



"This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast" - Hebrews 6:19

Welcome! We're glad you are here!

Sunday - April 9, 2023

Scriptural Authority

by Troy Spradlin

There is one principle that stands above all others when it comes to everything pertaining to religion: Scriptural Authority. Quite frankly, nothing else is more important. The observance, or neglect, of this fundamental principle is where and why there are so many different beliefs, various "interpretations," and doctrinal differences, which has resulted in all the different denominations. When it comes to Scriptural Authority in the religious world, there are many examples of how people will circumvent divine directives, completely ignoring the will of God, and find ways to eliminate any accountability to the standards presented in the Bible. This is exactly why the word "authority" is used in connection with Scripture. It means that there are established parameters one must follow for any spiritual activity pertaining to the church Jesus established. There is a specific way of doing things, there are certain elements required, or prohibited within that activity, and there is only one acceptable guide for instruction in the matter.



Choose whatever "hot" topic you prefer, whether it be infant baptism, partaking of the Lord's Supper every Sunday, use of instruments in worship, a woman's part in worship, or any number of doctrinal teachings, and you will find that they all come down to the fundamental principal of Scriptural Authority. It does not matter how one feels about the topic, nor does it matter what one thinks about the subject. Neither does it matter if the situation is considered outdated, or culturally irrelevant to our society. If there is a command to do something that applies to all disciples of all time, then there is nothing more to discuss - Biblical Authority takes precedent.

Perhaps, the most unfortunate and common abuse of Scriptural Authority is the manipulation of the Bible itself to make it seem to support some erroneous practice. This is called proof texting, pretexting, and/or eisegesis, also known as, "twisting the Scriptures," to be more blunt (cf. 2 Peter 3:16). It is the practice of taking verses out of their context and/or reading more into the verse than what it says. In order to avoid that faulty approach, all one needs to do is read the verses all around the verse in question and then consider any literary, historical, or linguistic context (all easy to find in dictionaries, lexicons and word study guides). Such diligence is called "reading distinctly" and "giving the sense" (cf. Neh 8:8), or "rightly dividing the word of God" (2 Tim 2:15). A good example is seen in the Bereans, who "were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so." (Acts 17:11) There is no excuse for mishandling the Bible.

But how do we know what applies to us today and what doesn't? After all, the Bible was written more than 2000 years ago. The answer is quite simple. We first determine if there is a direct command applied to the doctrine. For example, the command to repent is for "all men" (Acts 17:30) which applies directly to us today. If there is no command, then we look for examples within the Scriptures to guide us. For instance, there is no command to take the Lord's Supper every Sunday, but we do have an example of the disciples doing just that in Acts 20:7. Then, if we have neither of those, we sometimes (not always) find the answer in "necessary inference." To illustrate, Acts 8:35-36 says Phillip "began to preach Jesus to him," then the eunuch asked to be baptized. We can infer from the text that baptism must be part of "preaching Jesus." These are the three methods used to determine what falls under Scriptural Authority. It provides us with affirmation, or prohibition to any religious, doctrinal activity.

Lastly, there are some instances where no command, example or inference is involved, or available. This often means that the subject becomes a "matter of opinion." Yet still, if we will search the principles found in book, chapter and verse, it will guide us in all things spiritual (2 Peter 1:3). Let's do things God's way, because His way works best!

6745 Margaret Street / margarst@bellsouth.net / 850.623.8191
www.margaretstreetchurchofchrist.org

YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

YG BIRTHDAY NIGHT

Wed. April 12

5 pm in the FH



SNAC SUNDAY NIGHT AFTER CHURCH April 16 | Spradlin's

2023 Camp Dates

Teen Week (6-12 grades):
June 11 - 16

Jr. Week (1-5 grades):
June 25 - 29

Early Bird Registration
Deadline: April 15



Jr. Week Volunteers

Any parent or adult wishing to attend Junior Week as a Counselor, or High School student as a Junior Counselor, please see Casey to get your name on the list.

Junior Week is June 25 - 29.

There will be a preliminary staff meeting on April 30th @ the Spanish Fort church from 3 - 6 pm. Dinner will be provided.



Graduation Banquet

Sunday, May 21st

Informational Meeting - April 26th



L2L BANQUET

Saturday, April 22nd

Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM



Gulf Coast Area Wide @ Spanish Fort

April 23

Small Groups @ 3:30, Worship @ 4:30, Meal @ 5:30

Bus will depart @ 2:15 & return at 7:15



BIBLE TIME

April 23rd

WITH KIDS!



