

Kelham Korner

KELHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

3400 North Meridian *Mail:* P.O. Box 12605 Oklahoma City, OK 73157 (405) 946-9826 *kelham.org*

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

God Is Faithful

Newer Requests

Shelley & Allen Cloud—trip to Mayo this month
Joan Cox—continued healing/foot
Steve Daniel (Justine Hoel's son-in-law)—cancer
Betty Decker—cancer
Gary Goree—Home from hospital on IV drip
Mitzi and Roger Hembree—health (cancer of tongue)
Wayne Hendricks—strength
Floyd & Twila Howard—health
Julia Huntley (health—home—still recuperating)
Toni Huntley—recuperation
Littleton family—unspoken
Chris McEver

Ron Meek's neighbor
Chris, brother of Ginger Montgomery—health
Billye Murrell—recuperation
Pam Sherrod—home on oxygen, thanksgiving
Del Wilburn (Kathy Rattan's father)—declining health

Ongoing Prayer Needs

Glenda Anderson—health
Beverly & Mike Beardain—health/memory; Chad
Bette Fehrle—health
Mark Handley's son & his brother, Tracy
Brady Hurd—nephew of Julia Huntley, stage 4 cancer
Danny Imhoff—health
Margaret Keillor, wife of pastor's friend—radiation
David Smith—friend of Mark Handley, heart issues
Sawyer Vincent—Danny and Tina's grandson—health
Becca Rocco's sister-in-law, Kathy Ketter
New leaders and representatives

PRAY FOR THE PEACE OF JERUSALEM Military

Heather Riggins; Floyd Howard's grandson

Our Homebound

Sam Castleberry
Lloyd and Joan Dickerson (Burleson, TX)
Billye Murrell (assisted living, Texas)
Donna Shick, Carol Kimberlin's mother (Grace, Bethany)
Justine Hoel (Bellevue, Room 446A)
Our College Students

Hallie Benedict—Southwest Baptist
Madi Montgomery—Wichita State University
Donavon Pietzsch—North Texas State University
Mieka Pietzsch—University of Oklahoma
Makenna Vess—OCCC

For addresses and phone numbers call the office.

"The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:13)

March Birthdays

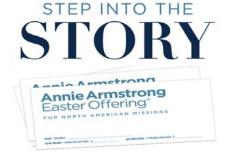
5 Dawn Kuykendall-Reed
9 Cole Hixon
14 Quilla Lovely
Sara Rattan
18 Alan Kimberlin
19 Olivia Thompson Maiuro
20 Robert Macias
21 Michael Macias
Takota Macias
31 Carole-Marie Nix



This Sunday March 9!

Week of Prayer for North American Missons

March 2—9 Our Goal: \$2000







GAME DAY
Thursday, March 6
J H Johnson Center
1213 NW 122nd
2 PM—4 PM



April 13, Morning Service

Guess Who!

This photo, which Claudia
Montgomery provided, is from
Children's Camp at Falls Creek
in 1984. Claudia and Billie Long
are on the back row. The man is
Robert Huckleberry, former
Youth Director.



Pre-Vacation Ponderings—Part 1

Why do I preach verse-by-verse through a passage or book of the Bible? First, I believe the Bible is God's Word. Second, I believe that Word is inspired by God and in the original manuscripts consists of the actual words God intended for us to read. Third, God gave His Word verse-by-verse, though, of course, there were no verses in the originals. (The argument that "No one has seen the original manuscripts" is something for later.) Why do I believe these things? The Bible teaches them. We could quote proof-texts all day to establish that the Bible teaches it is God's Word, but it's simpler to look at how King David understood God's Word, how Jesus saw God's Word, and how Paul saw God's Word.

