

# 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](http://rhcoc.org) • [rhilchurch@gmail.com](mailto: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"*

## THIS THING CALLED GRACE

There are few topics that 'arouse' suspicions more than the topic of grace. The definition extends from a casual overlook of transgressions on the part of God to a preposterous notion that after we "have accepted Jesus as our personal savior" we can no longer be held responsible for sin. Such beliefs are sometime supported by **Romans 8:1** which says, "There is, therefore, no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit."

The idea that this verse supposedly represents is that we are no longer held accountable for the sin in our lives (cannot fall from grace). This is a very good example of what can occur when we look at 'SOME' of the Scriptures rather than consider the 'SUM' of Scripture. The context quickly reveals the rest of the story as the Apostle Paul elaborates on the contrast (difference) between living with fleshly motivation and spiritual motivation...the same difference as expressed in **Romans 12:1-2** "present yourselves a living sacrifice...being transformed by the renewing of your mind."

In a conversation with a devout denominational 'Christian' it was actually stated that (in the legalistic Church of Christ) we "limit" God's ability to forgive by requiring a convert to live by the written moral standard of Scripture. Obviously, this would make **2 Timothy 3:16** (all scripture is given...for instruction in righteousness) an overstatement, having no specific meaning other than 'suggestion' as opposed to commandment or rule of law...purchased with the blood of Christ and delivered by inspiration!

Perhaps the best explanation for grace is given in **Hebrews 4:14-16**; "seeing then that we have a great High Priest that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold our profession. For we have not a high Priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but in all points was tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

The mystery of righteousness includes a 'cushion' called grace that provides an assurance to the individual for which the 'SUM' of verses may qualify. **Matthew 7:21** is a great qualifier of souls for those who wish to maximize their life on earth and capture full benefit from this thing called GRACE!

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 .

**SUNDAY EVENING SERIES** — will continue on the parables of Jesus. This Sunday PM: "The Good Samaritan".

### LEADERSHIP MEETING NOTES...

- Our finances will be getting back on track after some emergency expenses had to be made (e.g., critter eviction).
- Burley will be making a report on his mission trip to India on Sunday morning, March 30.
- Grass landscaping in the yard between the buildings will commence the week of March 10-15.
- Our critter problem has been now fixed, but we could still use some help to cover the cost (\$10K). A thermometer graph will be placed in the auditorium to inform everyone on the progress made.
- We can also use some help on our campership funds for our young people going to Camp Deer Run.
- We hope to host a summer series on successive Sunday PM services with local preachers on the topic of Christian unity.
- Railings will be installed for the baptistry on both sides for safety.

**CRITTER CLEARANCE FUND** — Our fellowship / classroom building was invaded by animals who did a lot of attic damage. The cost to fix things was \$10K. If you can help with this fund, it would be a great help to our

## Revive and Thrive in 2025

church budget. See Charles to help or there is now a fund on our online giving called "Critter Eviction Fund".

**SEWING MINISTRY** The ladies resumes again. Come enjoy good work for the Lord by serving others and great fellowship between sisters.

**CAMP DEER RUN CAMPSHIPS** — If you'd like to help with sending our youth to Camp Deer Run this summer, please give any special donations to any of the elders.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP** the Pittsfield MA church? We have an ongoing monthly benevolence program to help the church of Christ in Pittsfield Mass. See Trudy R. to contribute.

### NEW REQUEST...

- Eloise suffered a fall last week. Please pray for a complete recovery

### OUR PRAYER LIST...

- Alene T. had a mini-stroke Please pray for a full recovery. Also, Lynn T's recovery from back surgery, and he's also battling cancer
- From Juliana: Pray for Becky B., recovering from tongue cancer surgery.
- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy to recover from Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie H who has been recovering from neck surgery and setbacks.
- Jim B.'s son, Jeff's wife is terminal.
- Ora H's health
- Mary H is recovering at home.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.

[Jesus] suffered as God because only God had the power to save; He suffered as Man because only man owed the debt.

