

Welcome To...

"Where God is worshiped,
the Bible is preached,
and people are loved."



OceanSide Church of Christ

1025 Snug Harbor Court Atlantic Beach, FL 32233
<http://oceansidechurchofchrist.net>

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Study—10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship—6:30 p.m.

OCEANSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST Sunday Morning Worship—11:00 a.m.
 Wednesday Bible Study—7:00 p.m.

ELDERS

Bill Horne—246.3200

Larry Paulk—249.3366

Kevin Walker—962.9866

DEACONS

Chris King—642.2891

Keith Landolt—626.9305

MINISTER

Wayne Rodgers—220.6044

OFFICE MANAGER

Aaron Cameron—476.7383

WORKS SUPPORTED BY OCEANSIDE

Mount Dora Children's Home
 Raintree Village Children's Home
 Latin American Missions
 Memphis School of Preaching
 Students
 Florida Prison Ministry
 House to House, Heart to Heart
 Darien, GA Church of Christ

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Buy A Sword!

The following question was received recently from one of our readers.

Would you discuss Luke 22:36—"Let him sell his cloak and buy a sword"? Some claim this passage is in conflict with Matthew 5:39, which prohibits a disciple of Christ from exercising physical retaliation, while others allege that Luke's statement authorizes the Christian's use of carnal weapons in defense of the cause of Christ.

Several observations regarding this matter are in order. First, one cannot take one passage that appears to contain a difficulty and array it against an almost encyclopedic collection of information that leads to an opposite conclusion. That is not a legitimate approach to biblical interpretation and it reveals more about those who argue in this vein than is complimentary to them.

It is rather analogous to the procedure of the skeptic who ignores the vast conglomerate of data that argue for the unity of the Bible (hence its divine origin) by the appeal to a single text that superficially appears to imply a contradiction. It also is similar to the Protestant who disregards all the texts that require immersion in water as an act of faith in obtaining the remission of sins, and focusing only on such passages as mention "faith" as a condition of salvation.

Second, the immediate context (Luke 22:35-38) pertains to the instructions concerning how the disciples would be treated as they would embark upon their dangerous mission of proclaiming his gospel. They were to go forth trusting in God to care for them. The Lord reminds them of the providential care that surrounded them in their previous evangelistic labors. As they initially went forth, were they abundantly provisioned? No. God took care of them day by day. Did they lack anything? They conceded that they did not. Christ then quoted from Isaiah 53 (v. 12), where the prophet foretold that he, Christ himself, would be "reckoned with transgressors," i.e., treated as a common sinner. The larger context of Isaiah 53 reveals that in implementing Heaven's gracious plan of redemption, the lamb of God would do "no violence" (v. 9). His example in dealing with hostility was to be their model.

Third, when the authorities came to arrest Jesus, Peter attempted to defend his Master with his sword, and the Savior sternly rebuked his apostle for the effort (Matthew 26:51-52).

Fourth, with reference to Luke 22:36, I introduce the testimony of the late William Arndt, professor of New Testament exegesis and hermeneutics at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. Incidentally, he was one of the esteemed editors of the world famous *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, in collaboration with Gingrich and Danker. In his book, *Does The Bible Contradict Itself?*, he wrote regarding Luke 22:36:

It is a warning to the disciples that troublous times, days of suffering and persecution, are coming for them and that they will have to arm themselves to withstand the onslaughts that are impending. The connection makes it clear that our Lord is not speaking of swords of iron or steel in this admonition. The disciples thought that He was referring to such physical weapons, and they said, v. 38: "Lord, here are two swords." Jesus, seeing that they are still very dull in their understanding of the spiritual teaching He has been giving them, says: "It is enough." He does not pursue the instruction any further, leaving it to the Holy Spirit to open up the full meaning of this matter to them later on. To put it briefly, the words of Jesus, Luke 22:36, are a figurative way of saying: Perilous times are coming; prepare for them. The swords He has in mind are the spiritual weapons of strong faith, fervent love of the Savior, fortitude, patience, and hope. This text, then, treats an altogether different subject from the one touched on in Matt. 5:39, and a collision of the two passages is out of the question (1955, 147-148).

It is a regrettable circumstance that far too many Christian people have their minds made up on a variety of biblical themes before ever carefully studying the matter. Such individuals are easily disposed to sweep under the carpet much evidence pertaining to a subject, and then almost frantically search for a single text that will justify them in what they already want to believe. This is a common though sad situation.

