

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements
Bill Brittenham

Song Leader
Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper
Rodney Ellis Dave Massey
Cory Easley Sonny Monaghan

Prayers
Dee Minter Randy Ellis

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements
Bill Brittenham

Song Leader
Cory Easley

Lord's Supper
Rodney Ellis Dave Massey

Prayers
Wendell Mobley Clay Morris

WEDNESDAY

Announcements
Clay Morris

Song Leader
Cory Easley

Prayers
Gerald Eaton Dave Massey

Invitation
Jon Barry

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

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Issue 46

Boasting In the Lord and His Cross

Bryan Garlock

"Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord. For it is not the one who commends himself who is approved, but the one whom the Lord commends" (2 Cor. 10.17-18). The apostle Paul sought not to stand on his own abilities or accomplishments. In fact, he counted his life's accomplishments before becoming a follower of Christ as rubbish and a loss (Phil. 3.7-8). For Paul to boast in these things would show his dependency on these things and not in the Lord. Many of the reasons why Paul gloried in Christ was because He gave himself for our sins (Gal. 1.4; 2.20), loved us (Gal. 2.20), redeemed us (Gal. 3.13; 4.4-5) and freed us (Gal. 5.1). No wonder Paul could say, "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world" (Gal. 6.14).

This same principle is found all throughout Scripture. Jeremiah said, "Thus says the Lord: 'Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not

the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord'" (9.23-24). Elsewhere the Psalmist wrote, "My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad" (Psalm 34.2; cf. 44.8; 105.3).

There are many reasons why we can boast in the Lord and His cross.

The cross fulfilled prophecy. The very fact that the events surrounding the cross were first prophesied 700-1000 years prior to the cross proves that Jesus is the Messiah, the one who will free us from our sins (Isaiah 53; Psalm 22; Matt. 27; Matt. 1.21, etc.).

Moreover, this is evidence that the Bible is inspired by God.

The cross abolished the Law of Moses. The

FAMILY TALK

Gladys Winters had successful knee surgery in Little Rock and is now at St. Michael Rehab.

It was good to see **Melvin Potts** back on Wednesday.

Joey Avance's throat problem has gotten worse.

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

Ava Ellis has been sick this past week.

It was good to see **Bonnie Allgor** at services this week.

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.)

inspired writer speaking of the old and new covenant wrote, "He does away with the first in order to establish the second" (Heb. 10.9). Paul taught that Christ "...wiped out the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us. And He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross" (Col. 2.14-16). That which was nailed to the cross was the first covenant that He took away. Elsewhere Paul said Jesus abolished the Law of Moses in His death (Eph. 2.15). Since the old has been taken away, it has been replaced with a better covenant with better promises (Heb. 7.22; 8.6, etc.).

The cross broke down the middle wall of separation. There was hostility between Jews and Gentiles. However, the cross removed this hostility and made both Jew and Gentile one in Christ Jesus. Therefore, Paul wrote, "For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace..." (Eph. 2.14-15). Beautifully written, Paul taught, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3.28).

The cross was our sacrifice for sin. John the immerser declared, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1.29). John the apostle wrote, "He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2.2). The cross is where atonement for our sins took place. Jesus was the sinless sacrifice; the cross is where He paid the price of shedding

His blood to wash away our sins. Isaiah fittingly prophesied, "...And by His stripes we are healed" (Isaiah 53.5).

The cross demonstrated God's love. Paul declared, "...God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Rom. 5.8). Jesus taught, "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). This writer cannot imagine a better way for God to demonstrate His love for this world. Truly this was the only way.

The cross demonstrated the enormity of sin and the price Jesus paid. Jesus willingly suffered, enduring the cross for six hours because of our sins. God gave up His Son to save the ungodly, His enemies. Jesus gave up heaven and its glory (Phil. 2). While we may never fully comprehend the love manifested at the cross, it demonstrated how much God loves us.

The cross is our first love. The apostle John wrote, "We love because he first loved us" (1 John 4.19). He loved us at the cross and continues His love through His abundant blessings and grace bestowed upon us. We obeyed His gospel and continue to obey Him because of the love shown us. Yet what happens when we no longer love as we ought to? For one, we become apathetic and lukewarm in our service to Him. Hence Jesus rebuked, "...I have this against you, that you have abandoned the love you had at first" (Rev. 2.4). Since the love of the cross brought us to Christ, the loss of love for the cross will drag us back into the world.

The cross is where salvation is offered. In Galatians 6.14, as quoted in our introduction, Paul stated that "the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world". In chapter two he said, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (2.20). Paul crucified the world and was crucified with Christ when he was baptized for the forgiveness of sins (Acts 22.16). Interestingly, baptism is a symbol of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ. Paul said, "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him" (Rom. 6.3-8). Moreover, since salvation is offered at the cross, one cannot enjoy its blessings without meeting the conditions set forth in the Lord's covenant, namely faith, repentance, confession and baptism.

The Bible teaches us not to boast in the things of this world, but in the cross of Christ. In what do you glory in? BG