

Invitation

Welcome everyone. We pray you will be strengthened by your visit with the Brighton Church of Christ. You are not just our guest, but you are welcome and wanted right here. Join our family of imperfect people perfected in by the blood of Jesus. Restrooms are located across the foyer near the front of the auditorium on the upper floor. If you need assistance in any way, ask any member for help.

Mission

The Brighton Church of Christ is a spiritual family with a focus on going to heaven. We are determined to honor God, to strictly follow the teachings of the New Testament, and effectively make that teaching available to the city of Brighton and the surrounding areas.

Leadership

Elders

Ron Jensen 303-655-8498
Ivan Stewart 720-270-1057
Mark Thacker 303-655-1982

Deacons

Kevin Dunham 303-807-5974

Minister

Sam Dilbeck 903-229-8415

Contacts

Church Phone: 303.659.1420
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Website: brightonchurchofchrist.org
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Attendance last week:

Sunday am - 75
Sunday pm - 33
Wednesday - 43
Contribution- \$3,362.02

Sunday Schedule Morning

Welcome Ron Jensen
Song Leader Ron Jensen
Opening Prayer.....Kevin Dunham
Lord’s Supper Leader.....Marc Moran
Assistant.....Kayden Derbigny
AssistantSam Dunham
Assistant.....Jim Learned
Assistant.....Marcos Celaya
Scripture Reading.....Kaden Dunham

1 Cor 9:26-27

Lesson..... Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer & Dismissal.....Mark Thacker

Sunday Evening

Song Leader.....Ron Jensen
Opening Prayer.....Marc Moran
Lord’s Supper Leader.....Marc Moran
Lesson.....Sam Dilbeck
Closing Prayer.....Paul Nikolai

Wednesday Evening Schedule

Class.....Clayton Johnson

Service Times

Sundays:
Morning classes 9:30 am
Worship 10:30 am
Evening worship 6:00 pm
Wednesdays:



July 10, 2022

Was the Church Purchased with the Blood of God? By: Sam Dilbeck

When Paul met with the Ephesian elders, he reminded them of their close relationship and how he had taught them the whole counsel of God. Yet, in the same speech, he warned them he would not always be with them, and they would need to be diligent to defend the church from attack. To emphasize the precious nature of the church he said, “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.” (Acts 20:28). How precious was the church? It was purchased with the blood of God. Or was it?

Across the spectrum of English translations, there are variations in Acts 20:28. At issue is the phrase “church of God.” Most English versions follow this translation, but some read “church of the Lord.” The NKJV footnotes another possible variant as “the church of the Lord and God,” which conflates the other two readings.

This leads to a second issue at the end of the verse that appears to be an attempt to correct a perceived theological problem. The last phrase of Acts 20:28 reads “which he purchased with his own blood.” This translation is followed by several versions. However, some read, “with the blood of his own Son.”

The theological issue is whether God has blood. God is spirit and lacks a corporeal body and therefore has no blood (John 4:24). Further, it is suggested since God is in heaven, and the heavenly realm does not receive flesh and blood, then it is impossible for God to have blood (1 Cor 15:50). These ideas may have arisen during the 2nd and 3rd centuries when the church was coming to grips with the nature of Christ and his relationship to the Father.

The earliest evidence we have for either reading is from the 4th century, and it favors “the church of God.” However, “the church of the Lord” has witnesses going back to the 5th century. There are important witnesses to both “God” and “Lord.” The other variant appears to be an attempt to remove the difficulty of God having blood, by saying it is the “blood of his own Son.” However, this reading doesn’t appear until the 9th century. Its existence, however, may help explain the first variant.

Some believe “church of the Lord” is the original reading, but think a concerned scribe realized that phrase does not occur elsewhere in the New Testament. One the other hand, Paul uses the phrase “church of God” eleven times in his letters. Therefore, the scribe sought to harmonize Luke’s account with Paul’s tendency. This might be possible, but why would a scribe change from an easier to more difficult reading? In the field of textual criticism, the more difficult reading is usually preferred to easier readings because it is more probable a copyist found a difficult reading and changed it to an easier reading, than for the copyist to find an easier reading and change it to something harder. This would suggest “church of God” was the original.

How would “church of God” get changed to “Lord”? After the apostolic era, the fledgling church struggled to understand the nature of the Godhead. Some believed the Father, Son, and Spirit were different modes of the same God. Like God put on the mask of Father at times, then wore the mask of Son in the life of Jesus and donned the mask of the Spirit in salvation. This led to the idea that the Father himself suffered death on the cross and the shed his own blood. This doctrine was soundly defeated by scriptural reasoning, but Acts 20:28 appeared to support the suffering of the Father. Two attempts were made to deal with the Acts 20:28 problem. One changed the owner of the church from “God” to “Lord.” The other changed the blood from “his own” to “his own Son.” This suggests “God” is the original reading.

Why does it matter? Not only does this support the precious value of the church, but it upholds the deity of Christ. It was Jesus who shed his blood, and he is God. The early church struggled over Jesus’ nature, but Luke and Paul displayed a firm grasp of his divine nature.

Announcements

Prayers

Cambrey Reitmair hurt her fingers and prayers for a quick and as pain free healing as possible.

David Bryant’s mother had a stroke and is in the hospital. Her speech is slurred and she is weak. Please pray for her.

Amy Warner had some test done. Pray that her current health problems can be resolved.

Wayne Manzanares had a motorcycle accident. He is dealing with a partially collapsed lung and fluid in his lungs. Prayers that he can clear his lungs and heal soon.

Sherry Derbigny’s Uncle Tommy Barber is dealing with multiple health problems. Prayers that they can be sorted out.

Continued Prayers

Elmo Wilson-home hospice care

Eleanor Jatko– health problems

Jane Hanavan-heart issues

KD’s supervisor's wife, LaRae Siefert-chemo nerve damage

Sam Sims– health problems

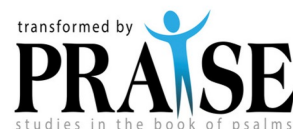
The Wiley family– baby son with health complications

Kristi Dunham’s father, Joe Baker, health problems

Brett Reitmair’s father, Bernie, heart attack.

Tim Parker-recovery from car accident and prayer for his daughter who has long term effects from COVID

News and Notes



Brighton Summer Series

This Wednesday Clayton Johnson will present a lesson on the 95th Psalm. Be sure to make the effort to be with the brethren and enjoy this special summer series on the Psalms.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School starts this Wednesday through Friday. Bring your kids and their friends to learn more about some Fearless people in the Bible.



We are combining efforts with the Carbon Valley church of Christ. **Clayton Johnson will be providing classes for the adults who attend also.** Wednesday is the Praise Series Psalm 95 class, Thursday and Friday he will present classes

"Be Equipped"

An Apologetics Seminar for Teens



This Wednesday through Friday 6:30 PM – 8 PM

here at the Brighton church of Christ building

Come learn logical and rational reasons for the existence of God and the resurrection of Jesus from guest speaker, Aaron Johnson!

Wednesday

-Beginnings and Causes & -Beginning of the Universe

Thursday

-A World without God & A World with Morality

Friday

-Historical Facts about Jesus' Resurrection & -Finding the Best Explanations for the Facts

Birthdays and Anniversaries		
July 11	Berenice Chavarria	Birthday
July 11	Les Tucker	Birthday
July 12	Chris & Rachel Peterson	Anniversary