

THE ROCK HILL HERALD

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



The Rock Hill church of Christ

9426 PGA Pkwy

Frisco TX 75035

(972)347-1919

rhcoc.org • rhilchurch@gmail.com

Worship Times:

- Bible Class — 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship — 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship — 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study — 7:00PM

Elders:

- Jim Boles
- Charles Haley
- Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace

Deacons:

- Reiven Holt
- Hugh Ruebush
- John Smetzer
- Burley Stinnett

Preacher:

- Park Linscomb

*"We're Here
and We Care"*

Standard of Truth

The truth has great value. The standard of truth has long since been known by the standard of what God inspired by the Holy Spirit in the 1st Century after Jesus' death. We would agree that the Old Testament was inspired. By faith, we accept the record of the Old Testament, but also agree that it is not the binding standard of Truth by which we should live our lives today. For this standard, we must agree that the writing included in the New Testament is intended to provide the 'Rule of (Spiritual) Law' by which we strive to measure our success in righteousness.

This is confirmed in several verses; The first of which is **Hebrews 1:1-2**. "God spoke to the people through the prophets... but has in these last days, spoken to us by His Son."

We know that the Children of Israel 'heard the voice of God while at the mount.' We are reminded of this in **II Peter 1:18-21**

Although this is a familiar verse, quoted from the pulpit on many occasions (*no private interpretation...*). However, I wish to point out what Peter said more closely as it relates to this article; He writes **V18** "this voice from heaven we heard, when we were with Him on the Holy Mount. **V19** points out, "We have a more- sure word of prophecy..."

What do we think this 'more-sure word of prophecy' was? The context tells us this letter was written to "them that have obtained like-precious faith through the righteousness of God and our savior Jesus Christ." The voice from God at the mountain was certainly true and accurate, but Peter suggests a 'more-sure word' that is identified in **John 1:1** "in the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Furthermore, **V14** get more specific, "and the Word was made flesh and dwelt (lived) among us." John reiterated this in **John 17:17** in Jesus' prayer for his disciples, "Sanctify them (set them apart) through thy truth; thy word is truth."

Outside of God's Word, there is no standard of truth. There is only a semblance or variation based upon individual opinions and the value of the conscience. The truth of God remains a standard by which we will be judged at the only time it will be important; **II Corinthians 5:10** "before the judgement seat of Christ'.

Doug Jones

Family News

“For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God.” Ephesians 2:18,19

If you are visiting our congregation, welcome! Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

N . E . W . S .

OUR 1ST QUARTER BIRTHDAY

POTLUCK What a great time was had by all who stayed (which was quite a few of us) enjoyed the food and fellowship. Our next potluck will be the Sunday of our Spring Meeting, March 15 after morning worship — see details for this later in these announcements.

OUR REGULAR LEADERSHIP MEETING is today at 4PM. If you have something that you'd like the leaders of the congregation to discuss, please tell one of the elders or deacons or the preacher know.

OUR VALENTINE'S PARTY was yesterday, February 7th. A lot work and planning went into the decorations and meal that was enjoyed by everyone who attended.

BURLEY WILL BE RETUNING to the states from his India trip this Wednesday. The latest word from him is that there have been 202 baptisms reported by local preachers in response to the Gospel, including denominational preachers.

LADIES' CLASS — has resumed meeting at the church fellowship hall at 10AM. Join the great Bible study and fellowship.

IT'S TIME TO START COLLECTING ITEMS for the Children's Hospital "Love Packs." We will have baskets available next week to put stuff in. Last year we delivered 13 large

laundry baskets full of goodies. Flyers will be posted with basket filler ideas. This will be our 5th time delivering these. We've always topped our previous baskets and always shock the hospital staff. For those that don't know, This project is an ongoing tribute to Linda Linscomb and her passion to help children and hospitals."

SPRING MEETING — The date will be March 15-18. The theme will be "Great Passages from Romans". Area preachers that have been confirmed to speak are Wes McAdams (McDermott Rd.), Jack Evans Jr., Seth McDowell (Shawnee Trail), John Wheeler (Crossway), and Park. Plan to come and bring a friend.

