

“The New Testament in Context”

We are no doubt familiar with the synoptic gospels and their intended audience. Matthew speaks to the Jews, Mark to the Romans, and Luke to the Greeks. John is cataloged appropriately as a metropolitan gospel as it depicts the universalism of the divine message. Acts, written by the physician Luke and, historically, considered to be joined with the gospel according to Luke, is an account of the early history of Christianity. However, have you ever contemplated the audience(s) to whom the authors addressed their epistles? If not, you may read them here:

"7a to all who are beloved of God in Rome, called as saints..." (Rom. 1:7a)

"2a To the church of God which is at Corinth..." (1 Cor. 1:2a)

"1b ...To the church of God which is at Corinth..." (2 Cor. 1:b)

"2b ...To the churches of Galatia..." (Gal. 1:2b)

"1b ...To the saints who are at Ephesus..." (Eph. 1:1b)

"1b ...To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi..." (Phil. 1:1b)

"2a To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are at Colossae..." (Col. 1:2a)

"1b ...To the church of the Thessalonians..." (1 Thess. 1:1b)

"1b ...To the church of the Thessalonians..." (2 Thess. 1:1b)

"2a To Timothy, my true child in the faith..." (1 Tim. 1:2a)

"2a To Timothy, my beloved son..." (2 Tim. 1:2a)

"4a To Titus, my true child in a common faith..." (Titus 1:4a)

"1b ...To Philemon our beloved brother and fellow worker..." (Philem. 1:1b)

"1b ...To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad..." (Jas. 1:1b)

"1b ...To those who are the called..." (Jude 1:1b)

"4a ...to the seven churches that are in Asia..." (Rev. 1:4a)

Except for Hebrews, written to all Christians and not one congregation, all are addressed either to an assembly or a person who has put on Christ as his Lord. Now, what is the point of such an exercise as this? On many occasions in the church, we have been guilty of using methods other than the Gospel to convert the lost. We utilize much of our time listing out the sins and transgressions of the world while neglecting Christ. Look to how they preached in the New Testament to those outside the fold of God (for space, I have only included a few references found in Acts):

"42 And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they kept right on teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ" (Acts 5:42).

"5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and began proclaiming Christ to them" (Acts 8:5).

"22 But Saul kept increasing in strength and confounding the Jews who lived at Damascus by proving that this Jesus is the Christ" (Acts 9:22).

"5 But when Silas and Timothy came down from Macedonia, Paul began devoting himself completely to the word, solemnly testifying to the Jews that Jesus was the Christ" (Acts 18:5).

Continued in next column

Whether Jew or Gentile, as Paul said, *"...we preach Christ crucified..."* (1 Cor. 1:23). Why? Because *"...there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men by which we must be saved"* (Acts 4:12). Most of the condemnation we read of by human authors, guided through the Spirit (2 Pt. 1:20; Jude 1:3), are written to the Lord's people! And it is so done that we might be *"unstained by the world"* (Jas. 1:27) so *"that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless"* (Eph. 5:27).

We may not like or agree with such talk, but listing out the world's sins to sinful people does nothing but prove that Christians are unforgiving in their assessment of fellow men and women. God will judge the wickedness. Let us continue to walk in the light (1 Jn. 1:7), season our words (Col. 4:6). Yes, let us be fervent in warning the church how to remain in the grace and mercy of God; but let us not be mistaken in believing that the world can be saved by anything but the message of the cross.

"9 I wrote you in my letter not to associate with immoral people; 10 I did not at all mean with the immoral people of this world, or with the covetous and swindlers, or with idolaters, for then you would have to go out of the world. 11 But actually, I wrote to you not to associate with any so-called brother if he is an immoral person, or covetous, or an idolater, or a reviler, or a drunkard, or a swindler—not even to eat with such a one. 12 For what have I to do with judging outsiders? Do you not judge those who are within the church? 13a But those who are outside, God judges" (1 Cor. 5:9-13a).



September 30—Imogene Stout

Nothing is impossible for God's wisdom and almighty power, and nothing is too small for His loving attention



October 16, 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Where: The Killeen church of Christ*

If interested please see Rachel Lane or Pam Gough.
Headcount needed by 10/14.

Let's car pool together.

*This is the congregation where Rachel's mother attends.

