



The church of Christ
at
Grandview Pines

July 3, 2011

A TRIP TO JERUSALEM

Terry Claunch

“Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company went a day’s journey; and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back again to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all were astonished at his understanding and answers”(Luke 2:41-47).

Have you ever made a trip to the Bible lands? Would you like to go some day? Many would like to make this trip of a life time. However, we may never get to visit the places where Jesus walked and the events of the Bible took place. One can journey back through the ages to the time of Jesus and the apostles by reading the New Testament. Come along for a trip to Jerusalem. WARNING—you may be “astonished” at the answers Jesus gives. The people in his day were.

Traveling to the city of Jerusalem we see the building of the church. On the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Jesus the prophecies came to pass. “And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hades shall not prevail against it”(Matthew 16:18). Jesus told his apostles to remain in Jerusalem(Luke 24:49) until “endued with power”. That power(Acts 1:8) would come when the Holy Spirit came upon them. The Holy Spirit came upon them(Acts 2:1-4) as a fulfilment of Joel’s prophecy(Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-21). The Lord “added to the church”(Acts 2:47) those that “gladly received the word” and were “baptized” (Acts 2:41). If the church of which you are a member was not built(started) as recorded in Acts 2 can it be the right one? Some will be astonished and amazed that it matters, but it matters to God! It should matter to us!

Returning to the city of Jerusalem we see how one is saved and becomes a member of the church. “And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved”(Acts 2:21). Yes, one must call on the name of the Lord. But what does that mean? Peter says that people need to *hear* the gospel(Acts 2:22). They had to *believe* that the Jesus they had crucified was Lord and Christ(Acts 2:36). In this city they were told to *repent* and be *baptized* for the remission of sins(Acts 2:38). This is how they called on the name of the Lord for salvation. Is this what you did? Which one do you think is the right way?

In Jerusalem we see the Lord’s plan for the church’s organization. “And when they were come to Jerusalem, they were received of the church, and of the apostles and elders, and they declared all things that God had done with them”(Acts 15:4). Here are mentioned elders. Elders(1 Peter 5:1) are called bishops(Titus 1:7), overseers(Acts 20:28), and presbytery(1 Timothy 4:14). Their place in the church was to rule, lead, guide, and feed the flock. There was always a plurality of these men in each and every congregation(Acts 14:23 and Titus 1:5). They must meet the qualifications found in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9. Within the organization of the church there were deacons. “Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business”(Acts 6:3). Deacons find their work in serving the congregation. Their qualifications are listed in 1 Timothy 3:8-13). Paul gives the organization of the church at Philippi (1:1) and it is the same as Jerusalem and elsewhere.

This trip has revealed the beginning of the church, how one becomes a member of the church, and her organization. It’s astonishing to see how far some have changed since the first church in Jerusalem. Is it not time to return to the model?

Biblical Mathematics

Terry Claunch

Addition, subtraction, division, and multiplication are the basics of math. We can learn lessons from each of these as we study the Bible. Math is based upon certain laws that can not be changed. For example, two plus two will always equal four. Take time to see how the subject of math applies to a study of the Bible.

“Add thou not unto His words, Lest He reprove thee, and thou be found a liar”(Proverbs 30:6). Any time that we make an addition to the word of God we become liars. That is because His word is truth(John 8:32). Why would we want to change that which is perfect? “But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty...”(James 1:25). We can not improve God’s book with our additions. We had better leave it the way God gave it!

“And if any man shall take away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book” (Revelation 22:19). Subtracting is just as bad as adding to the Bible. Jehoiakim, the king, did his own subtracting by cutting out what he did not like(Jeremiah 36:16-26). Subtracting means that we do not fully obey God. Do you look at the New Testament containing “non-essential” commands? All of God’s word is important and not to be taken away!

When God’s word is followed there will be multiplication. In Acts 6 we read that these people gave themselves “to the ministry of the word”(Acts 6:4). As a result “the word of God increased; and the number of disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly(Acts 6:7). There can be no addition or subtraction if we want multiplication. Verse seven continues by telling that multiplication came because they “were obedient to the faith.” The church grows when God’s word is preached and people obey!

“Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth”(2 Timothy 2:15). There is a great need in properly dividing God’s word. Someone has said that the most misunderstood page in the Bible is the blank one separating the Old Testament from the New Testament. That is a true statement. The Bible tells us that we live and will be judged by the New Testament(John 12:48; Hebrews 8:8-13; Colossians 2:14, 15). One becomes a Christian by obeying the testament of Christ not the law of Moses. One learns how to worship and serve God(Matthew 4:10) as a Christian from the law of Christ(Galatians 6:2).

