



SUGAR LAND BIBLE CHURCH
"BRINGING THE BIBLE TO LIFE FOR 36 YEARS
1982- 2018"



THE CORNERSTONE

OCTOBER 2018



Dear Church Family,

We're getting ready to bless children around the world this Christmas season through Operation Christmas Child, a Samaritan's Purse ministry. Samaritan's Purse is a wonderful ministry that puts the gospel at the forefront of everything they do, and reaches children in hard to reach areas of the world. Our goal this year is to fill at least 60 shoeboxes. We'd love for everyone to help in some way. First and foremost, please be in prayer for this major operation that reaches millions of children, asking that the Holy Spirit would minister to the hearts of the recipients. You can also help by donating items at the link below, joining us for an organizing party, or joining us for the grand finale: the packing party.

Please drop all donations off in the foyer by October 21st. Our organizing party will be on Thursday, November 1st at 6:30 pm for anyone available and willing to help us organize the donations and get set up for our packing party on Wednesday November 7, 2018 from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm. The packing party will be in lieu of the regular scheduled events for youth and children that night.

PLEASE NOTE: We have carefully crafted a list of items that are approved which you will find at the below link. Please make sure all items donated are NEW and please don't include any of the following **prohibited items**: Candy; toothpaste; gum; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes; liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol can.

Please direct any questions to Fabi Morris via text at 713-322-8945 or email at phahbee@hotmail.com.

Missions for the Month

Jim and Phyllis Myers



Sugar Land Bible Church was pleased to host a Missions Night for Jim and Phyllis on Wednesday, August 8, where the couple shared the exciting things going on in their ministry. Below is a description of their ministry followed by the quarterly newsletter we received from Jim in May.

James F. Myers Ministries' primary purpose is to train national Christian leaders in the former Soviet Bloc countries and other nations. The primary focus of the ministry is in Kiev, Ukraine, where the ministry started Word of God Bible Church and founded Word of God Bible College.

James F. Myers Ministries also conducts conferences and workshops in other countries, traveling regularly to Zambia and Brazil, and to many other countries in eastern Europe and central Asia.



Conference at Camp Betel, Sousas, Brazil

Dear Friends,

Fast and furious! That sums up the first four months of 2018 for us, and there is more to come in May. Teaching at Word of God Bible College in January and February, then a month of almost non-stop teaching in Brazil and two weeks in Zambia has filled our calendar – not to mention the hours of prep time and travel. In Brazil I spoke in nine different cities, usually two hours a day, but sometimes four and even eight hours in a day!

**Andy Woods—Pastor**

Twenty-Four Church and Israel Distinctions (Part 3)

One of the most rudimentary distinctions that the child of God needs to learn to rightly divide God's Word (2 Tim. 2:15) is the basic distinction between Israel and the Church. A common mistake in Bible interpretation is to take God's promises that are aimed at national Israel and instead to indiscriminately apply them to the Church and consequently the Church Age believer. There are, at a bare minimum, at least twenty-four differences between the Church and Israel. The purpose of this series is to highlight these basic differences. In prior installments, we saw the following distinctions: [while Israel is the wife of Jehovah, the Church is the bride of Christ. Furthermore, Israel birthed Christ whereas Christ birthed the Church. In addition, Christ will return for the Church in the Rapture while Christ will return for Israel at the end of the Tribulation period. In this installment, we examine three more distinctions.](#)

Distinction Number 4: Leadership

How is Christ's leadership role described relative to Israel and to the Church? Christ is described as Israel's King. For example, the Book of Isaiah, chapter 33 and verse 22 says concerning Israel, "For the LORD is our judge, The LORD is our lawgiver, The LORD is our king; He will save us."

Conversely, when you examine the New Testament, the imagery that is used to describe Christ's relationship to the Church is never Jesus as King over the Church. Rather, He is the groom and we as His Church are His bride. This imagery is carefully developed in the book of Ephesians (Eph. 5:22-33). Other imagery that is used, especially in the Book of Colossians, is that He is the head and we as His Church are His body (Col. 1:18). The Books of Ephesians and Colossians were written during the same time and from the same place. They were both written about A.D. 60-61 from Rome during Paul's first Roman imprisonment. The cities of Colossae and Ephesus were located about a hundred miles apart. You must take both the Books of Ephesians and Colossians together to get the complete picture of Christ's relationship to His Church. Ephesians is about the Church being His body. Colossians, on the other hand, is about Christ being the head of that body. In other words, the emphasis of Ephesians is His body, the Church. On the other hand, the emphasis of Colossians is Christ as the head of that body. If you want to understand who we are relative to Christ you simply gravitate towards these two metaphors and you will very easily understand that the Christ-Church relationship is never described as the King-kingdom, but rather as Head-body. The King-kingdom relationship is reserved for Christ's dealings with Israel.

