

# The Better Way

Volume XXXX, Issue 5

February 2, 2025

## SPRING CHURCH OF CHRIST

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### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:00 a.m.  
Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Afternoon Worship.....1:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:30 p.m.  
(via Zoom Meetings)

#### ELDERS

David P. Brown  
Ken Cohn  
John West

#### DEACONS

Bret Bailey  
J. D. Gunter  
Eric Paluka

#### EVANGELIST

David P. Brown

#### SECRETARY

Sonya West

## KEEP THESE APPOINTMENTS

*Frank L. Cox*

On the way to the Garden of Gethsemane, Jesus plainly told the disciples that He would be crucified, buried, and raised from the dead, and made an appointment to meet them in the province of Galilee (Mat. 26:32). After the resurrection, the women were told to remind them of this appointment. **“Go quickly,”** commanded the angel, **“and tell his disciples, He is risen from the dead; and lo, he goeth before you into Galilee; there ye shall see him”** (Mat. 28:7). And we learn that the appointment was kept: for the **“disciples went into Galilee, unto the mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And when they saw him, they worshiped him”** (Mat. 28:16, 17).

The Master is still making appointments with men. He has made definite appointments with us. Most of them are optional, but some are imperative. How important it is that we keep them all! We shall now turn our attention to some of these appointments.

#### AT THE CROSS

If we would find the Saviour, we must wend our way out to Calvary; there we meet the Christ of sorrow (John 12:32). It is in sorrow for our sins that we share the Saviour's sorrow; it is in repentance that we are crucified with Him (Rom. 6:6; Gal. 2:20).

#### AT THE TOMB

After Jesus died on the cross of Calvary, He was buried in Joseph's new tomb. As many as meet the Lord at the cross should also meet Him in the tomb. After men die to sin, they should be buried and raised with Him in baptism (Rom. 6:4). All who repent should be baptized (Acts 2:38). Have you kept the appointment with the Lord in the tomb?

#### IN THE TEMPLE

Under the law, it was in the temple that the Lord met His people and blessed them. The same is true under the gospel, but the temple is the church, the assembly of the saints. When we assemble with the people who assemble in the Saviour's name, we meet the Saviour: for he is **“in the midst of them”** (Mat. 18:20). Every Christian has an appointment with the Lord in His temple. Are we keeping this appointment? (Heb. 10:25).

#### AROUND THE LORD'S TABLE

When the sacred supper is observed, the Lord is a silent and unseen communicant. Around the table we meet with the Lord and commune with Him (Luke 22:29, 30). When there is a vacancy around the table, our hearts are heavy. Our Lord is present, our

brethren are present, but there is a vacant chair. Is the vacant chair your chair?

#### IN THE PRAYER-CHAMBER

**“When thou prayest,”** said the Master, **“enter into thine inner chamber, and having shut thy door, pray to thy father who is in secret, and thy Father who seeth in secret shall recompense thee”** (Mat. 6:6). When we meet the Father in the **“inner chamber,”** He richly rewards us. When we shut the world out and talk to Him alone, we can be certain of His presence and compassion. Are we keeping our appointment with the Lord in the prayer-chamber?

#### IN THE DARK VALLEY

In this lonely place, to which we must come, we meet Him as a comforter. Being aware of the Divine companionship, the child of God passes through the shadow unafraid. Out of the darkness we can hear him singing—**“Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me: Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me”** (Psa. 23:4). The good Shepherd shall neither fail nor forsake His faithful ones in the dark valley (Heb. 14:5,

6). He will lead them to the summit of the sunlit mountain.

#### AT THE JUDGMENT SEAT

There we shall meet Him as our judge (Heb. 9:27; 2 Cor. 5:10). But the anticipation of this engagement should cause no uneasiness: for if we are faithful unto the end, we can be certain of His blessed approval (Rev. 2:10).

#### IN THE FATHER’S HOUSE

Knowing that we cannot remain here forever, He went on before to prepare a place for us— **“a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens”** (John 14:1-3; 2 Cor. 5:1). Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has entered into the heart of man what the Lord went away to prepare for them that love Him. But he has gone only for a little while. **“Behold, I come quickly,”** said He (Rev. 3:11). **“I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also”** (John 14:3). In the Father’s house, we shall meet Him as our companion, and **“so shall we ever be with the Lord”** (1 The. 4:17).~

*Deceased*

## “WE CAN LEARN FROM DENOMINATIONS”

*B. C. Goodpasture*

The foregoing is frequently heard these days. It could be changed to “We have already *learned* from the denominations”—we have learned **“the speech of Ashdod”** (Neh. 13:4). We talk about the “teachings of the church of Christ,” as if the church, like the denominations, had its own “body of divinity.” The church originates, decrees, legislates nothing, according to the New Testament. It receives from Christ its head the revelation of God’s will, **“the faith which was once for all delivered unto the saints”** (Jude 3). Mark you, it was *delivered unto*, not *legislated or decreed or formulated by*, the church. We—some of us—talk about “the pastor” of the church and “the other denominations.” Seemingly, unaware that the preacher, as such is not the pastor—the elders are the *pastors*; and the church of our Lord is not a denomination. Some speak, at least ambiguously, of the operation of the Holy

Spirit, justification by faith, and the inspiration of the Bible.

Of course, it sometimes happens that **“the sons of this world are for their own generation wiser than the sons of light”** (Luke 16: 8), yet we must learn the will of God from the Bible. Moses was **“instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians; and he was mighty in his words and works”** (Acts 7:22); but he did not learn from the Egyptians the message he delivered to his enslaved people. It came from God. Paul sat at the feet of Gamaliel in the School of Hillel in Jerusalem; but he did not learn from the distinguished Rabbi the message with which he turned the world upside down. This came by revelation from God. (Gal. 1:12). We can always learn what we need to know from the Bible.~

*Deceased*

# Spring Church Of Christ

*Contending For The Faith Lectureship*

## Things Helpful To Becoming & Being A Christian

# February 22, 2025

**9:00 AM:** *Integrity* (Psalms 26) – Jonathan West

**10:00 AM:** *Ahab, The Accuser* (1 Kings 16:29-33) – Jack Stephens

**11:00 AM:** *Courage* (Psalms 27) – Jose Gamez

**LUNCH PROVIDED BY THE SPRING CONGREGATION**

**1:30 PM:** *Kinds Of Fear* – Bruce Stulting

**2:30 PM:** *Let Brotherly Love Continue* (Hebrews 13:1) – Eric Paluka

**3:30 PM:** *OPEN FORUM* (All speakers)

**LECTURESHIP DIRECTOR:** David P. Brown

**ELDERS:** David P. Brown, Kenneth D. Cohn, John West

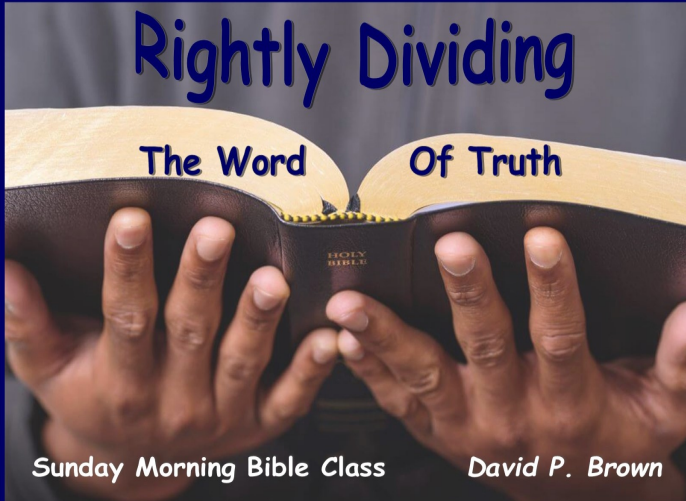
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LIVE VIEWING @ [www.churchesofchrist.com](http://www.churchesofchrist.com)

## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

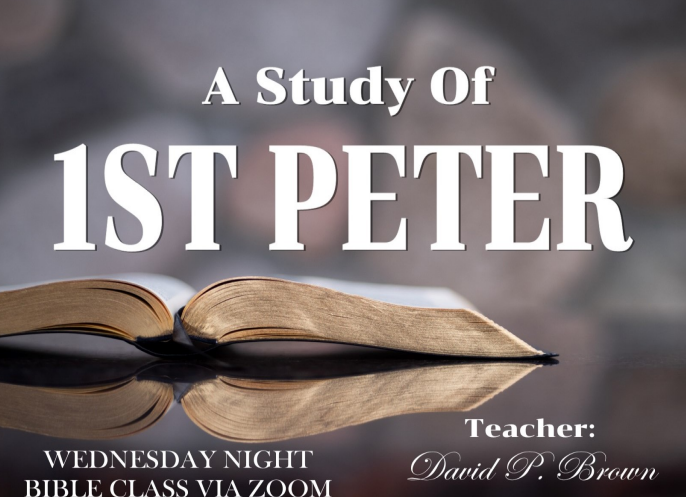
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- Lectureship videos
- Debates
- Bible Study Course
- Bible Reading Schedule
- Links to Faithful works



**Rightly Dividing**  
**The Word Of Truth**

Sunday Morning Bible Class *David P. Brown*



**A Study Of**  
**1ST PETER**

Teacher:  
*David P. Brown*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT  
BIBLE CLASS VIA ZOOM

### TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

What Christians were afraid of Paul?

**Answer to last week's question:**  
Paul to Philippian jailer; Acts 16:28

## THOSE TO SERVE

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025**

**Announcements** John West  
**Scripture Reading** J.D. Gunter  
*Genesis 6:13-22*

**Song Leader** Gary Blasingame  
**Prayer** Andrew Paluka/J.D. Gunter (AM)  
Bret Bailey/Ken Cohn (PM)

**Speaker** David Brown

**Lord's Table (AM)**  
*(Mark 15:21-26)*

Steven Johnson Bret Bailey  
Andrew Paluka Eric Paluka

**Lord's Table (PM)**

Joshua West Stephen Cohn

**Audio/Video Monitor** Jonathan West  
**Camera/Door Monitor** Andrew Paluka

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025**

*(via Zoom Meeting)*

**Announcements** Eric Paluka  
**Speaker** Ken Cohn  
**Bible Class Teacher** David Brown

**FOR FEBRUARY**

**Prepare Communion** Mercier  
**Lock Buildings** Blasingame  
**Prepare Bulletin Board** West

### IN NEED OF PRAYERS

David Brown, Oxendine Family, Edith Young, Cynthia Jackson, Zack Nero, Glenn Kryszak, Barbara Perkins, April McCain, Gayle Barnett, Noah & Glenda Hackworth, Tania Turcios, Robbie Kirby, Debbie Brannon, Charles & Ann Nero, Chuck & Nancy Verkist, Freda Smith, Orlinda Chumbley, and Roelf & Janice Ruffner.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- **Saturday, February 22th:** Spring CFTF lectureship.
- **Sunday, February 23rd:** Monthly meal
- **Tuesday, March 25th:** Ladies' Bible Class.