Prayer Requests & Concerns



Gerald Johnson, former elder of Freetown, has been diagnosed with Alzheimer. Please keep Gerald and his wife, Jewel, in your prayers. If you want to send them a note of encouragement, their address is:

Gerald and Jewel Johnson
810 Coal Creek Dr.
Mansfield, TX 76063

There are numerous people in our congregation who are in need of our prayers (some have unspoken requests). Let's continue in prayer for them.



Upcoming ladies' events

What: Ladies' day (Are You in the Picture? - Isaiah 2:2-3)

When: October 2, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where: Lewisville church of Christ

Must register by 9/25. No cost.

What: Ladies' day (Hope in the Lord)

When: October 9, 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Where: New Road church of Christ
Waco, Texas

If interested in going to any of these events, let's get together and carpool. Also, if going, we need to register.

Daily Bible Reading

September 26 Isaiah 8:1-9:21; 2 Corinthians 12:1-10; Psalm 55:1-23; Proverbs 23:4-5

September 27 Isaiah 10:1-11:16; 2 Corinthians 12:11-21; Psalm 56:1-13; Proverbs 23:6-8

September 28 Isaiah 12:1-14:32; 2 Corinthians 13:1-14; Psalm 57:1-11; Proverbs 23:9-11

September 29 Isaiah 15:1-18:7; Galatians 1:1-24; Psalm 58:1-11; Proverbs 23:12

September 30 Isaiah 19:1-21:17; Galatians 2:1-16; Psalm 59:1-17; Proverbs 23:13-14

October 1 Isaiah 22:1-24:23; Galatians 2:17-3:9; Psalm 60:1-12; Proverbs 23:15-16

October 2 Isaiah 25:1-28:13; Galatians 3:10-22; Psalm 61:1-8; Proverbs 23:17-18

Sermons, Bulletins and More @
freetownroad.com

Freetown Road Church of Christ

1038 Freetown Road
Grand Prairie, Texas 75051

972-641-4596 fax: 972-641-4597

Web: freetownroad.com

Email: freetowncoc@sbcglobal.net



Service & Class Times

Sunday Bible Class: 9:30 AM

Sunday Worship: 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening Worship: 5:00 PM

Wednesday Evening Meal: 6:00 PM

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 PM

Minister:
Mike Lane

Sunday, September 19, 2021

Sunday Attendance-AM Worship: 52

2021 Budget: \$3,405.77

Contribution: \$3,960.62



September 28, Christ Haven pick up
September 29, 6:00 p.m., Wednesday evening meal
September 29, 7:00 p.m., Bible Class



Wednesday, September 29 @ 6:00p.m.

Menu: Hamburgers

Come fellowship while you eat....and then stay for a great Bible lesson from the Gospel According to John given by Mike. (John 11-12)

Welcome Guests!

We are delighted you have chosen to worship with us. You honor us with your presence. We pray you find your time with us uplifting and encouraging and that our worship will honor our God and bring you closer to Him. If you have any questions, simply ask one of our members, or speak to one of our ministers. Please take a moment to fill out one of our visitors' cards, so we can have a record of your visit with us. Feel free to let us know what you think by writing comments on that card. You are always welcome!

Those to Serve **October 3, 2021**

Welcome & Opening Prayer, and Family Matters:

Jerry Morris

Family prayer: Gary Gough

Communion Leader: Israel Esparza

Scripture Reading: Brandon Anguiano

Closing Prayer: Wren Smith

Cleaning crew: Red team (Barbara Tillman)

The Family Gram

September 26, 2021 Volume 43 Number 40



Freetown Road
Church of Christ

2021

Becoming a Rainmaker

Order of Worship

Song Leader: Perry Grace

Hymn

To God Be the Glory

Hymn

Wonderful

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Israel Esparza

Hymn

Come, Let Us All Unite to Sing

Hymn

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Hymn

We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

Family Prayer

Gary Gough

Hymn

Walking Alone at Eve

Hymn

Be Still and Know

Scripture Reading

Mike Lane

Matthew 6:25-26

Sermon

God's Providence

Hymn

Lord, I'm Coming Home

Hymn

Break Thou the Bread of Life

Communion Leader

Tommy Seymour

Family Matters

Israel Esparza

Hymn

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Closing Prayer

Dwaine Gough

Cleaning crew: Purple team (Sharon Jordan)

Greeters: Pam Gough/Barbara Tillman)