

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

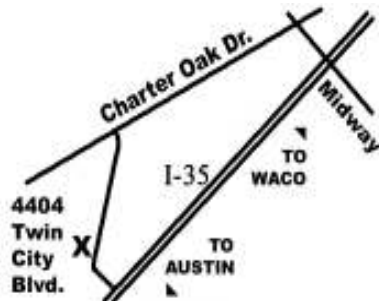
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

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.
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SIMPLE TRUTH

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The Mountain of Jehovah's House

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of Jehovah's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and people shall flow to it. Many nations shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of Jehovah, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths." For out of Zion the law shall go forth, and the word of Jehovah from Jerusalem.

– Micah 4:1-2

Like all of the Old Testament 'restoration' prophecies, this prophecy of Micah looked forward to the Messianic age when Jerusalem, and the temple mount in particular, would be established by God as the center of Jehovah worship. That this prophecy refers to a heavenly Jerusalem and a spiritual Mount Zion is evident from the book of Hebrews (12:22-23).

The prophecy finds its fulfillment in the church, the spiritual kingdom. It is God's kingdom, and it will endure long after other nations have crumbled to dust (Dan 2:44). People from many nations are a part of it; there are no geographic boundaries.

Those who will become its citizens must learn of "His ways" and walk in "His paths". So, "Come, and let us go up the mountain of Jehovah!"

ITTAI

During the reign of David, his popularity took a huge hit. Using tactics that would have made a modern mudslinger proud, David's own son, Absalom, stole the kingdom right from under him. It was standard procedure to kill your predecessor along with anyone on his side. So David and all the people connected with him had to run for their lives.

Just as they were exiting the royal property, he came upon a group of about 600 people led by a man named Ittai (2 Sa 15). Ittai was a Philistine who had just arrived in this volatile empire. They had just unpacked and now they were packing again and making a quick exit. David tried to discourage him from coming with him. He offered him several 'outs'. But, Ittai was not interested in excuses. He replied, "*As the Lord lives, and as my lord the king lives, surely wherever my lord the king may be, whether for death or for life, there also your servant will be*".

Just like Ittai, we have reasons not to follow the King. You will be insulted and persecuted (Mt 5:11). The world will hate you (Jn 17:14). You will not be popular. There are many reasons not to follow the King.

But, our King has left the city and we are called on to join Him (He 13:12-14). We know that no matter how hard the road gets, it leads to glory. We should be willing to leave anything behind. There is no room for excuses. We know what Ittai knew: If you are smart, you will follow the true King. - Bret Carter (edited)

Just Thinkin'

"Work out your own salvation" (Ph 2:12).

This verse gets used a lot to beat up on our 'faith only' friends. And frankly, I've used it that way myself a time or two. It does, in fact, teach that salvation requires something on our part - John Calvin notwithstanding.

But, this passage makes another vital point - one that gets easily lost in the anti-Calvinism rhetoric. We are to work out our own salvation - not our spouse's, or our children's, or Cousin Bob's. While I can (and should) exert influence on those around me (Mt 5:16), and while I will be held accountable for leading others astray (Mt 18:6), I am ultimately responsible for me alone.

Several times in recent months I have had to remind distraught Christians of this fact. We can easily fall into the thinking that if I will just do my part - with diligence - then I can virtually guarantee spiritual survival for those I love. But, it just doesn't work that way.

Live right and pray hard. But, think about this: in the end, you can only save yourself.