

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 28, 2025

Song: 177 – *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

Song: 187 – *I Want to be a Worker*

First prayer: **Larry Simmons**

Song: 680 – *The Old Rugged Cross*

Communion servers: **Mark Brandt & Mernie Ray**

Prayer for giving: **Adam Bentley**

Song: 174 – *Higher Ground*

Sermon: “*Eternal Loss and Regret*” – **Jerry Brewer**

Invitation song: 462 – *Why Do You Wait?*

Closing song: 65 – *A Wonderful Savior*

Closing prayer: **Brian Zumalt**

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:

- Jerry – upcoming surgery
- Tony Lopez, Starlyn Cooper, Carmen Lawson, Kim Nguyen – cancer
- Marjorie Trammel (Alyssa’s friend) – cancer
- Shane, Alyssa, & Addison – adoption process
- Kevin Lively (Mark’s friend)
- Mernie’s sisters-in-law: Kathy Ray (eyesight) and Fannie Ray
- Kim’s cousin’s son (Isaac Wood)–hole in heart caused by stroke (upcoming surgery)
- Our members with health issues: Kim, David

Please continue to remember: Connie Townsend, Lucinda, Vipin and India work, Aruna Kavali, Marinda Breeding, Holley Brewer, Kevin Brewer, Dylan Walker

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Happy birthday to **Annette Simmons** (December 31st)!
- “Precept Upon Precept” is a YouTube channel with many sermons/articles from faithful brethren (www.youtube.com/@preceptuponprecept8495)
- www.youtube.com/@churchofChrist

RECORD FOR WEEK OF DECEMBER 21, 2025

ATTENDANCE:

Bible Class – 14 AM Worship – 16 Sun PM – 12 DBR – 6 Wed (12/24) – 14

Contribution – \$1601

Yukon Church of Christ

THE LABORER

702 South Ranchwood Blvd., Yukon, OK 73099 (405) 354-0238

Preacher: David Ray

Web Site: www.yukoncofc.com

Sunday Bible class: 9am Worship 10am & 12:30pm Wednesday Bible class: 7pm

Matthew 9:37-38 “*The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.*”

Volume 21

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EFFECTS OF GOSPEL PREACHING

And when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked: and others said, We will hear thee again of this matter. So Paul departed from among them. Howbeit certain men clave unto him, and believed: among the which was Dionysis the Areopagite, and a woman named Damaris, and others with them (Acts 17:32-34).

The above verses conclude the remarks of inspiration concerning Paul's labors in Athens. He had preached the Gospel faithfully and these verses sum up the effects of his preaching on the hearers.

There are three attitudes toward the truth manifested by different portions of his audience. Some mocked, or frankly disbelieved it. Others showed a passing interest, or indifference toward it. Some believed and embraced the Gospel. I believe it would be worthwhile to inquire as to why the Gospel did not have the same effect on everyone. Why the differing attitudes toward the preaching of the Gospel? Could it be that some of their personalities matched Paul's, while others clashed, and thus their feeling for the preacher influenced them? Do you suppose that the Lord was responsible for their obedience or disobedience by electing some to salvation and others to damnation? I suggest that these are not the causes for the effects of gospel preaching.

THE POWER OF DISCOURAGEMENT

There is one gospel for everybody. *“Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature”* (Mark 16:15). The effect of preaching the Gospel depends entirely on the hearts of the hearers. Some prepare their hearts to receive the truth, whatever it may be, and others condition their hearts to oppose anything which they do not think to be approved by human wisdom. *“For Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the law of the Lord, and to do it”* (Ezra 7:10). Before a person can be favorably impressed by the truth his heart must be prepared to receive it. If he listens with a prejudiced heart the effect of the Gospel preaching will be negative. That would seem to be the meaning of 2 Thess. 2:10-12: *“...They received not the love of the truth that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them a strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.”* This does not mean that God told anyone a lie, or that He is responsible for anyone believing a lie. Rather, the strong delusion was sent by the preaching of the Gospel. Those who prepared not their hearts to receive the truth, (they had not the “love of the truth”), believed a lie instead. The Lord was not responsible for their ungodly attitude, but they had pleasure in unrighteousness. The truth that could save them if they believed, could condemn them if they disbelieved.

In this connection we may refer to an Old Testament incident. Exodus 4:21 says: *“And the Lord said unto Moses, When thou goest to return to Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: But I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.”* Here God said that He would harden Pharaoh's heart that he should not obey Moses. How did He do it? All of the force in the world could not have hardened anyone's heart who wanted to receive the truth. How can it be said then that God hardened Pharaoh's heart? Was it by withholding the truth? To the contrary; it was by sending Moses with his miraculous signs that the Lord hardened the heart of the Egyptian monarch. If Pharaoh had taken the right attitude toward the message of Moses, the effect of the preaching would have been good. But he rejected the truth, thus his heart was hardened.

Surely all of this is sufficient to show that effects of gospel preaching depend entirely upon the disposition of heart among the hearers. It is only our responsibility to be sure that we are preaching the truth. We cannot be responsible for how it is received.

Gordon Wilson

Because the task of occupying Canaan seemed so great, all but two of the twelve men sent to spy out the land became convinced that the job could not be done. Every one of these men was a *“ruler among them”* (Numbers 13:2); and each knew that God had led them out of Egypt, overthrowing the army of Pharaoh (Exodus 14:29-31). They also knew that the land of Canaan was a wonderfully rich land that flowed with *“milk and honey”* (Numbers 13:27); yet they, and the multitude of others whom they had discouraged, lived and died in a miserable wilderness. This is what discouragement will do!

The task before the church is a great one. The world seems filled with “giants”; and to many of the members, we are *“in our own sight as grasshoppers”* (Num. 13:33). Nevertheless, there are a few who say, as did Caleb, *“Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it”* (Numbers 13:30). It is this attitude that we must have if we are to win the battle of life that is by faith.

The church of Christ should never forget this example. Not all of the multitude who ate of the manna from heaven and drank from the Rock were allowed to enter the promised land. Many were not allowed to enter because their hearts were still *“by the flesh pots”* in Egypt (Exodus 16:3). They did not remain faithful to God during the trying time that lapsed from the crossing of the Red Sea to the crossing of the Jordan. Likewise, only those members of the church who remain faithful in worship and service of God from the time they are baptized for remission of their sins (Acts 2:38), until the end of their time of trial on this earth, will enter heaven.

“Blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city” (Revelation 22:14).

Claude E. Parker

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. [HEAR THE WORD](#) Romans 10:17
2. [BELIEVE IN JESUS](#) John 3:16; 8:24
3. [REPENT OF YOUR SINS](#) Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; 2 Corinthians 7:10
4. [CONFESS THAT JESUS IS LORD](#) Romans 10:9-10 (cf. Acts 8:37)
5. [BE BAPTIZED FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF YOUR SINS](#) Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; 1 Peter 3:21
6. [REMAIN FAITHFUL](#) 1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 1:23; Revelation 2:10