

## We Must Obey Our Rulers

The election has now passed and we have a new president who will take office on Friday, January 20, 2017. Regardless of whether your candidate won or lost, we are instructed as Christians to obey our rulers, as we see in *Romans 13:1* "Let every soul be subject unto the higher powers. For there is no power but of God: the powers that be are ordained of God." As Americans we have the privilege to participate in elections and shape the way our country will go, as Christians we have a higher responsibility to make sure that we vote for those who will follow God's laws in their decisions in addition to upholding the laws of our country. We must look at where the candidates stand on Biblical issues such as abortion and homosexuality to determine if they will guide the nation in the paths that God has laid out for us in the scriptures. Sometimes we are faced with situations where we don't believe either of the choices for an office meet the qualifications of a godly individual so we must make the best choice we can. As we see in Romans, God is in control because all powers are ordained by Him so regardless of the outcome of an election we must always remember God is in control and we must be subject to their decisions unless they violate God's laws. If our rulers were to pass laws that contradict God's law, we would need to follow God's law, *Acts 5:29* *We ought to obey God rather than men.*" Example: If a law stated no citizen is allowed to worship on Sunday, we would still need to worship on the Lord's Day.

Our country was founded on Biblical principles and the freedom to worship as we see fit, however, we have strayed far from that initial foundation. We have seen where courts have rewritten the laws to suit their desires, an example of this being the Supreme Court taking religion and prayer out of public schools. The exact text concerning religion in the first amendment in the Bill of Rights is as follows: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof". Our founding fathers after having a state run religion forced on them under the British rule of the thirteen colonies did not want the Government dictating how we were to worship. They further sought to leave the individual states free to make their own determinations with regard to religious matters. An in-depth study of our Constitution will show several references to God and the freedom to practice Christian religion without fear from the Government, so it was not our founding fathers desire that God be kept out of this country. We should be sure that we look for those individuals who will uphold God and bring our country back to where it started.

**Your Elders**

## To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



### Chase Park Church of Christ

#### Ministers

Rusty Hills ..... Pulpit  
Nathan Adams..... Outreach  
John Denney ..... Education  
Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

#### Elders

John Denney  
Curtis Hill  
Sam Kachelman  
Dennis Lawson  
Greg Parker  
Barry Todd

#### Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza .... Chalco, Mexico  
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico  
Slava Savkovsky ..... Ukraine  
Barton Kizer..... Peru  
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

## Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

During the upcoming quarter in the high school class we are going to be studying the book of John. For the next several weeks I plan on doing a series of articles from the book of John as a supplement to what the teens will be learning. I hope you might find them profitable as well!

Right from the start of the book, the gospel of John is chock full of spiritual riches. The passage we are going to consider this week is John 1:1-3, *“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him and without Him was not any thing made that was made.”* John starts his gospel out at the beginning, not the beginning of Jesus’ life (because He has no beginning or end), but at

the beginning of time! John unfolds for us the wonderful truth of Jesus existing throughout eternity.

In beginning his gospel the way he did, John points out several truths about Jesus Christ. First, he points out that Jesus always was. Contrary to some schools of thought, Jesus was not a backup plan or an afterthought once the world fell into sin. Jesus was not a being created by God, He is God! Jesus and God are one and were together in the beginning. When God spoke the universe we live in into existence, Jesus was there and an active participant in the process.

Next, when the universe and all of its contents were spoken into existence, it was done through Jesus Christ. This is yet another way, through the Holy Spirit, that it is declared that Jesus Christ is one

with God and has the same power as Him and had a large role to play during the creation of the universe. This passage is not the only time in Scripture that the truth about Jesus’ role in creation is pointed out. Consider 1 Corinthians 8:6, *“Yet to us there is one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we unto Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things, and we through Him.”*

What an incredible blessing it is that we can know that Jesus always was and always will be! Jesus was not a backup plan, instead He IS God and was always part of the plan to redeem you and me. I am so thankful for the foresight of God, thinking about you and me, in the beginning.

## Think Like Christ—*Nathan Adams*

Paul begins Philippians 2 with a series of statements using the word “if” that has the appearance of being something that is uncertain. Yet, it is quite the opposite. The idea is more along the thought of “since there is so much.” Paul is saying in verse 1, “Since there is so much encouragement, consolation of love, fellowship of the Spirit, affection, and compassion.” It should be easy for us to see that one cannot truly be encouraging, loving, comforting, in fellowship, affectionate, and compassionate without putting the object (other people) of those actions before themselves. A selfish person can have any of those attributes in a moment, but those attributes will never be the consistent character of a selfish person.

Paul continues in verse 2 commanding them to take the reality of those attributes (v. 1) and be unified together in the same mind, love, spirit, and purpose. Yet, such unity is impossible where selfishness and empty conceit exist within us (v. 3). Paul makes it clear that they must regard others as more important than themselves. Selfishness has no value or benefit to the Lord’s church. The existence of such only serves to harm the work and people. A focus on self is a bad attitude in the church.