— Michael Horton

- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Ora H, kidney
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our elders, deacons, preacher, teachers, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

### LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness & friend Jeff
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Rosa's friend Isabella, heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

### READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR

- Mar 16, Josh 18-20
- Mar 17, Josh 21-22
- Mar 18, Josh 23-24
- Mar 19, Judges 1-3
- Mar 20, Judges 4-6
- Mar 21, Judges 7-8
- Mar 22, Judges 9-10
- Mar 23, Judges 11-13

# A word of Encouragement

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*"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.*

## **THEREFORE I WILL HOPE — THE BOOK OF LAMENTATIONS**

**T**he book of laments is not one that gets read very often, but it has a lot of wonderful and important messages for us. Given that, I thought I would write a brief overview on this marvelous book written by Jeremiah given to him by God and highlight a few points for reflection.

### **A SUMMARY OF THE BOOK**

Lamentations was written by a broken hearted Jeremiah. From the things that are written here, we can safely assume that Jeremiah was writing this after the final destruction of the city and the Temple. The first two chapters are written as if it were the destroyed Jerusalem herself that is lamenting her destruction, her people's destruction and exile, and the destruction and desecration of her Temple. The third chapter is clearly Jeremiah speaking, then, for himself — at first in deep grief, then in a glimmer of hope, and then in a cry to the LORD for justice against those who had so foolishly oppressed him for telling them the truth. Chapter four recounts the horrors of the siege — almost a post-traumatic-stress flashback to the stricken prophet. The fifth chapter then wraps it all up by asking for mercy — LORD, please give us some hope.

### **GETTING FOOLED DOESN'T MAKE US INNOCENT**

How many in Jerusalem died believing that things would be alright? Lamentations 2:14 "Your prophets have seen for you False and foolish visions; And they have not exposed your iniquity So as to restore you from captivity, But they have seen for you false and misleading oracles." Being ignorant was no protection. Following deceived leaders didn't help them evade the final outcome of death and destruction. Listening to and obeying God would have. That's the reason that teachers and leaders are so accountable before God —

they are the influencers and they can lead us to salvation or off a cliff. Of course, followers have responsibility — not to merely listen to what we'd like to believe, but to listen to God. That's why Bible reading is so important. It's a source of the truth that has proven itself unimpeachable over the ages.

### **IT IS NEW EVERY MORNING**

Lamentations 3:22-24 is the foundation of a great spiritual song, but maybe you'd never known the context of this uplifting song — profound grief and lamentation. Maybe that's what makes it so uplifting — to know that no matter how bad things may be, the steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, His mercies never come to an end, they are new every morning. Yes, they are new every morning; things could turn on a dime tomorrow, if God has a hand in it. Have hope!!!

### **DOES ANYONE HAVE THE RIGHT TO COMPLAIN?**

Jeremiah, of course, is full of messages that we really don't want to hear, and here's one more: Lamentations 3:39, 40 "Why should any living mortal, or any man, Offer complaint in view of his sins? Let us examine and probe our ways, And let us return to the LORD." All that bad stuff that happens to me, do I really have any ground to complain? It reminds me of what parents will sometimes say to their kids, when they find out that they punished them unjustly: "Well that was just for all that times I didn't catch you and didn't punish you." Do bad things sometimes happen to us when we did do anything wrong? Did good things happen to us when we really deserved punishment?

Park Linscomb

# FAMILY CALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN MARCH

	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 9:00AM Bible classes</li> <li>■ 10:00AM Worship</li> <li>■ 6:00PM Worship</li> </ul>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 10:00AM Ladies' Bible class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 7:00PM Wed. Bible class</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burley/Linda S. ❤️</li> <li>Rieven/Ora H. ❤️</li> <li>■ 10:00AM Ladies' sewing project</li> </ul>		

## SERVICE IN WORSHIP

### Week of March 16.....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....John S .....John S  
 Song Leading .....Scott W .....Doug J .....Charles H  
 Opening Prayer .....Doug J .....Tom R  
 Communion .....David J .....Yaw F  
 Closing Prayer .....Jim B .....Hunter M  
 A/V Control .....Charles H .....John S .....Hunter M  
 Greeter .....Burley S

### Week of March 23.....AM.....PM.....Wed.

Announcements .....Charles H .....Charles H  
 Song Leading .....Doug J .....Scott W .....Jeremy C  
 Opening Prayer .....Burley S .....Hugh R  
 Communion .....Hugh R .....David J  
 Closing Prayer .....Charles H .....Tom R  
 A/V Control .....John S .....Hunter M .....Charles H  
 Greeter .....Jim B



## Sermon Notes...

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