



THE FOREST HILL

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Forest Hill Church of Christ

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Danny Braddock Jr.
Anthony D. Callahan
Warren Davenport
Gregory D. Mangrum
Harold D. Mangrum
Keith B. McAlister
Eddie F. Ray III

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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Apostolic Authority (cont.) Darrell Conley

The Bible indicates that the authority of an apostle was not always exercised in an innocuous way. When Elymas on the isle of Cyprus withstood Paul and Barnabas, we are told,

But Saul, who is also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, fastened his eyes on him, and said, O full of all guile and all villany, thou son of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand (Acts 13:9-11).

This was done by the power and authority of an apostle. Paul also indicates that he as an apostle has the power and authority to physically punish those apostate Christians who are unrepentant.

What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love and a spirit of gentleness? (1 Cor. 4:21).

For I fear, lest by any means, when I come, I should find you not such as I would, and should myself be found of you such as ye would not (2 Cor. 12:20).

If I come again, I will not spare; seeing that ye seek a proof of Christ that speaketh in me (2 Cor. 13:2-3).

For this cause I write these things while absent, that I may not when present deal sharply, according to the authority which the Lord gave me for building up, and not for casting down (2 Cor. 13:10).

It is plain that Paul is talking about more than just chiding them. He has authority as an apostle of Christ that those who are not apostles do not have.

The Authority Of An Apostle Was Limited

The Bible is also clear that an apostle could not do or say just anything. His authority was limited. Being an apostle did not keep one from sinning. On one occasion Peter sinned when he played the hypocrite by separating himself from the Gentiles when some came from the Jerusalem church. Paul said, "But when Cephas came to Antioch, I resisted him to the face, because he stood condemned" (Gal. 2:11).

The manner in which an apostle exercised his authority was also important.

And Jesus called them to him, and saith unto them, Ye know that they who are accounted to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them; and their great ones exercise authority over them. But it is not so among you: but whosoever would become great among you, shall be your minister; and whosoever would be first among you, shall be servant of all. For the

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Son of man also came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many (Mark 10:42-45).

Christ had all authority. He said, "All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth" (Matt. 28:18). Yet He came as the greatest servant of all. In the exercise of His authority, He showed humility and a sincere concern for others. He even washed the feet of His disciples, as an example of how they should behave.

Ye call me, Teacher, and, Lord: and ye say well; for so I am. If I then, the Lord and the Teacher, have washed your feet, ye also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that ye also should do as I have done to you. Verily, verily, I say unto you, a servant is not greater than his lord; neither one that is sent greater than he that sent him (John 13:13-16).

The Greek word for "one that is sent" is the same one translated elsewhere as "apostle." An apostle was not greater than Christ. If Christ was humble, and did not act like a dictator in the exercise of His authority, so should the apostles be.

Apostolic Authority Was Delegated To Them By Christ

The apostles were not to "lord it over" others. There is only "one Lord," (Eph. 4:5). Paul rejected that he had a claim to lordship. "Not that we have lordship over your faith, but are helpers of your joy: for in faith ye stand fast" (2 Cor. 1:24). But the fact that the apostles were to be humble and not "lord it over" others, did not mean that they had no authority. Their authority was derived from Jesus Christ. As we have already seen, He had all authority. "All authority hath been given unto me in heaven and on earth" (Matt. 28:18). Therefore, any authority whatever that one may possess in Christianity is derived from Him. It is only authority that has been delegated.

Remember the word that I said unto you, A servant is not greater than his lord. If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also (John 15:20).

This authority was given to the apostles through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus therefore said to them again, Peace be unto you: as the Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Spirit: whose soever sins ye forgive, they are forgiven unto them; whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained (John 20:21-23).

He said this in anticipation of the Holy Spirit which was to descend upon them ten days after His ascension, to inspire them and enable them to do His work. They did not actually receive the Holy Spirit and this authority until then. "But ye shall receive power, when the Holy Spirit is come upon you" (Acts 1:8). They forgave sins and retained sins through what they taught, which was in turn inspired by the Holy Spirit.

Today Apostolic Authority Dwells In the New Testament

We can rely on the New Testament and its authority, because behind it we have the authority of the apostles; and behind it is the authority of Christ. This authority, which dwelt in the words of the apostles, came through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit sent upon them by Jesus Christ.

But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you (John 14:26).

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you unto all the truth: for he shall not speak from himself; but what things soever he shall hear, these shall he speak: and he shall declare unto you the things that are to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine, and shall declare it unto you. All things whatsoever the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he taketh of mine, and shall declare it unto you (John 16:12-15).

From these important passages, we learn many vital things. First, it is the apostles to whom this promise is made. They were the only ones present in that upper room and He was speaking only to them. It is a misunderstanding of this passage to take it out of its context and apply this promise to us today. For instance, He does not promise to bring to our remembrance all that He has said to us. He has not said anything to us directly, but He had to those to whom He was speaking.