If you're visiting with us today, welcome to our services! We consider you an honored guest and we're grateful that you've chosen to worship with us. We'd like a record of your attendance. Please fill out the **blue** side of the attendance card (members please fill out the **black** side of the card). We hope you'll find that at OceanSide... **WE HAVE A PLACE FOR YOU!**

Has The Kingdom of God Come?

Wayne Rodgers

When Jesus taught His disciples how to pray, He said, "...thy kingdom come..." (Mt. 6:10). We ask, "What is this 'kingdom' and has it come?" This kingdom was spoken of by Daniel, the prophet over 600 years prior to Jesus' statement in Matthew 6. Daniel foretold that "in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed" (Dan. 2:44), that the Son of man would be given a kingdom, and "that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom which shall not be destroyed" (Dan. 7:13, 14). It was announced as being "at hand" when Jesus was upon the earth by John the baptizer (Mt. 3:2), by Jesus (Mt. 4:17), by the apostles (Mt. 10:7), and the seventy on the limited commission (Lk. 10:9). The phrase "at hand" means near or nearby, approaching, ready to occur. It must then be the case that the kingdom of heaven was established or set up near the time when Jesus was preaching that the "kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Mt. 4:17).

The Lord gave the "time-frame" of the kingdom's occurrence. Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, That there be some of them that stand here, which shall not taste of death, till they have seen the kingdom of God come with power" (Mark 9:1). The kingdom would come during the disciples' lifetime. So, either the kingdom has come, or there are men walking around who are nearly 2,000 years old. The Lord also stated in this verse that the kingdom would "come with power." In Acts 1:3, Jesus was speaking to His apostles "things pertaining to the kingdom of God, and that they "should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father" (Acts 1:4). In verse five, Jesus promised His apostles that they would be "baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." Notice verses six through eight of Acts 1: "When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying Lord wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. **But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:** and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth" (*emphasis added by W.R.*). Jesus marked the time-frame by noting several key events: coming in the apostles' lifetime, coming with power, and power from the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came upon the apostles on the Day of Pentecost in the following chapter, Acts 2.

In that sermon preached, the Gospel was proclaimed (Acts 2:22-36), reference is made to Joel's prophecy concerning the miracles being poured out from God's Spirit on that day (Acts 2:14-21), and also prophecy is shown to be fulfilled by Jesus sitting upon David's throne (Acts 2:30). The response of those gathered on that day was "men and brethren, what shall we do" (Acts 2:37)? Peter responds with their salvation needs by saying, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38). They "gladly received his word" and "were baptized: and the same day there were added about three thousand souls" (Acts 2:41). The closing statement of chapter two is: "the Lord added to the church (to their number – ESV) daily those who were being saved" (Acts 2:47). The kingdom had begun at this place where all of these prophecies were fulfilled of David, Joel, Daniel and Jesus.

When instituting the Lord's Supper recorded in Matthew 26:26-29, Jesus said, "I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom." If the kingdom has not come, then the Lord's Supper cannot be eaten. But, we know that it was observed by the 1st century church (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:17-30). Logic dictates that the kingdom existed at that time. Concerning the Colossian Christians, Paul reminded them that they had been "translated them from the power of darkness into the kingdom of his dear Son (Col. 1:13-14). One could not be translated into something that did not exist. Therefore, the kingdom was in place at that time, and the Colossian Christians were in it. The Hebrew's writer says this concerning the kingdom: "Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire" (Heb. 12:28-29).

Yes, the kingdom of God has come, and if we wish to be in it, we must do as they did on that 1st Pentecost Day after Christ's ascension into Heaven. Obey the Gospel as given to those who believed on the Day of Pentecost and asked, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). Peter told them to "repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins..." (Acts 2:38). Let us live faithful unto Christ and "serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear" in the His kingdom (Heb. 12:28-29).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Sunday, December 6—Megan Lee

Monday, December 7—Jim Kerr

Friday, December 11—Amanda Bohrer

HOUSE TO HOUSE

We will be stuffing the House to House magazines and getting them prepared to mail this afternoon at 5:00 p.m. We hope to see everyone there!

