

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Divine Origin of the Church

The church originated in the mind of the infinitely wise God. Man could not have created such an institution. Jeremiah proclaimed, ***“O Lord, I know the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man who walks to direct his own steps”*** (Jeremiah 10:23). After sitting at the Lord’s feet for perhaps three and one half years, his chosen apostles still did not understand the idea of the establishment of the church. In ignorance they asked ***“Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”*** (Acts 1:6) He answered, ***“It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth”*** (Acts 1:7-8). When the Holy Spirit came upon them (Acts 2:1-4), they with one accord preaching the Gospel, baptized the multitudes and the ***“Lord added to the church daily those who were being saved”*** (Acts 2:47).

The establishment of the church was not dependent upon the wisdom of men. The Apostles preached only what was given to them by the Holy Spirit. The church was established on the first Pentecost after the death of Christ. Churches such as the Baptist, Methodist, Catholic, etc., have much later dates of establishment. What conclusion must be reached in light of this information? These churches and all others with like dates of establishment cannot be the true church of Christ.

Furthermore, the church was designed and built by that great architect, Jesus the Christ. He stated, ***“And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock (Peter’s rock-bed confession of faith ‘You are the Christ, the Son of the living God’ (Matthew 16:16) I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it”*** (Matthew 16:18). The wise man wrote, ***“Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it”*** (Psalm 127:1. Just as it is the case with the establishment date, so also with its builder. If a respective church was built or established by man it cannot be the true church of Christ!

Additionally, the church must have been established in Jerusalem. Isaiah the Prophet wrote, ***“...For out of Zion shall go forth the law and the Word of the Lord from Jerusalem”*** (Isaiah 2:3b). Acts chapter two, that great hub of the Bible, records the place of establishment to indeed be Jerusalem (Acts 2:1-5ff). Present day denominational churches have been established in a multitude of places, including the United States. What then are we to conclude about these churches? They cannot be the true church of Christ!

The original church, established by authority from God (Matthew 28:18), on the first Pentecost after the Lord’s death, built by the Son of God (Matthew 16:18) in

Jerusalem, was given everything necessary for its existence and perpetuation. Peter would write, “...as His divine power has given us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge (Bible) of Him who called us by glory and virtue” (2 Peter 1:3). The church is “complete in Him” (Colossians 2:10). The church is indeed divine in origin!

—Ed Melott

Placed Membership

Anita Ortiz (granddaughter of Rudy and Emma Ochoa) who was recently baptized has placed her membership with us here at Eisenhower and desires to work under the guidance of our elders. Let us give Anita a very warm welcome.

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Debbie Marris and her family in the loss of her cousin, **Danny Ford**. Danny passed away in Flint, TX Friday, November 27th from a lung disease. He grew up in Odessa and was a member of the Golf Course Road Church of Christ. Danny moved to Flint, TX to help his breathing problem. Keep this family in your prayers.

Prayer Request

Lee Roy Bell was taken to ORMC due to an infection. He is on antibiotics. Lee Roy is in Room #501.

Hazel Cavanaugh will be going back to Lubbock, Monday, December 14th for her 6 months cancer checkup. She has requested that we keep her in our prayers that she will again receive a good report.

Gloria Garcia (Tommy’s mother) underwent an emergency surgery Thursday, December 3rd that turned out good. She is home now recuperating.

Steve Horton has requested prayers for **Linda** who has been struggling with cancer for over a year now. The cancer has now spread to her liver. Linda is tired partly from the chemo.

Bobbie Braun (mother of one of Juli Driver’s college professors) has been at the Mayo Clinic for five months with internal bleeding. She is in serious condition.

Haylee Wint (Loyce Driver’s granddaughter) had a miscarriage Friday, December 4th. She was in her first trimester.

Also Haylee’s grandmother, **Jill Wallace**, has just been diagnosed with lung cancer which has spread to other organs. This family is in need of prayers.

Toya Zambelli (sister of Devida’s son-in-law) has gone to MD Anderson for testing. Her cancer is back and has spread to other organs.

Concerns Update

Connie Lowe received good test results from her last visit to MD Anderson. Her cancer went from an 83 to 43 (which is good). Connie is very pleased. She wants to thank everyone for the prayers on her behalf.

Meta Troutz (mother of Kim Guynn) was able to go home. She has been struggling with pneumonia for a long time and is still in need of care 24/7. Keep Meta in your prayers that she will gain the much needed strength and health.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Cruz Coe; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Todd Drake; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Linda Horton; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Andrué LaFlure; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill

McAfee; Jack McCarty; Anna McGlothlin; Patsy Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Laura Olivas; Connie Phelps; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Andrew Schwarz; Christa Bella Sellers; Brenda Simmons; Meta Troutz; Marilyn Upshaw; Teresa Vires; Lisa Wells; Carolyn Wilkerson; Jack Wright

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Ruby Davis; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant

Youth

Bible Quiz Question... Where would you find papyrus growing?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer... The outstretched hand from thumb to little finger was called "a span".

FYI

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.

Thank You

Eisenhower Church of Christ,

Thank you for praying for me. I have some good news about my cancer. I took a CT scan about 2 weeks ago. The chemo has shrunk all of the cancer cells but one on the liver which is 2 cm. I'm scheduled in December to have another round of chemo to take care of the cancer cell on the liver. I know God has answered our prayers.

Thank you,
Love & many blessings to God's people
Patty Montgomery

Office News

The "**Christmas Day**" luncheon will be at 12:00 noon, December 25th. (turkey and ham are provided) Please bring a dish and join us. Please sign up on the sheet on the bulletin board.

December 13, 2015	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Song Leader	John Carroll	Craig Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Jeff Wesson	Jeff Wesson
Scripture	Cody Wesson	Josh Weakland
Second Prayer	Charles Wood	Larry May
Closing Prayer	Tom Sorenson	John Wood
Lord's Supper		
West...	Larry May Bill Tolbert Jr. Munoz	John Carroll Communion (In Library)
East...	Scot Straw Tom Sorenson Richard Siler	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* : Jeff Wesson 561-5302 *Deacon*: Jr. Munoz 363-1309 *Pulpit*: Tony Marrs 553-7349; *Table*: John Carroll 553-2780; *Song Leaders*: Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties*: Chris Butler 362-7486 *Collections*: Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Manna"

(Exodus 16:1-4)

Sunday PM

"Trials to Triumphs"

(James 1:2-8)

Our Records

Bible Class... 75

*Morning Worship...*132

*Evening Worship...*78

*Wednesday...*71

Contribution...\$5,637.00

