

Shenandoah

church of Christ

TRIUMPH

“Do you know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Cor. 9:24)

The Holy Spirit (2)

Gabriel Rodriguez

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Corinthians 12-14 (2)

*Shepherd's
Corner:*
Our Faith Must Be
An Active Faith

The Bible teaches that God is identified as *plural* entities. Evidence of this is first seen in Genesis 1:26 when God said, “Let us make man in our image...” The pronoun *us* indicates more than one. Next, the name of God used in Genesis is *elohim*. The name *el* means mighty or strong one, the ending *ohim* is a plural suggesting more than one. This is further confirmed in Genesis 11:6-7 at the tower of Babel, when God spoke and said, “Go to, let us go down, and there confound their language...” In Genesis 19:24, a description of the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah for their wickedness suggests that the Lord upon earth who spoke to Abram (cf. 18:2,16-17) commanded the Lord in heaven to send destruction upon the two cities: “Then *the Lord rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah* brimstone and fire *from the Lord out of heaven*.” Further, God spoke of a coming messiah (the anointed one, Ps. 2:11-12, Isa. 7:14) who was described as possessing God-like qualities: “For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and *his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace*” (9:6). He is referred to as God in Philippians 2:6-8. And finally, we read of the entity called *The Holy Spirit* (Ps.

139:7; Isa. 63:10-11; Acts 1:16; 5:3-4; Jn. 16:13), who is also called and identified as God. These three are confirmed in the New Testament as being one, but separate entities. Jesus said in Matthew 28:19 to baptize people by the authority of “*the Father, the Son (JC) and the Holy Spirit*.” In 2 Corinthians 13:14, Paul ended with this salutation: “*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.*”

The Bible clearly teaches that God is made up of three entities, known as the Godhead (Acts 17:29; Rom. 1:20; Col. 2:9). Each possesses the same attributes and/or characteristics: they are mind, eternal, holy, transcendent, all-knowing, all-powerful, and everywhere. And although each possesses the same characteristics, the Bible is clear that each of them played different roles in the scheme of redemption. One played the role of the Father (signifying authority), another played the role of the Son (signifying submission and obedience), and the third, the Holy Spirit, played the role of messenger (deliverer of God’s message). While each played a different role, this in no way suggested a power struggle or hierarchy among the Godhead, rather it only served to teach us that all three played an integral part in our salvation.

An Analysis of 1 Corinthians 12-14 (2)

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

Today is our congregational luncheon. We invite everyone, especially our visitors, to come and eat with us to get to know you better.

Our 28th Annual Lectures begins this Friday (Feb. 19-21): The Superiority of the Christian System. We look forward to a great showing from our Shenandoah members.

The Ladies' Bible class and Men's Training class will be on February 28 at 4:00 pm. The ladies will be studying lesson 11 in their book and the men will continue their study in Zephaniah.

YOUTH

We thank the Dorries for hosting last Friday's youth devotional. Kids had a great time. Our next youth devotional is scheduled for March.

YOUNG ADULT

The young adult devotional is scheduled for February 26th at James and Carly's residence. Festivities will begin at 7:00 pm. All young adults are encouraged to attend.

AREA NEWS

See Bulletin Board for area wide meetings.

It is clear from the beginning of 1 Corinthians that the subject of church division would concern Paul. He stated in 1:10, "*Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*" The brethren in Corinth had evidently created schisms based on following certain men (1:11-17). But Paul made it very clear that Christ wasn't divided (1:13) and that the wisdom of men did not compare to the wisdom of God (1:24-2:5). In other words, no man could compare himself to Christ. Christ is and was the only man to follow, for he possessed the true wisdom of God (1:24). This is why Paul validated his message as coming from the wisdom of God and not the wisdom of men. He received this wisdom through the communication of the Holy Spirit (2:6-13), which Jesus said would be given them (the apostles) after He departed earth (cf. Jn. 14: 16-17; 16:13). Paul then said that the things he said and wrote could only be understood by those who possessed a logical and rational mind ("the spiritual") versus others who were illogical and irrational ("the natural man") (2:14-15). The point was clear. Those creating problems for God and the establishment of the church were those whose minds were not Christ-like (2:16), but carnal and babe-like (3:1-4, cf. 1 Pet. 2:1-2). In other words, those who created division were simply immature as they glorified men

and not God. According to Paul, the only importance men would play was that of helping each other and contributing to the ministry of God (3:5-10). Paul stated that there was only "one" man who had already set the foundation for God's ministry, the man Jesus Christ (3:11), and he was the only one that should receive praise and honor. Our only role was to contribute to the work of Christ (3:12-15), and we do this by maintaining our lives in moral and ethical excellence (3:16-17). In other words, by representing Christ well in our lives, we would be responsible in bringing others to Christ and keeping them there with a good example.

Paul ended chapter 3 by (once again) suggesting that the wisdom of men was not greater than God's wisdom (3:18-19). God is to be honored, not man. We are simply obliged to follow God and do his blessed will (3:20-23). This would consist of preaching and teaching God's will, but more importantly, living it so that others could see the life of righteousness exposed. And as representatives of God ("stewards of God" (4:1-2)), Paul commanded that we are to be found faithful to God; meaning, in order to make an impact in society, we must represent God and His values above all things. This meant that my wants and desires were to take a back seat to the wants and desires of God. Why? Because what we do in life will ultimately be judged by God (3:3-5). May God be praised!

