

Whispering Hills

# Church of Christ



Volume V, Issue I May 03, 2020

## Gathering Times

Sunday Bible Class	09:30 AM
Sunday Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening	7:00 PM

Address: 2126 S. Main Street Duncanville, TX 75137

Phone: (214) 874 - 5701

Website: [whchurchofchrist.net](http://whchurchofchrist.net)

# Welcome Christians!!

## Leadership

### Elders:

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### Minister:

James R. Jones

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## Weekly Bible Reading

03 May 2020	Malachi
04 May 2020	Mt 1 - 7
05 May 2020	Mt 8 - 14
06 May 2020	Mt 15 - 21
07 May 2020	Mt 22 - 28
08 May 2020	Mk 1 - 8
09 May 2020	Mk 9 - 16
10 May 2020	Lk 1 - 8

***Our religious conviction:*** God chose to save the world by sending His son Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (Rom 10:17). Those who choose to listen and obey the Gospel message SHALL be saved (Acts 2:38). God adds them to the Church of the Bible which His Son is coming for one day (2 The 1: 7 - 10)

1Corinthians 13:4-8

# LOVE

Love is patient,  
love is kind.  
It does not envy,  
it does not boast,  
it is not proud.  
It does not dishonor others,  
it is not self-seeking,  
it is not easily angered,  
it keeps no record of wrongs.  
Love does not delight in evil  
but rejoices with the truth.  
It always protects,  
always trusts,  
always hopes,  
always perseveres.

*Love never fails.*

## HOW TO BE SAVED

1. Hear (Rom 10:17; Jn 6:45)
2. Believe (Jn 8:24; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent (Lk 13:3,5; Ac 2:38)
4. Confess (Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9, 10)
5. Baptized (Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21)

# HOPE

hold on, pain ends.

# FAITH. HOPE. LOVE.





### Walking In Hope

There are many ways to describe what it takes to be a devout Christian; perhaps, one of the most succinct and concise answers is supplied by the Apostle Paul, "Now there remains faith, hope and love, these three; but the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor 13:13). While he reminds us the greatest of the three characteristics is LOVE, he does so stressing its importance, not downplaying the importance of either faith and hope. By heeding to the conclusion without faith it is not just difficult, complicated, strenuous nor challenging; but, understandably, downright impossible to be pleasing to God (Heb 11:6), we may begin to comprehend just how grand LOVE must truly be. However, while FAITH certainly gets a lot of favorable press and LOVE is most definitely and ultimately admired, it is frequently true we tend to hear less being spoken concerning the vital part HOPE has to participate in the scheme of things engaging Christianity. The Scriptures directs the entire world to HOPE. "For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope" (Rom 15:4). This HOPE spoken by God's Word is not some hazy, unformulated, indefinable aspiration of a vague dream; rather, quite specific, as we read (Eph 3:4) what it is (Jer 17:7; Rom 8:24, 25; Gal 5:5; Eph 1:18; 4:4; Col 1:5; 2 The 2:16; 1 Tim 1:1; Tit 2:13; 1 Pet 1:3, 4, 21).

When speaking about HOPE in a Christian, it is referring to concrete ideas and specific promises, which God, who cannot lie, promised to His Children (Tit 1:2). Chief among these is the promise of eternal life through Christ Jesus His Son and the closely related promise concerning the resurrection of the dead. This is the HOPE which anchors the Christian soul. an anchor sure and steadfast (Heb 6:18, 19). Just as Jesus was risen from the dead, so too those having put on Christ in baptism, dying to their old self having the concrete HOPE to share in the resurrection of the righteous (Rom 6:3-5; 1 Cor 3:16; 2 Cor 13:5; Jas 4:4). HOPE, likewise, is not without concrete consequences. Just as FAITH demands action in accordance to God's Will for the presence of value (Mt 7:1-5; Jn 7:24; Jas 2:14-26). LOVE demands one act with kindness (1 Cor 13:4-6). HOPE make certain demands precluding worldly sorrow and worry (Mt 6:32, 33; Ac 28:31; Rom 8:31; 1 The 4:13; 1 Tim 4:8).

