

Elders

- Johnny Davis 307-4232
- Dan Fuller..... 685-4454
- Jerry Hopkins 818-7164
- Paul Metzkes..... 870-8042
- Phil Porter 575-4782
- *Richard Watson..... 307-2608
- *Chairman for the Month of November*

Evangelists

- Dan Jenkins 379-2325
- David Sproule..... 301-2230
- Josh Blackmer 319-1418

Deacons

- Mike Archer 422-2995
- David Brown..... 972-7608
- Novel Brown 848-6988
- Chuck Clark 627-4132
- Victor Colage..... 719-1490
- Lance Collier..... 793-2718
- Kirk Crews 339-9283
- Cam Crofts 214-3114
- Mike Erickson..... 310-9916
- Tim Fry 373-9121
- Jeff Goodale 261-1188
- Rick Hall 622-5131
- Bob Higbee..... 303-386-6405
- Bill Ingram, Jr. 772-341-5463
- Gary Jenkins..... 889-3585
- Jeff Leslie..... 744-3444
- Buzz Nelson..... 627-4890
- Nate Nelson 801-9456
- Jerry Pittman..... 389-2935
- Shaun Tyson..... 615-513-2045
- Ivan Villard 422-5041
- Kevin Weeks..... 386-4108

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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LVIV

November 15, 2020

No. 45





By Dan Jenkins

There Is Only ONE Lord

As I was growing up at the West Huntsville (AL) congregation, we had an hour-long Sunday night class for all the young people in the church. The class began with each of us saying a memory verse. Obviously, whoever went first got the “good ones” like “Jesus wept” (John 11:35). So, part of my life was finding the obscure verses that were very short which others just would not know. One of my favorites, which others seemed to overlook, was Ephesians 4:5—“One Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

Think about what this verse says—one Lord. While it is true that there are many who sit in places of authority on this earth—politicians, policemen, teachers, your boss—there is one Lord above all others and He rightfully is the only true Lord.

Before He left the earth He said—by the way, another short verse—“And Jesus came and spoke to them say, ‘All authority has been given to me in heaven and on earth’” (Matt. 28:18). Think about the meaning of these words. He is above all heavenly creatures and has dominion over every mortal on this earth! He has *all* authority.

In the vision Daniel saw of the ascension of Jesus, he saw Jesus’ arrival in heaven and being brought before God. “Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,

that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed” (Dan. 7:14). What a momentous event this would have been to witness. All of creation is subject to Him.

However, many have served other lords. The entire basis of pagan idolatry is a rejection of the only Lord and bowing before an image of stone, wood or precious metal. Contrast the concept of asking the help and guidance from any inanimate item and the concept of seeking a personal relationship with a living Lord.

Now consider that much of the religious division in our land today is the result of changing the kingdom/church Jesus received when He came before God. The One who has all authority never gave any mortal any right to change it. It seems that if you do not like the kingdom of the Lord of lords and King of kings, we have ignored His authority and created our own religious body, giving us what we want not what He wants.

Think about how practical it is to honor Him who has all authority. I have no authority, except that which the Lord gives me, over any part of my life. I have no time that is not His, I have no money that is not His, I have no rules of life which are not His. May I suggest that you memorize that short verse and meditate on how it applies to all of your life!

Our lives will totally change when we make the Lord of lords our Lord



By David Sproule

The Danger of Manmade Traditions

The sharpest rebukes of Jesus during His earthly ministry were directed at the Pharisees. One such censure is found in Mark 7. (By the way, it surprises some to learn that Jesus rebuked anyone, especially in a markedly stern manner. The mental picture that some have of Jesus is of a soft, effeminate weakling. Such a picture is so far from the reality. Mark 7 is evidence.)

