



THE FOREST HILL NEWS

Volume 43

December 20, 2016

Number 51

Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Anthony D. Callahan
Warren Davenport
Gregory D. Mangrum
Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister

Ministers:

Barry M. Grider,
Pulpit Evangelist
Matthew Jones,
Personal Evangelist
Jordan Pugh, Youth

Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship.... 10:30 A.M.
Afternoon Worship.... 1:30 P.M.

Wednesday:

Bible Study 7:00 P.M.

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2016 – What A Year!

The big news this particular year has been the race to succeed Barak Obama as president of the United States. Would it be former Secretary of State, United States Senator, and First Lady Hillary Clinton or billionaire businessman Donald Trump? On November 8, Mr. Trump secured the necessary electoral votes to win the election and on January 20, 2017 he will be sworn in as our 45th president. Of course, the election of Trump has many elated and others very dismayed. It seems we are a very divided nation politically at this time. As Christians what can we do to help our country move forward in this new year.

First let us pray for our leaders. I trust that our readers have prayed consistently for President Obama and, likewise, will pray for President Trump. Paul wrote, “I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty” (1 Tim. 2:1,2). The cause of Christ always prospers best when the word of the Lord has free course (2 Thess. 3:1). Let us remember to pray for all those who make decisions in the various branches of government, including national, state, and local officials and all those who sit in counsel with them. May their decisions particularly secure our religious liberty that will ensure our ability to continue publishing the good news of Jesus without fear of civil authorities persecuting us.

Second, let us preach to our nation. Isaiah implored on behalf of the Almighty, “Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and show my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins” (Isa. 58:1). There is much good in our nation but there is also much evil. Lying, stealing, killing, and sexual immorality is rampant. The gospel is the cure for what ails America and the entire world. May we be unashamed to preach it consistently and forcefully (Rom. 1:16).

Third, let us practice our religion. Jesus said,

Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven (Mat. 5:14-16).

Our message to others will fall on deaf ears if we do not live in harmony with that which we claim to believe. Let us resolve in our hearts to be more faithful and zealous on behalf of our Lord’s cause in 2017 than we have been in the past. We have been blessed abundantly and have such good news to share. Hence, let us go forward with much optimism and hope!

This is the last bulletin of 2016. May you and your family have a wonderful holiday season and a blessed new year!

Barry

The Throne of David

Keith A. Mosher, Sr.

A popular tenet of premillennialists is that Jesus will return to this earth one day and sit on David's restored throne in the city of Jerusalem. The restoration of Israel to a supposed former earthly power is basic to premillennialism. Inherent in any restoration of Israel to prominence among the nations is the view that Christ must sit on a literal, material throne in Zion. This view has no basis in the Bible. This view is false.

The term, throne, can be defined as government, rule, or authority as used in the Bible.¹ According to the Bible, there *is* a time when Christ *will* sit on David's throne. Why David's throne? Because he was a king (2 Sam. 5:4-5). Because of the promise that God made to David concerning his throne (2 Sam. 7:12ff). Because David ruled God's people and Christ was promised as the ruler of God's people (Isa. 9:6-7).

Why the Throne in Jerusalem?

The first question that needs to be answered is, "Why was David's throne established in Jerusalem?" David was chosen by God to succeed the first king, Saul, who failed to obey God in the matter of the Amalekites (1 Sam. 15). God appointed Samuel the prophet to anoint the successor of Saul (1 Sam. 16:13). David did not ascend to the throne of Israel until after Saul's death and until after the elders of Israel anointed him king at Hebron (2 Sam. 5:2-3). David reigned seven years and six months in Hebron (2 Sam. 5:5). He then conquered Jerusalem and established his throne in that city (2 Sam. 5:9). He would rule in Jerusalem for thirty-three years (2 Sam. 5:5). Saul had reigned for forty years beginning about 1095 B.C. About 1055 B.C. David began to rule in Hebron and ended his reign in 1015 B.C. in Jerusalem (1 Kg. 2:12). "Then Solomon sat on the throne of the Lord as king instead of David his father, and prospered... (1 Chr. 29:23). Note: the throne of David is here called "the throne of the Lord." Solomon sat on "David's throne" and Solomon sat on "the throne of the Lord." Was Solomon sitting on two different thrones? Premillennialists argue that Christ is sitting on His own throne at present, but that He has not yet sat on David's throne! Others sat on this throne, with Zedekiah being the last on earth (2 Kg. 25:1-7). After that, 600 years passed with no one on the throne until Christ came to earth to save man (Lk. 1:30-33; Heb. 2:9).

