

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Brynn Hatcher

Assisting: Ron Austin
Dale Wiles

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Phil Byrd

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Brynn Hatcher

Pantry Item
Chicken Soup

Sermon Notes
Parables of the Kingdom

February 20, 2022

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304
Phone:
(910) 425-1108
Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Deacon
John Williams

Volume 36 Issue 8

The
Cape Fear Crier

“Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel.” Isaiah 12:6

Silence of the Scriptures

The Bible is “silent” about many things. That is, it does not specifically mention certain things. Therefore, can Bible doctrine be based on the “silence of the Scriptures” — i.e., what the Bible does not specifically say? Can we stake our souls on what the Bible does not say? Is it really that important or serious? Is the silence of the Scriptures to be respected or ignored? These are serious questions and demand a Bible answer.

Two prominent Reformation leaders held opposite views on this subject. **Martin Luther** stated, “*What is not against Scripture is for Scripture, and Scripture for it.*” He believed authority from the Bible was unnecessary and would therefore practice or allow anything the Bible did not specifically forbid. On the other hand, **Ulrich Zwingli** stated that whatever was “*not enjoined or taught in the New Testament should be unconditionally rejected.*” Zwingli would only practice or allow that which the Bible authorized.

An oft quoted slogan from the Restoration movement said, “*We speak where the Bible speaks and are silent where the Bible is silent.*” What this means is: we will do only those things the Bible sanctions and/or authorizes and when the Bible does not address or speak on a subject, we will not act on the Bible's silence (in the absence of authority). This is a time tested and true principle: not because it was used in the Restoration movement, but because it is true with what the Bible teaches. The point is this: we must only do those things the Bible authorizes us to do. If we can't give a “thus saith the Lord” for our practices, then we must abandon them. This is made clear in Colossians 3:17, “*And **whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus...***” (i.e., by His authority). Many make light of this principle and dismiss it with nothing more than a wave of the hand.

The Bible's silence on matters makes a world of difference and is extremely important! The silence of the Scriptures is not a man-made doctrine. God himself makes this clear in His Holy Word. The “silence of the Scriptures” has to do with Bible authority.

Simply because the Bible does not address or speak concerning a particular matter or subject, does not give us liberty to act or practice something in the Bible's silence. Liberal-minded thinkers have no respect for the authority of the Scriptures and will proceed full steam ahead in matters for which they have no “thus saith the Lord.” The Bible DOES NOT authorize by its silence!

The Holy Spirit gives an inspired example of the use of “silence” in Hebrews 7:12-14. *“For the priesthood being changed, there is made of necessity a change also of the law. For he of whom these things are spoken pertaineth to another tribe, of which no man gave attendance at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord sprang out of Juda; of which tribe Moses spake nothing concerning priesthood.”* These verses prove that the “silence of the Scriptures” argument is not man-made. It is not borrowed from the Restoration period. It is not simply tradition. It has to do with what God wants his people to do. It is a question of AUTHORITY.

God revealed to Moses his will regarding the priesthood. Moses revealed God's will to the children of Israel. Aaron and his descendants would be priests before the Lord. They were of the tribe of Levi. Hebrews 7:13 says no man ever served before the altar that was not a Levite. The fact that Jesus (from the tribe of Judah) now serves as high priest (Heb. 2:17; 3:1; 4:14-15) demands that the priesthood has changed. And, the priesthood being changed demanded also a change of the law for the Law of Moses would not allow anyone who was not from the tribe of Levi to be a priest. The important point to see in this is the fact that the Law of Moses NEVER FORBID (in any specific verse) anyone to serve that was from a tribe other than Levi. It simply told who was to serve — not who was not to serve. Exodus 27:21 ^{Leviticus} 1 shows that Aaron and his sons were to serve. The law of Moses was silent on the subject of someone serving who was from a tribe other than Levi! Heaven argues this point of silence so effectively.

We must honor and respect God's use of “silence” in every respect of our lives today. We must not presume to act in areas the Bible does not authorize us to act. God tells us “what” to do (and often “how” to do) and we must not go beyond his word and do more or less (cf. 2 John 9-11).

(Cont'd next week)

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 2/13/22

Bible Class: 28

A.M. Worship: 50

Wed. B. C.: 24

Family News and Notes

Robin Caldwell had surgery this week. They are planning to move toward Myrtle Beach in the near future. **John Williams** is having trouble with his knee. Linda Williams' mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Jack** and **Sondra Wain**, Kim Perkins' parents, are dealing with serious health issues. Her sister-in-law **Rhonda Wain** needs prayers as well. **Jamie Phillips** is caring for his mother in South Carolina and going through the difficulties of being a care-giver. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. Let's remember one another in prayer. Active military: Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment's notice. Remember to pray for their families as well.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross, Frances Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen & Sarah Jennen, John and Linda Williams**, the **Pollard** family, the **Davis** family, **Claudia Farrington, Rick and Robin Caldwell, Barry and Melany Hatcher**, and **Thelma Adams**. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Feb 20	Feb 21	Feb 22	Feb 23	Feb 24	Feb 25	Feb 26
Rom 1-3	Rom 4-6	Rom 7-9	Rom 10-12	Rom 13-16	1 Cor 1-4	1 Cor 5-8
Ps 51	Ps 52	Ps 53	Ps 54	Ps 55	Ps 56	Ps 57

Events

Ladies' Day: Cary Church of Christ, March 5th. Celine Sparks speaking.

Mens' Fellowship: March 12th at Gold Hill Road congregation 9-3

Sheffield Drive Lectures: Saturday, May 14th. 9-3:30