Jesus (who was God on earth [Matt. 1:23] and could know man’s hearts [John 2:24-25]) looked at the Pharisees and called them “Hypocrites.” He went on to explain why. He first quoted from Isaiah as the basis for this charge: “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: ‘This people honors Me with their lips, but their heart is far from Me. And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men’” (Mark 7:6-7). The efforts of the Pharisees were hypocritical (and in vain) because (1) their “heart” was not right with God (v. 6) and because (2) they substituted their own doctrines in place of the doctrines of God (v. 7).

Three times in this text Jesus charged the Pharisees with placing dangerous and sinful emphasis on their own “traditions.” Look at the end of verse 8, “...you hold the tradition of men.” Look at the end of verse 9, “...that you may keep

your tradition.” Then, look in the middle of verse 13, “...through your tradition which you have handed down.” Their traditions involved the way they washed dishes (v. 8), their own manipulated care of their parents (v. 11-12), and “many such things” that caused them (in their eyes) to “appear beautiful outwardly” (Matt. 23:27). Here’s the problem: *They had taken these manmade doctrines and elevated them above and substituted them for the doctrine of God!*

When an individual (or a church) places greater emphasis on their opinions, their personal beliefs, their handed-down traditions, their “we’ve always done it this way,” they fall prey to the same devil-set trap as the Pharisees. Notice very carefully the natural, immediate and grave consequences of such actions. Jesus told the Pharisees that they were “laying aside the commandment of God” (v. 8), “rejecting the commandment of God” (v. 9) and “making the word of God of no effect” (v. 13). Basically, they were putting themselves (and their doctrines) in the place of God.

The Lord will not tolerate anything (or anyone) that challenges His authority, His holiness or His revealed will. We must never add to or take from God’s Word (Rev. 22:18-19). We must never go beyond what He says (1 Cor. 4:6), “to do less or more” (Num. 22:18). We must never manipulate His Word to fit our desires (Gal. 1:6-9). We must ever be faithful!

The Lord will not tolerate anything (or anyone) that challenges His authority



By Josh Blackmer

God Is Waiting

How long do you wait? You are at a traffic light. It goes from red to green. The person in front of you is clearly distracted, and your lane is the only one not moving. How long do you wait before you take action? You are seated at a restaurant. Ten minutes pass, and no one has taken your drink order. It is busy but not slammed. They should've come to the table by now. How long do you wait before you leave or talk to the manager? While in some cultures time is viewed very differently, for us, we are a very fast-paced society. Our expectations of timely results and actions are very high. So, when we are forced to wait, as in the scenes afore mentioned, we are put to the test. How long will we wait? I bring this up to reflect on the patience of God.

Peter, in his second letter, brings to our attention that in the latter days there would be mockers saying, "Where is the promise of His coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all continues just as it was from the beginning of creation" (2 Pet. 3:4). These that Peter mentioned were mocking God and using it as evidence to His contrary. However, it is still a question we might ask. How long, O Lord?

Peter reminds us of some facts to help keep things in perspective. The first is that the world has been destroyed once already. "For when they maintain this, it escapes their

notice that by the word of God the heavens existed long ago and the earth was formed out of water and by water, through which the world at that time was destroyed, being flooded with water. But by His word the present heavens and earth are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men" (2 Pet. 3:5-7). We know from genealogies in the book of Genesis that the time from creation to the flood was roughly 1,656 years. How much of that was God's patience tested?

**Knowing this,
how then should
we live?**

The second fact is that God does not reckon time as we do. "But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day" (2 Pet. 3:8). We must remember that time is a created construct that He is not bound by. It was hundreds of years from the promises given to Abraham until they were brought to fruition. It was thousands of years before the messianic prophecies were fulfilled. We need to remember God is playing the long game.

Finally, Peter reminds us that we serve a patient God. "The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance" (2 Pet. 3:9). God is waiting for us. He hasn't blown the horn yet. Knowing that He will, Peter reminds us how we should live in holiness for a day that will come (3:11)

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

That doesn't really affect me

Unless the hurricane is coming right for you, you're not really concerned about it. Ask someone who lives in Wyoming if they get nervous about hurricanes in Florida. Ask someone in Maine if they get nervous about tornadoes in Oklahoma. Not my problem, right?