ADULT HOLIDAY PARTY

Our Annual Holiday Party will take place this Friday, December 11 at 7:00 p.m. It will be held in the Fellowship Hall here at the building. All are asked to bring a dish so that we may have a Potluck Party. Sign up on the sheet in the foyer if you are interested!

YOUNG ADULT/YOUTH HOLIDAY PARTY

The Young Adult/Youth Group Holiday Party will take place this Sunday, December 13th following Morning Worship at the Rodgers' house. There is a sign-up sheet in the foyer with more information.

SEARCHING FOR DEACONS

On November 15th, Wayne preached a sermon regarding the qualifications of a Deacon. We ran an article here in the newsletter as well about it. And now we have set before the congregation the task to nominate men for the office of Deacon. If you know someone who is qualified, then please take one of the forms on the table in the foyer, read over the instructions, and proceed accordingly. If you have any questions in this matter, please see one of the Elders or Wayne. Please continue to pray as we search.

YOUTH CALENDAR

There are many great events in store for the Youth here at OceanSide in the coming months. Just some of these events are:

12/13—Holiday Party at the Rodgers'

1/16—Youth Day at St Marys church of Christ

2/26-2/28—YES Weekend at Forrest Park church of Christ

CONNECT WITH OCEANSIDE!

Yahoo Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/oceansidecoc>

Facebook:

Search for "OceanSide Church of Christ" and click "Join"

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY

Please remember the family of Ruth Crosby, Renee Crosby's grandmother, in your prayers at this time. Ruth passed away this past week.

TRACT OF THE WEEK

Sometimes, it is easy to skip across words that hold much importance. These words hold extra, or other meaning sometimes. Three important words are in John 19:1—"...and scourged Him..." The Bible doesn't give a further explanation. But what does it mean? What did Jesus go through when he was "scourged?" In "**The Scourging of Jesus**," Allen Webster looks at the awful and violent acts that Jesus endured. "Why did Jesus go through this? He didn't have to. He could have gone back to heaven... why, then? Because He wanted to save us." Pick up this tract and learn more about Jesus' love.

SERVANT'S CORNER

Being willing to serve is a powerful thing—it makes both those that receive the service and those who give the service feel great. We are thankful this week for the service of Keith Landolt, who transports individuals to the building for service when those folks have a need. We are so thankful for each and every one of our servants!

PRAYER LIST—WEEK OF 12/06/09

HOME

1. **George Cousnard**, 2. **Lilly**, cancer. 3. **Myana Best**, medical. 4. **Donnie Vick**, brain tumor, student at MSOP. 5. **Ervin Godboldt**, back problems. 6. **Pat Gordon**, breast cancer. 7. **Waddell Peacock**, cancer. 8. **Wayne Reynolds**, medical. 9. **Alice Lease**, chemotherapy. 10. **Wanda McInturff**, medical. 11. **Brad Powell**, medical. 12. **Storm Norman**, medical. 13. **Landon Parsons**, recovering from surgery. 14. **Mary Meess**, medical. 15. **Helen Jepsen**, medical. 16. **Melissa Hogan**, Kasey's cousin, cancer. 17. **Michael Swims**, Mike Swims' father, medical. 18. **Marilyn Wilson**, Cheryl Lee's mother, medical. 19. **Karen Minor & husband**, Arlene's daughter, medical. 20. **Palmer Minor**, medical. 21. **Austin Minor**, medical. 22. **Prince Davis**, medical. 23. **Ray Alcorn**, lymphoma. 24. **Maxine Wells**, medical. 25. **Jean Rhodes**, medical. 26. **Mary Pearce**, Leslie Bernardi's grandmother, skin cancer. 27. **Eva Wisdom**, Kasey's grandmother. 28. **Arlene Wiles**, medical. 29. **Shar Russell**, medical. 30. **Tara Herrell**, awaiting results of biopsy. 31. **Jacob Mashburn**, Rebecca's great-nephew, medical. 32. **Lorraine Lyons**, having tests run. 33. **John and Kay Cunniff**, medical. 34. **Gerry Ozemba**, medical. 35. **Diana Baird**, medical. 36. **Darrell Powell**, medical. 37. **Bobbye Kinchen**, recovering from surgery. 38. **Pat Timonere**, Kasey's co-worker, breast cancer. 39. **Jocelyn & Jason Hill**. 40. **Brady Brown**, medical. 41. **Larry Self, Jr.** Deploying for Iraq in Jan. 42. **Jean**, the McDaniel's daughter-in-law, diagnosed with breast cancer; mother having heart problems. 43. **Sara Grafe**, recovering from surgery.

