

Eisenhower Church of Christ

“Speak Unto Us Smooth Things”

“Which say to the seers, See not; and to the Prophets, prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits” (Isaiah 30:10). The people of whom Isaiah wrote did not want the prophets to prophesy the truth; they wanted them to speak “smooth things.” Rebellious people demand an easy religion. It is not the truth they want; it is assurance that all will be well. These are the people who can grow eloquent about the joy of their life style and indignant over the Gospel of sin and judgment. In the days of the prophets some men wanted to hear only pleasant things. They applauded those who said what the people wanted to hear and stoned the prophets of plain truth. Jeremiah wrote, ***“The prophets prophesy falsely and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so”*** (Jeremiah 5:31). Paul wrote to Timothy, ***“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; and they shall turn away their ears from the truth and shall be turned unto fables”*** (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

The New Testament plainly teaches we all need to strictly follow sound doctrine and walk in the straitened way (Matthew 7:13-14).

1. The New Testament teaches that God’s word is truth (John 17:17).
2. That knowing and obeying the truth will make one free from sin (John 8:32; Matthew 7:21-27).
3. But believing and obeying a lie will result in damnation (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12).
4. Men must be very careful that they do not add to, take from, substitute, change or modify in any way, the word of God (Deuteronomy 4:2; Proverbs 30:5-6; Revelation 22:18-19).
5. To do what is not authorized by the word of God or go beyond the doctrine of Christ is sin (2 John 9-11)
6. Men may depart from the truth and may pervert the Gospel (I Timothy 4:1; Galatians 1:6-9).
7. And so the children of God are to contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints (Jude 3).
8. The thing that is to be preached is the word of God (2 Timothy 4:1-5).
9. Just as Jesus severely rebuked error during his earthly ministry he expects us to do the same today (Matthew 23:1-36; I Timothy 5:20).
10. Men are called upon to decide whom they will serve— Christ or the devil? (Joshua 24:15; Deuteronomy 11:26-28; 30:19; Matthew 6:24; 7:13-14)

A critic recently said, “The stifling orthodoxy of many churches of Christ is keeping many persons from being a part of Christ’s church.” It is the old statement that the church is too narrow. We have all heard it in one form or another dozens of times. But what about this alleged “stifling orthodoxy”? “Stifling” is to smother, prevent from breathing, suffocate, repress. “Orthodoxy” is conforming to the usual beliefs or established doctrines; conforming to the Christian faith. Since when is Christianity stifled by insisting that people conform to the Christian faith? Paul required that we are not to go beyond the things which are written (I Corinthians 4:6, ASV). Peter wrote, ***“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God”*** (I Peter 4:11).

Men leading the current ecumenical efforts cry for unity in diversity. They say doctrine divides so do away with it. They want to blur the lines of distinction. They have abandoned the premise that unity can be based upon obedience to God’s revealed Word. They denounce those who are engaged in denouncing error. And they apparently never notice how inconsistent they are when they denounce denouncers. They say all brethren are “brethren in error” and ridicule the idea of drawing lines of fellowship on doctrinal matters. Listeners who want to live as they please and believe what they fancy have itching ears for this kind of speaking. They want to be soothed instead of being saved. But even leaders of the alleged unity movement have some few doctrinal points they say must be accepted. There are points that are an irreducible minimum. But to be consistent, if we accept part of the commands of Christ, we should accept them all! We should not require only a few of the points of the doctrine of Christ; logically we should stand for all of them. John writes that if anyone does not abide in the teaching or doctrine of Christ we should not fellowship that person (2 John 9-11).

Paul fought for the truth and so should we. Near the end of his life he looked back and wrote, ***“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith”*** (2 Timothy 4:7, ASV). We should want preachers to preach the Word of God in power and love, without fear or favor. Jesus said, ***“Take heed therefore how ye hear”*** (Luke 8:18.) And, ***“Take heed what ye hear”*** (Mark 4:24).

—J. Noel Meredith

Prayer Request

Anita Smith had a TEE test done on her heart October 18th. It was done at Odessa Regional Medical Center. Anita has an irregular heart beat and they are trying to find the cause. Keep Anita in your prayers.

Concerns Update

Bill Butler’s CT scan last week went well. He is expected to get test results soon. Continue to keep him in your prayers.

Emma Craig (granddaughter of Virgie Barteo) will have some tests run in Dallas toward the end of October. Please keep Emma in your prayers that all will go well and that she sees results soon.