I wonder if Christians might think about that when it comes to how much we focus on politics and worldly affairs. It seems, for some of us, that we live and breathe what's happening in Washington or our state capitals or on our favorite news channel. In reality—or let me say, in the grand scheme of eternity and the salvation of lost souls—why am I so overly concerned about what's happening in American politics? Where is my true, eternal, heavenly focus?

Jesus once said to Peter, "Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men" (Matt. 16:23). Could He say that to me today? If it's not going to affect eternity, why is it my constant focus? Think about it. —DS



Do not imitate what is evil!

The apostle John wrote about a person who (1) loved "to put himself first," (2) rebelled against those in "authority," (3) used "malicious words" against others, and (4) would not "welcome" others as equals. Do you know anyone like that? Or, maybe I should ask, how many people do you know like that? Our world is full of them! But, here's the kicker—that man of whom John wrote was in the church, and apparently held a leadership position in the church.

Immediately after the two-verse censure of that brother, John said to Gaius, "Beloved, do not imitate what is evil, but what is good. He who does good is of God, but he who does evil has not seen God" (3 John 9-11).

Friend, it doesn't matter if we're talking about someone in the church or someone at work or someone in your extended family. If someone is not behaving according to the standard of "good" set forth in the "Good Book" (see that list above of four ways evil can be exhibited), do not mimic them! Ever! For any reason! —DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Jean Archer	recovering at home
Lucy Bond	recovering from heart cauterization
Mary Coombs	recovering from cataract surgery
Glen Dawson	recovering from a mitral valve procedure
Eva Fulton	recovering at home
Patricia Hackshaw	undergoing therapy
Terri Hahn	diagnosed with leukemia
Daniel Harmon	Lovetta Harmon's son, recovering from a seizure
Charles Hayes	now at home, undergoing tests
Dan Johnson	recovering at home
John Loftis	still dealing with severe back pain and weakness
Cheryl Milton	dealing with some medical issues
Sallie Moses	now at home, recovering from a procedure
Angie Seames	scheduled for major foot surgery on November 19

Ongoing Health Issues

Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments
Inell Ingram	Courtyard Gardens (Jupiter)
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Josie Dawson	Don & Betty Matter
Annie Faison	Leigh Puckett
Dianne Frye	Les Sawyer
Margie Hardin	Ricky Smedley
Loretta Holaday	Patricia Ventress
Joe Holland	



Mary Brown, upon the passing of her brother, Benjamin Smith, on Saturday, November 7.

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Neva Benjamin	Ophelia Holmes' sister, fluid on her heart and lungs
Heureuse Cadet	Michelle Franck's mother, recovering at home
Shelley Dayman	Ally Alberga's sister, nursing home, stage 4 kidney disease
Rena DeVaughn	Adrienne Banks' sister, undergoing cancer treatments
Ron Fernander	Turkessa Fernander's father, Lakeside Health Center
Don Fields	Trish Clark's brother, recovering from medical tests
Adrienne Gatlin	Pat Patterson's daughter, undergoing cancer treatments
Perrethia King	Bettye King's sister, still under Hospice Care
Clara Medina	Carolina Medina's sister, dealing with health issues

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker
Joey & Tammy Treat

Africa
Tamuka Arunashe
Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama
Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida
Mauricio Yegros

Bahamas
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, November 15

- ♦ **Wedding Shower for Robert Lupo & Reanna Johnson.** at 4:00 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at Bed, Bath & Beyond.

Monday, November 16

- ♦ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room with social distancing being practiced.

Tuesday, November 17

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room with social distancing being practiced.

Wednesday, November 25

- ♦ **Congregational Singing** at 7:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. All classes will meet in the Auditorium for a time of praise and thanksgiving.

Thursday, December 3

- ♦ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a soup, bread, dessert or drink. Bring an ornament for the exchange. See Traci Sproule for more details.

Sunday, December 6

- ♦ **EDP Meeting** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room.