The laws of math are not subject to change and neither is the Bible. Do not add or subtract. Do divide and multiply.

Not Done in a Corner

“For the king knoweth these things, before whom also I speak freely: for I am persuaded that none of these things are hidden from him; for this thing was not done in a corner” (Acts 26:26). Christianity is not a secret religion. Jesus did not come to set up a secret organization. Paul declares that these things were not hidden nor were they done in a corner (privately).

The birth of Jesus was “not done in a corner”. It is true that some did not understand the prophecies about His birth (Micah 5:2; Isaiah 7:14 et al). These were willing blind to the when and why of the Word becoming flesh (John 1:11-14). Herod was ignorant but the wise men knew where to find the newborn king. The heavenly host proclaimed his birth to the shepherds. There was ample evidence to attest to the fact of his birth. It was not done secretly.

His life and works were “not done in a corner”. The multitudes recognized His speech as different that those before (Matthew 7:29). Nicodemus realized that He must be from God because of His miracles (John 3:2). These miracles were done before all (Acts 2:22). Even the soldier at the crucifixion came to see Him as the Son of God (Matthew 27:54). His life, miracles and teachings were open for the world to see.

His resurrection was “not done in a corner”. Many mocked and ridiculed the Son of Man as He hung upon the cross. The soldiers confirmed His death (John 19:33). Joseph placed His body in the tomb. Three days later the tomb is empty. Witness after witness (Mary, Martha, the soldiers, the 500, the apostles) gives testimony that He is risen from the grave. None of this can be disproved.

Terry Claunch

Bulletin Updates, Changes & Removal of Names

Don’t forget to let us know if prayer list or other bulletin information needs to be changed.

Please email Trey Harvell by Friday night. [trey.harvell @ gmail.com](mailto:trey.harvell@gmail.com)

News, Notes & Nouncements

Welcome Visitors: We are thankful to be able to gather to worship our God (John 4:24). Please take time to fill out a card and place it in the collection plate. If you have questions about what you see or hear we would be glad to answer them after the service. We hope all leave edified and uplifted.

Please Silence cell phones so our worship services will not be interrupted. Please do not be disrespectful to God and those assembled by sending or receiving messages during class and worship. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Barnabas Board is in the foyer for posting notes of encouragement, thanks, etc.

Volunteer Sign-up List for preparation of the Lord's Supper for this year is now available. A few months are still available.

Items Needed For the Pantry: Laundry soap, bath soap, hand lotion, baby wipes. Please check expiration dates when buying canned goods. Thanks.

Backwoods Christian Camp: "Challenge to Change" July 10th - 15th If anyone would like to assist

any of our kids financially, please see Terry. We hope all our youth will attend. It would be great to have some adults go as workers as well.

Autumn Place: We will meet with the residents at four this afternoon. Come join us as we sing and study

Deacons: Continue to pray as the congregation goes through the process of selecting deacons. May all that we do bring honor and glory to God.

Johnny Maddox (son of Fay Morrison) suffered a heart attack. He is in Bapt. South.

Prayer List

(in alphabetical order by last name)

Martha Bixler - (friend of the Harvells & Claunchs) Having kidney stones removed Wednesday.

Ray Berry - (Nephew of R. Price) had foot amputated & is in fair condition. At Jackson Hosp. Rm 529.

Lee Bowren - (A. Sadler's mother) in nursing home in Heber Springs, AR.

David Brown - (Mont. Police officer) - recovering from serious motorcycle accident

Linda Bush - Prattville Rehab & Nursing Home, RM 212

Stuart Burkey - (Lonnie's son) having tests run, doctors think he may have cancer.

Kim Claunch—at home. She and the baby are doing better. She visits the doctor once a week now.

Amber Conrad - (T. Harvell's cousin) back at work, recovering from surgery following an auto accident

Russell Cooper - (B. Little's brother)

Joel Couch - (baby of Josh and Amanda Couch - friends of C. Harvell) suffering from a seizure disorder that's affecting development.

Jerry Davidson - (Director of Guyana missions) Parkinson's Disease

Charles Dobbins - (friend of the May family) under hospice care.

Vicki Dobbins - (friend of the May family) fell off ladder with lower back pain—at home recovering

Jerry Ellison has not felt good lately

Sydney Fuller - (G. Fuller's bother) has two inoperable aneurisms. Continue to pray for him.

Charlie Gibbs - (K. Cross's grandfather) health issues

Addison Hall - had to go to the hospital this week. She is doing better.

Myra Hall - expecting & dealing with gall stones, will be going to the doctor this Wednesday.

Marilyn Hatcher - (E. Howard's mother) Had surgery recently. She will be taking chemo treatments.