By truly believing in His Promises, we continue forward single-mindedly and tenaciously in our faith, certain God will work ALL things to our good and His Purpose because nothing should be able to separate His LOVE from His Children (Rom 8:18, 28, 35). It is HOPE giving Christians the confidence which knows in all things, even peril and distress, we are more than conquerors in Christ (Rom 8:37).

HOPE encourages boldness in our speech (2 Cor 3:12; 4:2, 3, 13) and confession (Rom 10:9, 10; Gal 2:16; Php 3:9; 1 Jn 4:15). With worry being prohibited from our Spiritual minds, we do not fear what man might do to us when we speak (Mt 10:27, 28; Ac 4:13, 29-31; 9:27, 29; 14:3; 2 Cor 7:4; Eph 6:19, 20; Php 1:20; 1 The 2:2). Because of the awesome nature of God's Message, we are motivated to boldness!! Having the gift of eternal life (Ac 2:38) and it is promised to ALL who will obey the Gospel of Christ (Mt 7:21-23; Lk 6:46). If we are eager to share good news about such mundane matters as births, weddings and sport related activities, then should we not be much more excited to talk about being raised from the dead?

HOPE encourages faithfulness and self-sacrifice. We must understanding what is offered and be willing to do as the Apostle Paul by counting all things loss for Christ, so we might know Him, if by any means we might obtain to the resurrection of the dead (Php 3:7-11). When the going gets tough, it is HOPE which keeps us on the path of righteousness, steadfastly putting one Spiritual foot in front of the other, in our service to the Lord. Christians are to walk by FAITH (2 Cor 5:7), living loving lives... but those lives should also be lives full of HOPE. Lives of joyful optimism, trusting unswervingly in God's Promises. Lives failing to contain this HOPE are lives which are failing to truly follow the road Christ has prepared for those who LOVE Him (Jn 14:15). Let us rejoice in FAITH. Let us rejoice in LOVE. But let us also, always, rejoice in HOPE.



# PRAYER REQUEST

**Continuous Prayers:** Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, I.V. Jones (Bro Jones' dad), Ann Busby, Joyce Fair, Patricia Hurd, Ron Daly (friend of Bro Hunter [Indianapolis, IN]), Ron Forge, Edward Tisby, Ray & Ruby Busby (family of the Busby's), Shelia Harris, Sam Lily, Joel Sotelo Vazquez [Mexico City, Mexico] Bro Archie Greene (Unity and Leadership [Charlestown, WV]) Lucille Pipkins (Bro Pipkins' [former member who relocated] sister-in-law is very ill) Patrick Roberson (Bro/Sis Owens' nephew)

**Sick:** Arthur Henry, Brenda Martin, Baby Zarkiah, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Santos' friend), Ruth Davenport

**General:** Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Arriana Porter (Sis Owens' niece), Simon Young, Randy Murray, Darius Bell (Bro/Sis Bell's son), Arthur Anderson, Felecia Langston, David Ramsey

**Door Knocking Campaign Prayer List:** James & Charlotte Eaton

## UPDATES:

1. **Margaret Hook:** Bro Ramsey's aunt passed away (Mon 04/20/2020)
2. **Sam Lily:** Sis Guthrie's stepson was burnt during work; a long recovery is expected

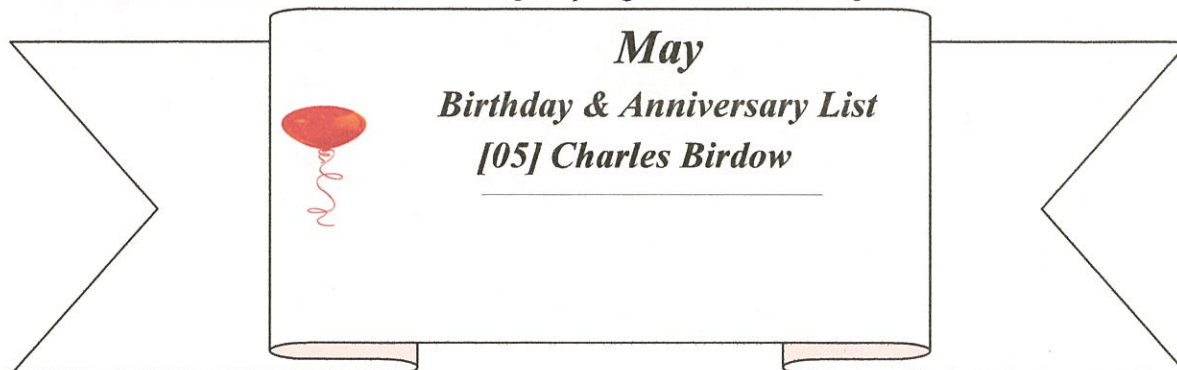
## Upcoming Activities/Announcements

1. **MOTHER'S DAY** (10 May 2020 - 2nd Sunday in May)
2. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.
3. **Duncanville Lectureship 2020:**