Verses 5-8 have far greater depth than we could possibly uncover in this small space. Paul uses an imperative command to set a very high standard for Christians. It is not a suggestion or optional, it is what God expects from each of us. Romans 12:1-2 states that we are

being transformed (metamorphosis) by the renewing of our minds. Paul elaborates on that transformation in this text. We are to think or have the same mentality as Jesus. What mentality is that? It is an “others before self” mentality demonstrated in Jesus laying aside His divinity and coming to this earth to die on the cross. Why did He do that? To save you, me, and the whole world. He put us before Himself. The result of that attitude was that He was exalted above all things. Likewise, when you and I submit ourselves to others, God will exalt us in the resurrection (1 Peter 5:6).

Too often we try to exalt ourselves, only to fail. Jesus taught His disciples that if one wants to succeed, he will be the servant of all (Mark 9:35). There is no greater visual of this teaching than the God that created the universe on His hands and knees washing dirty feet in John 13:4-11.

Paul struggled in his time to find such selfless Christians, just as we sometimes do today. The reason for Paul’s struggle and ours is because many “seek after their own interests, not those of Christ Jesus” (v. 21). Paul however showed three people who had the “others before self” attitude. Timothy (vs. 19-20), Epaphroditus (vs. 25-28), and himself (v. 20). Paul gave up two of his closest and most helpful companions to care for the brethren at Philippi. What are we willing to give up for the cause of Christ? How do we demonstrate our answer?

## *News Of Interest*

### Sick

#### Home:

**Louise Merryman, Barry Todd, Martha Norris, and Libby Lewter.**

### Ladies Night Out

**Will not meet in November.** Will meet Monday, December 5, 6:00 p.m., Chase Park dining room. Will have potluck meal. Please bring a Christmas ornament to play Dirty Santa.

### Balance Class

Tuesday, Nov. 29, Thursday, Dec. 1; 1:30p.m.

### Officer Appreciation Tokens

It's time for us to gather goodies and happies for our officers that do such a great job keeping us safe. Please bring small tokens of appreciation for all that they do for us and the community. Lotion, hand sanitizer, hand warmers, toboggans, candy, snacks, gift cards, gloves, scarves, gum, nuts, etc. Leave the items in the basket at the Hospitality Desk. Our officers names are Jermaine Nettles and Terrence Petty.

### Pantry Item

Canned soups.

## *Today and Upcoming at Chase Park*

### Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Michael Sims**

Song Leader: **Jared Olbricht**

### Hospital Visitation

Team #4 (McCall), please pick up your assignment today after evening worship.

### Super Seniors

Will meet Wednesday, November 30, and will go out to eat.

### Little Lights

Tuesday, December 6, 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon, dining room/fellowship hall.

### Super Seniors

Will have their last meeting for the year 2016 on Wednesday, December 7.

### Tuesday Ladies Bible Class

Tuesday, December 13, 10:00 a.m.

### Regency Retirement Village Singing

Thursday, December 15, 6:00 p.m.

### Sunshine Gang

Saturday, December 17, 1:00 p.m. More info later.

## **Chase Park Holiday Party**



**Sunday, December 4**  
**After p.m. worship**

**Please bring sweet and non-sweet finger foods**

**Plan for a time of food, fun, and fellowship**



## Weekly Bible Reading

### Reading for November 27 – December 3: **2 John - Jude**

False teaching and apostasy have always been a problem in the body of Christ. For as long as the church has existed, there have been those who have desired to interject their own ideas and pursue their own agendas. Much of what is written in these short letters is for the purpose of warning against those dangerous teachings that are contrary to the doctrine of Christ. The church, both then and now, is exhorted to be on guard against such dangers and to be diligent in remaining faithful to Christ. As you read and study this week, consider:

- *Why do you think that false teaching is so prevalent in the church and religious world?*
- *What can we do in the church today to guard against being influenced by false teaching?*

#### **VERSES TO REMEMBER:**

*2 John 1:9-10*

“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. <sup>10</sup> If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him;”

### Statistics

**Sunday, November 20, 2016**

AM Worship .....	352
Month Average .....	360
Bible Class .....	NC
PM Worship .....	253
Wed., Nov. 23 Bible Classes.....	NC
Regency Ret. Worship .....	44
Offering.....	\$17,956.19
Budget.....	\$18,300
Average '16 .....	\$18,754
Over Budget for year ....	+\$21,352
<b>Building Fund .....</b>	<b>\$61.00</b>

### Services

#### *Sunday*

Worship..... 9:00 a.m.  
Bible Class ..... 10:15 a.m.  
Worship..... 5:00 p.m.

#### *Wednesday*

Super Seniors ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Bible Class ..... 6:30 p.m.

#### Web Site Home Bible Studies

<http://bible.us/e/Hdj>  
(Lesson 1 Link)  
The Bible—God’s Holy Word

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