Second, we learn He promises to His apostles the Comforter, that is, the Holy Spirit. The word "Comforter" is in the Greek, *parakletos*. Vine says it literally means,

called to one's side, i.e., to one's aid, it is primarily a verbal adjective, and suggests the capability or adaptability for giving aid. It was used in a court of justice to denote a legal assistant, counsel for the defence, and advocate....⁴

A better translation might have been "Counselor," since it
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PRESIDE: Robert Berch Danny Braddock
ASSIST: Wade Braddock John Connell
 Raymond Pipkin Edison Ray
 David Richardson Lyle Summitt

A.M. OPENING: Rufus Washington
A.M. CLOSING: Paul Connell
P.M. OPENING: Chris Weight
P.M. CLOSING: Sam Rickles

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

RECORD, WEEK of September 30, 2018

BIBLE STUDY: 186
 A.M. WORSHIP: 275
 P.M. WORSHIP: 176
 CONTRIBUTION: \$17,276.00

HOMEBOUND

Virginia Ditto Betty Jones
 Doris Jean Cole Jerry & Betty Robbins
 Anita Hopper Velton & Dorothy Trimm
 Albert & Ruth House

OUR SICK

Ill at home: Patsy DeShields, Martha McKelvey, and Rebekah Nichols.
Lisa Howard, will be undergoing radiation treatments.
Betty Jones, Ave Maria Home Care, Bartlett.
Carol Stover, sister of Helen Sharp will have shoulder replacement surgery on Tuesday, October 2.

HEARTS AND HANDS

TEAM "A" (C.J. STAFFORD) will meet at the home of C.J. and Lindsay Stafford on Saturday, October 6 at 5:00 p.m. for a covered dish meal.

TEAM "B" (IRWIN THOMAS) will receive assignment cards October 7.

EVENTS

LADIES' AND MEN'S CLASSES will not meet until further notice.

YOUTH RETREAT October 12-14. Price is \$30 per person or \$50 for 2 from the same family. Please make checks payable to Forest Hill Church of Christ and give to Keith McAlister.

TN CHILDREN'S HOME FALL FOOD DRIVE will continue through October 14. Please see the list of items on the bulletin board.

2ND ANNUAL JC'S CAMP OUT Friday, October 19 at the home of Kalon and Melissa Brown. Details forthcoming.

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, October 28.

OUR SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO the family of Hazel Eskew. Her funeral service was Saturday.

Tom Wacaster, Jr. and Janice Schluter would like to invite the Forest Hill congregation to join us in the celebration of 50 years of marriage of our parents, Tom and Johnnie Ann Wacaster on Sunday, October 14 at 3:00 p.m. following the afternoon service. Come and go; no gifts necessary.

PLEASE CHECK YOUR BOX!

Wear a Pretty Dress and Some Fancy Pearls

It's a
Tea Party
 For the Girls*

Saturday	October 6	11:00 AM
	Forest Hill Fellowship Hall	

Kindly RSVP to
 Mallory Manning, Leah Connell
 or Christine Hart
by September 30, 2018

*Ages 3 to 5th Grade / Please Bring a Guest

Last week's solution:
Every way of a man is right in his own eyes: but the Lord pondereth the hearts. To do justice and judgment is more acceptable to the Lord than sacrifice. Proverbs 21:2-3

CORNERSTONE

Bible Scramble: Unscramble the letters in each word to discover the passage.

TLE EHT WROD FO TSRIHC WLLED NI YUO YRLIHC NI LLA WSOMID; TNIHGCEA NDA SONNMIHGD A ENO TRONHEA NI SSPMLA NDA YSNMH NDA UTSRPLIA SSONG, SNNIIGG WTIH RGECA NI YURO TSRHEA OT EHT ROLD. NDA WVTSROHEEA EY OD NI WROD RO EEDD, OD LLA NI EHT NMEA FO EHT ROLD USSJE, VNIIGG TSNKHA OT OGD NDA EHT TRHFEA YB MIH.

obviously has reference to the function of the Holy Spirit as He inspired the apostles by teaching them all things and guiding them into all truth. The Holy Spirit was to be the same kind of *parakletos* Christ had been. "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter" (John 14:16). The Greek word translated "another" means another of the same kind, rather than a different kind. Christ had been their teacher and guide. So would the Holy Spirit teach and guide them into all truth.

Third, He would take the things Christ wanted them to know, and declare those things to them.

He shall glorify me: for he shall take of mine, and shall declare it unto you. All things whatsoever the Father hath are mine; therefore said I, that he taketh of mine, and shall declare it unto you (John 16:12-15).

That is revelation and inspiration.

But the Comforter, even the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said unto you (John 14:26).

The Holy Spirit would remind them of the things He had taught them while with them on earth, and also guide them into **all** truth, revealing to them things that He had not said while on earth.

I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he shall guide you into all the truth (John 16:12-13).

Not all that the Holy Spirit gave the apostles was **revelation**. Some of it they already knew. They needed to be reminded of some of it. But all of what they taught and wrote was **inspiration**. That has to do with the **words** they used. Paul speaks of these two operations in 1 Corinthians 2:12-13:

But we received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is from God; that we might know the things that were freely given to us of God. Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth; combining spiritual things with spiritual words.

The ability they received to **know** the things of God was **revelation**; the ability to **speak** the things of God was **inspiration**.

(continued next week)

(The Hub Of The Bible: Remaining True to Acts 2, Nineteenth Annual Southwest Lectures)

The Forest Hill News
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