



The following is an excerpt from one of the articles found in the ESV Study Bible produced by Crossway Publishing. This is an excellent summation of the Christian's approach to scripture. For the purposes of our newsletter I have broken up this article into three parts. First, we looked at general revelation, special revelation, inspiration, and inerrancy of scripture. Last month we looked into the clarity and the sufficiency of scripture. And in this last installment we'll finish the article by looking into Jesus' view of Scripture.

Jesus' View of Scripture

The most convincing reason to believe that the Bible is inspired, inerrant, clear, and sufficient is because this is what Jesus believed. His teaching assumed that the OT (Old Testament) was the authoritative Word of his Father: "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished" (Matt. 5:17-18). Jesus referred to dozens of OT persons and events and always treated OT history as historically accurate. He quoted from Genesis as his Father's Word when he said, "Have you not read that he who created them from the beginning made them male and female, and said, 'Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? So they are no longer two but one flesh. What therefore God has joined together, let not man separate" (Matt. 19:4-6). Jesus not only assumed that the creation story was true, he also freely quoted words from the OT narrator as words that God himself "said." It is not uncommon for Jesus' theological arguments to depend on the truthfulness of the OT account (Matt. 5:12; 11:23-24; 12:41-42; 24:37-39; Luke 4:25-27; 11:50-51; John 8:56-58). Jesus' view of the OT as the Word of God aligns with the way the OT regularly speaks of itself.

Jesus saw his entire life as a fulfillment of Scripture (Matt. 26:54; Mark 8:31). Throughout his life, Jesus used Scripture to resist temptation (Matt. 4:1-11) and to settle disputes (Matt. 19:1-12; 22:39; 27:46; Mark 7:1-13; Luke 10:25-26). At the end of his life, Jesus died quoting Scripture (cf. Matt. 27:46 with Ps. 22:1). On his resurrection day he explained Scripture at length on the Emmaus road and to his disciples in Jerusalem (Luke 24:13-17, 44-47). Conscious of his identity as God the Son, Jesus saw his teaching as no less divinely inspired than the OT. Jesus taught with an authority that distinguished him from other teachers of the law. He interpreted the law on his own authority rather than depending on rabbinic sources (Matt. 5:21-48). He described his teaching and the law as sharing the same permanence: "heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away" (Matt. 24:35, cf. Matt. 5:17-18; John 14:10, 24). Jesus viewed both the OT and his own teaching as the Word of God. The NT apostolic witness was a result of Jesus giving his disciples authority and power through the Holy Spirit to impart spiritual truths in writing no less than by word of mouth (Mark 3:13-19; John 16:12-14; Acts 26:16-18; 1 Cor. 2:12-13).

Jesus took Scripture to be the authoritative Word of God upon which he based his entire life. Those who follow Christ are called to treat Scripture (OT and NT together) in the same way. For Christians, the Bible is a source of great delight and joy. God is to be diligently sought in his Word (1 Pet. 2:2). The Word of God is a precious treasure that deserves to be studied, meditated upon, and obeyed:

My son, if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, then you will understand the fear of the LORD and find the knowledge of God (Prov. 2:1-5).

In His Service,
Ben

May 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	2	3 SERVICE & ACTION MEETING 1:00 PM VBS MEETING 5PM	4 LBS 9:30 DINNER 6:00PM CLASSES 6:30PM	5 WORSHIP MEETING 6:30PM	6	7
8 Mother's Day SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	9	10	11 DINNER 6:00PM CLASSES 6:30PM	12 ELDERS 6:00PM DEACONS 6:30PM BOARD 7:00PM	13	14 SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING 10:00-NOON
15 SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	16	17	18 DINNER 6:00PM CLASSES 6:30PM	19	20	21
22 SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	23 EDUCATION MEETING 6:00PM	24	25 DINNER 6:00PM CLASSES 6:30PM	26	27	28
29 SS 9:30AM WS 10:30AM	30 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	31				
						

