

hope **one** God
 Lord Spirit body
 faith **family**
 baptism hope

May 4, 2014

12932 S. Elwood Ave. • Glenpool OK, 74033

ELDERS

Carl Burrus
 Jesse Byers
 Bobby Hill
 Bill Path

MINISTER

Benjamin Williams

PRISON MINISTER

Bill Hamrick

DEACONS

Matt Caldwell,
**ASSOCIATE MINISTER,
 YOUTH & EDUCATION**

Keith Riggs,
OUTREACH

Bruce Rothell,
MISSIONS

SECRETARY

Karen Brown

A Few Thoughts on Heaven Is For Real

Published in 2010, *Heaven Is For Real* is a best-selling book that records the story of Colton Burpo, a four-year-old boy who made it through an emergency appendectomy only to awaken with a detailed story of his trip to Heaven and back. The book has sold over 6 million copies and has been turned into a movie that recently released.

I am typically happy when anyone attempts to encourage faith, even I if am disturbed by their methods or motivations, so long as “Christ is proclaimed” (Phi. 1:15-18). I have been hesitant to even write about this book, but due to its immense popularity, I feel like a few comments are in order.

1. Experiences of Heaven In Scripture Are Extremely Rare. A very small number of people claim to have seen any part of Heaven in the Bible. Most are in the form of prophetic visions, such as Jacob (Gen. 28:12-13), Moses and the elders (Ex. 24:9-10), Micaiah (2 Chr. 18:18), Isaiah (Isaiah 6), Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1 & 10), Daniel (Dan. 7:9-14), and John (Revelation 4). Stephen saw Heaven in some sense before his death (Acts 7:55). Few of these examples are longer than a few verses; none are longer than a chapter.

2. The Only After-Death Experience In Scripture Is Marked By Confusion And Silence. Paul tells a story that is so convoluted that he cannot even say whether it is him in the story or if the person in the story was present bodily (2 Cor. 12:1-3). While the story sounds like an actual event that may have happened to Paul, Paul himself introduces it as “visions and revelations” (v. 1). Most importantly, the man in the vision did not produce any kind of extended account of what he saw, but rather Paul states: “he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter” (v. 4).

3. The Bible Strongly Opposes Inquiring of the Dead. The prophet Isaiah says, “And when they say to you, ‘Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter,’ should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living?” (Isaiah 8:19) Jesus also frowns on the effectiveness of warnings from beyond the grave: “If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead” (Luke 16:31). While neither of these stories are exactly parallel to our topic, they make me very leery of this entire approach to knowledge of Heaven or of any subject.

4. We Have Another Witness. Moses told the people that when they look for wisdom, they need not send someone to Heaven. They need only attend to God’s Word (Deut. 30:11-14). Paul expands on that point and says that it is Jesus who has brought God’s blessings down from Heaven, and it is Jesus who speaks to us from beyond the grave (Rom. 10:5-10). While I’m sure this four-year-old had no negative intention, I worry that our culture’s obsession with his story and many like it detract from — rather than add to — the True Witness of Heaven.

by Benjamin J. Williams

SUNDAY

Bible Classes for All Ages 9:30 am
 Morning Worship Assembly 10:30 am
 Evening Worship & Classes 5:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Classes for All Ages 7:00 pm

WE NEED YOUR HELP



Men and women - your help is needed TODAY at 2:00! If all goes as planned we will be moving out the current pews in the auditorium to make way for our new chairs.

If you will recall a few weeks ago it was mentioned we had an opportunity to purchase these chairs at a reduced cost - which we did. Now they will be arriving on Monday or Tuesday, May 5th or 6th and we need a place to put them!

A church in Sapulpa will be picking up our pews on Sunday, May 4th and that is where you come in -- we need your help! The song books will need to be taken up, along with the pencils, cards and personal items.

There will be NO services this evening -- we will have no place to sit!

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

Creoks for Kids is asking for school supplies for Sapulpa students. If you wish to donate a box has been put in the fellowship room to collect these items. Please bring them by Sunday, May 11th. (Please do not confuse this with the school supply drive we have in July/August for the Glenpool school - which we will still do). A flyer is posted on the bulletin board concerning this.



upcoming
work dinners
events fellowship
retreats picnics games parties meetings

Saturday, May 10th

VBS work day at 10 am

Frog Road Camp work day

Sunday, May 11th

Mother's Day

Elder's and Deacon's meeting, 3:30

Sunday, May 18th

Fellowship meal / Graduation Celebration, group Burrus

Thursday, May 22nd

Ladies Salad Supper at Deb Path's home. The van will leave the church building at 5:30