HOSPITAL

Delores Norman recovering from surgery
Rene Koenig is in Tampa recovering from surgery.

MILITARY

Please pray for all those who are serving our country.

Andy Buser—crispy09@msn.com

PFC Andrew Buser

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OUR RECORD SPEAKS

<u>Nov 22</u>	<u>2009</u>	<u>2008</u>
Sunday Bible Class	78	49
Sunday AM Worship	103	87
Sunday PM Worship	72	70
Wednesday Evening	58	79
Daily Bible Readers	11	16
Contribution	3513	4064
Budget	4258	4290

Those Who Serve

CHAIR ELDER serving you in **DECEMBER**
Kevin Walker—962.9866

Honoring God through service—Week of **December 6, 2009**

SUNDAY MORNING

Song Leader	Aaron Cameron
Opening Prayer	Cory Landolt
Scripture Reading	Kevin Walker
Communion—Lead	Larry Cameron
Communion—Bread	Brad Willett
Communion—Fruit of Vine	Keith Landolt
Communion—Offering	Bob Ford
Communion—Assist	Eddie Kinchen
Communion—Assist	Michael King
Closing Prayer	Chris King
Usher	Louie Bone
Usher	Gilbert Gardner
Greeters	The Kings
Nursery	Margaret McDaniel

SUNDAY EVENING

Song Leader	Aaron Cameron
Opening Prayer	Bud Bonner
Scripture Reading	Adam Peters
Communion	Jesse Baird
Communion	Larry Paulk
Closing Prayer	William Stevens

WEDNESDAY EVENING (12/9)

Song Leader	Rodney Renfroe
Invitation	Wayne Rodgers
Closing Prayer	Bradford Powell

THIS WEEK'S DAILY BIBLE READING

SUNDAY	Job 8	Micah 3,4	Hebrews 13
MONDAY	Job 9	Micah 5	James 1
TUESDAY	Job 10	Micah 6	James 2
WED.	Job 11	Micah 7	James 3,4
THURSDAY	Job 12	Nahum 1,2	James 5
FRIDAY	Job 13	Nahum 3	I Peter 1
SATURDAY	Job 14	Habakkuk 1	I Peter 2

Gospel Plan of Salvation

... And the keeper of the prison awaking out of his sleep, and seeing the prison doors open, he drew out his sword, and would have killed himself, supposing that the prisoners had been fled. But Paul cried with a loud voice, saying, Do thyself no harm: for we are all here. Then he called for a light, and sprang in, and came trembling, and fell down before Paul and Silas, And brought them out, and said, Sirs, what must I do to be saved?
(Acts 16: 27-30)

HEAR THE GOSPEL

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God (Romans 10:17).

BELIEVE JESUS IS THE SON OF GOD

I said therefore unto you, that ye shall die in your sins: for if ye believe not that I am he, ye shall die in your sins (John 8:24).

REPENT OF SINS

I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish (Luke 13:3).

CONFESS THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST

That is thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation (Romans 10:9-10).

BAPTISM FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:38).

LIVE FAITHFULLY UNTO DEATH

... be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life (Revelation 2:10).

People grow and mature at different rates. Thomas Edison's teacher said he could never amount to anything and advised his mother to take him out of school. Winston Churchill was admitted to school in the lowest level classes, and never moved out of the lowest group in all the years he attended Harrow. Albert Einstein seemed so slow and dull that his parents feared that he was mentally deficient. One observer has said, "Great minds and high talent, in most cases, cannot be hurried and, like healthy plants, grow slowly."

It is so with God's kingdom. We scatter the seed, but we are not ultimately responsible for its growth. We cannot make things happen. The process by which those in this world become the kingdom of God proceeds very slowly, and it exasperates us. But, at the same time, if we have faithfully scattered the seed, we are not to blame for its failure to appear in its fullness. We are being cautioned in the words of Jesus to be patient.

—David G. Rogne

PRIVILEGED TO SERVE IN NOVEMBER
Communion Preparation—The Bairds
Clean Main Building—Peters/Frank

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE

WEEK 49

"But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ."
Ephesians 2:4-5