

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)

“Added” to the church of Christ

Gabriel Rodriguez

Inside This Issue:

How Israel Fell From Glory (33)

Shepherd's Corner:
Hot, Cold, or Lukewarm? (3)

A part of obeying the gospel is **knowing** what you have been added to. It is not merely enough to believe, repent, confess, and be baptized, but it is also recognizing the truth and establishment of Christ's true church. Why? There are several reasons.

First, the prophets of old augured the coming church/kingdom of Christ (Isa. 2:1-3; Micah 4:1-4; Dan. 7:13-14). And if they spoke about it, then shouldn't we recognize its importance? Shouldn't we be able to *know* and *identify* the church?

Second, Jesus spoke about the coming of His church. Jesus told his apostles in Matthew 16:18 that “His church” would be established upon His mighty name. And in Mark 9:1, Jesus said His church would come with power and be established during their lifetime. And then we read in Luke 24:46-49, after the resurrection of Christ, Christ told His apostles to “*tarry in the city of Jerusalem, until they were endued with power from on high*” (v. 49). We then read in Acts 2: 1-13 concerning the fulfillment of all these prophecies. The church, (people), as we studied last week, would be established as the “*church of Christ*” (Rom 16:16) as the apostles (the church) were endued with power from on high, fulfilling Mark 9:1 and Luke 24:49. This is why when we later read in Acts 2:22ff concerning the

preaching of Peter and the rest of the apostles, Peter proclaimed what one needed to obey in order to become part of the church - “*Repent and be baptized...*” (38). The response was overwhelming as 3000 souls “*gladly received his word were baptized*” (v.41a). **Third, the authors of the Bible made it a point to tell us what Christians were added unto (or what they became).** We read in verse 41: “*...and the same day there were added unto them...*” This is similar to what Acts 2:47 says, “*Praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.*” It is clear that Luke wanted us to know what Christians were added unto in the book of Acts, signifying the importance of knowing that Christ's true church existed and played an important in salvation. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 would further validate this point as he said, “*For as the body is one, and hath many members...For by one spirit are we all baptized into one body...*” The concept of *knowing* we are added to “*one*” church is very important, because the church of Christ is responsible in making sure its members continue in truth. You can't be saved and added to a foreign church. The church is just as vital as obeying the gospel of Christ. May God be praised!

How Israel Fell From Glory (33)

A Study in the Book of Isaiah

Church News and Announcements

CONGREGATION

We rejoice in the baptism of Gabriella Rodriguez, who obeyed the gospel last Sunday night. If you have not done so already, welcome our new sister into the faith.

Teachers are needed for the second quarter. A sign-up sheet is in the foyer. If you need teaching material, see Raul Baltierra.

There will be a teacher's dinner on March 31st (Friday) at 7:00 pm. All teachers and those desiring teach are asked to attend. Meat will be provided; bring side dishes and dessert.

Our congregational meeting is scheduled today at 4:00. All our members are encouraged to attend.

The elders have selected to do a **Spring Gospel Meeting** for April 30-May 3. They have invited Brother Foy Forehand from Hamilton, TX to conduct our meeting. Please invite friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers to this upcoming event.

YOUTH

Our next youth devotional is scheduled for April 7 at the home of the Rodriguez at 7:00 pm. All our young people are expected to come and fellowship together.

Our young people are invited to the Southeast congregation (5860 US Highway 87 E, 78222) on Saturday, April 8, from 10 am - 3 pm for their Science or Science Fiction discussion. Let's make plans to attend.

YOUNG ADULT

News to come later for their next upcoming event.

AREA NEWS

See the bulletin board in the foyer for events in our area.

As God often did with Israel, and does today with Christians, he pleads with His people to get their lives right before Him. He calls for a complete transform of mind and body. In chapters 51:1 - 52:12 this is what God is attempting to do with Israel. He pleads with Israel to "*hearken*" unto Him (51:1,4,7). But not only to "*hearken*," but also to "*awake, awake*" (51:9,17; 52:1). Their stupor in sin had prevented them from seeing the greatness of God (51:9-16) and the blessings of His will (51:3-5).

God desired from His people a spirit of determination to right the wrongs they had committed (52:2), by repenting of sin and (once again) "*putting on strength and beautiful garments*" (52:1a). Why? Because Jerusalem, the dwelling place of God, the holy city, would no longer give residence to the "*uncircumcised and unclean*" (52:1c). God was tired of the way Israel's enemies mistreated them, and how His name was being blasphemed continually among the heathen (52:4-5). While Israel was allowed to be punished by both Assyrian and Babylon, God wanted Israel to know that He would have the final say and thus the reason He wanted Israel to stem a personal change, in order that God

could be vindicated and Israel's enemies destroyed. This was the good news God wanted to bring - "*How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bring good tidings, that published peace; that brings good tidings of good that publishes salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigns!*" (52:7). God wanted Israel to know that he was coming to restore their relevance and joy, but this was all contingent upon their transformation (52:8-11).

