Privileged to Serve
Preaching To Be Announced
Announcements Al St. Clair
Song Leader Andy Duncan
Attendance Terry Dyer/Jacob King
Morning
Scripture/Opening Prayer Randy Rives
Lord's Supper
Presiding
* Charles Dooley
Assisting
T 1A * *T1 10 11
Jared Agan ^{**} [*] Lloyd Smith Dick Vinson [*] [*] Ralph Hubbard Closing Praver Dick Vinson
Closing Prayer Dick Vinson
Evening
Opening PrayerByron Madison
Lord's Supper
Jared Agan * * Lloyd Smith
Closing PrayerLamar King
Communion Preparation
Month of December Kitty Dooley
Month of January Kitty Dooley
Nursery Attendant; Backup
December 2 Angela Duncan; Lara King
December 9. Glenda Rives; Brandie Madison
Wednesday Evening – December 5, 2018
Prayer/AnnouncementsJared Agan
Song Leader Tom Fair
Devotional Andy Duncan
Service Times
SUNDAY
Bible Study
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
Evening Worship
WEDNESDAY
Bible Study6:00 p.m.

Elders
ANDY DUNCAN
TOM FAIR (601) 681-8293
Deacons
LAMAR KING
Byron Madison (601) 227-1374 Youth
RANDY RIVES
ALBERT ST. CLAIR (601) 626-7815
Robert Martin Stacey Ferguson South Pacific Missions Pine Vale Children's Home Corinth, Mississippi
Attendance Last Week
Sunday Bible Class 35
Sunday Morning Worship 56
Sunday Evening Worship15Wednesday Bible Study25
Contributions & Other Income Contribution Last Week \$ *
Daily Bible Readers

A weekly publication of the *Meridian church of Christ* 2229 Highway 19 North ~ PO Box 3476 ~ Meridian, MS 39303-3476 ~ **Phone: (601) 482-5318** www.meridianchurchofchrist.org ~ Email: churchofchristme@bellsouth.net



December 2, 2018 So Meridian Messenger & Welcome Visitors! Proof-Text Preaching

What changes are transpiring today? We in the kingdom have moved from that time when our preachers gave the "proof- text," and the church was known for having that kind of preaching, and denominational people spoke with some envy of it as they wished their own preachers would use more Bible. Yes, the move is underway, with voices being raised against using the Bible as a "proof-text."

Underlying that spirit that says, "No proof-text preaching!" are attitudes about the Bible which really, when all is said and done, reveal a terrible attitude against the word of God. The murmurings go like this:

1. "Using the Bible as a book of law." Let us all know that sin is identified by God as transgression of the law (1 John 3:4). If men sin, then men break the law of God. Law is in effect. The supreme law is that of God, and by the Word of God we are completely furnished unto every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17). If it is good to reject evil and to abide by the will of God, then the Bible so directs us. It is a book of law.

2. "Pronouncing anathema if you do not abide by the rules." It was an inspired apostle, Paul who announced anathema upon those who would present to men anything other than the Gospel he had proclaimed (Gal. 1:6-9). It was also the same inspired apostle who pleaded that we must all walk by the same rule (Phil. 3:16). We find, in a late New Testament passage, that he who "transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God" (2 John 9). These are condemned because, in effect, they did not abide by the rules.

3. "*The stress on obedience*." Amazing that any would offer any objection to the idea of obedience when inspiration tells us that Jesus became the author of eternal salvation to them that obey him (Heb. 5:9). And a great picture of the end of time shows men condemned eternally because they did not obey the Gospel of the Lord (2 Thess. 1:7-9). Indeed, these and similar objections are lame

and pitiful. And, they certainly reveal a tremendously poor attitude toward the Word of God, amounting, in the final analysis, to a poor attitude toward God himself. If I love God, I will love his word to me. If I respect him, I will respect his word. If I feel honor toward him, I will honor his word. It is as simple at that.

Bill Jackson (deceased) • <u>http://seektheoldpaths.com/biblestudy.htm</u> • *December*, 2016