

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.
Contact the Leon Valley congregation at (254) 939-0682 (leave a message).



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SIMPLE TRUTH

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THE MESSAGE OF OBADIAH

“The vision of Obadiah – Thus says the LORD God concerning Edom... ‘Though you ascend as high as the eagle, and though you set your nest among the stars, from there I will bring you down,’ says the LORD.”
– Oba 1:1-4

The book of Obadiah is the shortest book of the Old Testament. This, combined with its subject matter, makes it a little-known and little-studied book. But, the message of Obadiah is not much different from that of the other prophets: ‘You have done wrong, and God is holding you accountable’.

The audience Obadiah addresses is somewhat unique. While other prophets had rebuked the Edomites along with other nations (Lam 4:21, Eze 25:12), only Obadiah devotes his entire work to them. But, the message could just as easily be directed to Israel or Judah (at other times in their history). Or, it could just as easily be addressed to people today – including you and me.

It matters not if you are of Esau or Jacob, Edomite or European, Idumean or Indian – though “*you set your nest among the stars*”, from there God will “*bring you down*”. It’s a warning against pride. And, it’s a lesson in humility that we all need to learn.

The Real Jesus

Today, Jesus has been reduced to bumper stickers. It is more common to hear His name as the subject of swearing than lifted up in honor. But, though our society has forgotten Him, there is a real Jesus. The Jesus of the Bible calls us to higher, better living.

The real Jesus showed kindness and compassion to the humble - and does today. He healed the lame and blind (Mt 11:5) and urged "*all who labor and are heavy laden*" to come to Him and rest (Mt 11:28).

The real Jesus rejected those who refused to hear Him - and does today. He turned over the tables of the moneychangers, blasted the Pharisees, and often left people wanting Him dead (Mk 11:15, Mt 23, Mk 3:6).

The real Jesus claimed exclusivity - and does today. "*I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me*" (Jn 14:6). He is our only option in getting to heaven.

The real Jesus showed us His love - and does today. "*Greater love has no man than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends*" (Jn 15:13).

The real Jesus wanted obedience, not lip service - and does today. "*He who believes and is baptized will be saved; he who does not believe will be condemned*" (Mk 16:16).

Do you know the real Jesus?

– Jacob Hudgins (edited)

Just Thinkin'

"Give a man a fish, and he will eat for a day. Teach a man how to fish, and he will sit in a boat all day." This twist on an old adage makes a good point about the role of a teacher. It is not enough to simply impart knowledge. Along with that knowledge must be explicit instruction about its application.

For example, we can teach people about scriptural baptism - its definition, the proper subjects and purpose. But, if baptism does not lead to "*newness of life*" (Ro 6:4), we have not accomplished much.

We can teach about the nature of the church - its organizational structure, its work and worship. But, if people never come to realize the need for a personal walk with God and the importance of individual duty, we have not accomplished much.

Teaching people how to fish can be a noble pursuit. Such knowledge can put food on the family table for a lifetime. But, fishing just for the joy of fishing - well, such knowledge may merely give a lazy man an excuse to be lazy. Think about it.