Bro. G. Rodriguez

WHAT SAITH THE LORD?

Nearly two thousand years ago an important question was raised before the Apostles after they had delivered the good news of Jesus's life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:21-36). The hearer's conscience were pricked of sinful conduct (2 Cor. 7: 10-11) and asked: "*Men and brethren, what shall we do* (in order to be saved)? (Acts 2:37). Without hesitation, Peter elevated his voice and proclaimed: "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38).

Upon hearing the words of Peter, the people obeyed. This demonstrated their belief in Christ (Jn. 8:24). Hence, they repented of sin and confessed allegiance to the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33). Afterwards, the people were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:41, cf. Mrk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).

The people's submission to the words of salvation granted them a relationship with God the Father by accessing citizenship into the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, cf. Matt. 16:18; Mrk. 9:1; Acts. 2:1-4). As a member of Christ's body (Acts 8:4) the people were then encouraged to live faithful unto death by conquering sin in their lives (Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6: 4-12; 2 Tim. 4: 6-8). We then await for the coming day in which all men shall be judged the word of God (Jn 12:48; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Will we be ready?

SHEPHERD'S CORNER

Our Faith Must Be An Active Faith

Faith must come off the page to be effective. Studying the Word is wonderful, but knowing a lot about God is not the same as having a saving faith. A saving faith applies itself in life. "For we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Cor. 5:7). Faith is a living exercise that is applied in all avenues of life. When a believer stretches to obey God then faith is tested, and like Abraham, faith is strengthened. This means we must study, but then take what we learn and put it into practice, even if it seems beyond our understanding. I may not understand how God can bless me if I give generously, but He promises that He will (2 Cor. 9:6-8). I can read that and understand its principles, but until I actually give more my faith will stay small. A mustard seed faith only develops when we force ourselves to act on God's promises. That is how faith grows.

"You see that faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected" (James 2:22). A saving faith is made whole by the works that grow out of it. A growing faith will be made perfect as it proves the will of God in life. James is speaking of Abraham again. This great man of God had faith and had obeyed God for many years, Yet, there was another test for Abraham that called him on to expand his faith even further. it was when Abraham offered Isaac that his obedience, which grew out of his trust in God, made his faith perfect.

Bro. W. Holmes

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

BISHOPS/SHEPHERDS/ELDERS

(1 Tim. 3: 1-6)

Brother Elwyn Hipp (830) 510-6311,
Brother Wayne Holmes (210) 696-8597

DEACON

(Acts 6: 1-5; 1
Tim. 3: 7-12)

Brother Raul Baltierra
(210) 843-9730

GOSPEL PREACHER

(1 Cor. 9:1-16; 1 Tim.
4:6; 2 Tim. 4: 2-5)

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez
(210)315-4453



February 14

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *G. Rodriguez*
 Opening Prayer: *J. Mokry*
 Song Leader: *A. Maldonado*
 Lord's Supper: *R. Trevino; R. Baltierra; J. Mora; J. Guillen*

Scripture: *Isa. 53:1-5*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *N. Esenowo*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *G. Rodriguez*
 Opening Prayer: *M. de la Garza*
 Song Leader: *R. Trevino*
 Lord's Supper: *T. Mayces; B. Dorries*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *E. Lerma*

After Greeter: *W & K Holmes*
 Greeter/Usher: *B. Dorries*
 AV Duty: *R. Baltierra Jr*
 Elder in charge: *W. Holmes*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Richard Rodriguez
 Rina White
 Joe Guillen
 Sarah Cannon
 Olga (Joe's mother-in-law)
 Ina Dial
 David Sudhoff
 Elijah Sudhoff
 Roy Guajardo (battling Parkinsons)
 Rose Scott (grandmother of Clay and Wes Bond)
 Caral O'Banon
 Joe Rendon (brother of Rosemary Rendon) - fighting high blood pressure and needs kidney transplant
 Tomas Guillen (Brother of Joe) - Lymphoma

BATTLING CANCER:

Barbara Oakes Johna Dorries
 Abigail Reyes Graciola Anderson
 Lydia Cowan George Jackson
 Briana Nieves Sonny Cary
 Elwyn Hipp Gwen Parker

SHUT-INS:

Dorothy Harper
 Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Courtney Cobb (Japan)

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES JANUARY

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
Hernandez
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Baltierra
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Baltierra
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry room
Baltierra
 Brother in charge of services:
R. Baltierra

AM Theme:
 "Praising God" - A Study in the book of Psalms
 PM Theme:
 Setting the Church in Order - A Study in the books of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus

AM Sermon:

Psalm 41

PM Sermon:

"Make Full Proof Thy Ministry"

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

February 17: *R. Baltierra Jr.*

February 24: *T. Mayces*

March 2:

FOR THE RECORD

February 7

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 51
 Sunday AM Worship 74
 Sunday PM Worship 48
 Wednesday Bible Study 49
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$1,961.23**

Weekly Bible Readers: 10/30 (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study at 9:30 am; Worship at 10:30 am;
 Worship at 5:00 pm.

Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm