THE SWORD

May 18, 2025

LMCC
LAWRENCE & MARDER
CHURCH OF CHRIST

Psalm 28:7 (KJV)
The LORD is my strength and my shield;
my heart trusted in him,
and I am helped: therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth;
and with my song will I praise him.

Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship Experience: 10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 P.M.

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Word of Week

Preach (part 1) euangelizō <G2097>, euangelion <G2098>

There are two words translated **preach** (or other form) in the NT. The first is euangelizo <G2097>, "to proclaim good or joyful news." It is, of course, where we get our English word *evangelize,* and is (with the noun euangelion, <G2098>), translated by several other words: *gospel* (Matt. 4:23), *glad tidings* (Luke 1:19), *good tidings* (2:10), and *declared* (Rev. 10:7).

In ancient Greek, euangelion was used for a message of victory, as well as for political and private messages that bring joy. In the Septuagint it's used in several instances to proclaim God's universal victory over the world (Ps. 96:2-10; Isa. 41:27; 52:7). It's used in the NT, then, for the proclamation of the Gospel, the good news of salvation in Christ.

The English word *gospel* is even more fascinating. As mentioned on February 5, it comes from the Old English gōdspel: gōd, good; spel, tale. Witches were said to cast a *spell,* that is, say certain words that supposedly had magic powers. To *spellbind* is to speak in such a way as to hold people's attention. To *spell* a word means to name or write the letters of the word. So, the Gospel is, indeed, the good spell, the good tale, the good story, the good message, the good news.

Even more significant, "the Gospel" is *the only* good tale. The definite article appears quite often with "Gospel." In Ephesians 1:13, for example, we read, "In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise." While the article appears twice in the English, it appears three times in the Greek. We can literally read it, *"The* message of *the* truth, *the* good news of your salvation."

Paul wants to make it clear that there is only one good news. He wrote to the Galatians that anyone who perverts the Gospel is to be "accursed" (*anathema,* that which is devoted to destruction, Gal. 1:6-9; see Feb. 6-7). Today the Gospel is being defined in whatever terms each person desires. It's even being preached as not requiring repentance or even an acknowledgment of sin, but that is not the Gospel (Gal. 1:7). The Gospel, the *euangelion,* is the message of trust in Jesus' blood as the only redemption from sin. Let us not debate, philosophize, psychologize, or even "meet people's needs," all of which are typical today. Let us just proclaim the Truth, the "Good News."

Scriptures for Study: In Romans 1:16, what is the importance of the Gospel? What is the description of those who preach the Gospel (Rom. 10:15)?

Minister's Minutes

Arrangements for Service

"These were the orderings of them in their service to come into the house of the LORD, according to their manner, under Aaron their father, as the LORD God of Israel had commanded him." (1 Chronicles 24:19)

MANY names appear in today's Bible reading. While these list of names may be boring to some, yet there is some good lessons found in the comments interspersed among the names. In our verse we have a good lesson about service which involves the place of service, the plan of service, and the precept for service.

Place of service. The "house of the LORD" is the place of service. In the time of our verse, the "house of the LORD" was the Temple. Today, we call our churches the "house of the LORD." And like the Temple, our churches are a place of service. Many folk seem to forget this and go to church simply to be a spectator. But we are to be servants not spectators at church which is our "house of the LORD."

Plan of service. "These were the orderings of them in their service." The names given preceding this verse were listed according to their schedule of service in the Temple. All of this emphasized the importance of a plan in service. Efficient organization needs to be involved in the service at church. If a church is poorly organized (and, unfortunately, most of them are poorly organized), confusion will result and there will be much failure to get the work done. It also results in a few doing most of the work even when others are willing to help. "Let all things be done decently and in order" (1 Corinthians 14:40) needs to be applied to all churches.

Precept for service. "As the LORD God of Israel had commanded him." All service needs to be guided by the commands of God. The Temple service was to be done as God had commanded. It should be this way in the church, too. As God instructed *who* was to serve *where* in the Temple, so it is in church. This means no women preachers, as an example. But today many churches are now employing women as pastors. And religious conferences have their political-correct quota of women speakers. But it is not God's way.

