

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell
Song Leader: Chad Futrell
Opening Prayer: Tyler Christian
Lord's Table:
Presiding: Sibio Farrington
Assisting: Luka Herrera
Kyle Pool
Sermon: Byran Hatcher
Closing P.: Ricardo Alvillar

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher
Announcements: Byran Hatcher
Devotional: Julius Cook
Song Leader: Chad Futrell
Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Pantry Item
Canned Chicken

Sermon Notes *Reasons For Gratitude*

I. *Genuinely* _____

II. *Rightly* _____

III. *Completely* _____

November 23, 2025

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Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

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Fayetteville, NC
28304

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(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Sermons 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

The Cape Fear Crier

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

The “Mold” of Doctrine

The apostle Paul wrote, “*But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you*” (Rom. 6:17). Alexander Campbell in *The Living Oracles* rendered the verse, “But thanks be to God, that although ye were the slaves of sin, yet ye have obeyed from the heart the **mold of doctrine** into which ye were delivered.” McKnight renders the text, “By thus speaking, I do not insinuate that ye have made yourselves slaves to sin; on the contrary, I thank God that although formerly ye were the slaves of sin, ye have willingly obeyed the **mold of doctrine** into which ye were cast at your baptism. And that being set free from the slavery of sin, by your faith, ye have voluntarily become the slaves of righteousness, whom therefore ye ought to obey.”

The word “mold” or “form” denotes a shape or item into which melted metals, liquids that will harden, or other pliable materials able to hold a shape are poured and such becomes the exact shape or form of the mold. The Holy Spirit uses this idea of a mold to express a spiritual process. The mold of doctrine which the Romans obeyed was the Gospel. They had obeyed the mold of doctrine into which they were cast at their baptism. In this act, they were made free men — **free** — such as the Romans would bestow upon a slave when he was given his freedom. The Romans called this “emancipation.”

Jesus is an example of being the image of the Father. “*Who being the brightness of his glory, and the **express image** of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high*” (Heb. 1:3). Jesus is the express image of the Father. He is cast in the mold of the Father to the degree that when we consider who Jesus is, we are simultaneously considering who the Father is.

To refer again to the process of pouring molten metal into a mold, the pieces of metal which are cast are all alike. This is the truth which the apostle is teaching. When sinners are cast into the form or

mold of doctrine, the mold is the same and the results are the same. The pity is that proud, pompous and bigoted religious “divines” presume to shape their own forms or molds. Consequently, the devil has more odd, curious and peculiar children than anyone can count. When Paul wrote to the church in Corinth, he informed the brethren that the same truth which he had presented to the churches of Galatia, he taught the same to the church in Corinth (I Cor. 16:1-2). It is interesting that Paul made three missionary journeys and established churches by preaching the Gospel. Paul did not establish different kinds of churches because he did not preach different doctrines. When Paul wrote his letter to the church at Colossee, he said, “And when this epistle is read among you, cause that it be read also in the church of the Laodiceans; and that ye likewise read the epistle from Laodicea” (Col. 4:16). Colossee did not have one creed and Laodicea a completely different creed. Such would have been the case if the churches were different sects.

In bitter sarcasm, Paul wrote, “...I have espoused you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ...For if he that cometh preacheth another Jesus, whom we have not preached, or if ye receive another spirit, which ye have not received, or another gospel, which ye have not accepted, ye might well bear with him” (II Cor. 11:2,4). Did Paul condone the idea of a man being a husband to many wives? Did he approve of preaching different ideas relative to Jesus? Did he agree that the brethren should receive different spirits? Would it be right to accept a preacher who presented another and different gospel? Such is absurd! When the apostle Paul preached, there were those who would pervert the Gospel of Christ and such perverters continue to be a curse to the cause of Christ to this day. In no uncertain terms, Paul warned, “...there be some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ. But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed” (Gal. 1:7-8). To emphasize what he had just stated, Paul repeats the warning in verse 9. If the Holy Spirit had repeated the passage a thousand times, it matters not to self-willed men.

The Holy Spirit said, “There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling: One Lord, one faith, one baptism” (Eph. 4:4-5). Modern clergy can wax eloquent in proclaiming a multiplicity of faiths in an effort towards ecumenicalism. The men who pose as scholars hide behind their degrees and condone all kinds of faiths — and ignorant church members will approve and support such nonsense. Some think they have gotten so brilliant that they can extrapolate ONE into THOUSANDS!

There is **one faith** because there is **one mold**. That mold is the pure, unadulterated gospel of Jesus Christ. Men have changed the mold and substituted their own. Sadly, those cast in those molds will not endure the fire of Heavenly judgment.

- BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 11/23
Chapters Read: 247

B.C.: 24
Worship: 51

Daily Bible Readers: 11
Wednesday: 30

Family News and Notes

Rob Sparks’ mother, **Phyllis Molina**, is back at home and doing better. **John McDougale**, **Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Gwen’s** daughter, **Sarah**, was in a bad car accident recently; she is improving. Kyle Pool’s coworker, **Jeremy Rankin**, was in an auto accident causing him to endure several surgeries with more to come. Jeremy’s wife also gave birth to their third child the same day. Jennifer’s coworker, **Nicole Jones**, is going through personal health issues and family struggles. **Carlton Norris**, **Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health. **Ally** is in West Virginia with them to help out and is doing a fantastic job caring for them. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers and the family is going through a lot of stress.

Also remember: **Linda Boston**, **Margaret Langston**, **Vicky Carver**, **Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth**, **Barry & Melany Hatcher**, **Frances Salaz**, **Linda Hernandez**, and the **Davis** family.

Bible Reading Plan

Nov 30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4	Dec 5	Dec 6
Eze 45-46	Eze 47-48	Dan 1-2	Dan 3-4	Dan 5-6	Dan 7-8	Dan 9-10
Pr 26	Pr 27	Pr 28	Pr 29	Pr 30	Pro 31	Dan 11-12

Events

Holiday Baskets: Please bring in goodies for baskets. Assembly is Friday night, Dec 12, Delivery Dec 13.

Holiday Fellowship: Saturday, December 13th @ 1pm, at the Oxendines’ house. No Men’s lunch or Silver Linings for December.

