

From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

A Divine Inheritance

D. J. Stucky

No matter what level of success or happiness we have gained in life, we wish for our children to have more. We want our children to live better lives than we lived, be better people than we were, and achieve more than we achieved. Many people begin saving to pay for their children's education while they are still young. We try to make sound financial decisions so that we have something good to leave for our children when we are gone. Abraham, the father of Isaac, was no different. He was determined to leave Isaac with an inheritance that would be a continual blessing.

After the death of Sarah, Abraham took another wife named Keturah, and had six sons with her (Gen. 25:1-4). Even in Abraham's old age, after the death of his wife Sarah, God was fulfilling His promise to make Abraham a father of many nations (Gen. 17:4). Despite these new children, Abraham's inheritance belonged to Isaac alone. Abraham gave everything to Isaac. On the other hand, the sons of the concubines (a reference to Keturah and Hagar) were given gifts and sent away from his son (Gen. 25:5-6). This is the final act of Abraham that has been recorded in the Scriptures. Abraham died at the age of 175, and was buried by his sons Isaac and Ishmael in the same place where he buried his wife (Gen. 23:19-20). And God, being ever faithful, continued to fulfill His promises by blessing Isaac (Gen. 25:11).

Abraham left a great deal for his son Isaac, who received the fullness of the inheritance. The other sons were sent away so they would not threaten the inheritance that was given. It was for Isaac and Isaac alone. The same is true for us as children of God. Though God is the Father of all people because He is the Creator, only those who are in Christ will receive the inheritance (Gal. 3:26-20; Heb. 5:8-9). However, unlike the sons of Abraham, we can choose to receive this inheritance, because it has been made available to all who would come to Jesus (Eph. 1:11-14; Acts 26:15-18). This inheritance is one that can never be taken away, because it has been reserved for us in heaven (1 Pet. 1:4). Knowing that we have this inheritance should help us endure the trials of life. Therefore, let us not focus solely on leaving a physical inheritance for our family that can be consumed. Let us instead teach our family to strive for the heavenly inheritance that is available to all in Jesus Christ.

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Jeff Day
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen
Tim Norman

Deacons

Gary Barger
Ryan Cowan
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes
Russ Jones

Minister

Kevin Rhodes

Associate

D. J. Stucky

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am

AM Worship
10:00 am

PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am

Bible Study
7:00 pm

Cleburne,
Texas

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And Shall Not Keep Silent

Kevin W. Rhodes

How you see God has a tremendous affect not only on your doctrine but on your behavior as well. If you see God as distant, you will likely not consider how He sees all that you do and knows everything about you. If you see God as small and weak, you will not fear Him or respect Him. If you see Him as a kindly grandfather, you may appreciate the attention He pays you but not worry about any discipline He may offer. If you see God as a tyrant, you may fear Him greatly but also despise Him in the process, growing resentful and letting anger dominate your relationships. If you see God as a mirror image of yourself, you will ultimately act like your own god, and maybe other people's too. However, despite how easily people adopt their own view of God for their own purposes, God has not left it up to our imagination to determine who He is and what He is like, for "The Mighty One, God the LORD, Has spoken..." (Psa. 50:1).

He has shined forth to reveal Himself to man (Psa. 50:2). More than that, He has come forth to declare His will "and shall not keep silent" (Psa. 50:3), and has done so "that He may judge His people" (Psa. 50:4) "who have made a covenant with Me by sacrifice" (Psa. 50:5). He has not left any man the option of judging himself, "For God Himself is Judge" (Psa. 50:6). People today who do acknowledge God's existence often have a difficult time accepting His judgment. They want to enjoy His love without the responsibility of doing His will. But He has spoken for Himself (Psa. 50:7), and therefore has not given man the right to speak for Him.

