

Glenpool Church of Christ

God Speaks to the Nations

The book of Jeremiah is emphatically political in its content and context. It is not a vague hint at a world to come, but the demand of God that the present, rebellious world give way to Him. Jeremiah is given the task of taking that message to the “to the nations” (Jeremiah 1:5). Jeremiah recognizes the enormity of this task and attempts to hide behind his youth and inexperience (v. 6). Likewise, contemporary Christianity has found a variety of hedges to duck behind. “Perhaps we should keep the gospel free of politics for the sake of winning the masses to Jesus.” “Perhaps we best tend to our churches and let the government take care of itself.”

I would agree that no party affiliation or candidate preference should ever hinder our influence for Christ. However, if the central premise of Christianity – the Lordship of Christ over all – is being forfeited by the political leaders, their positions, and their character, then exactly what sort of Christianity are we saving up our influence to promote? In other words, if the Lord of the Universe is to have no voice in the discourse of our nation, then in what way is he actually Lord of the Nations? If he does not speak to this, where does he speak?

We must recognize with the prophets that the God of Creation is the Lord of the Nations and speaks his voice even into that sphere they claim as their own. “To all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak” (Jeremiah 1:7). No corner of society is safe from his voice, his demand. The nations specifically are put on notice:

Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.” (Jeremiah 1:9-10)

Of course, Christian reminders are warranted here. The demand to speak to the nations is not an excuse for shameful conduct or disreputable speech. Nor should political discourse ever be entered without prayer and humility (1 Timothy 2:1-4; 1 Peter 2:13-17). For the Christian, the path ahead is neither defiance nor silence, but speech seasoned with grace and mingled with love (Colossians 4:6). Additionally, political discourse must not be permitted to create anxiety. Human elections are uncertain, but divine election is not.

Once those reminders are taken to heart, then at last the Christian must do his part. We must unleash the Lion of Judah on the world of human politics. And pray.

by Benjamin J. Williams

August 21, 2016

ELDERS

Bobby Hill

Bill Path

Keith Riggs

David Tenison

PULPIT MINISTER

Benjamin Williams

YOUTH INTERN

Haden Brill

PRISON MINISTER

Bill Hamrick

DEACONS

James Hamilton,

WORSHIP

Thomas Hallsted,

FINANCE

Todd Khoury

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Johnny Riggs,

MEMBER SERVICES

Bruce Rothell,

MISSIONS

Zac Tenison,

YOUNG FAMILIES

Edwin Whittlesey,

ADMINISTRATION

SECRETARY

Karen Brown

Belong. Learn. Serve.

Prison Ministry and Outreach

Brad Harub, Ph.D, wrote some thought provoking words in a recent article entitled, “Are We Too Inward Focused?” Brother Harub made the point that many church programs focus on meeting the needs of the membership and outreach to the lost is being neglected. He made it clear that he was not saying the programs for the church membership are not important. However, there seems to be a failure in reaching out to the lost in too many congregation.

The article reminded me that there is no way to have a successful prison ministry and neglect outreach. Outreach is the very essence of jail and prison ministry. We provide classes and correspondence lessons and counseling to a group of inmates, of whom over 98% are not New Testament Christians. Many of the inmates need moral and spiritual guidance.

What impact does the prison ministry have on our local congregation? We like to remind members that the ministry involves more than the prison minister. Grading and preparing for mailing lessons involves 8 members each week. They are a vital part of the outreach program at Glenpool. This mission outreach is making a difference. Souls are being taught the Lord’s way, families are being strengthened and lives once controlled by substance abuse are given the opportunity to change. We thank the Lord for the prison ministry outreach at Glenpool.

Notes from inmates:

I am writing to see about the Christians Against Substance Abuse course you offer. I am in the stage of trying to find myself. All I am getting is bad news from left and right. One of my friends told me to write you. I hope the church will help me find myself and put me back on track. I know I need help! Any lesson I can do, I am very open to doing. I am so ready to received anything to help me walk the walk. Robert

Sometimes it is hard to be positive in a negative society. We must stick together as Christians, stay in the word, and stay in prayer to succeed. Ronald

MOVING ON UP

Sunday, Sept 4th, will be the Sunday for our young people to promote to their new classes.

Some of the ages/grades may be moving to a different area—example the class that was 1st-3rd grade may now meet in the 4th & 5th grade classroom. Just double check the signs on the doors on the 1st Sunday in Sept or ask one of the teachers.



