

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Frank Thompson

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Cam Christian
Ricardo Alvillar

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Jon Anderson

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Ricardo Alvillar

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Phil Byrd

Pantry Item
Mayo

Sermon Notes
Change Is Coming

I. In _____

II. In the _____

III. In our _____

October 13, 2024

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Services are
archived on our
YouTube page!

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 47 Issue 2

The
Cape Fear Crier

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

Hermeneutics & Scripture

“Hermeneutics” is the science of interpretation. The word is derived from the Greek mythological character, “Hermes,” the messenger of the gods and the interpreter of Jupiter. Through the years there have been a number of Bible scholars who have taken the time and effort to set forth, in writing, a systematic approach to the study and interpretation of the scriptures. The most notable works are D. R. Dungan’s *Hermeneutics*, and Clinton Lockhart’s *Principles of Interpretation*. Both of these books are still in print, and I recommend them for your consideration. Hermeneutics, then, is the science of interpreting the Scriptures.

“Exegesis” simply means to “lead out” or “draw out of.” It is the application of the principles of hermeneutics in bringing out the meaning of any particular passage. 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.

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 certainly spell doom for the sincere but misled soul. The late William 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; John 3:16; 8:24). But the Bible likewise teaches that men must *repent* (Acts 2:38;

Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30-31). In addition, the Bible teaches that men must *confess* with the mouth that Jesus is the Son of God (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 16:16-18). Finally, the Bible teaches that *baptism* doth also now save us (1 Peter 3:21; Acts 2:38; 22:16).

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**.

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?

A further examination of what baptism accomplishes should prove to any honest soul that a man is not saved from his past sins until he is immersed into that watery grave “for the remission of sins” (Acts 2:38; 22:16). Please take a close look at Romans 6:3-6. When a person is baptized he enters “into Christ” (v.3), he enters into the “death” of Christ (v.3), he is “buried into death” (v.4), we are “raised to walk in newness of life” (v.4), and the “body of sin might be destroyed” (v.6).

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. Anything else is wrought with danger and destruction.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance week of 10/06/24 Daily Bible Readers: 13 Chapters Read: 535
B.C.: 31 A.M.: Worship: 44 Wed.: 35

Family News and Notes

We rejoice with the angels that **Drew Perrin** obeyed the gospel Friday afternoon! Please pray for all those affected by Hurricanes Helena & Milton. **Jan Keen** will continue her chemotherapy for another 3 months. We have been encouraged by her attendance at worship. **Cathy, Julie Carver’s** sister, passed away. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Gladys Wallace, Gloria Emerick’s** mother, is in hospice care in Oregon. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers, also remember her brother **Kris Wain**. Pray for our world leaders at this time and the upcoming election. Pray for all active duty military members and their families. We have 4 active duty members here at Cape Fear.

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

Oct 13	Oct 14	Oct 15	Oct 16	Oct 17	Oct 18	Oct 19
Mat 20-21	Mat 22-24	Mat 25-26	Mat 27-28	Mar 1-3	Mar 4-5	Mar 6-7

Events

Gospel Meeting: Next week with Brock Shanks. “Feed the Preacher” sign-up sheet is on the small table in the foyer.

Silver Linings: Friday, October 18 @ 11am. Bring your lunch!

