

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

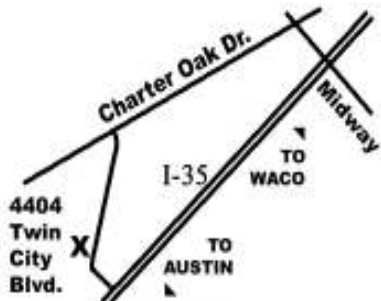
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

Preacher: Warren King

WHEN WE MEET

Sun:	Classes	9:30 A.M.
	Assembly	10:30 A.M.
	Assembly	6:00 P.M.
Wed:	Classes	7:30 P.M.

WHERE WE MEET



From I-35, take the Midway exit (# 297). Go south (toward Austin) on the feeder road for almost one mile. Turn right at the DPS Drivers License office. We are on the left.

All articles in Simple Truth are written by Warren King unless otherwise stated.
Back issues of Simple Truth are available online at www.biblemoments.org.



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SIMPLE TRUTH

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Volume 3

Number 3

APPLES AND ORANGES

“The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us”

– Ro 8:18

‘Comparisons’ are a good way to highlight similarities between objects. ‘Contrasts’ are designed to highlight differences. When Paul states that present sufferings are not worthy to be compared to future glory, he is arguing that while the two may be contrasted, they are not comparable. One is vastly different from the other.

For example, present sufferings are temporary, while future glory is eternal. Is it even possible to ‘compare’ anything with eternity? Eternity cannot even be defined in terms of ‘time’. It is truly in a class by itself.

In the same way, present sufferings are unpleasant (duh) while future glory is – well, gloriful (to coin a word). How ‘full of glory’ will heaven be? Many have tried to describe it and quantify it. The Holy Spirit simply defines it in terrestrial terms (a no-tears paradise). But, like eternity, the fullness of heaven’s glory cannot be comprehended. Mortals have no frame of reference for it. Heaven truly is, as Paul states, incomparable.

“Sing to the LORD...” Ps 96:1

Praising God in song has been an emotional part of worship since the days of Moses. Songs often touch our hearts in ways that essays and sermons cannot.

God has guided his people to continue to use music in worship as they set out to both praise God's nature and edify those who hear. Ep 5:19 emphasizes that we are to be *“making melody with your heart to the Lord.”* Col 3:16 emphasizes *“teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs...”*

As we worship in song, we must always remember the dual nature of our music. There is no melody, tempo, or style that can make a song spiritual. Only a scriptural message, the lyrics of the song, can render a song useful for instruction in worship and appropriate for praising God.

However, there is also no set vocabulary or lyrical structure which automatically makes a song good for teaching and admonishing. As we learn new songs with unfamiliar arrangements or more modern English let's make sure we judge these songs on their ability to perform the two functions prescribed by scripture, not just personal opinion. Let's examine a song's ability to speak to the mind and the heart. That way, our voices can blend together as a testimony to visitors and members alike that those who assemble here each week have a powerful relationship with Christ and with each other.

– from the Kleinwood Bulletin, author unknown (edited)

Just Thinkin'

This page is, as the name implies, an opportunity for me to spill my thoughts onto paper. I make no pretense of profundity. It's just a glimpse into the mind of one man.

And, while there are many thoughts that shove their way to the forefront at the beginning of a new year, I am compelled to say 'Thank You' to this congregation - once again - for your many acts of kindness and thoughtfulness to The Woman and me over the course of the last year. Every word of encouragement, every handshake, every phone call, every card and letter, every food item - to say nothing of your generous financial support - it is all appreciated more than words can express.

None of those things define my reason for preaching. Pennies and praise have been in short supply on more than one occasion in the past 34 years. Had that been the focus, I would have left preaching long ago. But, we are thankful to God - and to you brethren here - for every kindness you have shown. Trust me, I do think about it - quite often.