"How can a young man keep his way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; let me not wander from your commandments! I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you. Blessed are you, O Lord; teach me your statutes! With my lips I declare all the rules of your mouth. In the way of your testimonies I delight as much as in all riches. I will meditate on your precepts and fix my eyes on your ways. I will delight in your statutes; I will not forget your word." - Psalm 119:9-1

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER LIST

Special

- Patricia Ann* - prayers, health (MZL)
- Janice Carter* - tests, waiting on results
- Cannon family* - birth of Cole
- Josie Coons - hospice (McReynolds*)
- Mason Chandler* - loss of grandmother
- Annie Godwin-No harness! Praise God!
- Lauren Kreis (Martin family) - prayers
- Linda Loftin and family - loss of Jim*
- Eddie Longmire* - loss of brother, Sam
- Donald McGriff* - surgery/recovery
- Collin Mense - health (Pat Mense*)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - great news!
- Greg Smith* family - loss of foster son
- Springer family-loss of Kayla (Scenic Hills)
- Laurie Taylor* - shingles, recovery
- Andrea Wilson* - knee surgery, recovery

2023 Recently Baptized / Restored / Identified

- Brittany Parker* - Baptized
- Dawson Hitchcock - Baptized
- Olivia Gingerich - Baptized
- Lanie Scott* - Baptized
- Laura Oliver*- Identified

Mission Works

- Shanahans* - Mission Italy
- Eliezer Perez - San Lorenzo, Paraguay
- Trevor Smoot - Domestic Missions
- Sebastain Garcia - Brazil
- SRC Correctional Institute - Paul Discher

Students in College

- Seth Crider • Caleb Owens
- Stephen English • Nick Webb
- Caitlyn Frizzell • Reed Wilson
- Jackson Lash • Lexi Wildes

Other Requests / Health Issues

- Gerry Baldwin - health (J.Pace sister)
- Sharon Ates - srecovery (Gallagher*)
- Bob Black - health (Lipford*)
- John & Gale Broadfoot - health (past member)
- Winston Burnham* - health
- Sherryn Canniff*- health, pain
- WillieMae Cosby - heath, recovery (McGriff*)
- Sherry Davis* - health
- Fatima Deem- pregnant, problems (Nunes)
- Keturah Dickey - MS (K. Longmire*)
- Laura Elliot - (S. Lee* mom)
- Madeline Farley* - broken wrist, recovery
- Myrna Fuller* - pulmonary fibrosis
- Steve Fulton - pain, health difficulties
- Dixie Gorham
- Daphne Hamilton - surgeries, health
- Edwina Harris - health (J.Pace sister)
- Barbara Helms*- health
- Chris Hollis - (McGriff)
- Kenna Jackson - (Kristina P's* friend)
- Marcia Jones - (Kenya's* friend)
- Yvonne Loomis - prayers, health (Nunes*)
- Cindy Marotta - paralyzed (Nunes*)
- Vicente Martinez - kidney transplant
- Richard McCool* - heart attack, recovery
- Mary McGriff* - health, asthma
- Ron Miller- esophagus infection (Ina Ruth*)
- Jeffery Norman - lung transplant list (Nunes*)
- Ella Parker* - health
- Patsy Prince - (Burnham*)
- Otis & Eleanor Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Kara Ritchie - blood disorder (M.Scott*)
- Glenn Rose - heart problems (Garcia*)
- August Eugene Smith -cleft palate (J.English*)
- Zyler Thompson - rescheduled surgery
- Julia Torpey* - health
- Gloria Vonada*
- Jan Whitney*

Military

- Nick Bartell - Ft. Walton Beach
- John Bartell - Washington, DC
- Spencer Gable-New London, Groton, CT
- Amya Huey* - Italy
- Ni Mack - Kentucky
- Byron Solomon - San Diego

Cancer

- Kandi Armand - (Bostwick*)
- Justin Barnhart - former member
- Ron Bartanen* - cancer
- Darlene Baxley* -spread to her spine (Baxley*)
- Misty Bray* - (Bird*)
- Mark Carlson - (C.Davis*)
- Tish Clark - surgery (Hatcher*)
- Pat Deforest*
- Brenda Dunham - (J.English*)
- Eddie English - (R.English*)
- Timothy Ezzell - former member
- Chris Hendrix - (Baxley*)
- Ricky Jenning - (McGriff*)
- Lisa (Dixon) Johnson - (McGriff*)
- Tierney Lancaster - rare blood (Baxley*)
- Marie and Jeff Lorentz - (J. Bartell*)
- Peter Machon - (Torpey*)
- Darrel Mason - (D.Hill*)
- Keith Pabst - (Webb*)
- Karen Parker - (Spradlin* friend)
- Karen Pollit - (Gallagher*)
- Megan Sanders - brain cancer (Blisse*)
- Kevin Shanahan - operation (Scott's* dad)
- Al Sherdan - bladder/prostatic cancer (Coen)
- Brooks Ann Singley* - good news!
- Mary Lee Smith - (McGriff*)
- Marlene Smith - (Fulton*)
- Donnie Turner- cancer (Helms*)
- Reynold Voeltz - (Boughton's friend)
- David Walther - brain (English*)
- Kellie (Wiggins) Ward - (former mem.)
- Daisy Jean Williams - (J.Pace)

