

# THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Hiram Church of Christ

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

**"Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16**

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

**MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II**

## ORDER OF WORSHIP





**Announcements:** Devin Bryant  
**Opening Prayer:** Devin Bryant  
**Song Leader:** Alex Johnson  
**Second Prayer:** Melvin Bryant III  
**Lord's Table:** Clarence Proctor

**Message:** Melvin J. Bryant II  
**Closing Prayer:** Matt Johnson

## Attendance

**Morning Hour:** TBA  
**Bible Class:** TBA  
**Worship:** TBA  
**Wednesday:** TBA

## Weekly Service Times

 The Morning Hour 9:00am  
 Bible Class 10:00am  
 Morning Worship 11:00am  
 Wed. Evening Bible Classes 7:30pm

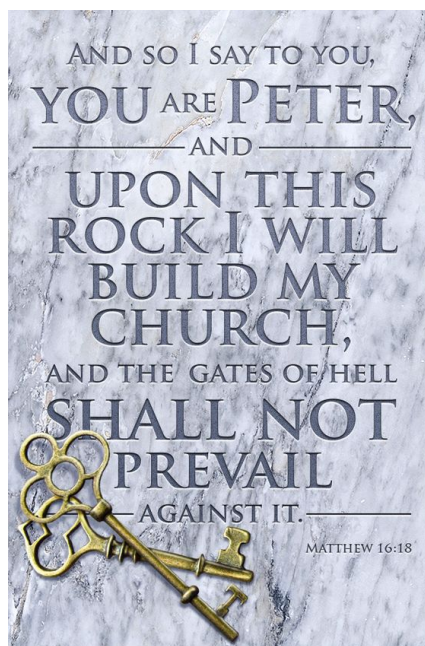
## The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

**Missions:** India & Childhaven

## PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30  
(Repentance entails counting the cost - Luke 14:25-33)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10



**WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?**

**WHAT IF WE...**

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



*What would our lives look like?*

## ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia) Mary Brock.

### Continued Prayers Needed

Jamie Franklin, Charlie Griffin, the Webb Family, Ron McCurry. Sis. Pudgy son Art.

## PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Alma Lismore**, Bro. Bryant's grandmother is in hospice and has been given under 30 days to live. Let us keep his family in our prayers.
- ▶ **Baby Luke Jackson** and family is in need of prayer as he continues to undergo testing and recovery from surgeries.
- ▶ **Artemas Holloway** lost his brother. Let us keep him and his family in prayers.
- ▶ **Sis Penny** has asked that we keep her in prayers.
- ▶ **Deborah Abdul** asked prayers for her mom, Emlyn Potts regarding health related issues, and her cousin Brandon Potts.
- ▶ **Dene Reeves** is in need of our continual prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Brock** has asked that we keep her in prayer.
- ▶ **JoAnne Proctor** is in need of continual prayers.
- ▶ **Kilwonia Chandler** is still having complication from her surgery. Let us continue to keep her in prayer.
- ▶ **Jerry Barber** is in need of prayers as he will be going to court to seek justice regarding the murder of his son.
- ▶ **Joe Ceasar** and the O'Quinn St. Church of Christ in our prayers.

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

### ☑ August Birthdays

Dean Reeves - 8th  
Mary Troup - 11th  
Pudgy Parson - 18th  
Harold Reeves - 31st

### ☑ Anniversaries

Kwame & Deborah Abdul - 17th

### ☑ Hiram Church News

The ladies are conducting a class each third Monday of the month. All women are encouraged to attend.

Make plans to stay for the last Sunday fellowship meal.

In addition, we plan to resume all regular Sunday morning Bible classes the first week in September.

### ☑ Baptisms

**Josiah Johnson** was baptized on January 1, 2020! Let us rejoice and encourage our new brother in Christ!

### ☑ Local Church News

### ☑ National Church News

BCS Church of Christ in College Station, Texas had their 4th annual Men's Development conference and it was a success! Let us pray for the efforts of

developing our young men to be Strong men of God!

### ☑ World Church News

### ☑ Traveling

**“The Prophecy, Promise And Fulfillment of  
the Lord’s Church” (Part III)**

**Matthew 16:13-18”**

**By**

**Melvin J. Bryant II**

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Over the past several weeks, we have been examining the “Prophecy, the Promise and the Fulfillment” of the Lord’s church!

**In Week One:** We came to understand that the Lord Jesus was: (a) Prophesied about as the “Anointed One” in Psalms 45:6-7! (b) That Jesus was Fulfilled in the New Testament as the “Messiah” in Acts 10:38! (c) He Promised to build HIS church in Matthew 16:18, And; (d) That Promise was Fulfilled in Acts 2:47, because the Lord was adding the saved to the church!

**In Week Two:** We Furthered our Understanding that; (a) The Prophecy of the Lord's church is in the Old Testament, and was to be established in the, “Latter Days” and scripture citations were Isaiah 2:1-3 cf. Micah 4:1-2; Joel 2:28! (b) The Fulfillment of the Lord’s church in those “Latter Days” was established on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2:16-17! (c) We found in the Old Testament where God commissioned Jesus with WORDS He would put in His mouth (Deuteronomy 18:15-20ff). (d) That Jesus acknowledged the WORDS He spoke came from His Father (John 12:49-50) which confirmed that Jesus was the ONLY ONE that was commanded by God to build a church! The Lord’s house is the church (1 Timothy 3:15)! And, to add to this, Hebrews 3:5-6 confirms to us that Jesus is a Son over His OWN House!

**This Week:** I want us to understand that; (a) Jesus is the KING of His Kingdom! (b) That the church is the Kingdom! (c) That a King with a Kingdom has RULES and INSTRUCTIONS! (d) How can one be added to the Lord’s Kingdom!