Jack Straw (Scot’s dad) had a stent put in his heart on October 4th in Amarillo. He came through the surgery just fine and is home recuperating. We need to continue to keep Jack in our prayers that he will have a full recovery.

Prayer List

Elsie Bradford; Bill Bundick; Brad Bundick; Bill Brown; Bill Butler; Raymundo Calzadias; Casey Cleveland; David Castor; Emma Craig; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; James V. Drake; Glenda Driver; Dana Erwin; Densell Fambro; Jennie Fuls; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambricht; Letha Hooper; Chris & Shirley Landers; Ora McAfee; Glenna McCarty; Kirk McFarland; Juan & Estella Morolez; Caydon Parker; Jackie Rex; Ida Rodriguez; Elvia Ruckman; Janelle Shirley; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; Matthew Simmons; Anita Smith; Albert Stegall; James Stephens; Jack Straw; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Jurlean Warren; Chuck Weaver; Jimmy Weaver; Josh Wells; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Sondie Williamson; Ann Wilson; Glenda Winkley; John Wood; Jack Wright.

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 spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

While John the Baptist was preaching, he pointed his finger in the face of a king and named a sin in his life. It was said that Herodias was the wife of the King Herod’s brother. Who was the brother of King Herod?

Last Week’s Bible Quiz Answer...

It was Silas who was thrown into jail in Philippi with Paul. (Acts 19:16-24)

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.

There will be a ***“Ladies Day”*** at **Westside Church of Christ** next Saturday, October 27th. Time: 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Registration is at 9:00 am. Speakers: Cherie Vestal and Julie Orr. Lunch will be provided. All ladies are invited. Their flyer is posted on the bulletin board.

The **Oldham Lane Church of Christ** in Abilene is having a **“Ladies Day”** Saturday, November 10th. The time is 8:15 am-1:00 pm. The theme is: “Broken but blessed”. Their invitation is posted on the bulletin board.

Office News

The **“New Mexico Children’s Home”** will be here Tuesday, December 4th for a food pick up. They are requesting **Chocolate Chips and Vanilla**. Monetary donations are also accepted.

STF–Group #3 will have their luncheon get-together this morning following the service in Room C-5.

Food for Thought

Luck is the idol of the idle.

Do Diets Work?

Do you want the truth? Can you handle the truth? Diets don’t work! You have to work at a diet! Exercise doesn’t work; you have to work at exercise. Being a Christian doesn’t work; you have to work at being a Christian! We have become as a people at ease, we want something done for us. Give us a pill, handle my child and take care of my problems. Don’t pick up that hoe you might have to work in the garden.

Christianity is a way of living. It is a method of having and dealing with everything that life may bring. It isn’t putting our life in neutral and hoping it all works out for the good. It is working on being good. The key is working! Jesus gave us a clue in this statement, *“Do unto others”* Paul gave another, *“work out your own salvation.”*

What did Jesus mean when he said, *“take up your cross and follow me.”*? Doesn’t that entail sacrifice and great effort? Paul said, *“We strive toward the mark of the high calling...”* We have become a nation of quitters. If it isn’t easy, I don’t want to do it! ...Family life hard? Just quit! ...Marriage getting rough? Just quit! People not treating you right at church? Just quit! Folks, the crown comes at the end of the race and not when you quit!

Bulletin Digest

–Floyd C. Johnson

October 21, 2018

	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	Rudy Ochoa	Jacob Carson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Dan Igo	Jaxon Straw
Second Prayer	Charles Wood	Jr. Munoz
Closing Prayer	Gary Loving	Charles Wood

Lord's Supper

(Scripture Reading) Craig Wesson

West...	Don Easlon	Cody Wesson
	Jackie Perkins	Communion
	Richard Siler	(In Library)

East...	Scot Straw
	Larry May
	David Ryan

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 556-5547 *Deacon*: Jr. Munoz 363-1309 *Pulpit*: John Wood 413-7444 *Table*: Cody Wesson 934-4646 *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990 *Recording Duties*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398 *Collections*: Rudy Ochoa 214-0398

Sunday AM

“Baptism” (Part 1)
(Mark 16:15-16)

Sunday PM

"Baptism" (Part 2)

(Mark 16:15-16)

Our Records

Bible Class... 80

Morning Worship...125

Evening Worship...73

Wednesday...75

Contribution...\$6,212.17