

JUNE 7, 2020

CARVER ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST

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PREACHER-SHEPHERD
DR. JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.



COMMENTARY CORNER: “Paul, Citizenship, Injustice, Protest, and Freedom As a Child of God” “But Paul said unto them, They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison, and now do they thrust us out privily? Nay, verily; but let them come themselves and fetch us out. And the sergeants told these words unto the magistrates: and they feared when they heard that they were Romans (Acts 16:37-38).

Jesus made a distinction between the thoughts of his followers and all others in the world. He sought to teach how the behaviors of his people would teach the world the will of God. We find him doing so when he spoke of the interactions between the children of God and others.

The Sermon on the Mount became an inaugural mass meeting of the disciples of Jesus Christ (Matthew 5:1- 8:1). It was during that teaching that we read of how the people of God would distinguish themselves from others. The distinctions were not about the people of God thinking of themselves as better than others, it was instead the people of God learning to live with higher standards of how they treated one another.

We note, for example, a series of comparisons Jesus makes. And we should understand that these are in the contexts of the people of God living under Roman rule and government. The Jews were the people of God and often had to endure mistreatment from those given authority as Roman soldiers, as well as all other Jews.

These soldiers might believe that a fellow Jew was behaving disrespectfully, or the soldier might be having a bad day, or perhaps he might not like the people in the town where he lived. This might result in a soldier hitting an individual. What was a child of God to do when a sword yielding soldier hit him?

Jesus gives an answer that shocks: “Ye have heard that it hath been said, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth: But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also” (Matthew 5:38-39). Though these words were written to the Israelites, we

understand that Jesus is providing a precedent for those who would eventually live as his disciples.

There were also words to soldiers who wanted to live in God’s favor. John the Baptist advised penitent soldiers, “Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages” (Luke 3:14).

At the river Jordan, John the Baptist provides teaching to those who understood they needed to repent because the kingdom of God was at hand. On the Mount, Jesus gives teaching to those who would be citizens of the kingdom of God. We are blessed to read of an incident that was many years after the lives of John the Baptist and Jesus the Christ on earth.

After many years of preaching the gospel, Paul found himself giving defense for his teaching. During that teaching, the high priest (and Paul did not know he was the high priest) Ananias, commanded that Paul be smitten across the mouth. (Acts 23:2). How did Paul respond to this potential injustice?

Paul addressed the issue from the side of the person who had authority. Luke records, “Then said Paul unto him, God shall smite thee, thou whited wall: for sittest thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law” (Acts 23:3).

Whatever Paul thought of the teaching on turning the other cheek, which was also in the law, it did not include him not being able to question another’s behavior, even questioning that behavior the standard of the law. There is another profound acknowledgement Paul makes.

He calls attention to how God sees mistreatment, what we call in our day, injustice. Paul may not have retaliated by fighting Ananias, but he had something to say.

In his redress, Paul acknowledges that God can execute vengeance. Paul does not say to Ananias that God sees you. He does not say to him that God does not like you. What Paul says is that God will smite you (Acts 23:3). Paul did not believe that God allows mistreatment or injustice to go unpunished.

It is difficult to understand just how we should take Paul’s next words. He calls the perpetrator a whited wall, or white washed wall (Acts 23:3). The white washed wall statement would often be used to indicate that someone has covered up something with white that underneath was weak, crumbling, or suggestive of what was good when things were bad. In short, a white washed wall kind of person had an appearance on the outside that hid an ugly person underneath.

Paul, then, has spoken of the vengeance of God, “God will smite you.” He has spoken of the character of a perpetrators, “you whited wall.” Paul then sets up a standard for judgment. He says that the priest is commanding what does not measure up to the standard of the written law: “sitteth thou to judge me after the law, and commandest me to be smitten contrary to the law” (Acts 23:3)?

What we have considered is Paul’s responses to religious law. We should understand further that Paul also claimed his rights when it came to civic law.

~Continued



2020 THEME: "To Him Be Glory In The Church, By Christ Jesus..." (Ephesians 3:21)

CHURCH LEADERS

PREACHER-SHEPHERD
JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.

**ASSISTANT TO THE
MINISTER**
RICHARD JONES

MINISTER EMERITUS
CLOYS R. CECIL SR.

