

SUNDAY MARCH 27, 2016

the

Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, Texas

“The Purpose Of The Church”

What is the purpose of the Lord’s church? Is it to eradicate poverty, disease, social injustice, or illiteracy from among men? Is it to bring about a cessation of war and conflict? Is it to campaign for a temptation-free society for Christians to live in?

If the church had as one of its great goals the eradication of disease, the Lord could have easily equipped it to accomplish that goal. Could not the same power that enabled one blind man to see have enabled all blind men to see; that enabled one lame man to walk have enabled all lame people to walk; that cured many people of varied diseases have cured all people of all diseases? And could not the same power have been given to the church in all generations?

If the church has as one of its great goals the eradication of poverty, the Lord could have easily equipped it to accomplish this purpose. After all, He fed the five thousand with five loaves and two fishes. He similarly fed four thousand on another occasion. Could not He, who did these marvelous works, have enabled His church in all generations to feed, clothe, and shelter the impoverished masses of the world through miraculous powers?

If the Lord had wanted His church to become a lobbyist group to apply political pressure toward a temptation and persecution-free society in which to live, He would have given instructions in that direction. He did not even lead His church into a direct effort to destroy slavery, but the Christian master to treat his slaves as he would have his heavenly Master treated him (Colossians 3:22-4:1).

The church’s purpose is to save souls and prepare people for eternity. It holds out to the impoverished the hope of some day walking a street of gold; to the suffering a time when there will be no pain; to the sorrowing a moment when “God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.” It tells the tempted and persecuted that there is value in these afflictions, that the testing of their faith is “more precious than of gold,” and to rejoice. It tells all to live godly lives in whatever environment they find themselves. It seeks to change people through the power of the gospel, not society through the coercion of legislators. Its weapons “are not carnal, but are might through God.” Its motivating theme: “For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?”

When churches become involved in hospital and health clinic work, or when they build schools for the education of their children, or when they see as one of their great missions to provide for the world’s poverty, or when they feel obligated to create social upheaval and change for human rights, or when they feel called upon to express their views on the government’s use of nuclear armaments or whatever, they have a distorted view of the purpose of the church.

- Bill Hall

About Us

Bellaire

church of Christ
8001 South Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, Texas 77402

bellairechurchofchrist.org

Who Are We?

A group of God’s children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:
9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:
7:30 PM Bible Study



MORNING LESSON

“Living Upright In An Upside
Down World”

Steve Garrett

SERVICE

Welcome – H. Banks
Hymn Director - M. Krueger
Opening Prayer – J. Moon
Morning Lesson – S. Garrett
Lord’s Supper Lesson- J. Smith
Announcements – B. Haley
Closing Prayer - T. Walker

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Matt Miles
Mike Pharris
Jack Smith

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

BIBLE CLASSES

Messianic Prophecies – Robert
McDonald

Auditorium

I and II Samuel – Jack Smith

Room 102

Graded classes for children

Directory Updates

email: clanton4@gmail.com

“Lament”

*Weep, weep for those
Who do the work of the Lord
With a high look
And a proud heart.
Their voice is lifted up
In the streets, and their cry is heard.
The bruised reed they break
By their great strength, and the
smoking flax
They trample.*

*Weep not for the quenched
(For their God will hear their cry
And the Lord will come to save them)
But weep, weep for the quenchers.*

*For when the Day of the Lord
Is come, and the vales sing
And the hills clap their hands
And the light shines
Then their eyes shall be opened
On a waste place,
Smoldering,
The smoke of the flax bitter
In their nostrils,
Their feet pierced
By broken reed-stems...
Wood, hay and stubble,
And no grass springing.
And all the birds flown.*

*Weep, weep for those
Who have made a desert
In the name of the Lord.*

- Evangeline Paterson



NEWS AND NOTES

Continue praying for those of our number who have on-going health issues. Deb Haley, Janice Kimbrough, Jan Cooper, Curby Stech, Laura Claburn and Don Hurd.

There seems to be a new virus going around - different from the one a week or two ago. Sharon Alexander was out Wed. night, and will be out of town for a couple of weeks. Sarah Acton also had whatever is going around. Janet McGlamery fell last week. She may be with us today, but is a little sore. Barbara has an uncle who is at MD Anderson. Keep these folks in your prayers.

Being a holiday weekend we have quite a few out of town. Not sure who all is gone, but the Mann's and Howells are in New Mexico. Hope it's about time for the Haley's and Garrett's to be home. Pray for a safe journey for all who are travelling.

Please keep in mind our gospel meeting in just a couple of weeks. Phil Robertson is to be with us April 22-24. Should be a good weekend for us.

Of course there are several meetings in the area. The notices are posted on the bulletin board.