Sunday, June 1st

Ladies Meeting 3:30

Saturday, June 7th

Frog Road Camp work day

Wednesday, June 11th

Singing Night

Sunday, June 8th thru Saturday, June 14th

Frog Road Camp session

Sunday, June 15th

Father's Day

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, July 23th-25th

Vacation Bible School

IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- Barbara Vaughan continues to have lung problems and other health issues.
- Eric Vaughan (Barbara's son) is home bound with heart problems.
- Jean Brown was feeling unwell Sunday evening, running a high fever and shaking. Turns out she is had a kidney and sinus infection and is doing a little better.
- Karen Brown was taken to Urgent Care Wednesday night with extreme back and leg pain, after getting a small dose of morphine she started having chest pain and was admitted to St. Francis. Good news her heart, abdomen are good, and she is working on getting her back and leg pain under control.
- **Service men and women:** Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear; Josh Triay (Becky's nephew)
- **Our friends and family:** Dan Jones; Shelia Byers (cancer); Suzanne Stamps; Sue Gilbert (Leasa's mother); Linda Patterson (stroke); Dolores Scherman (at home now); Jeannene Thomas (cancer); Barbara Vaughan; Eric Vaughan (heart); Barbara Pinkston (cancer); & others.

MONDAY, May 5th

We need all available men to help move our new chairs from the Baptist church in Bixby to our building tomorrow at 9:00. See Carl for questions.

MEETING

Elder's and Deacon's meeting May 11th at 3:30.

SPRING QUARTER AUDITORIUM CLASS

May 4 - The Church - Carl Burrus

May 11 - Faithfulness, Growth, Maturity - Bill Path

May 18 - Evangelism - Jerry Morgan

May 25 - Restoration after Baptism - Randy Brown

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

We will have our fellowship / Graduation Celebration on Sunday, May 18th after the evening services. Group Burrus is responsible for setting up and cleaning up. A basket will be made available to put cards in for our graduates. So far we have two high school grads - Alex Riggs and Meghan Casuby and one college grad - Kelsey Riggs (from OSU). Congratulations to all!

NOTE FROM JIM AND BARBARA

Dear Glenpool church of Christ, Barbara and I are sitting here with tears in our eyes feeling loved more than we have felt in years. We just wanted to thank everyone for the very generous gift. This takes one of the great burdens off us and your prayers the other. It is so wonderful how God works. We are just trusting in God and asking Him for the courage and strength to accept His will. We love all of you so much! Jim and Barbara Pinkston

There was a \$5,000. check given to them to help with medical expenses. Thank you for being so generous.

EASTER EGGS

Do you have leftover plastic Easter eggs? If you no longer want them Ben & Selene can use them. Bring them to the church building and put them in Ben's office. Thanks!

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Larry Potter, May 4

Mike & Susie O'Neal, May 5

Josh Parker, May 6

Mike O'Neal, May 7

Jerry O'Shields, May 12

Tonya Davidson, May 13

Beverly Wooley, May 13

Bill Path, May 13

Larry Grows, May 15

Toni O'Neal, May 17

Makenzie Causby, May 17

Steven Jennifer Wetzel, May 18

Jerry & Geraldine Morgan, May 19

Lindsey Perry, May 20

Lydia Jones, May 22

GLENPOOL church of Christ

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Attendance: Last Week

Sunday Bible Classes
Sunday AM Worship
Sunday PM Worship
Wednesday Bible Classes

106
146
82
60

Contribution

Sunday Contribution \$3,672.02
Budget \$4,185.00
Under Budget <\$1,284.56>
Building Fund \$30,829.48

Men To Serve

Sunday Morning

Song Leader Bobby Hill
Opening Prayer Carl Burrus
Scripture Reading Matt Hamilton
Closing Prayer Steve Wetzel
Lord's Table Bruce Rothell
Dennis Robinson
Cameron Hill
Jerry Buller

Ushers

Bob Simmons
Jim Yeager

Greeter

Randy Crawford

Lock Building

Bruce Rothell and Bobby Hill

Sunday Evening

Song Leader Bobby Hill
Opening Prayer Robert Hill
Closing Prayer Larry Potter
Lord's Table Bruce Rothell
Dennis Robinson

Wednesday Evening

Song Leader Matt Caldwell
Opening Prayer James Hamilton
Closing Prayer Bobby Hill

Communion Preparation

5/4 Renee Whitchurch
5/11 Barbara Girod
5/18 Mickey Hecht
5/25 Angela Growns
6/1 Selene Williams
6/8 Bayla Burrus
6/15 Lilia Rothell
6/22 Becky Byers
6/29 Debbie Whitchurch

Next Quarterly Ladies Meeting

Sunday, June 1st
3:30 pm



IN SEARCH
OF THE LORD'S WAY®

"These were more noble...they searched the scriptures daily..." (Acts 17:11)

Sundays at 7:30 a.m. KWHB
TV47 or Cable Channel 7

Search Programs:

May 4 - Salvation in Christ
May 11 - Staying Saved
May 18 - ASK, Seek, Knock
May 25 - Has God Spoken?

Sunday Morning Sermon

"Only God Forgives"

Mark 2:1-4

Benjamin Williams

No Evening Services

Pew Moving at 2 PM