

From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

Where Did You Come From?

Kevin W. Rhodes

Biblical genealogies rank among the least favorite portions of scripture for most people. Some biblical names prove difficult enough when appearing by themselves. However, when you place three or four in one verse and many of these verses back to back, with little narrative in between, reading the passage silently becomes trying and attempting to read it out loud makes a person feel like he has returned to elementary school. These problems often lead people to bypass these genealogies and so miss the underlying reasons why the Holy Spirit inspired their inclusion. The book of 1 Chronicles focuses on the reign of David in Israel; however, it opens with several chapters filled with genealogies. Why? The answer also explains why 1 and 2 Chronicles were written in the first place. Whereas the books of Samuel and Kings recorded the events in Israel and Judah as an historical narrative focused on the decisions that defined each king's reign, 1 and 2 Chronicles offer more of a reflective, spiritual approach, written after the return from captivity, explaining both the reasons for Israel and Judah's fall from grace and returning their focus to God's original plan. Herein lies the explanation for the author opening his work with genealogies. By including the various genealogies contained within holy writ to that point, extending not only back to Israel or Abraham but also to Adam, 1 Chronicles helps place the history of Israel and Judah into the greater context of God's plan. Israel existed—not for their own glory, but for God's. Thus, using genealogies, the Holy Spirit implied a return to scripture rather than the palace as the most important part of returning from captivity, just as He would establish David as the type of king for which the Jews should anticipate and long for in the Messiah. Unfortunately, they ultimately missed the spiritual implications because of focusing again on their own political aspirations.

The issues the brotherhood faces periodically, the challenges congregations face sometimes weekly, and the issues we all face daily can push us to focus on the problem of the moment and the consequences of past decisions. Such thinking can lead quickly to depression, paralyzing us more than motivating us. Therefore, we must determine to step back and see the big picture—even when times look bleak. God's plan has not changed since conceived in eternity. He will accomplish His will. We have the privilege, if we are willing, of being part of that. Thus, pointing back to God's Word and looking forward to eternity, we can see what really matters and possibly have an influence that really matters. If years from now our descendants, both physically and spiritually, can look back and see our positive influence for God in their own lives, that should be more than enough to make it all worthwhile.

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen
George Sowell

Deacons

Gary Barger
Jeff Day
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes
Tim Norman

Preacher

Kevin Rhodes

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am

AM Worship
10:00 am

PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am

Bible Study
7:00 pm

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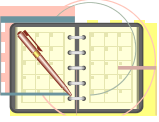
Obedience Trusts Implicitly - Part One

Kevin W. Rhodes

Speaking through the mouth of Isaiah the prophet, the Messiah announced, “Who among you fears the LORD? Who obeys the voice of His Servant? Who walks in darkness And has no light? Let him trust in the name of the LORD And rely upon his God” (Isa. 50:10). This prophetic utterance, couched in a larger Messianic framework, connects trust and obedience, challenging conventional efforts dismissive of their relationship. Facing the consequences of our own ignorance, the hopelessness of sin and transgression, we have only one answer at our disposal: trust God. Yet, as Isaiah declares, such trust combines recognizing one’s own dark situation, showing reverence for Yahweh who alone can lift us out of darkness, and then doing what His Servant, the Messiah commands to leave darkness and enter the light. Thus, truly trusting God implies believing His evaluation regarding our being lost in sin, respecting His authority enough to accept His answer for sin without complaint or amendment, and turning to His Servant, sent from heaven, to do whatever He requires of us. This is trust. However, many people insist they trust God and offer examples of their spiritual activity as proof. Yet herein lies the key to real faith. We do not demonstrate our trust performing the popular, easy, comfortable actions accepted by the masses and hailed by

the multitudes. Rather, faithful trust shows itself in determination and conviction amidst various challenges and difficulties, trials and turmoil. Implicit trust obeys God when others look for excuses. Such trust does Jesus expect from His disciples.

Reverent trust in God leaves no room for any competing trust. Disciples trust God’s way over men’s ways—every time. The Israelites’ trust regularly fell short throughout their history, their failure to obey stemming from a failure in godly reverence. “Also I said to you, ‘I am the LORD your God; do not fear the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell.’ But you have not obeyed My voice” (Jdg. 6:10). They failed to obey the LORD because they held the false religion of the Amorites in high esteem. Therefore, as long as we place our trust in something men have said and men have done, it will neutralize any trust we had in what God has said and what God has done. “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me’” (Jn. 14:6). Despite the characterizations offered by some, Jesus’ declaration does not offer a generic offer of salvation. To the contrary, it proclaimed a specific and the way of the gospel, the truth of the gospel, and the life of the gospel, because it all revolves around the message and life of Jesus Christ in the gospel.



News and Notes

Among our sick

- Bob Baze has been in the Huguley Hospital for tests but is home.
- Wayne Birchfield will have surgery on his face for Melanoma on Thursday.
- Ken Boroughs saw another liver specialist on Monday morning.
- Lora Frasier has been in Harris Hospital downtown for tests on her heart.
- Charlotte Freese's surgery on her left knee will be Tuesday, November 19th at Hunt Regional Hospital in Greenville.
- Helen Henslee is home from the hospital and doing well.
- Clark Lehtinen had out patient cataract eye surgery on Wednesday.
- Michael and Carolina Mora's extended families are having several problems. They have asked for their families to be remembered in prayers.

50th Anniversary Celebration

Everyone is invited to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Charles and Dianne Melton on Saturday, November 16th, from 2:00-4:00 in the afternoon at Rio Vista Civic Center 201 Highway 174 South. No gifts please.

Memorial service

Everyone is invited to a memorial service for Rob Stidolph's mother Iona Stidolph at 3:00 PM on Sunday, November 24th in the annex.

Please Note

- Saturday, November 16th, the elders, deacons, and preacher's breakfast will be at Sunrise Cafe at 100 Williams with a meeting to follow at the building. Please let the elders know if you will be able to come.
- Bible Search will be Saturday, November 23rd. If you would like to help with drinks and cookies see Glenda Helm. The last training on Sunday, November 17th, will be a rehearsal for the participants only.
- Brandon Doyel is in need of a new service dog. The cost of all the expenses will be \$7,200.00 for the trip and the dog. All funds will be sent directly to Canine Support Teams. Please see the Doyel family for any questions.

Those who Serve Lords' Supper: 11/17

Front South

Justin Hewlett
Jim Hudgins
Dewayne Henegar

Front North

Justin Hopkins
Tim Norman
Luke Norman

Back South

Bill Hughes
Daniel Hughes
James Hunt

Back North

Clark Lehtinen
James Henslee
Jason Hackler

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Jeff Day

Sunday PM

Gary Barger
Rob Stidolph
Dale Mullen

Wednesday PM

Clint Owens

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Barry Lehtinen

Wednesday

Paul Murphy

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Russ Jones

Sunday PM

Russ Jones

Wednesday PM

Jeff Day

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

J. D. Allen

Collection Counting

Paul Murphy / Jeff Day / Kyle Day

Wed. PM Devotional (11/20)

Jeff McPherson



Sermons for Sunday

AM

Entering the Rest
Hebrews 4:11-16

PM

A Good Society
Genesis 9:1-19



Listen to the Gospel!

Luis and Mike in the Mornings

(Monday - Friday) from 7:00 am - 9:00 am cst on
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

Biblical Foundations with Pat McIntosh

(Tuesday - Thursday) 7:00 am or 11:00 am
btradio.net



Our Records

Bible Class	146
AM Worship.....	247
PM Worship	161
Wednesday Bible Class 11/6.....	166
Contribution	\$6,513

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