Word is said to furnish us completely unto every good work (2 Timothy 3:16-17), we would expect that authoritative Word to contain many patterns. Thus, we have been able to make lost men see that the Word contains the pattern for Jesus’ church, in its work, in its doctrine, in its worship, in its organization. We can both identify the true and the false because the pattern is set before us.

One would expect Satan to attack with all of his might and devices the idea of *pattern*. Faithfulness to God involves, first, one losing his own selfish will in his subjection to the will of the Lord (Luke 9:23). The very core of unfaithfulness, disobedience and rejection of God’s will would be the disposition to follow self will—to walk after one’s own lusts and desires (2 Peter 2:10). Those who are faithful, in their submissiveness, ask the Lord, by His revealed will, to give direction; they want, they seek, and they wish to abide by, *pattern*. They would have it no other way! But we have seen, and we continue to see, the other side of things at work in the brotherhood. The disdain for authority, and *the mocking of any pattern*, advertises the desire that men seek freedom to do their own pleasure rather than God’s will. Those who seek to follow the Bible are called “Bibliolaters.” Men who want to follow the *pattern* are called “traditionalists, mainliners,” and reviled as those who are not interested in growth. If a “thus-saith-the-Lord” is sought in all things, we are called “Pharisees, narrow-minded, unloving, uncaring and unspiritual.”

Peter had said that some “speak evil of the things that they understand not” (2 Peter 2:12). While men mock the idea of *pattern*, let us take comfort that the idea, and the very word, is used in the bible, in both the Old and New Testaments. Let us remember that from the very beginning of God’s dealing with man, the requirement has been man’s subjection to the Lord, and man doing the will of the Lord, fully, completely exactly, and without modification at all. God has set forth *patterns*, and a *pattern* exists that there might be a standard, and that in all adhering to the standard — in this case, God’s standard—there might then be conformity to God’s will. Let us never allow any who mock *pattern* to so affect us that we cease to recognize that there is such a thing. We, in the kingdom, have prospered as we have *adhered to the pattern of God*; we have, and we will, always falter and fail when we show disdain for the *pattern*. “Let us do all things according to the pattern!”

—Bill Jackson

## **Prayer Requests**

**Jack Wright** was taken by ambulance to the ER at Medical Center Hospital, Thursday, August 27th with chest pains. He had an angiogram done and blockage was found in a couple of arteries. Jack underwent surgery to have stents put in. He is home recuperating.

**Jayden Dennis**, the 17 year old son of Clayton Dennis (who is an elder at Sherwood church of Christ) completely cut off his right hand with a shearing machine about two weeks ago at the Y.T. Ranch. Jayden will be undergoing approximately 1 1/2 years of surgeries on his hand. They are asking for our prayers and also help. Both parents had to leave their jobs and an account has been set up for those who could donate funds to help cover some of their expenses. Go to Google and type in [gofundme.com](http://gofundme.com) then type in Jayden Dennis and it should pull up a screen where you can donate money to help that family.

## **Concerns Update**

**Trina Plyler**, George & Jurlean Warren's daughter, had colon surgery Monday, August 31st in Weatherford, TX. No update at this printing.

## **Prayer List**

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Charles Browning; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Brian Drake; James & Joyce Drake; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Linda Horton; Lon & Lana Howard; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Jack McCarty; Flossie Montgomery; Patsy Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Avery Ojado; Jonathan Pegan; Judy Phillips; Trina Plyler; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Carmen Settle; Brenda Simmons; Nancy Slife; James Stevens; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells;

## **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; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

## **Youth**

**Bible Quiz Question...**

What flowers did Jesus say "neither toil nor spin"?

**Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...**

"Simon" was Judas Iscariot's father's name.

## **FYI**

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called "**Christian Take Aim**" at 6:30 pm Tuesdays; [www.thegospelradionetwork.org](http://www.thegospelradionetwork.org). Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch "**In Search of the Lord's Way**" every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

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**

Our "**Food Pantry**" is low on food. It needs to be kept supplied with food and supplies for the children's homes and those in need especially at the holiday season.

## What if ? ...

We are often discouraged at the fact that so many people have such opposing ideas about the Bible and about spiritual things. Well-meaning people are often at odds over the meaning of scripture. It isn't supposed to be that way. When God inspired the writers of scripture to pen their inspired thoughts He wasn't intending for us to take those thoughts in a thousand different directions. He wanted us to be united in the same thoughts and the same judgment.

It got me to thinking. What if ? ....

What if we were all reading scriptures for the first time? What if there were no commentators to tell us what to think and no preachers interjecting their own opinions? What if we were all given the scripture for the first time right now?

There would not be a division of churches because the idea of unity is so strongly encouraged and the authority of the scripture itself would not allow us to be divided.

There would not be a debate over the necessity of baptism because baptism was obviously a part of anyone's desire to be obedient to the Gospel. Paul never addressed Christians as those who had asked the Lord into their hearts, but as those who have been baptized into Christ. When Peter said "baptism now saves you," we would all understand it was necessary.

There would be no one who would conclude that the church is somewhere you ought to be on Sundays. We would all see that the church is to be that vital, living body of believers who are called to change the world. —Pat Peters

<b>September 6, 2015</b>	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	John Wood	Craig Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Larry May	Bill Ryan
Second Prayer	Jr. Munoz	Josh Wells
Closing Prayer	Rudy Ochoa	Don Easlon
Lord's Supper		
West...	Charles Wood Tom Sorenson Trini Wood	George Warren Communion (In Library)
East...	Bill Tolbert Josh Weakland Isaiah Armendarez	

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon*: Josh Wells 770-6753 *Pulpit*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Table*: George Warren 550-0805 *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties*: Jacob Carson 432-940-3775  
*Collections*: Jacob Carson 432-940-3775

### **Sunday AM"**

*"Prosperity under Persecution"*  
(Exodus 1:10-12)

### **Sunday PM**

*"Wicked Vinedressers"*  
(Mark 12:1-12)

**Our Records**

*Bible Class...93*

*Morning Worship...145*

*Evening Worship...NA*

*Wednesday...80*

*Contribution...\$7,456.25*