Men are tempted to brag on all that they do for God and offer to God,

forgetting that God provided both the talents and the means by which they do both (Psa. 50:8-13). Men want to bargain with God from an assumed position of strength instead of approaching God appropriately from the very real position of weakness. It is only when we realize that we have nothing to offer God of our own that we can begin to understand what He wants from us. "Offer to God thanksgiving, And pay your vows to the Most High. Call upon Me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify Me" (Psa. 50:14-15). We must begin with thanks for the opportunity to serve, for we do not even deserve this. We should be thankful for the opportunity for deliverance, because we do not deserve this either. We must grasp the depth of our dependence fully if we are to glorify the One on Whom we depend entirely. But all of this depends on our willingness to listen to what God says instead of insisting on our own opinions (Psa. 50:16).

We cannot reject God's words, whether in instruction or action, without rejecting God's covenant (Psa. 50:17-18). We cannot let evil escape our lips and still honor the words that came from God's own heart (Psa. 50:19-20). Just because God has not struck us down with lightning from above does not mean that He approves of our behavior. While He may seem silent in the moment, He will judge us in eternity (Psa. 50:21-22). Therefore, let us all live for that moment based on the words He has delivered. For He says, "Whoever offers praise glorifies Me; And to him who orders his conduct aright I will show the salvation of God" (Psa. 50:23).



News and Notes

Prayer request...

- Dot Blitch has moved to 2125 Hunt Club Trail; Frisco, TX 75033. Her phone is the same.
- Don Crecelius is having a problems with his hands.
- Casey Lehtinen received a good report this week. He continues to need prayers.
- Janice Redden had tests on Tuesday to see if she had blood clots in her leg. She has a lot of inflammation and will have to stay off of it for 2 weeks.
- Maria Martinez, Rosey Rodriguez's mother, is having tests due to a problem with her white blood cell count.
- Una York, Weldon's mother, fell Sunday afternoon.

Sympathy

Our sympathy is extended to Jeff and Laurie McPherson and family in the passing of Laurie's father, Lonnie Burk. Services were Wednesday.

Response and New member

Morris Jewett responded to the invitation on Wednesday, February 23rd. He also placed membership with us. His address is 2609 CR 429; cell 817-648-9395; Cleburne, TX 76031.

Please note...

- The new Bible class quarter will start Sunday, March 5th.
- The youth devotional will be in the annex after evening services on Sunday, March 5th. No one needs to bring any food or drinks to the devotional.
- The door knocking committee will have a quick meeting in Room 107 after the evening services Sunday, March 5th.
- Saturday, April 1st will be the Junior/Senior banquet. If you would like to help with the cost of this activity please give your donations to Tim or Melinda Norman, D. J. or Dana Stucky, or the elders.

Centurion of Scripture Challenge 2017 (NKJV)

2 Peter 1:20-21

Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

Review Romans 1:16-17 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek For in it the righteousness of God is revealed for faith to faith; as it is written, "The just shall live by faith."

Those who Serve

Lords' Supper: 3/5

Front South

Robert Pennay
Jason Hackler
Steve Baze

Front North

Colton Allen
Will Cammack
Britt Bachhofer

Back South

Rob Stidolph
Gene Threadgill
Mark Stubblefield

Back North

J. D. Allen
Ricky Threadgill
Weldon York

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Tim Norman

Sunday PM

Joshua Haynes
Andrew Collins
Jeff Day

Wednesday PM

Daniel Hughes

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Justin Hewlett

Wednesday

Andrew Collins

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Dale Ash

Sunday PM

Dale Ash

Wednesday PM

Dale Ash

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

James Hunt

Collection Counting

Andrew Collins / Joshua Haynes



Sermons for Sunday

AM

No Empty Praise
Psalm 149:1-9

PM

Enterprising Leaders
Nehemiah 11:1-36

Calendar of Events



5/14-17 Gospel Meeting with Mike Bonner

6/7-8/30 Summer Series: Families of Faith

9/15-16 Marriage and Parenting Seminar
with John and Carla Moore

11/5-8 Gospel Meeting with Mark Hanstein



Our Records

Bible Class129

AM Worship.....187

PM Worship.....119

Wednesday Bible Class126

Contribution..... \$7,134

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