

PRAYERS

Zack Opheim - Recovering from recent surgery and infection.

Congregation News:

Next week is potluck. Please plan to stay for the meal and for the afternoon singing.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: It may be true that life begins at forty, but everything else starts to wear out, fall out, or spread out!

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

9/9/18

9/16/18

Bible Class	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Announcements	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Opening Prayer	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Lord's Supper	Colby Crawford	Colby Crawford
Closing Prayer	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Sermon	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Adult	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Building Cleanup
Crawford

Aberdeen church of Christ

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Bulletin Submissions

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by Friday night to: tlbj@sbcglobal.net

Aberdeen church of Christ

September 9, 2018

JESUS CHRIST HAS ALL AUTHORITY

The subject of authority is of great debate among all folks. This is an important subject because authority is questioned by some, obeyed by others, rejected by some and abused by others. In the realm of human authority this is understood. But when it comes to Christ's authority, the only one that will be accepted is obedience.

The definition of authority is clear: "The right to command and to enforce obedience." Jesus Christ has all authority (**Matt. 28:28; Acts 2:36**). It is of great importance that we have a proper understanding of the authority Christ holds.

No philosopher, sage, human creed or council has been given religious authority over other men. Isn't it amazing how men have yielded over to the will or creeds of men concerning religious rule? Even in the Lord's church there are those who "bind and loose" where the Bible certainly does not (**Matt. 16:19**). No human being has the right from heaven to command and enforce a man-made religious law. Christ has "all power or authority." He alone has the authority to command and enforce obedience. His authority is God-given (**Eph. 1:22-23**). His authority was above that of the scribes (**Matt. 7: 28-29**). His authority was above that of Moses and Elijah (**Matt. 17:1-3**). All people would be wise to know that the authority of Jesus Christ is above the law of men (**Acts 5:27-29**).

We must make Christ "The Authority" of our lives. Jesus makes two distinct statements showing (at least in part) His authority. All mankind **must** submit to Jesus' two statements: "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments" (**John 14:15**). "Ye are my friends, if ye do whatever I command you" (**John 15:14**).

Obedience can and will be accomplished by our convictions (**John 20:27-28**). Not only does the Lord know us by our convictions, but so does the world. Jesus Christ is "The Authority" of our lives when we are in submission to Him in doing His will (**Luke 6:46**). Simply submitting to Jesus in doing His will brings a great change in our lives. We will then be "holy" and "acceptable." We will then present our bodies as "a living sacrifice" to our Lord (**Rom. 12:1-2**). In all of this we are "transformed (or conformed) to the will of God.

From Jericho to Jerusalem

Take a minute to read the story of the two blind men whom Jesus healed on His final trip to Jerusalem (Matthew 20:29-34). There is a remarkable beauty in this story, and if we are not careful we will miss it. Was it Matthew's intention to record just one more miracle among so many others? Why this one? Why here in a passage that has just focused our attention on the pending "cup" that Jesus must drink? Let me take a minute and set the stage for this miracle. Before we look at the men, let's take a look at our King. Keep in mind that He was headed to Jerusalem to suffer and die. Around Him were the disciples, faithful, yet lacking in understanding of all that was occurring, but still loyal. We see the "great multitude" that followed Him; all making their way toward the Holy City for the triumphant entry in a few short weeks. Along the way they encounter these two blind men. These men are sitting by the way! Sitting, begging, listening, hoping. How long had they been blind? How long had they been dependent upon others for the crumbs that might be thrown their way? Matthew does not tell us; he only tells us that when they were aware that Jesus was drawing nigh, they cried out. Yet in their desperation, the multitude rebuked them. The more these two men cried, the more the crowd rebuked them; and the blind men cried all the more: "Lord, have mercy on us, thou son of David" (vs. 30-31). How easy it would have been for Jesus to pass by these two men, consumed in His own thoughts, with His face toward Jerusalem. Instead, Jesus stops, "and stood still, and called them" (vs. 32). I do not think this miracle was placed here arbitrarily. In this moment of compassion our Lord, our King if you will, corrected the false notion that the disciples had of the Kingdom. He also corrected their mistaken idea of what true greatness is in that Kingdom. True greatness is not found in some administrative position in some great corporation. It is not honor bestowed because of some special ability or achievement for which you are recognized. Dear reader, if you want to see what true greatness is, spend some time on this little road outside of Jericho, and watch a King stop in the midst of His busy schedule, and demonstrate true compassion to two men who were in great need.

What about us? In our busy schedule, with errands to run, schedules to keep, and meetings to attend, how do we compare to our King; a King Who never forgot the importance of caring for others?

Imagine now yourself on that Jericho Road, with a busy day, and an even more busy week before you. And now you come across two beggars; not

indigents, not lazy bums, but two men in genuine need. What do you do? The late Roy Orbison produced a holiday melody many years ago that touched the hearts of so many. I want to lift one stanza out of that song for your consideration.

Should you stop? Better not, much too busy! You're in a hurry, my how time does fly. In the distance the ringing of laughter, And in the midst of the laughter he cries!

If we are not careful we will read the story of these two blind men and view it as just one more miracle. But when we take the story in its context, what an amazing portrait of our Lord emerges on the canvas of life for our serious and sobering consideration.

Uninvolved Church Members

Someone once called a preacher to say he wanted to become a member. But, he went on to explain that he did not want to worship every week, study the Bible, visit the sick, serve as a teacher, or do personal work or be active in other works.

The minister commended him for his desire to be a member, but told him the church he sought was located in another section of town. The man took the directions and hung up.

When he arrived at that address, the man came face-to-face with the logical result of his own apathetic attitude. There stood an abandoned church building, boarded up and ready for demolition..

Are YOU an uninvolved church member?

Who Am I?

I am a runaway slave of Philemon.

Paul called me a "faithful" brother.

Answer last week. **Uzziah**

Welcome to our Assembly. . .

Whether you are a first time visitor or a long time member of this congregation, we are happy to have you with us this morning. For those visiting, please make yourself comfortable. A good deal of information about this church and its activities can be found on this sheet. We encourage and invite anyone interested to participate in the activities offered throughout the week. If you have any questions about the facilities, our worship service, or want more information about the church, feel free to ask anyone present. Someone will be glad to help you!