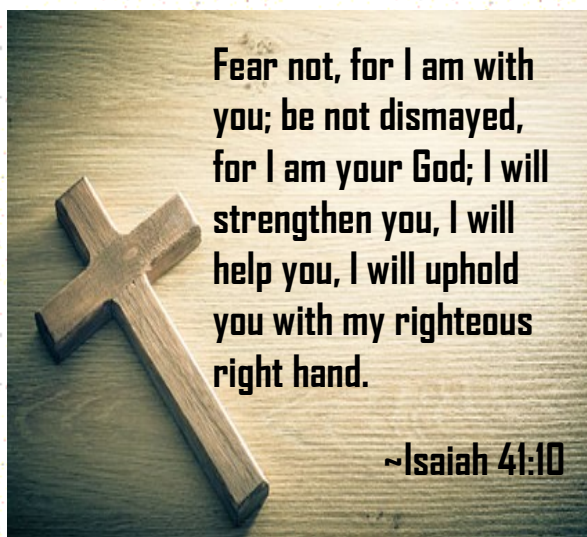
SHEPHERDS
JEFFERSON R. CARUTHERS JR.
JOHN FOXWORTH
ROY OLIPHANT
WALTER WEATHERS, JR.

ELDER EMERITUS
FRANK W. DULIN
LEROY NELSON

DEACONS
MICHEAL CURRY
JAMES E. GADSON
GEORGE MCNAIR
BERNARD TERRY
JOE WILSON

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MARCELLA KENDALL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



We walk
by *Faith*
not by *Sight*

2 Corinthians 5:7

MEMBERS: Our Mid-Week Wednesday morning Bible class at 11 a.m. has resumed. Also all member Sunday worship is now taking place.

READING SAFARI



Keep Reading! For any additional information please contact sister Felecia Caruthers at (336) 575-2972.



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

3rd Isiah Black; 5th Shanita Green; 8th Curtis Conner, Dorris Jones, Marion Wofford; 9th Kendahl Adkins, Dawn Jones, Braxton King; 10th Keshia Holmes; 11th Elliot Thompson; 12th Winfred Moten; 15th James Cherry, Leroy Nelson, Shagail Reed; 17th, Juwan Huey; 18th Sonya Izard; 19th Marciano Mash, Kiara McNair; 21st, Robert Jones; 22nd Beverly Crim, William Scott; 23rd Valeria Ford; 24th, Jackie Williams; 25th Bobby Roebuck, Liam Pilson; 26th Garrin McNair, Tiffany Seawright; 27th Willie M. Cherry; 28th Christina Barksdale, Janet Ervin; 30th Lleyton Pilson



(43 Years) Bernard & Beverly Wallace - 4th
(16 Years) Eric & Tamika Nelson - 19th
(34 Years) William & Lillie Holmes - 28th

Welcome
WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE

*All Visitors!
You Are Our
Honored Guests!*

CORNELIUS CORNER

You may be able to get VA health care benefits if you served in the active military, naval, or air service and didn't receive a dishonorable discharge. To find out more about health care eligibility go to www.va.gov/health-care/eligibility.



Our Shut-ins

OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN

sis. Gloria Brown, sis. Beverly Crim,
bro. Frank W. Dulin, bro. Alvin
Eaton, sis. Paula Evans, sis. Magda-
lene Fleming, bro. Barry Harper, sis.
Dorris Jones, bro. Amos Lewis, bro.
Leroy Nelson, sis. Martha Reynolds,
sis. Mattie Richardson

RESPONSIVE READING

1 John 5:3-8

READER: For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

CHURCH: For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.

READER: Who is he that overcometh the world, but he that believeth that Jesus is the Son of God?

CHURCH: This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit that beareth witness, because the Spirit is truth.

READER: For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

UNISON: And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

PRAYER

Father in heaven, we thank You for empowering us to overcome the world. Continue to strengthen our faith. In the name of Jesus, we pray, Amen.

PRAYER REQUEST

bro. Artis Rucker, sis. Carol McDowell
sis. Marleshia Young, sis. Barbie Jones
bro. Horatious Bowen



SHEPHERD ON CALL FOR JUNE

BROTHER JOHN FOXWORTH
(336) 918-6359



ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:00 A.M

SONG LEADER
SERMON

Roy Oliphant
Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr.

10:00 A.M.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
INVOCATION
SONG DIRECTOR
SCRIPTURE
RESPONSIVE READING
PRAYER
SERMON
OFFERING
LORD'S SUPPER
CLOSING PRAYER
GUESTS PRESENTATION

Cecil Oliver
Walter Weathers Jr.
Adolphus Coplin
Todd Woods
Artis Rucker
Roy Oliphant
Jefferson R. Caruthers Jr.
Isiah Black
Bernard Terry
James Gadson

COMMUNION REFLECTION

(JOHN 10:20)

And many of them said, He hath a devil, and is mad; why hear ye him?.



USHERS

Andrew Jackson	Bernard Wallace
James Cherry	Todd Woods
Curtis Conner	Tahjmel Brim
Javar Jones	Sean Penn

EVENING USHERS

Braxton King A. J. Crim
Tahjmel Brim Kobe Williams

COMMENTARY CORNER

There would be no argument from Paul about whether he was a citizen of the kingdom of God (Colossians 1:13). But Paul was also a Roman citizen.

Like American citizenship, Roman citizenship had its benefits. And one of the benefits was how one would be treated when it came to guilt and innocence. We find Paul engaging this dynamic on more than one occasion.