Assisted Living / Shut-Ins / Rehab

- Sherryn Canniff - homebound
- Donna Dudley-Life Care Center (S. Davis*)
- Annie Favorite - Haven (Mary Lou's mom)
- Bobbie Garcia* - Arcadia Senior Living
- Betty Lee - homebound (D. Lee's mom*)
- Linda Mann* - Shut In
- Ina Ruth Miller*- Grandview Retire Center
- Ruth Phillips*- Shut In
- Jim Pitts - Daphne, AL
- Lillian Raines* - Victorian Manor
- Mary Salinas* - Victorian Manor
- Faye Smith (Jeanna's mom) - Shut In
- Troy Vonada* - Sodalis House, Hospice



SERVING WITH HONOR

SUNDAY, APRIL 9

MORNING

Opening Prayer Jake Newcomb
 Song Director Paul Lipford
 Sermon Troy Spradlin
 "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be!"
 Scripture Reading Matthew Henry
 Revelation 4:1-11
 Closing Prayer Rick Bird

Serving Communion:

Comments Richard McCool
 Brody Crider Luke McReynolds
 Dakota Boughton Gabriel Lee
 Trevor Bostwick

EVENING

Opening Prayer Mike Scott
 Singing Jake Armstrong
 Scripture Darrell Bozeman
 Acts 2:40-47
 Comments Richard McCool

Worship Service and Preparation:

Communion Prep Fisher family
 PowerPoint Brooks Singley
 Greeters: John Pace
 Secure Building Troy Spradlin

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Song Director David English
 Opening Prayer Rick Martin

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT:

Sunday Bible Class 159
 AM Worship 205
 PM Worship 143
 Wed. Night Bible Class 136
 Contribution \$10,905

TIMES OF SERVICES:

Sunday AM Bible Class 9:00 am
 Sunday AM Worship 10:00 am
 Sunday PM Classes, Worship ... 6:00 pm
 Wednesday PM Bible Class 6:30 pm

Visitors:

Thank you for coming!
You are our honored guest!

For more information about the church, spiritual topics, our classes, and activities, there is a tract rack at the entrance of the auditorium for your convenience.

Or, ask any member for assistance.

Please take a moment to fill out a visitors card, or sign our guest book so that we might have a record of your attendance. Thank you!

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

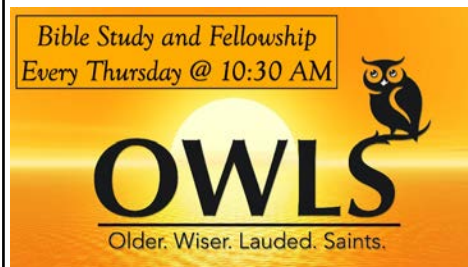
ADMINISTRATION

- Deadline for all bulletin items is Thursday, by noon.



EDUCATION

- Adult and Children Bible classes available on Sundays @ 9 AM and Wednesdays @ 6:30 PM.
- Willing to teach? See Chris Davis!



WORSHIP

- Service Rosters are available on the Welcome Desk and Margaret Street website (listed under "Archives")
- "LISTEN" devices available in the foyer, located in the Armoire.

<WiFi Password posted in Foyer>



Scan this QR Code to open webpage for online giving

STAFF

Troy Spradlin Preacher / Minister
 cell: 850-910-2868
 spradlin.troy@gmail.com
Casey Bearden Family Minister
 cell: 706-889-3222
 caseybearden@live.com
Blisse Hatcher Church Secretary
 cell: 850-625-8911
 margarstcoc@gmail.com
Scott Shanahan Missionary
 cell: 865-443-9856
 scottshanahan@hotmail.com
Trevor Smoot Domestic Missionary
 cell: 937-417-4297
 smooterii@outlook.com

ELDERS

Rick Bird 994-3148
 bird1plus3@icloud.com
Phillip Webb 232-7431
 pw_webb@hotmail.com
Joe Wilson 206-8350
 jaw@wilsonharrell.com

CONTACT FOR APRIL:

Primary..... Joe Wilson
 Secondary Phillip Webb

DEACONS* & MINISTRIES

Administration Troy Spradlin
 Benevolence..... Dennis Maduell
 Building & Grounds Paul Lipford*
 Education Chris Davis*
 Evangelism Troy Spradlin
 Finance
 Fellowship Jeff Scott*
 OWLS Stephen Fulton
 Involvement Joe Taylor*
 Lads to Leaders David English
 Missions Mike Scott*
 Visitation Bob Locklin
 Youth & Family Casey Bearden
 Worship Blake Hatcher*