Wednesday, Aug 24

Summer Series, our speaker will be Bill Hamrick from Glenpool

Sunday, Aug 28

Fellowship meal, the theme is Italian food, group Tenison

Wednesday, Aug 31

5th Wednesday night singing—no classes

Monday, Sept 5

Labor Day—the office will be closed

Sunday, Sept 11

Leadership meeting at 3:00

IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- No new ill of our congregation have been reported to the office.
- **Service men and women:** Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear;

Long Term Prayer List: Eric Vaughan (heart surgery); Henry Lack (dizziness); Stephanie White (pain); Dolores Scherman; Steven Cornejo; Alan Trimble (ALS); Wayne Morgan; Rosalie O'Neal (kidneys); Ruth Henry;

FELLOWSHIP MEAL

Sunday, Aug 28th is our next fellowship meal, with the theme of Italian food. This will be after evening services and group Tenison is responsible for setting/cleaning up.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BOOK

Don't forget to sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you wish to order a book for Ben's class on Wednesday nights. Please do so by Aug 31st.

CHANGE CANS FOR HOPE HARBOR

Please start returning your change cans for Hope Harbor. They need to be returned by Sunday, Sept 4th. There are extra cans in the foyer if you wish to take one and begin filling it up for next year.

Hope Harbor is looking for items for their silent auction and more valuable items for the live bidding auction at their Open House, Sept 24. Their phone number is 918-343-0003 if you would like to contact them.



YOUTH ACOMPLISHMENTS

- ◇ **Carson Hallsted** knows the 5 Acts of Worship
- ◇ **Morgan Talley** knows the names of Adam & Eve's family.
Good work !

ADD TO DIRECTORY

Please add our new Youth Minister Intern to your directory: Haden & Lexie Brill 1905 E. 81st St. / apt P / Tulsa, OK 74137 phone 918-497-8440 Emails: Chbrill@hotmail.com / Lmbrill16@gmail.com

Food For Thought...

God didn't promise days without pain,
Laughter without sorrow, sun without rain,
But He did promise strength for the day,
Comfort for the tears, and light for the way.

Tomorrow's forecast: God reigns and the Son shines!

If the devil is knocking at your door, let Jesus answer it.

No problem is too great, to place in God's hands.

Christians are a lot like camels, they both remove their burdens down on their knees.

Man's way leads to a hopeless end, God's way leads to an endless hope.

God without man is still God. Man with God is nothing.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Bob & Mickey Hecht, Aug 21
Stephanie Yeager, Aug 23
Mary Reeve, Aug 24
Wes & Marisa Wadkins, Aug 25
Tammy & Tom Carr, Aug 25

Andrea Hallsted, Aug 30
Ralph Causby, Aug 30
Darrel Kent, Sept 3
Carson Talley, Sept 4
Syble Stone, Sept 4 (95 yrs)

Bob & Virginia Burrus, Sept 4 (62 years)
Jennifer Wetzal, Sept 7
Meagan Russell, Sept 9
Spencer & Steph Yeager, Sept 10

SUNDAY AM WORSHIP

Song Leader	Edwin Whittlesey
Opening Prayer	Randy Brown
Table	1. Wes Wadkins 2. James Hamilton 3. Bruce Rothell 4. Zac Caldwell 5. Jerry Morgan 6. Darrel Kent
Scripture Reading	Hayden Bullinger
Closing Prayer	Harry Reeve

SUNDAY PM DEVOTIONAL

Song Leader	Edwin Whittlesey
Opening Prayer	Jeff Bullinger
Table	1. Bruce Rothell 2. James Hamilton
Closing Prayer	Carl Burrus

WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONAL

Song Leader	James Hamilton
Opening Prayer	Ben Williams
Devotional	Summer Series
Closing Prayer	Jerry Buller

FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Contribution	\$4,203
Budget	\$4,625
Over Budget	\$290

LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Sunday Bible Classes	137
Sunday AM Worship	190
Sunday PM Worship	107
Wednesday Bible Classes	96

COMMUNION PREPARATION

8/21	Tonya Davidson
8/28	Causby Ladies
9/4	Marcia Riggs
9/11	Dana Kent
9/18	Earline Lierly

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

8/21	Yvonne & Becky S.
8/28	Lilia & Rita
9/4	Saundra & Nancy
9/11	Stephanie & Mackayla
9/18	Tonya & Toni

SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Classes / 9:30 am
 Worship / 10:30 am

SUNDAY EVENING

Devotional & Classes / 5:00 pm
WEDNESDAY
 Devotional & Classes / 7:00 pm

Sunday Sermon Series: Written In Red
 "To the Hypocrite"
 Luke 13:10-17
 Benjamin J. Williams

Sunday Evening Devo: Psalm 102
 Sunday Evening Class: Apologetics Class