**I. JESUS IS THE KING OF HIS KINGDOM**

- A. Most people make the mistake of not understanding that the Church is the Lord’s kingdom here on earth! (see **Matthew 16:18-19**)!
  - In this text, Jesus tells us that He will build His church, and in verse 19, he calls the church the “Kingdom,” His Congregation, His Assembly of People! *Nonetheless*,
- B. The Old Testament Prophesied that Jesus, “the Son of Man” would be given a Kingdom where ALL peoples, nations and languages are to serve HIM! (see **Daniel 7:13-14**)!
  - Now, “IF” Jesus was given a Kingdom, and the Kingdom is the church, then ANYONE who builds a church that was NOT given to them from God is in violation of scripture!
  - In Daniel 7:13;
    - First:** Daniel was prophesying about One like the Son of Man!
    - Second:** “The Son of Man” is a direct reference to Jesus Christ! The reason why this is Biblically true is because of passages like John 1:51, Mark 8:31 and Mark 10:45!
    - Third:** The Ancient of Days is simply a reference to God the Father, the reason this is Biblically true is because the CONTEXT tells us (see **Daniel 7:13**)!
  - Now, for many, this can be a difficult text! But; let’s examine it, it can be explained simply from the context!
    - (1). Where it states that, “The Son of Man” will be, “Coming with the clouds of heaven!” The “Clouds of heaven” is alluding to actual clouds! (see **Mark 14:60-62**)! This is a DIRECT reference to the prophecy of Daniel 7:13 for Jesus is the Son of Man prophesied about, and Jesus said He will be “coming with the clouds of heaven!”
    - (2). Jesus (the Son of Man) would be given something, what is it? (see **Daniel 7:14**)!

- Daniel (in the Old Testament) PROPHESED that Jesus would be given a Kingdom, (A Church, A Congregation, An Assembly of People, A KINGDOM) and “IT” was promised by Jesus in the New Testament in Matthew 16:18!
- The Church and the Kingdom here is speaking of the same thing, for; the Lord was adding Saved men to the church, (to the Kingdom - Acts 2:47)!
- C. God, when speaking with the Prophet Nathan would tell of a Kingdom that He will set up forever!! (see **2 Samuel 7:12**)! This is a reference of God’s spiritual Kingdom! (see **Isaiah 9-6-7**)!
  - When was this Fulfilled? (see **Acts 2:29-33**)!
  - God set up the Kingdom, (the Church) with Jesus whom He RAISED from the Dead!
  - And, Upon OBEDIENCE, God translates us into the Kingdom of His Son! (see **Colossians 1:13**)!
  - Once we are OBEDIENT to the King’s Commands, we are TRANSFERRED from the Power of Darkness, (from a world of sin) into the Kingdom, into the CHURCH of the Son of His love!
- D. Since a KINGDOM was given, then Jesus must be the KING over His Kingdom! (see **John 18:33-37**)!
  - Jesus Kingdom (or church) is not one of Physical War, the Lord’s Kingdom is not a threat to overtake government, but some Jews were in fear of this thinking it was one of military force!
  - So, Jesus acknowledges that He is a King, but; His Kingdom is NOT of this world!
  - Peter tried to fight by cutting off Malchus’ ear, but Jesus told him to put his sword in its place, “... **for all who take the sword will perish by the sword**” (Matthew 26:52-54)!
  - *Nonetheless*, the Lord’s kingdom is a Spiritual one guided by the Word of God that’s SHARPER than any two edge sword (Hebrews 4:12)!
  - In our text, Matthew 16:18, Jesus told Peter; “...**I will give you the KEYS of the KINGDOM of heaven**”!
- E. What is the Keys of the Kingdom and how does one become a servant?
  - The “Keys to the Kingdom” is Jesus telling Peter that He’s going to give him the keys that will open the door to the Kingdom (or to the Church)!
  - But; when did that happen?
  - **First:** In Acts 2:14ff (cf. Acts 2:36-39)! This is Peter with the Keys of the Kingdom opening the door to the Church on the day Pentecost where 3000 souls were added to it, added to the church (Acts 2:41)! These SOULS became SERVANTS in the Kingdom!
  - **Second:** In Acts 10:34-35 after Cornelius sent for Peter having been told that Peter will tell him what he must do in order to be saved!
  - Once Peter arrived at Cornelius house, he said in Acts 10:34-35, “In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality. But in every nation whoever Fears Him AND Works Righteousness is accepted by Him.” So, the Keys to the Kingdom is the ENTRANCE into the Kingdom (into the church) for ANYONE in ANY NATION who fears God and Works Righteousness!

## II. THE KINGDOM WAS AT HAND

- A. When Jesus was here on earth, He said on a number of occasions that, “Kingdom of Heaven” WAS at hand, speaking of it in the future tense! (see **Matthew 4:17**)!
  - John the Baptist spoke of the Kingdom of heaven being at hand (Matthew 3:1)!
  - *However*, John was NEVER in the Kingdom (in the church - see **Matthew 11:11**)!
  - Jesus said the least in the kingdom of heaven, is GREATER than John the Baptist!
- B. The Kingdom of Heaven is the Church of God and can also be called the Church of Christ! (see **Luke 7:28**)!
  - Luke calls the Kingdom of Heaven the Kingdom of God, And since we have established that Jesus refers to the Kingdom as the church in Matthew 16:19, this text can actually read, “... **BUT he who is LEAST in the Church of God is GREATER than he.**” And, since Acts 20:28 tells us that Jesus purchased the church of God with His own blood, this text can also read, “...**BUT he who is LEAST in the Church of CHRIST is GREATER than he.**”
  - The Kingdom of Heaven is the SAME as the Kingdom of God and the Kingdom of God is the Church of Christ! Be encouraged brethren until the last Amen!