Monday, December 7

- ♦ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Thursday, December 10

- ♦ **Combined Family Group Online Zoom Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. See Josh Blackmer for more details.

Wednesday, December 30

- ♦ **No Midweek Bible Study.** Meet on Thursday, December 31 at 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 31

- ♦ **Midweek Bible Study** at 7:30 p.m. Regular Bible classes will meet for children and adults (instead of Wednesday night).
- ♦ **New Year's Eve Gathering** at 9:00 p.m. in the Family Room. Singing in the New Year will begin at 11:00 p.m.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ
Young Adults

Thursday, December 3

- ♦ **Ladies' Soup Supper** at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a soup, bread, dessert or drink. Bring an ornament for the exchange. See Traci Sproule for more details.

Friday, December 4

- ♦ **Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout** at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Michelle Franck for more details.

Saturday, December 5

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Andy & Letha Anderson. See Ivan Villard for more details.

Monday, December 7

- ♦ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.



Palm Beach Lakes
Youth

Friday, December 4

- ♦ **Sr. High & YA Ladies' Hangout** at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible. See Michelle Franck for more details.

Monday, December 7

- ♦ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the pavilion on the church property. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Sunday, December 13

- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Family Meeting.** All families are encouraged to come and hear about the plans for 2021.

Saturday, December 19

- ♦ **Holiday Party for Grades 5 & Under.**
- ♦ **Jr. High Mini-Golf & Ice Cream** at 5:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for details.
- ♦ **Sr. High Holiday Party** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Bob & Jennifer Higbee. See Josh Blackmer for more details.

Baptism for the Dead?

by Dave Miller

“Otherwise, what will they do who are baptized for the dead, if the dead do not rise at all? Why then are they baptized for the dead?”



The most notorious interpretation of 1 Corinthians 15:29 is the one advocated by Mormonism—that people who are alive on the Earth can be baptized, and the efficacy of that baptism then is offered to those who already have died and are in the spirit realm. But this verse cannot be teaching proxy baptism as practiced by the Mormons. Many other passages eliminate that possibility by stressing the singular necessity of responding obediently to God in this life (e.g., Proverbs 11:7; John 8:24; Luke 16:26; 2 Corinthians 5:10; Hebrews 9:27). The Mormon view is in direct contradiction to what the Bible teaches from beginning to end. We have only this life in which to make our decisions, and when we leave this life, we have no further opportunities to repent (Luke 16:25-31; Hebrews 9:27).

At least four adequate explanations exist that avoid contradicting the rest of the Bible. First, “dead” refers to the “old man of sin” (Romans 6:6). We are baptized for the dead in the sense that we are baptized in water to eliminate the dead man of sin. Hence Paul was asking why one would be baptized to eliminate the old man of sin in anticipation of eternal acceptance if the resurrection will not be forthcoming.

Second, “dead” refers to the world of lost souls—those who are spiritually dead. “They” refers to the apostles and “baptism” refers to the baptism of suffering that the apostles endured in order to make known the Gospel to the world (alluded to in passages like Mark 10:38-39, Luke 12:50, Acts 9:16, and 1 Corinthians 4:9). Thus Paul was asking why the apostles would subject themselves to the baptism of suffering, in behalf of the spiritually dead people of the world if, in fact, no one has hope of the resurrection.

Third, “they” refers to those who are baptized in water on the basis of the preaching and teaching done by those who had since died. In other words, why would a person obey the command to be baptized, and thereby have hope of life beyond the grave, if the one who taught the person to be baptized has since died and will not be raised from the dead?

Fourth, Paul was using the logical argument form known as *argumentum ad hominem*—an argument based upon what men were doing at that time and with which the readers would be familiar. The Corinthians were familiar with people who practiced an immersion for the benefit of the dead. He used the third person pronoun “they” as opposed to “you” or “we.” New Testament baptism would have been referred to in the first or second person. This tactic of referring to what outsiders were doing (without implying endorsement) to make a valid spiritual point was used by Paul on other occasions (e.g., Acts 17:28; Titus 1:12).

