

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Jerry Schnelle Bill Rinehart

Prayers

Jackie Jamison Wendell Mobley

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper

Cory Easley Dee Minter

Prayers

Jerry Schnelle Mike Davis

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Gerald Eaton

Song Leader

Rick Boswell

Prayers

Jon Barry Mark Davis

Invitation

Jon Barry

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Dave Massey

Evangelist

Rick Boswell
(574) 302-1827

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

WWW.TXKCHURCH.COM

THE PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:35-30

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Think On These Things

Franklin Drive Church of Christ
2301 Franklin Drive ■ Texarkana, AR 71854 ■ (870) 772-0746



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Not In Vain

Doy Moyer

In our reflection on Jesus Christ, we must ever remember the fundamental nature of the gospel message:

“Now I make known to you, brethren, the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received, in which also you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast the word which I preached to you, unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared...” (1 Cor. 15:1-5, NASB).

The gospel is grounded in the facts of

the death, burial, resurrection, and appearances of Jesus. Without these historical realities, there is nothing on which to base the Christian's faith, and no particular reason to think we should be serving Him. With these realities, we have every reason for hope and living a life in accordance with God's holiness. Paul enumerates the appearances of Jesus and claims that his own conversion was due to the fact that Christ appeared to him. He then shows that without the resurrection, faith and preaching are “in vain,” and those who died in Christ have perished (vv. 12-19). But, as Paul affirms, “now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep” (vs. 20).

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember **L.G. Clemmons**, **Dennis Burnham**, and **Max Thomas** as they all recover from various ailments and procedures.

Francine Davis continues to struggle with some health issues. She has been sick for a couple weeks now. We're praying she gets to feeling better.

Joey Avance had spell of low blood sugar and blood pressure Wednesday. He is scheduled to see a physician this week. Please keep him in mind!

Sonny Monaghan had an upper and lower GI scope early last week. The doctors did biopsy a couple of red spots just to be sure. Let's be mindful of him in our prayers.

Bill Brittenham was sick all of last week with an upper respiratory bug. We're prayerful he'll be feeling better soon!

A reminder to all that if you would like a CD of either the **Singing** or any of the lessons from the **Gospel Meeting**, there are sign-up sheets in the back of the auditorium.

Get It In The Bulletin:

If you anyone has news concerning our church family please contact **Rick** so he can put it in our weekly bulletin.

Front Page Article (concl.)

Paul makes a series of arguments to show why denying the resurrection cannot make sense within a Christian's worldview and leads to other problems. If we denied resurrection, we are denying that Jesus was raised, and if we do that, what's the point of calling ourselves His disciples? Even if we, in our finite minds, cannot understand exactly how it works, that doesn't change the historical reality of Christ's resurrection that assures us all of our own resurrection.

In this context is given the well-known warning: "Do not be deceived: 'Bad company corrupts good morals'" (vs. 33). The primary reference point here has to do with influences that would cause us to doubt our conviction in the truth of the resurrection of Jesus. By doubting the resurrection, we open ourselves up to further corruption and the ultimate loss of our souls. Paul ties this doubt to the reason why some are sinning: "Become sober-minded as you ought, and stop sinning; for some have no knowledge of God. I speak this to your shame" (vs. 34).

After Paul discusses the nature of the resurrection, he concludes: "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the

Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58).

Now notice the connection back to verses 12-19, where Paul argued that if Jesus was not raised from the dead, then faith is "vain" and preaching is "vain" (vv. 12-19). That word "vain" is the same used in verse 58, and the connection should be noted. If Christ wasn't raised, faith is vain; if He was raised, faith and all we do for Christ is worthwhile.

What makes our faith worthwhile (not in vain) is the fact of the resurrection. Because of the resurrection, we can know that we will be raised and that we are victors in Christ. The sting of death is defeated through Christ. If we have confidence that Jesus was raised, then we have confidence that everything we do in the Lord is worth our whole lives.

This is why doubt can become so destructive. If we are not so sure about the resurrection, then we will never have full confidence in serving Him. We will wonder if our labor is in vain. We may harbor that needling thought that we can spend our time doing something else more desirable. We may begin to think we wasting our time, and our "religion" becomes a drudgery.

On the other hand, if we have confidence in the resurrected Christ, then we can know the value of what we do for the Lord. This is the direct connection. This is where we can ground our faith. This is how we can learn to be steadfast, immovable, and always abounding in the work of the Lord. We may then rejoice in this truth:

"For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, 'Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law; but thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (vv. 53-57).

Never minimize the significance of the truth that Christ died, was buried, rose again, and appeared to many. This is the core of the gospel, and it is the foundation of our confidence in service.