

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Hiram Church of Christ

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

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"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

"Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II

ORDER OF WORSHIP





Announcements: Kwame Abdul
Opening Prayer: Kwame Abdul
Song Leader: Devin Bryant
Second Prayer: Alex Johnson
Lord's Table: Matt Johnson

Message: Melvin J. Bryant II
Closing Prayer: Clarence Proctor

Attendance

Morning Hour: TBA
Bible Class: TBA
Worship: TBA
Wednesday: TBA

Weekly Service Times

 The Morning Hour 9:00am
 Bible Class 10:00am
 Morning Worship 11:00am
 Wed. Evening Bible Classes 7:30pm

The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

Missions: India & Childhaven

PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
(Repentance entails counting the cost - Luke 14:25-33)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10



WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?

WHAT IF WE...

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



What would our lives look like?

ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia) Mary Brock.

Continued Prayers Needed

Jamie Franklin, Charlie Griffin, the Webb Family, Ron McCurry. Sis. Pudgy son Art.

PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Alma Lismore**, Bro. Bryant's grandmother is in hospice and has been given under 30 days to live. Let us keep his family in our prayers.
- ▶ **Baby Luke Jackson** and family is in need of prayer as he continues to undergo testing and recovery from surgeries.
- ▶ **Artemas Holloway** lost his brother. Let us keep him and his family in prayers.
- ▶ **Sis Penny** has asked that we keep her in prayers.
- ▶ **Deborah Abdul** asked prayers for her mom, Emlyn Potts regarding health related issues, and her cousin Brandon Potts.
- ▶ **Dene Reeves** is in need of our continual prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Brock** has asked that we keep her in prayer.
- ▶ **JoAnne Proctor** is in need of continual prayers.
- ▶ **Kilwonia Chandler** is still having complication from her surgery. Let us continue to keep her in prayer.
- ▶ **Jerry Barber** is in need of prayers as he will be going to court to seek justice regarding the murder of his son.
- ▶ **Wes Mangan** is in need of prayer fro his grandparents regarding health issues.
- ▶ **Joe Ceasar** and the O'Quinn St. Church of Christ in our prayers.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

☑ August Birthdays

Dean Reeves - 8th
Mary Troup - 11th
Pudgy Parson - 18th
Harold Reeves - 31st

☑ Anniversaries

Kwame & Deborah Abdul - 17th

☑ Hiram Church News

The ladies are conducting a class each third Monday of the month. All women are encouraged to attend.

Make plans to stay for the last Sunday fellowship meal.

☑ Baptisms

Josiah Johnson was baptized on January 1, 2020! Let us rejoice and encourage our new brother in Christ!

☑ Local Church News

☑ National Church News

BCS Church of Christ in College Station, Texas had their 4th annual Men's Development conference and it was a success! Let us pray for the efforts of developing our young men to be Strong men of God!

☑ World Church News

☑ Traveling

“The Prophecy, Promise And Fulfillment of the Lord’s Church” (Part I)

Matthew 16:13-18”

By

Melvin J. Bryant II

In the United States of America alone, there are over 30,000 different religious groups who believe they are worshiping and serving God according to the scriptures. And, what I find fascinating is that the MAJORITY of the people in these religious groups, have NO IDEAD of the; (a) Origin of where their congregation originated from; (b) Who it’s Founder is; (c) Is the Name and Worship of their congregation Biblical! Now, “IF” we’re going to be honest, and speak the TRUTH to our neighbor, (Ephesians 4:25), how many people can honestly say they know these things? What I would like to do for the next few weeks is, Show from the Bible who the FOUNDER of the Church is; Present what church the Bible speak of; Show from Scripture, The Prophecy of the church from the Old Testament; etc.

- There are MANY Old Testament prophecies concerning Jesus such as: Jesus being born of a Virgin: Isaiah 7:15 and how this prophecy was fulfilled in Matthew 1:18!
- Now, “IF” you can accept the PROPHECY of Jesus from the Old Testament, then one SURELY cannot deny the Prophecy of the church from the Old Testament and the Fulfillment of its establishment in the New Testament!