These four possible interpretations each have contextual evidence to support them. None of the four contradicts any other Bible doctrine. What is critically important is that we not miss Paul’s point in 1 Corinthians 15. He brought up the subject of baptism for the dead for one reason: to reaffirm the reality of the resurrection. Christians were being drawn into the destructive heresy that the general resurrection is fictitious. In a setting where he ardently defended the actuality and centrality of the resurrection, he advanced two questions. If the resurrection and end-time events are not to occur, then “why are they baptized for the dead?” and “why do the apostles stand in jeopardy every hour?” (vss. 29-30). He wanted the Corinthians to face the fact that many things Christians do have meaning only if resurrection is an anticipated and ultimate objective. If when we die, that’s it—no future conscious existence—why take risks living the Christian life as the apostles frequently did? If this life is all there is, forget Christianity and live it up (vs. 32)! But resurrection is coming! So do not live this life indulging the flesh and mingling with those who will influence you to do so (vs. 33). Live righteously, and get your mind straight in view of your knowledge of the coming resurrection (vs. 34).

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)



Sunday,
November 8

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Damon Farrell; Ms. Sylvia Goldie; and Mr. Michael Gooch.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mr. & Mrs. Ron & Elizabeth Brackett, Eustis, FL; Mrs. Rebecca Ellis & Eva, Eustis, FL; and Ms. Ann Graham, Keystone Heights, FL.



Words cannot adequately express our appreciation for the kind words, prayers and cards over these past two months. During mom's six-year battle, our church family has been a constant source of strength and support to us. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you.

The Studer Family



Sunday (November 15th)
Lovella Rogers
Alexis Smith

Wednesday (November 18th) cont.
Natalie Reeves

Monday (November 16th)
Katie Goodale

Thursday (November 19th)
Buzz & Kathy Nelson (Ann.)
David Thorpe

Tuesday (November 17th)
Kelly Sproule

Friday (November 20th)
Freddie Gadson
Matthew Jones

Wednesday (November 18th)
Diane Leslie

Leonard Williams



The **Annual PBL Ladies' Soup Supper** will be on Thursday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. at the home of Traci Sproule. Sign up on the bulletin board to bring a dish (soup, bread, dessert or drink), and bring an ornament for the exchange.

Sunday Worship Services

All Bible classes and worship services will be at the church building this week and will be webcast live from our website.

Worship Services for Sunday, November 15

9:00 a.m. Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship for ALL
6:00 p.m. Evening Worship for ALL

Bible Class for Wednesday, November 18

7:00 pm. Meet in the Auditorium

Leading Singing Dion Hayes
Invitation Tyler Williams
Family Prayer Dan McLeod

(We will have a devotional, the Family Prayer, then be dismissed to classes)

Our Record

Attendance	Nov. 8	Oct. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	134	129
Sun. AM Worship	182	196
Sun. PM Worship	73	107
Wed. Bible Study	135	126
Contribution	\$12,193	\$15,940

2020 Weekly Budget: \$14,944

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$19,294

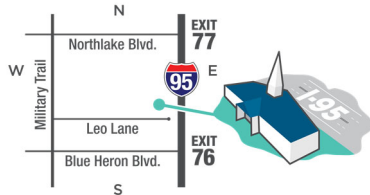
Please observe good distancing inside the building and sit only in the designated pews.



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Speaking where the Bible speaks, Silent where the Bible is silent.



Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible classes 7:00 p.m.

Front Cover: Ashlyn Rosado (on Promotion Sunday)



MISSION Sunday

TAKING THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD

January 31

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

The Bible says...

- 1. Believe that Jesus is the Son of God**
"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).
- 2. Repent of your sinful ways**
"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).
- 3. Confess your faith in Jesus**
"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).
- 4. Be immersed in water**
"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).
- 5. Commit to a lifetime of faithful service**
"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).