Theme: "In The Beginning"

Date: August 6 - 8, 2020 [Thursday, Friday & Saturday]

Location: 2126 S. Main St Duncanville, TX 75317 [Whispering Hills Church of Christ]





# Sermon Notes

**1 Cor 9:16 - 18** “For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.”

Subject: **WHY RELIGIOUS DIVISION IS SINFUL**

Scripture Reference: **ACTS 20:28 – 31**

## **WHY RELIGIOUS DIVISION IS SINFUL**

### **ACTS 20:28 – 31**

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. The issue within this lesson is **NOT** of popularity with some; **BUT** it must be studied.
2. The New Testament church began on the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Jesus.
  - A. Since that time, numerous problems have arisen to thwart the Lord's Plan for unity.
  - B. Even many within the ranks of the churches of Christ some seem bent on noncompliance.
    1. Many will **NOT** be happy until they turn the church into another denomination.
3. What is being overlooked is religious division is contrary to the Will of God and, thus, is sin.
  - A. I want us to note in this lesson why this is so.

#### **BODY:**

##### **1. IT PROMOTES DIVISION INSTEAD OF UNITY**

- A. What can correctly be called the “Lord's Prayer,” for unity of all believers (Jn 17:1 – 26).
  1. As long as religious division exists, Jesus' PRAYER will remain unanswered.

##### **2. IT SETS ASIDE GOD'S WORD FOR SECTARIAN WORDS OF MEN (Mt 15:9)**

- A. This division has made the Word of God of non-effect.
  1. To add to or subtract from the Scriptures is sinful (Deu 4:2; Gal 1:6 – 9).

##### **3. IT PROMOTES MANY CONTRADICTORY “PLANS OF SALVATION”**

- A. Doctrines of salvation by faith alone, direct operation of the Holy Spirit, the mourner's bench system, limited atonement and even universal salvation are said to be consistent with the Scriptures; **BUT**, according to God's Word, they are, of course, **NOT**.
  1. These kinds of doctrines hinder World Evangelism (Mt 28:18 – 20).

##### **4. THE TREMENDOUS WASTE OF MONEY, TIME AND TALENT NEEDED**

- A. Think what could be done if the religious world would put into practice the UNITY He PRAYED for (Jn 5:23; 7:39; 10:16, 30, 38; 11:4, 41; 12:23, 27, 28; 13:31, 32; 14:9-11)?

##### **5. JESUS IS NOT THE HEAD OF HUNDREDS OF RELIGIOUS BODIES**

- A. The Scriptures are clear relative to “**He IS**” the head of...**BUT** one (Eph 4:1 – 15)
  1. Mt 16:18; Rom 7:4; 1 Cor 11:3; Eph 1:22, 23; 3:21; 4:15; 5:23; Col 1:18; 2:10, 19

##### **6. A POWERFUL SOURCE OF DECEPTION AND DELUSION**

- A. To those who have been led to believe ALL is well with their souls. What a tragedy!
  1. Millions of people are lead to believe they are saved following the doctrines of men.
- B. Jesus seeks workers for His vineyard to clearly prove His Point (Mt 20:1 – 16).

#### **CONCLUSION:**

1. The New Testament teaches there is a right way and a wrong way to approach God (Jn 14:6).
  - A. Coming to the Father by Jesus is through His Body [the church] (Eph 5:23-32; Col 1:24).
    1. Seeking to do by some other means results in SIN (Rom 14:23; Jas 4:17; Heb 11:6)!!
  - B. Sets one in the position of being unable to stand firm in judgment (Psa 127:1; 1 Cor 3:7).
  - C. Are you apart of the house the Lord built (Mt 6:33; 7:21; Lk 6:46; Jn 14:15; 1 Tim 3:15)?