Distinction Number 5: Scriptural Proportion

How much of the Scripture deals with the nation of Israel? The answer is four-fifths, or eighty percent, of the Bible deals specifically with the nation of Israel. In other words, a mere one-fifth, or twenty percent, of the Bible pertains to the Church. Just to get this point across, take your Bible and open it to Genesis 12, which depicts the birthday of Israel. Put the index finger of your left hand in Genesis 12 and then keep turning in your Bible until you reach the end of Acts chapter 1. Put the thumb of your same hand there. Then, hold this massive portion of Scripture up to your face so that you can see it clearly. Is this not staggering to discover? Just look at how much of the Bible deals with Israel and how much of the Bible deals with the Church. Even this large portion of Scripture may represent a conservative estimate. After you get beyond Revelation 5, the rest of even this New Testament book continues to be primarily about the nation of Israel.

My point simply is, there is a voluminous amount of information in your Bible about the nation of Israel. The Church, which also is a wonderful pre-determined work of God (Eph. 3:11), is the part of the Bible we are most comfortable with because it directly affects us. However, only one-fifth of the Bible deals with the Church. Yet, most Christians today know next to nothing about that eighty percent of the Word of God, which deals with the nation of Israel. In fact, most of the sermons you hear today in modern-day Christendom do not come from that giant part of the Bible pertaining to Israel. Rather, they come from that small part pertaining to the Church, and, as a result, Christianity today has sadly forgotten about the nation of Israel and has instead inappropriately hijacked many of her promises.

Dr. Arnold Fruchtenbaum, a Hebrew-Christian, argues that we have all the other areas of systematic theology, such as Pneumatology, Christology, Ecclesiology, Angelology, Anthropology, Soteriology, and Eschatology, which organize all that the Bible reveals on these vital subjects. If so, then why do not we have an area of systematic theology called Israelology, which also systematically arranges everything that God has disclosed in His Word about the nation of Israel. Israelology is a major undertaking since eighty percent of the Bible deals with the nation of Israel. This became the basis of Fruchtenbaum's doctoral dissertation, which he completed at New York University entitled *Israelology: The Missing Link in Systematic Theology*. All of this to say, Israel and the Church are very different in terms of the amount of ink that has been spilled relative to each other in God's Word.

Distinction Number 6: The Covenants

What about the covenants, such as the Abrahamic (Gen. 15), Davidic (2 Sam. 7:12-16), New (Jer. 31:31-24), and Land (Deut. 29-30) covenants? What is Israel's relationship to these covenants? What is the Church's relationship to these covenants? They are quite different. Israel is a direct party to these covenants. When God entered these covenants, although He always intended to bless the world through these covenants, He entered them exclusively with only one nation, the nation of Israel. The nation of Israel is the only nation in the history of mankind that the God of the universe ever made a direct contract with (Ps. 147:19-20).

Jeremiah 31:31-32 says, “Behold, days are coming,” declares the Lord, “when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah, not like the covenant which I made with their fathers in the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, although I was a husband to them,” declares the Lord” (italics added). Here, we see here that *Israel* is a direct party to the New Covenant.

What are we, as the Church, relative to these covenants? Do not we take communion in celebration of the New covenant (1 Cor. 11:23-26)? Obviously then, we also have a relationship to these covenants. Yet, our relationship to them is very different that Israel's relationship to them since Israel was a direct party to them. Here is the best conceptual tool that I know of to explain how our relationship to the covenants is different from that of Israel. The Church, unlike Israel, is not a party to the covenants for the simple reason that the Church was not present when these covenants were made. As will be later explained, the Church's birthday did not occur until Acts 2. To put this into legal contractual terms, the Church is a mere third-party beneficiary to the biblical covenants.

Let me use an illustration. Let us say that I hire someone to wash your car, and you are completely unaware of this contractual relationship. We proceed to get the terms of the agreement spelled out, while you as the car owner do not have any idea that I have entered into this arrangement. Who, then, are the parties to the covenant? The only two parties are the hired person and me. You, as the car owner, are not a party to the contract, but merely a third-party beneficiary. By way of analogy, in this contractual relationship, picture me as God, and the person that I hired to wash your car as Israel. These are the only two parties that are involved in the agreement. You, on the other hand, would represent the Church because you are simply a beneficiary to the

agreement made between God and Israel. In other words, we, as the Church, have been indirectly blessed by these covenants, but we were never an actual party to them. At the very best, we receive the spillover effect as third party beneficiaries. We celebrate the Lord's Table and the New covenant not because we were present back in the sixth century B.C. when the covenant was made but because we receive much of its spillover effect since God always knew He was going to bless us some way through this covenant even though we were never actual parties to it. This is a key distinction between Israel and the Church. Israel is a direct party to all the covenants, but the Church is not a party to any of these covenants. Rather the Church has been indirectly blessed, as a third-party beneficiary relationship, by these covenants between God and Israel.