UPDATE ON FREIDA — She has been transferred back to Rehab at Baybrook, room 108B and she has a new phone number (469) 617-1912. Make a visit or make a phone call; I'm sure it would be appreciated.

UPDATE ON LEIGHTON — Please pray for Leighton that the meds they are giving her will successfully treat her Heart murmur and it will close. This will allow her lungs to work better.

DANA BOLEY'S MEMORIAL will be Feb 21 at 11:30 am. at the New York Ave Church of Christ, 5371 New York Ave, Arlington, TX.

OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Meghan and Leighton (Linebaugh's granddaughter and great-granddaughter)
- Park, for continued healing after his successful knee surgery.
- Freida R. and her continuing health issues in Medical City, McKinney.

- Charles H.; pray for complete recovery from shoulder surgery.
- Please pray for Burley in India.
- Lynn Turner is now at home.
- Nancy J's brother
- Linda C for her Afib
- Esther M, low blood count
- The Staffords, our missionaries in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, granddaughter Peyton living with them.
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy with Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie
- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Dale C.
- 10.3 pt Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Travis Y. feeding tube

READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- 2/8John 19-21
- 2/9Acts 1-3
- 2/10Acts 4-6
- 2/11Acts 7-8
- 2/12Acts 9-10
- 2/13Acts 11-13
- 2/14Acts 14-16
- 2/15Acts 17-18

**Preaching makes
the Gospel audible.
Churches make the
Gospel visible. –
Mark Dever**

A word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

"CHURCH PEOPLE JUDGE ME"

I was reading the results of a survey recently on why people don't go to church. One of the reasons most often cited is the fear that people in church will judge them.

As a minister of the Gospel I'll confess to being saddened by such a report. Not because I was shocked but because Satan has been so successful at his deceit to the world. While it is true that some have had an unfortunate experience, this sad perception is also due to popular culture's stereotype of religious people as being judgmental and "all about no". If you have ever thought this way, may I have a few moments of your time? I'll try to be brief.

First, let me apologize for anyone who called himself a Christian (there are many who claim it, but are not) and yet made you feel small, unworthy, or "put in your place". That's not Jesus' way (Matthew 7:1ff). If they have done so deliberately, they themselves have sinned. If they did so accidentally, they need to fix it.

But, second, may I gently suggest that sometimes the feeling of being judged is not coming from any word said or "look" given from a Christian? Sometimes the mere presence of a person trying to do right will prick a guilty conscience. This has happened to me from time to time — I enter into a circle of strangers, I introduce myself as a minister, and before I say a word I am told, "Don't judge me!" But that is not "judgment". Please, don't mistake a painful conscience for judgment from a Christian.

Third, not every suggestion to change your life is really "judgment". Sometimes it is an offer of the kind of vital help we all need. Jesus Himself called people to change their lives. In the famous story of the woman caught in adul-

tery (John 8:1ff), we not only hear Jesus saying, "He who is without sin, cast the first stone," but Jesus is also quoted as gently saying to the woman, "Go and sin no more." Sin is destructive to others and yourself — in the here and now, and more importantly in the eternal later. There's a better way to live, God's way. His are better choices that will heal, reconcile, set things straight, make you a better person and make life better for the people you love most.

Yes, coming to church, being a Christian, will mean that you'll need to try to change. But we ALL need to try to change. And the change never happens overnight. People in church aren't perfect, and they know it. We're all "in process". The best any of us will be able to "boast" is that 1) we're better than we used to be and 2) we're forgiven of our sins by the grace of God. We're all just trying to do better and encouraging each other to do better.

Dear friend, the wise King Solomon wrote, (Proverbs 9:8, 9) "Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you, Reprove a wise man and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man and he will be still wiser, Teach a righteous man and he will increase his learning." Please don't broad-brush every Christian who offers a correction as a "judgmental hypocrite". They may actually love you more than anyone else you know. And don't avoid church; get past the stereotypes, become a Christian, find forgiveness, come to church, and with the rest of us work on a better life (and dare I say a better world?).

Park Linscomb