Announcements

- Let us keep all those who have lost loved ones, and those hospitalized, in our thoughts and prayers.
- We would like to wish a happy birthday and/or anniversary to everyone who is celebrating this week.
- Attention, church family! To ensure that all announcements and print requests are processed in a timely manner, please submit them by **Wednesday at 7:00 PM** of the preceding week **to church@landmcoc.org**. We understand that emergencies may arise, and we will do our best to accommodate urgent requests. However, **verbal, written, or texted announcements during the Sunday worship experience are strongly discouraged** to maintain the flow and reverence of our service. Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our worship experience focused and organized!
- If anyone would like to assist with transportation for Crossroads/LMCC Food Distribution please see brother Mac Fulbright.
- Lawrence and Marder 5-Year Luncheon will be at Pappadeaux Seafood Kitchen (3520 Oak Lawn Avenue, Dallas, TX) on August 16, 2025 from 3PM-6PM. Cost is $60 per person ($12 for 12 and younger) and must be made no later than August 3, 2025.
- If you would like to volunteer to help with the 5-Year Congregational Dinner or the 100 Year Anniversary please see Felton Davenport, Mac Fulbright, Reginald Osborne, George Robinson, Gary Walker.
- Sunday Morning Worship experience can be watched on the church website: www.landmcoc.org/broadcast; Church Facebook Page and YouTube Channel. Please "Like" and "Share".
- Children's Worship Hour is for children Pre-K through 4th grade.
- Church Zoom Information for Adults and Youth Wednesday Night Class: **Meeting ID: 915 0578 2664 Password: 859242 Call In Number: 1-346-248-7799**

Continuous Announcements

- Every 2nd Sunday Marsalis Avenue host a Zoom Grief Support Meeting at 4PM (Meeting ID: 880 4065 3591, Passcode: 411521)
- California Avenue Church of Christ in Bakersfield, CA host a Sunday Evening Spiritual Encouragement Hour each week on Zoom at 7:30PM central time (Meeting ID: 875 1387 3553, Passcode: 1020cal#)

What is the Plan of Salvation?

I Peter 1:20 (NASB) says, "For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you." Before God said let there be light, the plan for mankind's salvation had already been created by the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Before God formed man from the dust of the earth, the heavenly trinity had already established a plan for the redemption of mankind. Before God beheld that all He created was "very good" and decided to rest on the seventh day, the Godhead formulated a mystery that would be revealed to reunite mankind with God. We must be thankful to God that His love for us reached back before there was an us. In knowing this, we should follow after the WORD that was made flesh and dwelt amongst us without hesitation. Jesus the Christ is everything that we need (II Peter 1:2–4).

Hear the Gospel of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Romans 10:14). One must hear the glorious message that Jesus the Christ sacrificially died for the penalty of our sin, and that he was raised from the dead by the power of God.

Believe in <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Hebrews 11:6). One must believe that Jesus was more than just a man, but the Christ.

Repent in the name of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Luke 24:46–47). Repentance is required; however, it is not said to take away sin, but rather it produces in us a desire to be vindicated by Jesus the Christ.

Confess that <u>Jesus the Christ</u> is the Son of God (Acts 8:36–37). A person must be willing to make the greatest proclamation ever known to mankind, and that is Jesus the Christ is the Son of God.

Be baptized for the remission of sins in the name of <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Acts 2:38). Baptism is not a sign of salvation, but rather a New Testament requirement for salvation. The action emulates our Lord and Savior's death, burial and resurrection.

Being faithful until death like <u>Jesus the Christ</u> (Philippians 2:4–8). If we stay faithful to God's will, God's word and God's way, we will have a home not made with hands awaiting us some day.

What is the Plan of Salvation? How do I become a Christian?
The Answer: <u>JESUS the CHRIST</u>

Sermon Notes for May 18, 2025

Speaker: Ramon Hodridge

Text: 1st John 3:16-18

Title: Love in Motion

Notes:

Minister's Email: minister@landmcoc.org

QR CODES

VISITOR CHECK-IN

MEMBERSHIP CHECK-IN

RESPONSE CARD REQUEST