In Psalm 19, after examining God's witness in Creation (His unspoken Word), David turned to "the law of the Lord" (vs. 7). "Law" is the Hebrew word *Torah*, a word Jews applied first to the Pentateuch—Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuternomy—later to the whole Hebrew Bible, thirty-nine books divided into the Law, the Prophets, and the Writings. David believed and wrote that God's Law is "perfect," complete, having integrity, "entirely in accord with truth and fact' (Brown, Driver, and Briggs, The New Brown-Driver-Briggs-Gesenius Hebrew Aramaic Lexicon, p. 1071). David used several terms for God's Word— "testimony," "statutes," and "commandment." Each conveys a different perspective, like a jeweler turning a precious stone and examining it with his loupe. "Testimony" implies a reminder or warning. "Statutes" portrays "active intervention to help" (Hamilton, Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament, Vol. II, p. 732). "Commandment" is mitsvah, a word used for terms of a contract in a land purchase agreement or the instruction of a son by his father. David went on in other places to exalt God's Word. Psalm 138:2 says, "Thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name." Thirty-six times, he referred to "thy word" in the Psalms—thirty-five of those are in that great acrostic, Psalm 119. Psalm 119:140 proclaims, "Thy word is very pure," picturing purging of impurities by the refiner's fire. Jesus' use of Scripture reflects the same perspective. We need look only to the temptation narratives in Matthew and Luke to see He believed the Bible is God's very Word. There are two more instances, however, in which Jesus showed His trust in the written Scriptures. When He confronted the Pharisees in Matthew 22, he asked, "What think ye of Christ [Messiah] whose son is he?" (vs. 41). Their answer was, "The Son of David." He then reminded them of what David had written in Psalm 110 (affirming His own belief in its Davidic authorship): "How then doth David in spirit call him Lord, saying, the LORD said to my Lord, Sit thou on my right hand, till I make thine enemies thy footstool? If then David called him Lord, how is he his son?" The rabbis considered that a Messianic passage. Jesus pointed out that David wrote, Jehovah said to my Master (the Hebrew words are different—Jehovah and Adonai; thus

the different capitalization in the King James). The actual words matter.

A second instance took place in the same chapter when the Sadduccees (who did not believe resurrection) posed their trick question about which of seven brothers would have a wife who had married each in succession by the marriage laws of Deuteronomy 25. Jesus addressed their underlying disbelief in resurrection by quoting Exodus 3:6: "I am the God of thy father Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." That hinges on "I am." God did not say, "I was." Matthew used the full Greek expression, $\varepsilon\gamma\omega$ $\varepsilon\iota\mu\iota$. (Jesus quoted the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament. That might hold implications as to whether translations are inspired.) God still *is* the God of departed believers.

Finally, how did Paul use the Scriptures? He believed in the inspiration of the actual words. In Galatians 3 he explained God's covenant promises, given prior to the Law, taking precedent to the Ten Commandments, were "to Abraham and his seed" (vs. 16), "not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ." His argument depended on whether a single word was plural or singular.

I believe the Bible is "inspired" by God. Why? Because it claims that for itself. Second Timothy 3:16 says, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God." The Bible does not say the authors were inspired but what they wrote, "scripture," literally "writing," is. God breathed out the Scriptures. They are the breath of God. Paul was talking about the Old Testament as verse 15 indicates: "From a child thou has known the holy scriptures, which are able to make the wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." "Scriptures" is the Greek word for writings. Peter explained the process of revelation—the act by which God reveals His truth: "Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost" (2 Pet. 1:21). God revealed truth and the Bible writers were carried along by God's Spirit and using their own grammar and vocabulary, they wrote exactly what God wanted.

If the very words of the Bible are God's breath, it means we should see exactly what He revealed. That's why I preach verse-by-verse. If we take words out of context in a letter or document, we risk twisting the meaning and intent. Peter warned about those who "wrest" (2 Pet. 3:16) "scriptures, unto their own destruction."

Read the Book. The Bereans were "more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." Believe the Book. Jesus told His Jewish listeners, "[You] Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have

eternal life: and they are they which testify of me" (John 5:39). They did not believe the very Word of God which they poured over constantly. Yet as Jesus said, the scriptures witnessed He is God, the Savior.

Brother Gary