I. WHO IS THE FOUNDER OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH?

A. Every religious person who claims to worship God should KNOW who the FOUNDER of the church is!

- There is only ONE person QUALIFIED by God the Father to establish a church! (see **Matthew 16:13-18**).
- In the context, (verse 13) we find Jesus questioning His disciples as to, “...Who do MEN say that I, the Son of Man, am?”
- Now, allow us to establish the fact that Jesus already KNEW the answer to this question, the reason why we should know this is found in John 2:24-25 (cf. John 6:64)!
- There are somethings that the Bible teaches us that are HARD for men to digest, but; just because you don’t believe it, does not negate the fact that it’s true!
- And, the things that are HARD for people to digest, it’s not that most people don’t understand it, the problem is that it’s HARD for MOST people to accept what’s being said!
- We’ve heard the expression, “*Call Bible things by Bible names*”. This is true and the scripture that confirms this, 1 Peter 4:11, “**If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God...**”!
- What does that mean? Whatever a person advocates in religion must be found in the Word of God! So, when religious groups baptize babies, worship God with mimes and skits, call the preachers wife the “First Lady of the church,” call preachers “Pastors” who don’t fit the requirements of Acts 20:28 (1 Timothy 3:1-7), calling a man Reverend when that name is attributed to God (Psalms 111:9), where are these things found in scripture?! *Therefore*, we need to SPEAK as the Bible Speaks and call Bible things by official Bible names!
- *Nonetheless*, some men in Caesarea Philippi (even today) thought enough about Jesus (*However* WRONG) to consider Him to be a Prophet but NOT the Messiah!
- Forget what John 1:41 tells us, “He (Andrew) first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “**We have found the Messiah**” (which is translated, the Christ).”

B. “**But who do you say that I am?**”

- It is very important that Jesus disciples understood (including us today) understands who Jesus is! They had HEARD what men were saying about Jesus, But Jesus wanted to know what His disciples thought about Him!

- In our world today, we HEAR what the religious community is saying about Jesus, but; who are we to listen to, the religious community or Jesus! (see **John 10:22-27**)!
- Jesus tells us that these Jews that surrounded Him were NOT His sheep, and He said in verse 27, **“My SHEEP hear MY VOICE, and I KNOW them, and THEY follow Me.”**
- Why is this important? Because it is IMPORTANT as a SHEEP, we HEAR the Voice of Jesus!

C. **“You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.”**

- “The Christ” in Greek means “The Messiah!” And in Hebrew, “The Messiah” means “The Anointed One” equivalent to the Christ in the New Testament!
- Jesus was prophesied about in the Old Testament! He is the ANOINTED ONE from God the Father and has the WORDS of His Father in His mouth (John 12:49)!

D. **“Blessed are you, Simon BarJonah for Flesh and Blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.”**

- In scripture, Flesh and Blood always refers to man! (cf. Galatians 1:15-16).

E. **“... I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH,”**

- God had Jesus the AUTHORITY to Build His church! The Old Testament ANOINTED Jesus as the Messiah, and NO ONE can deny this! (see **Psalms 45:6-7**)!
- “IF” you’re NOT “The Anointed,” in the Old Testament, And; there is NO Prophecy about you, NOR Fulfillment regarding you in the New Testament, then YOU nor I have the Authority from God the Father to build a church! (see **Acts 10:34-38** emphasis **verse 38**)!
- God ANOINTED Jesus and NO OTHER MAN! (Acts 4:12)!
- When the Bible says church, it’s NOT referring to the structure of this building or ANY building! (cf. Acts 11:22).
- Now, people MISS what’s in verse 37 of Acts chapter 10! Peter tells us that Cornelius KNEW something about Jesus! He said, “that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached:”
- Jesus preached the sermon on the mount to Jews and Gentiles (see **Matthew 4:12-17, 23-25; 5:1**)!

II. **JESUS IS THE FOUNDER OF THE NEW TESTAMENT CHURCH**

A. The Bible is CLEAR as to who we are to look to as the Author and Finisher of our faith! (see **Hebrews 12:2**).

- Three things I want to point out in this verse;
 - (1) The verse tells, “Looking unto Jesus”!
 - “Looking unto Jesus” implies that we look away from others and keep our focus on Jesus and His words!
 - (2) “THE AUTHOR AND FINISHER OF *our* FAITH”!
 - That word “Author” there is “*archegos*” and it means, “Originator, FOUNDER, Ruler, Chief or Prince”!
 - Jesus is the “Founder and Finisher of our Faith”!
 - (3) Jesus ENDURED the cross!
 - No man was commissioned to DIE for the sins of the world!
 - Jesus purchased the CHURCH with His own Blood (see **Acts 20:28**)!

- If you can’t find the NAME of your church in the Bible!
- If you can’t find the FOUNDER prophesied about in the Old Testament!
- If you can’t find your Founder being fulfilled in the New Testament!
- If you can’t find where your Founder is saying in scripture that He will BUILD His church!
- If your Founder isn’t the Son of God, then whatever you are doing is not by the authority of God and therefore, your religion, worship and founder is in vain!
- Jesus is the Founder of the New Testament church and it would be in our best interest to HEAR His voice and Follow His will and be apart of the church we can READ about in the Bible since we’re going to be JUDGE by the words of Jesus!
- Be encouraged by the Words of Jesus until the last Amen....