

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper
Jon Barry Clay Morris
Cole Meador Matt Davis

Prayers
Mike Davis Wendell Mobley

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements
Mark Davis

Song Leader
Jack Calvert

Lord's Supper
Cole Meador Matt Davis

Prayers
Rodney Ellis Jackie Jamison

WEDNESDAY

Announcements
Dee Minter

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Prayers
Mark Davis Joseph Barry

Invitation
Bryan Garlock

ABOUT US

Elders
Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons
Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Dave Massey

Evangelist
Bryan Garlock

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

GOD'S PLAN FOR 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
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Volume XXII

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Issue 1

"The Bible Is Out of Date!"

Bryan Garlock

About a year and a half ago this writer had a discussion with someone who argued that the Bible is too old to be relevant to modern man. This argument was based on the fact that the Bible condemns homosexuality (Lev. 18:22; Rom. 1:26-27; 1 Cor. 6:9-11). When one argues that the Bible is out of date, it is interesting that he cannot pinpoint the expiration date or where it is to be found! Besides the admission of condemnation when one posits such an argument, it raises a shocking point: if the Bible is out of date and no longer relevant to modern man, then the shedding of Christ's blood for the forgiveness of our sins is no longer applicable to us nor should it be significant to us. Consequently, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16) is no longer true. God does not love us if the Bible is not relevant to modern man!

This is the logical conclusion to this grasping-for-straws argument. While the

above is the saddest consequence, there are others that would have to be overlooked as well. Some of them include, but are not limited to, the origin of man, why we were created, where we are going after death, what is right and wrong, etc. The list is infinite!

When considering the Bible as the standard for morality, it should be understood that if the book is outdated, so are its morals. This is the ultimate end to the argument. Obviously, we cannot cherry-pick what is right or wrong, therefore everything must be right. Accordingly, fornication, pornography, rape, incest, murder, theft, adultery, drunkenness, and the like are tossed out the window as far as sin is concerned.

One cannot argue that "Homosexuality, though once condemned, is now right" and maintain that once-condemned sins (murder, etc.) are still not right. Since homosexuality is in essence fornication (because God only allows sex within the

FAMILY TALK

Francine Davis is in Room 125 at St. Michael Rehab. She will be there for a week or two.

Joey Avance's throat biopsy is scheduled for this Friday, January 6th.

Remember **L. G. Clemmons, Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Mary Alice Turner and Max Thomas.**

Elizabeth Eaton has been sick for the past few weeks.

Terry and Tyna Armstrong are both scheduled for surgery in January.

Cory and Cullen Easley were sick this past week.

Mt. Pleasant Singing. Remember the annual area-wide singing at Mt. Pleasant, Jan. 20th at 7:30 P.M.

Check out our **Facebook** page, "**Franklin Drive Church of Christ**" (www.facebook.com/txkchurch).



And don't forget our **WEB site.**

txkchurch.com

Front Page Article (concl.)

scriptural marriage – one man, one woman), if one is outdated then surely the other is too. By this argument, there is no sin. If that is the case, it surely is a good thing that Christ and His blood are outdated too because now we don't need it!

In contrast, God teaches us that His word is alive and still relevant to man. To make this point let us first notice some things about the Author of the Bible.

Several passages speak of an "eternal God" (see Deut. 33.27; Rom. 16.26) or "eternal Spirit" (Heb. 9.14). This would explain why "In the beginning, [that is, when time began for us] God created the heavens and the earth" (Gen. 1.1). He has always been and will always be. He is self-existent. As He told Moses, "I AM who I AM" (Exo. 3.14). As Jesus told the Jews, "...before Abraham was, I AM" (John 8.58). God exists outside of time and before time began. "In God there is no *was* or *will* be, but a continuous and unbroken *is*" (A. W. Tozer¹).

Likewise, an eternal being is of necessity a living being. Numerous passages show that our Father is in fact a living God (Psalm 84.2; Heb. 10.31, etc.). Next, we learn that God does not change. He said, "For I the Lord do not change..." (Mal. 3.6). James taught, "Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change" (James 1.17) and finally, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13.8).

Since our Creator is eternal, living, and does not change, this proves His word is eternal, living, and does not change! The

Bible affirms that God's word "stands forever" to "all generations" (Psalm 33.11), is "settled in heaven" (Psalm 119.89), "endures forever" (Psalm 119.160), and is to be kept (Psalm 12.6-7). As God said, "...so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it" (Isaiah 55.11).

No wonder inspired men wrote, "For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Heb. 4.12) and affirmed that God's word is "living and abiding" (1 Peter 1.23). Interestingly, even the Old Law was "living oracles [words]" (Acts 7.38) which God demanded to be observed until Jesus fulfilled the law, doing away with it (Col. 2.14; Hebrews). Therefore, no Jew under the law, even after the law had been in effect for roughly 1500 years, could argue that God's ordinances and statutes were "no longer relevant". Eternal, incorruptible and living words did not fade away though they were done away by Christ.

There are many principles and applications one can make from these truths. For example, no matter the time or generation, the Bible is relevant for every man. Peter wrote, "...having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, because 'All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, And its flower falls away, But the word of

the Lord endures forever.' Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you" (1 Peter 1.23-25).

Because the word of God is likened to that of an incorruptible seed (cf. Luke 8.11) and because a seed only produces after its own kind, one can be assured that whatever generation he may live in, the Bible will produce the same results in the lives of good and honest hearts (where the seed is planted). Furthermore, the Bible will still also convict and purify sinners (John 16.18; 1 Peter 1.21). Until the Lord returns, there will never be a time when the living word cannot set man free from sin (John 8.32; Rom. 6).

Since the same word that was preached to them in the first century is preached to us today, the living commands and principles make the Bible relevant to man in any time or situation. Those who argue otherwise must throw the entire Bible out. One cannot claim Jesus as Lord while justifying their sin because "surely the times have changed and that is outdated".

We do not preach an outdated message, but an abiding one! No matter if the Bible is 2,000 years old or a million years old, God and His word are living, imperishable, and unchanged. Jesus said, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Matt. 24.35). Don't be fooled by Satan's attempt to undermine the Bible. BG

1 Peter 1:23 having been begotten again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, through the word of God, which liveth and abideth.