On What Throne Does Christ Now Sit?

The next question that needs to be asked is, "Where is Christ right now?" "And when thy days be fulfilled and thou shalt sleep with thy fathers, I will set up thy seed after thee, which shall proceed out of thy bowels, and I will establish his throne forever. He shall build an house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever... And thine house and thy kingdom shall be established forever before thee; thy throne shall be established forever. According to all these words, and according to all this vision, so did Nathan speak unto David" (2 Sam. 7:12-13, 16-17). Of whom is the prophet speaking? Peter, the apostle of Christ, emphatically stated that Christ was the fulfillment of the vision (Acts 2:30). Peter said that Christ was on the throne as he (Peter) spoke (Acts 2:32-36). Peter made this statement in A.D. 33. Since no Bible verse indicates that Christ has left that throne

one can correctly infer that the Lord is still there. According to premillennialism, Christ will reign *with* His saints for 1,000 years on earth. According to the Bible, when Christ is on His throne, David will be in his grave (2 Sam. 7:12). Premillennialists thus consign David to hell for they believe and teach that the righteous will be on earth with Christ and the wicked will be in their graves.²

Three Thrones Equal One Throne

A third question that needs to be asked is, "Are God's throne, Christ's throne, and David's throne all the same?" Solomon sat on David's throne (1 Kg. 2:12). But, according to 1 Chronicles 29:23 this was "the throne of the Lord." The same throne that is called Solomon's is the throne of the kingdom of Israel (1 Kg. 1:37, 46-47). Christ is "the seed of David." "Which He had promised before by His prophets in the holy scriptures; Concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, which was made of the seed of David according to the flesh" (Rom. 1:2-3; see also Acts 13:33). God gave David's throne to Christ (Lk. 1:30-33). Christ's throne is God's throne (Rev. 3:21). Therefore, God's throne, Christ's throne, and David's throne are the same.

From Earth to Heaven

A fourth question that needs to be asked is, "Where did God assign David's throne eternally?" The psalmist wrote, "I have made a covenant with My chosen, I have sworn unto David My servant, Thy seed will I establish forever, and build up thy throne to all generations... My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of My lips. Once have I sworn by My holiness that I will not lie unto David. His seed shall endure forever, and his throne as the sun before me. It shall be established forever as the moon, and as a faithful witness in heaven" (Ps. 89:3-4, 34-37). The answer to our query is clear. God said that David's throne would be for his "seed" (Christ, see above under the third question) forever and would be a faithful witness, not on earth, but *in heaven*. God said further that He would *not alter* that promise. There will not be a time when Christ will sit on some imaginary throne in Jerusalem. He was exalted above the angels (Heb. 1:13; Ps. 110:1). He was resurrected to sit at the right hand of God (Ps. 16:8-10; Acts 2:25-36). If Christ is not the fulfillment of the prophetic statements in Psalms 16 and 89, there was no need for His resurrection. He might as well have stayed in the grave until His second coming to be given His throne in Jerusalem as premillennialists teach!

¹ *Webster's Seventh Collegiate Dictionary* and W.E. Vine, *Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words* (Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1966), pg. 134.

² W.E. Blackwood, *Jesus Is Coming* (Ole Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Company, 1932), pp. 99-100.

LORD'S TABLE

PRESIDE:	Cedric Huff	Greg Mangrum
ASSIST:	Jack Braddock	Paul Davenport
	Lewis Elliot	Cason Grider
	Jagger House	Edison Ray

PRAYERS

A.M. OPENING: Harold Mangrum
A.M. CLOSING: Robert Berch

If you are unable to lead prayer or serve at the Lord's table, please contact Cedric Huff or Paul Connell.

RECORD, WEEK of December 18, 2016

BIBLE STUDY:	205
A.M. WORSHIP:	285
P.M. WORSHIP:	180
CONTRIBUTON:	\$17,681

OUR SICK

Beth Billings, home recovering from surgery.
Allan Hart is experiencing complications with his recovery.
Avis Terry, Baptist Hospital Collierville.
Pati Wright, home recovering from eye surgery.
Irene Taylor, wife of evangelist Robert R Taylor, Jr., Lauderdale Community Hospital, Ripley, TN. Cards may be sent to: PO Box 464, Ripley, TN 38063.

