

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: John Patchell

Assisting: Ron Austin
Tyler Christian

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item

Canned/microwave pasta

Sermon Notes *Husband Love Your Wife*

I. Know Her _____

II. Know Her _____ *Needs*

III. Know Her _____ *Needs*

IV. Know Her _____ *Needs*

February 5, 2023

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

Volume 40 Issue 6

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Taking All of Scripture

By Tom Wacaster

When one properly studies a particular passage in God's word, he is said to “exegete” the passage. “Exegesis” simply means to “lead out” or “draw out of.” It is the application of the principles of interpretation in bringing out the meaning of any particular passage. We could very likely write on the science of interpretation with all its varied principles and take a year or more to do so. But there is one important principle we want to address here. *“How precious also are thy thoughts unto me, O God! how great is the **sum of them**”* (Psalm 139:17). A fundamental principle involved in the interpretation of the scriptures is the need to take the whole of God's word into consideration in our search for truth. It is the “sum” of God's word which must be obeyed, not just a portion thereof. Call it what you will, whether a “balance” of scripture, or as Paul put it, the “whole council of God” (Acts 20:27), the end result is that we cannot pick and choose from scripture as we would food from a cafeteria line.

The scheme of redemption must be studied. God's plan for man's salvation cannot be found in any single passage of scripture. If I would learn what I must do to be saved, I must carefully examine the whole of God's word to determine what it takes to receive forgiveness of sins. To take any single passage to the neglect of others will spell doom for the sincere but misled soul. The late Bill Cline once wrote, “The Bible does not lend itself to false doctrine for it is balanced in its content, complete in its message, and perfect in every way.” The mistake of isolating one passage and pressing it to the exclusion of others is a failure to respect the truth presented by the Psalmist.

The Bible plainly teaches that men must *hear* the word. “How shall they believe in him whom they have not heard” (Rom. 10:14)? The Bible also teaches that men must *believe* (Heb. 11:6; Jn 8:24). But the Bible likewise teaches that men must *repent* (Acts 2:38; Luke 13:3). In addition, the Bible teaches that men must *confess* that Jesus is the Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10). Finally, the Bible teaches that

baptism doth also now save us (1 Peter 3:21; Acts 2:38; 22:16).

In view of the obligatory nature of each of these commands, why is it that most of the protestant denominational world elevates “faith” above, and often to the exclusion of, all other commands? Is there not some way we can harmonize these passages, and, by taking the “sum” of God’s word, come to a conclusion that does not pit one passage against the other? Indeed there is.

If **faith** saves, and most certainly it does, then what role does “repentance” play in the process of salvation? Is it essential? To deny its essentiality is to indict our Lord and Master, for He Himself stated, *“I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish”* (Luke 13:3). The question we must ask, therefore, is “What KIND of faith saves a man from his sins?” Taking the “sum” of God’s word, we can only conclude that the faith that saves is a faith that INCLUDES **repentance**. Men have sought to “get around” the force of this argument by suggesting that repentance precedes faith. But if repentance is produced by godly sorrow (2 Cor. 7:10), how can repentance be generated without faith in God?

What about **confession**? If we must confess “with the mouth” (Rom. 10:9-10), what is the relationship between saving faith and this “good confession?” Once again, the faith that saves is a faith that INCLUDES the good confession.

What, then, shall we do with **baptism**? If baptism “doth also now save us” (1 Peter 3:21), what relationship does faith sustain to this act that “also now saves us?” Before you ignore, dismiss, or reject the words of Peter, ask yourself this question. When Peter said that “baptism doth also now save us,” what was he saying baptism saves us from? The context shows that just as the water saved Noah from the wrath of God against a sinful world, so also baptism saves us from God’s wrath. The KIND of faith that saves is the KIND of faith that INCLUDES baptism. If not, why not?

If men would put aside their bias and human opinions and make an honest effort to study and apply some of the fundamental principles of interpretation, much of the division could be resolved. Unfortunately, false teaching will always exist, and error will continue to take its toll upon the religious world. Peter has warned us, *“But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction”* (2 Peter 2:1). Jesus warned us to *“beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly are ravening wolves”* (Matt. 7:15). Such errorists will always exist. Hence the ever increasing need to not only study, but to “handle aright” the word of truth (2 Tim. 2:15). The American Standard Version of 1901 has this interesting foot note on this passage. It reads, “holding a straight course in the word of truth.” The only safe course to follow is to take the sum of God’s word.

By the Numbers

Attendance 1/29/23

Bible Class: 40

A.M. Worship: 70

Wed. B. C.: 30

Family News and Notes

John Patchell’s niece, is struggling with her lupus. **Sarah Collier, Julie Carver’s** niece, is seriously ill. **Solomon Harrington, Geraldine Harrington’s** son, is struggling with some health problems. **Nazreen Sahib**, coworker of **Jennifer Hatcher**, has stage 4 cancer. **John Williams** is slowly recovering from knee surgeries and a broken leg. **Chuck Perkins’** coworker, **Mark Thibeault** is not doing well at this time. The **Perkins** family has been dealing with COVID. **Linda Williams’** mother, **Mary Pipkens** and her brothers, **Wayne** and **Harry** all are in need of prayer because of serious health concerns. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. **Linda Hernandez** has a significant heart problem. Let’s remember one another in prayer.

Pray for our world leaders at this time. Active military: Pray for all 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. We have 4 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan						
Feb 5	Feb 6	Feb 7	Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10	Feb 11
Ex 31-33	Ex 34-36	Ex 37-40	Lev 1-2	Lev 3-4	Lev 5-6	Lev 7-8
Ps 36	Ps 37	Ps 38	Ps 39	Ps 40	Ps 41	Ps 42

Events

Trip Meeting: Check in with Byran sometime this morning.

Men's lunch: Friday @11am at Golden Corral

Christian Evidences Seminar: March 3-5. Jeff Miller speaking. Flyer on the bulletin board. Flyers on the table to hand out as well.

Mens’ Fellowship: March 11. Gold Hill Road church of Christ