Now understand we are dealing with the context of God's sovereignty and power over His enemies. That God would vindicate Himself, as His people were transformed, and He destroy those that harmed Israel's well-being. The point being, as I have noted from time to time, as God allowed enemies of Israel to have their way with them, God was still just and required vengeance against Israel's enemies for their mistreatment of them and their false conception that their false gods were the ones responsible for their conquest of Israel. This is why God wanted a complete reversal from Israel so that He could be vindicated and destroy heathen nations that had become arrogant. 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) and given the hope of eternal life (Acts 2:38).

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

Hot, Cold, Or Lukewarm? (3)

We must use every means of teaching at our disposal. Various types of teaching are: (1) Public Preaching (Acts 2:14); (2) Private Teaching (Acts 1:24-26); (3) Class or School Type Arrangements (Acts 19:9; Titus 2:1-8); (4) In Homes (Acts 5:41-42); With Literature - The Bible, Other Written Material (6) Modern Media of Radio, TV., Social Media, Newspapers, etc.

How do we rate in this area - are we Hot, Cold, or simply "Lukewarm"? It is one thing to baptize a person into Christ, it is another for him to grow so that Christ is formed in him (Gal. 4:19-20).

Christians are to grow from newborn babes to full grown persons in Christ (1 Pet. 2:1-2).

The Hebrew letter admonished the Hebrews for their failure to grow (Heb. 5:12-14). Also, Paul pointed out to the Corinthians that they were spiritually immature (1 Cor. 3:1-3). Christians are to go on unto perfection - full development (Heb. 6:1).

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

DEACONS

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

Brother Raul Baltierra

(210) 843-9730

Brother Bill Dorries

(210) 253-0173

GOSPEL PREACHER

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

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez

(210) 315-4453



MARCH 26

AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *B. Dorries*
 Opening Prayer: *G. Rodriguez*
 Song Leader: *E. Castillo*
 Lord's Supper: *M. de la Garza; J. Guillen; D. Mathis; N. Esenowo*

Scripture: *Luke 23:33-38*
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *R. Trevino*

PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *B. Dorries*
 Opening Prayer: *R. Baltierra*
 Song Leader: *Cong. Singing*
 Lord's Supper: *R. Baltierra Jr.; R. Trevino*

Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*
 Benediction: *W. Holmes*

After Greeter: *W & K Holmes*
 Greeter/Usher: *G. Gribble*
 AV Duty: *R. Baltierra Jr.*
 In Charge of Invitation: *E. Hipp*

REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes
 Joe Guillen
 Ina Dial
 David and Elijah Sudhoff
 Caral O'Banon
 Helen Gross (aunt of sister Sarah)
 Sam Amos (awaiting surgery)
 Parents of David Lyssy
 Sandra Welch (sister-in-law of Billie Dorries)
 Lavender Nelson
 Tita Cortez (sister of Sam Ramirez)
 Dolly Gribble (hurt back)

BATTLING CANCER:

Johna Dorries Abigail Reyes
 Graciola Anderson Sonny Cary
 Arturo Hernandez
 Renalto (brother-in-law of Joe Guillen)

SHUT-INS:

Dazel Ball
 Mildred Geest
 Sarah Cannon

TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Courtney Cobb (Japan)

SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES APRIL

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:
White
 Preparing Lord's Supper:
Holmes
 Auditorium Service Duties:
Open
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry
 room
Open
 Brother in charge of services:
B. Dorries

AM Theme:

The Hall of Fame:

A Study of Hebrews 11

PM Theme:

God's Love For His Church:

A Study of the Song of Solomon

AM Sermon:

Rahab and Jericho

PM Sermon:

Congregational Singing

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

April 5: *N. Esenowo*

April 12: *M. de la Garza*

April 19: *E. Hipp*

FOR THE RECORD

MARCH 19/22

Attendance:

Sunday Bible Study 42
 Sunday AM Worship 57
 Sunday PM Worship 31
 Wednesday Bible Study 46
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,140.02/ \$2,005.90**

Weekly Bible Readers: NA (Adult Bible class)

SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

11026 Wurzbach Rd.
 San Antonio, TX 78230
 (210) 696-5532

Fax: (210) 696-5181

Church email Address:

shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org

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