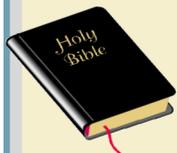
What have we seen thus far in our series? Israel is different than the Church in the sense that Israel is the wife of Jehovah and the Church is the bride of Christ. Furthermore, Israel birthed Christ whereas Christ birthed the Church. In addition, Christ will return for the Church in the Rapture while Christ will return for Israel at the end of the Tribulation period. Furthermore, while Jesus is the King of Israel, He is the groom and head of the Church. While eighty percent of the Bible relates to Israel, a mere twenty percent of it relates to the Church. Also, while Israel was a party to the Biblical covenants, the Church is a mere third-party beneficiary to them. These major distinctions constitute the first *six* of the *twenty-four* differences between Israel and the Church that will be highlighted in this series.

(To Be Continued...)

Video Archive—We archive all our Live Streamed services. To enjoy all your favorite teachings, just go to this link: <https://slbc.org/media/sermon-archives>. And be sure to tell your friends too!



Scripture for the Month:



I Corinthians 2:9

but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And *which* have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him."

Secret Sister Reveal

Saturday, October 13, 2018
2:00 - 4:00 p.m.



What is a Secret Sister? Join us for an afternoon of fellowship as we reveal our secret sisters, get creative with clay pots, and learn more about this encouraging ministry.

All ladies are welcome! See the foyer table for more details & sign-up.

Questions? Contact Jodie Reichardt

Up Coming Events

October 13, 2018 - Secret Sister Reveal 2-4 p.m.

November 17, 2018 - Brookwood Ladies Outing 11:30 a.m.

December 2, 2018 - Ladies' Christmas Soup & Salad 5-7 p.m.

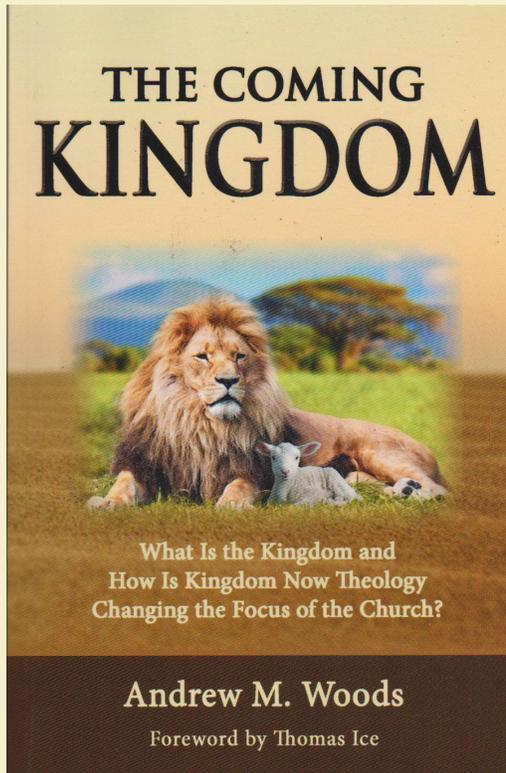
Look for more information in Bulletin:

Ladies' Bible Study:

Tuesday: 9:00 am—Morning Teacher—Patricia Chandler
7:00 pm—Evening Teacher—Betty Cooke



Sugar Land Bible Church



Wednesday Evenings Bible Study Beginning September 5, 2018,

Pastor Andy Woods will be teaching Wednesday night Bible study at Sugar Land Bible Church for the Fall quarter as he continues his ongoing series on the Kingdom.

The material for this teaching will be the Bible but also biblical material as organized in Pastor Andy's 2016 book entitled **"The Coming Kingdom."** This book was given out as a free resource to all SLBC members

and regular attenders. More copies will be supplied to all who desire to come to this class.

This class will ask and answer three basic questions:

1. what does the Bible say about the subject of the kingdom?
2. What are the key passages that many utilize to argue that we are in the kingdom now?
3. Why does it matter what one believes about the kingdom?

The sessions will be videotaped and archived for the benefit of our missionaries who sometimes need theological guidance in certain areas and for the benefit of our growing online church. The basic format will include prayer from 6:45 to 7 PM, teaching from 7 to 8 PM, and questions and answers from 8 to 8:15 PM. We understand that some will have to leave at 8 pm sharp to collect their children and so they may not be able to stick around for the question and answer session. We are excited to be offering this new class for the benefit of the saints at Sugar Land Bible Church. We hope and pray that many will take advantage of this opportunity. We are looking forward to what God will do through these sessions of study in "His Word."