Tim Johnson - (G. Shelton's uncle) is undergoing cancer treatments

Katie King - Assisted Living room 408, Charleston Place, Old Prattville Hwy. Would like visits.

Angel Koche is having some complications with her pregnancy.

Holly Sadler (Jay's wife) diagnosed with diabetes and liver damage.

Rayford Lee - (J. Sadler's father-in-law)

Buddy Little - had bypass surgery this past week.

Walter & Cheryl May - (R. May's parents) both facing physical ailments

Rosie Price - is taking therapy for her knee surgery.

Peggy Rice - (Janice Claunch's mother)

Tina Tatum - will be having tests the next few weeks.

Mickey Thomas - (former member) Room 313 Prattville Rehab

Amy Turner - continuing to deal with illness.

Kevin Turner - ALS

Juanita Waggoner - (M. Stinson's aunt) advanced stage of Parkinson's Disease

Military personnel & their families

-Matthew Cooper (Basic—AIT)

-Britt Shores (Afghanistan)

-Keith Cleveland (C. Cleveland's grandson has returned home

-Keith Golden (Goldens' son)

-Joshua Corey-deployed

-Barry Freeman

-Matthew Martin

-Stewart Burkey

-Todd Wheeler-being deployed

-Garrett Young is going to Basic

Training this week

Congregational Information

Elders:

Terry Claunch.....285-4142
 Glenn Fuller.....365-4923
 Lary Sadler.....285-7455

Preacher:

Terry Claunch

Study.....285-6327
 Home.....285-4142
 Cell.....313-1539

Work of Evangelism:

Home Bible Studies
 Bible Correspondence Studies
 Biblical Tracts
 Staton & Tutwiler Prisons
 Sermon CDs & Cassettes
 Gospel Broadcasting Network

Work of Benevolence:

Food Pantry
 Guyana Missions—Summerdale
 Congregation
 1st Sunday singing & devo—Autumn Place
 2nd Sunday singing—Merry Wood Lodge
 Clothes for Panama
 Eye Glasses for Thailand
 Assistance to those in need

Work of Edification:

Sunday
 Bible Class.....9:00 AM
 Worship.....10:00 AM
 Worship.....5:00 PM
 3rd Monday
 Bible Study.....6:30 PM
 Wednesday
 Ladies' Class.....10:30 AM
 Bible Class.....7:00 PM

Internet

www.grandviewpineschurch.org
 contact@grandviewpineschurch.org
 Look for us on Facebook!
 (Grandview Pines church of Christ &
 Grandview Pines church of Christ Youth)

Where We Meet

165 Deatsville Hwy,
 Millbrook, AL, 36054

Privileged to Serve

Sunday Worship Services

	Today: July 3rd	Next Week: July 10th
AM Service		
Announcements	Trey Harvell	Jason Hall
Song Leader	Luke Wright	George Vinson
Opening Prayer	Jim Hammonds	Jeremy Claunch
Scripture Reading	Nic Girod 1 Cor. 15:12-19	Coby Mayne 1 Cor. 10:1-6
Lord's Supper - Head	Jim Cox	Jim Hammonds
Lord's Supper - Serve	Coby Mayne Charles Price Brandon Gonzalez Ricky May	Robert Golden Tom Young Jim Ezekiel Dave Conyers
Closing Prayer	Cliff Cleveland	Doug Stabler
PM Service		
Announcements	Trey Harvell	Jason Hall
Song Leader	Luke Wright	George Vinson
Opening Prayer	Sammie Girod	Lonnie Burkey
1st Sunday Sermon	George Vinson	
Lord's Supper	Jim Cox	Jim Hammonds
Closing Prayer	George Vinson	James Woodruff
Sunday Helpers' List		
Foyer Attendant	James Woodruff	Sammie Girod
Greeters	James Woodruff Jeremy Claunch	Jim Cox Bryant Weldon
Nursery Attendant	Chris Ezekiel	Melanie Payne
Shut-In Communion	Lonnie Burkey	Terry Claunch
Wednesday Bible Study		
	This Week: July 6th	Next Week: July 13th
Song Leader	Brandon Gonzalez	Ben Cooper
Invitation	Jim Hammonds	Jeremy Claunch
Closing Prayer	Tom Young	Jim Cox

* If you cannot meet your scheduled duty & cannot find a replacement, please contact Jim Hammonds.

Do You Know Your Bible?

This Week's Question

Where does one find the qualifications
 for deacons?

Answer to Last Week's Questions

By what other descriptive names
 are elders known?

**Pastor, Overseer, Shepherd, Bishop,
 Presbyter**

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 PO Box 3
 Millbrook, AL 36054