HOMEBOUND

Bessie Berry	Albert & Ruth House
Ann Castleman	Clarine Justice
Virginia Ditto	Ryan McCullar
Hazel Eskew	Helen Palazola
Tommy & Nell Herndon	Jerry & Betty Robbins
Anita Hopper	James Terry

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO Rose Crayton, wife of MSOP graduate, Todd Crayton, in the unexpected passing of her brother on Friday which was immediately followed by the passing of her mother on Sunday. The funeral service for both will be conducted Saturday, December 24 in Greensboro, AL.

KIRBY PINES Retirement Community worship service each fourth Sunday 8:00-8:45 a.m., conducted by Forest Hill. Our next service will be Sunday, December 25.

LEGACY ESTATES worship service each Sunday afternoon 3:00 p.m. conducted by Forest Hill.

The church office will be closed Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2.

HEARTS & HANDS

There will be no assignments for the weeks of December 25 & January 1.

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEDNESDAY EVENING December 28 - Everyone will meet in the auditorium for singing and a devotional.

TUESDAY MORNING LADIES' and MEN'S CLASSES will resume January 10, 2017.

YOUTH NEW YEAR CELEBRATION at the home of Keith & Annette McAlister, Sunday, January 1 beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending at 10:00 a.m. Monday morning. Please bring finger foods and desserts.

58th ANNIVERSARY of the Knight Arnold/Forest Hill congregation Sunday, January 8. Come worship with us for this anniversary and "Homecoming" and stay for a fellowship meal after the morning service. **ZONE 5** is responsible for set-up and clean-up. **ZONE 6** is responsible for supplying drinks and set-up, serve and clean-up the drink area.

NEW SERMON SERIES beginning Sunday, January 8. Brother Grider will preach a series of messages during the afternoon service centered on the theme, "In God's House."

ELDERS, DEACONS & PREACHERS PLANNING SESSION Saturday, January 21 at 8:30 a.m. in the fellowship hall.

INFORMATION LINE: 901-531-8849

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!

Last week's solution:
For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:7-8

CORNERSTONE
 Unscramble the letters in each word below to reveal the passage of scripture.

KTW, KFOZUG, KF BZW CSBZNPBW ZD WACM ZBF WACBS, WAPW ZBF GPJ CM LCWA WAF OZNG PM P WAZTMPBG JFPNM, PBG P WAZTMPBG JFPNM PM ZBF GPJ. WAF OZNG CM BZW MOPQV QZBQFNBCBS ACM YNZICMF, PM MZIF IFB QZTBW MOPQVBFMM; KTW CM OZBSMTDDFNCBS WZ TM-LPNG, BZW LCOOCBS WAPW PBJ MAZTOG YFNCMA, KTW WAPW POO MAZTOG QZIF WZ NFYFBWPBQF.

P = F Solution next week G = H

January 2017

Coordinating Elder: Greg Mangrum

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>Elise Barnes</i> <i>Lisa Hinton</i>	3 <i>Jimmy Gantt</i>	4 <i>Jordyn Graves</i> <i>Chris Massey</i>	5	6 <i>Diane Ray</i> <i>Caroline Dawson</i> <i>Kevin Knipple</i> <i>R J Tracy</i>	7
8 <i>Gerald Brown, Sr</i> <i>Caleb Rutherford</i>	9 <i>Anita Hopper</i>	10	11 <i>Francis Fairley</i>	12 <i>Betty Robbins</i>	13	14 <i>Paul Davenport</i> <i>Kathy Maund</i>
15	16 <i>Randy Elliott</i>	17	18	19 <i>Dale Neil</i>	20 <i>Leah Connell</i> <i>Greer Mangrum</i>	21 <i>Grant Bancroft</i> <i>Aaron Ownbey</i>
22 <i>Avis Terry</i>	23	24 <i>Andy Ammons</i>	25 <i>Robert Berch</i> <i>Doris Cooper</i> <i>Connie Streiber</i>	26 <i>Margie Holliday</i> <i>Kadie Summitt</i>	27 <i>Natasha Rose</i> <i>Sarah Ray</i>	28 <i>Lisa Jeter</i>
29 <i>Sue Glass</i>	30 <i>Kathleen Beard</i>	31 <i>Bonnie Gordon</i>				

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