LBS-LADIES BIBLE STUDY; SS-SUNDAY SCHOOL; WS-WORSHIP SERVICE

Serving In May

May 01

Meditation: Jim Jones
Servers: Brenda Gibson, *Iris Felix
 John Signorelli, Rebecca Cullen
Greeters: Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD
Nursery: Jessica Buxton, Sarah Skiles
Lord's Supper Prep: Jerry & Brenda Gibson
AV Booth: Isaiah Jordan/PP & Joe Price/Sound
Children's Church: Elisabeth White

May 08

Meditation: Jerry Gibson
Servers: Brenda Risner, Ruth Carson
 Tara Coffman, *Wanda Jones
Greeters: Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD
Nursery: Lindsie Sirmons, Meshell Pruitt
Lord's Supper Prep: Jerry & Brenda Gibson
AV Booth: Isaiah Jordan/PP & Joe Price/Sound
Children's Church: Don & Sarah Skiles

May 15

Meditation: Doug Dalton
Servers: Brenda Gibson, Iris Felix
 *John Signorelli, Rebecca Cullen
Greeters: Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD
Nursery: Christina Barnes, Sheena Ziemann
Lord's Supper Prep: Jerry & Brenda Gibson
AV Booth: Isaiah Jordan/PP & Joe Price/Sound
Children's Church: Jeremy & Jessica Buxton

May 22

Meditation: Jim Jones
Servers: Brenda Risner, Ruth Carson
 Tara Coffman, *Wanda Jones
Greeters: Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD
Nursery: Kristen Partin, Rebecca Cullen
Lord's Supper Prep: Jerry & Brenda Gibson
AV Booth: Isaiah Jordan/PP & Joe Price/Sound
Children's Church: Richard & Christina Barnes

May 29

Meditation: Randall Coffman
Servers: Brenda Risner, Ruth Carson
 Tara Coffman, *Wanda Jones
Greeters: Bob Clark/FD, John Signorelli/FHD
Nursery: Brenda Gibson, Jane Clark
Lord's Supper Prep: Jerry & Brenda Gibson
AV Booth: Isaiah Jordan/PP & Joe Price/Sound
Children's Church: Kristen Partin

In Our Prayers

Laurie Cullen -salvation/early onset Alzheimer's
 Bob Coulter - Parkinson's
 Cindy Ashwood
 Shaun Cecil
 Diana Williamson - cancer
 Larry Allen - heart
 Reba Stephens - health
 Charlotte McPherson
 Marcia Sharma - stomach cancer
 Nita Walker - health
 Andrea Matthews - heart problems
 Robert Ramer -experimental therapy
 Tammie Crowder - infection
 Sandy Farris - cancer
 Arnold Goucher - cancer
 Herb Lacey - liver cancer
 Linda Crandal - leukemia
 Billie Vaughn - Jerry's cousin

Periodically the Prayer List will be updated. If we remove someone that you still want on the list, please let us know and we will be glad to put them back on.

If you have a prayer need or know of any changes, please contact the church office.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

05/06 Jeff Dirickson
 05/06 Noah Cullen
 05/15 Amanda Coffman
 05/17 Jimmy Geigle
 05/22 Billy & Lee Surles



Sunday Services

Sunday School 9:30 am
 Worship Service 10:30 am

Wednesday Night

Dinner 6:00 pm
 Classes for all ages 6:30 pm

Secretary's Report

April 2016

Average Attendance	58.5
Average Visitors	8
Total Average Attendance	66.5
Total Offerings	\$9,079.00

Your Elders

Phil Carson, Randall Coffman, Doug Dalton,
 Gene Drechsler, Jerry Gibson, Jim Jones

Your Deacons

Crystal Crawford, Rebecca Cullen, Brenda Gibson
 Wanda Jones, Joe Price, Rick Weinkauff, Daniel White





OUR CHURCH HAS A NEW EMAIL ADDRESS
firstchristianaltus@fccaltus.com



JUNE 15, 16, 17



**THE
BIG
CATCH**



FATHER'S DAY
SUNDAY 19TH JUNE 2016