In Philippi, Paul experienced police brutality on the level of a Rodney King. He was beaten unjustly and then put in prison. When officials discovered that they had done this to a Roman citizen, they tried to cover up their injustice (Acts 16:37). Before then, Paul said, "They have beaten us openly uncondemned, being Romans, and have cast us into prison and now do they thrust us out privily? Nay

verily, but let them come themselves and fetch us out." (Acts 16:37).

Observe how Paul responds to injustice in Philippi. First, he informs the officials of their injustice: "you have beaten us openly uncondemned." In other words, you have executed punishment and we have not even had a trial.

Second, Paul informs these of his citizenship status: "Being Romans." That is, though we are believers, we have rights as citizens. Third, Paul lets them know that he has had two punishments, the beating and prison. Fourth, Paul informs the Philippian officials that they are now trying to hide their misdeed: what they did they did openly, they are now trying to privately sneak Paul out of prison. Fifth, and this is instructive, Paul stages a sit-in. He says that he will not come out of prison until the officials meet his demands of fetching Paul out themselves. Paul stayed there until

these men did (Acts 16:39).

Paul would have to again default to his Roman citizenship when the Jews were trying to circumvent Roman law. When some sought to question Paul by beating, Paul asks, "It is lawful for you to scourge a man that is a Roman and uncondemned" (Acts 22:25)? We then read, "When the centurion heard that, he went and told the chief captain saying, Take heed what thou doest: for this man is a Roman" (Acts 22:26).

We should celebrate above everything that we are citizens of the kingdom of God. But this does not mean that we have misrepresented the kingdom of God when we recognize our citizenship, the laws of our country, and justice that is appropriate for all. We are not silenced. And one final thought. Are we willing to be the ones who would say, "Take heed what thou doest, for this man is a United States citizen?"

SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

SUNDAY

Early Morning Worship.....	8 A.M.
Bible School.....	9 A.M.
Morning Worship.....	10 A.M.
Evening Worship.....	6:30 P.M.

WEDNESDAY-MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY

11 A.M. & 7 P.M.

MENS' & LADIES' BIBLE CLASS

5 P.M. (2nd & 4th Sunday)
(September-May)

MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

Teachers' Meeting.....	9 A.M.
(1st Saturday)	
Clothing Bank.....	10 A.M.-12 P.M.
(1st Saturday)	
Youth Fellowship Meeting.....	10 A.M.
(2nd Saturday)	
Husbands & Fathers' Support Group...	10 A.M.
(3rd Saturday)	
Young Adult Ministry.....	6:30 P.M.
(3rd Friday)	

WORSHIP TO THE SICK & SHUT-IN

FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE
BROTHER JAMES GADSON



BAPTISMAL TEAM

Bro. Anthony Clinton
Bro. Thomas Loyd, Sr.
Bro. George McNair
Bro. Walter Weathers, Jr.

Radio Broadcast Stations



Sundays @ 7:30 A.M.
Thursdays @ 3 P.M.
1340 AM
1400 AM
103.5 FM

YOU CAN BE SAVED TODAY!

To be saved today, you must hear the gospel (Romans 10:17; Acts 15:7). You must believe the gospel that assures us salvation through Jesus who is the risen Lord (Romans 10:9, 10). You must be willing to turn your life over to God through repentance (Acts 17:30; Romans 2:4). Those willing to live for God through repentance are ready for confession (Romans 10:9, 10).

The person who confesses is baptized into Christ (Romans 6:3, 4; Galatians 3:27). In baptism, the believer is washed, sanctified, and justified (1 Corinthians 6:11). Christ saves the baptized person in baptism (1 Peter 3:21).

If you believe that Jesus died for you and was resurrected, if you will repent and confess, then you can be baptized into Christ and be saved. Come to Jesus today!



CHILDREN'S WORSHIP

7th Diane Foxworth/Veronica Sides
14th Kendra Scott/Tiffany Seawright
21st Cynthia Judge
28th Chanel Foxworth/Leah Adkins & Daughters

NURSERY DUTY

7th - Not Scheduled
14th - Not Scheduled
21st - Not Scheduled
28th - Not Scheduled

GREETERS

Mary Terry

COMMUNION PREPARERS

Mary Terry

BAPTISMAL COMMITTEE

Diane Foxworth/Diane Blakely
Wendy Thomas



ZONES

ZONE #1 Capt. Bro. J. Wilson (661-1312)
ZONE #4 Co-Capt. Bro. B. Terry (720-9694)
ZONE #5 Capt. Bro. J. Gadson (650-9693)
Co-Capt. Bro. A. Rucker (924-5696)
ZONE #7 Capt. Bro. J. Foxworth (924-5029)
Co-Capt. Bro. R. Oliphant (765-3105)
ZONE #8 Capt. Bro. R. March (727-0052)