Baptism



We have scheduled 2
Baptism Classes
(attendance at only one is
required). Please see the
dates below:

- Sunday, October 7, 2018
- Sunday, October 14, 2018

These classes will be held during the normal Sunday School hour (9:45AM – 10:45AM), in the Conference Room #107, across from the Church Library (unless otherwise noted).

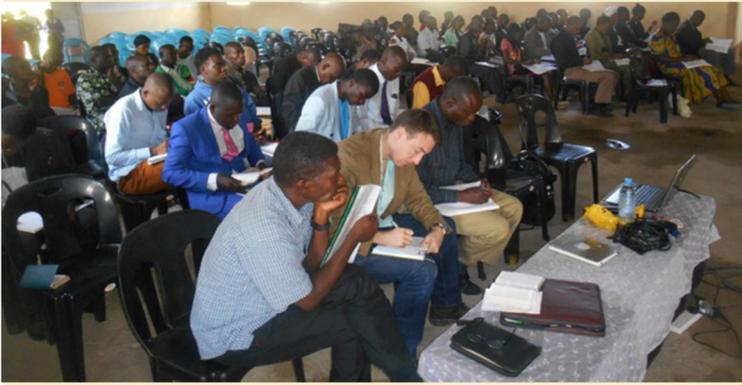
The subsequent Baptismal Service will be held on — October 21, 2018 at Wayne Pittman's home located at 207 Lombardy, Sugar Land, TX 77478 in the Venetian Estates Subdivision

If you or a family member desire to be baptized,
please respond to this email as soon as possible with the full
name of the Candidate for Baptism as it should appear on the
Baptismal Certificate.

Also, please take time to carefully review the information in the
attached "A Baptism Guide for Adults, Parents, and Children"
with each candidate for baptism, BEFORE the class meets.

**SLBC POLICY REQUIRES THAT ALL CANDIDATES
FOR BAPTISM ATTEND "ONE" SCHEDULED BAPTISM CLASS
PRIOR TO BEING BAPTIZED.**

A week later I headed to Zambia from April 7-23 for two weeks of teaching in Livingstone, Lusaka, and the village



of Chipembi. Typically, the conferences there are six hours a day. We packed a lot of teaching into our time in these three places. Recently discharged Army Ranger Captain, Tyler Beck, joined me there and did some of the teaching. He is a young man with a heart for missions who wanted to get a first-hand look at a mission field. It thrills me that there are Americans in the generation of young adults who are doctrinally oriented who want to serve the Lord. After returning to his home in Houston he wrote:

Teaching in Lusaka, Zambia

Having never personally observed missionary work, I am very grateful for the opportunity to watch, listen, and participate. Especially relieving to me was the confirmation that many missionaries and pastor-teachers stay mission focused, not allowing themselves to be distracted by the worldly needs of their audiences or themselves. I was thrilled to see the 100% focus of you and your fellow soldiers on the accurate communication and clarification of Biblical truths, rather than focusing on changing Zambians' worldly circumstances. We know that wherever there is yearning to understand the Mind of Christ, there will be sound Bible teaching. The Lord is utilizing your sacrifice to build up the faith of many Zambians. I distinctly observed this while meeting many of their church leaders and witnessing the eagerness of the renewal of their thinking with regards to some specific issues.... I could tell, by their frequent applause in some cases, that they were very ready to finally hear sound teaching on those issues.



Word of God Bible College



Word of God Church

Back in Ukraine I will teach a two-week course at the Bible College and then an all-day conference at Word of God Church. Then we will wrap up the school year and head to the States for our summer ministries. Phyllis has been working hard to coordinate all of our travels and speaking engagements.

Mark Musser, board member for JFM Ministries since its inception, has been doing a lot of work here recently. Mark worked with us in Belarus for a year and then was with us for six years in Kiev. After planting and pastoring a church in Olympia, WA for 10 years, he and Caren and their son Paul will be moving to Yerevan, Armenia at the end of summer. Caren will be teaching at an international school and Mark is hoping to establish a beach head for ministry there. Also, because of its proximity to Ukraine, Belarus, and Russia, he will be able to work even more closely with our ministry. He finished two weeks of teaching at the Bible College here in Kiev and then went to Belarus to minister to the church we there many years ago. If that were not enough, he also led a Discipleship Makers conference in a town not far from Kiev and headed up a two-day conference in Lviv, Ukraine. His wife and daughter joined him here and taught women's conferences. Amazing family! We are so grateful for your prayers and your support. We are privileged to serve the Lord in these different areas where we have opportunities to teach the Word of God. But we know that we are merely part of a much larger team, and we could not do this without you. Thank you.

Finally, I will share an urgent prayer request. Please read the following article and remember to pray for Ukraine. <https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/12228/ukraine-russia-invasion>