

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

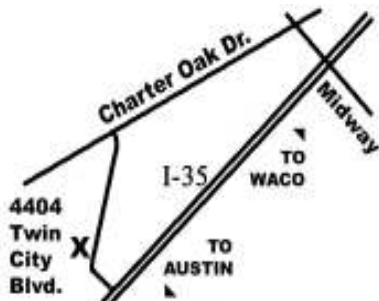
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

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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Number 28

Who is Going to Heaven?

To hear some folks talk, you would think everyone but Adolph Hitler, the Boston Strangler, and a few politicians will be going to heaven. But, what does the Bible say?

“Broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many there be that go in thereat” (Mt 7:13). Clearly, not everyone is going to heaven.

Not all good people are going to heaven. Cornelius was a prayerful, benevolent, God-fearing man; but, he was lost. An angel instructed, “Send men to Joppa, and call for Simon... who shall tell you words, whereby you and all your house shall be saved” (Ac 10:1-2, 11:13-14).

Not all religious people are going to heaven. “Many will say to me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not... in Your name done many wonderful works?’ Then I will profess to them, ‘I never knew you...’” (Mt 7:22-23).

Not all Christians are going to heaven. “Let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall” (1 Co 10:12).

So, who IS going to heaven? “Not everyone that says to me, ‘Lord, Lord’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father...” (Mt 7:21).

The Battle of Armageddon

Revelation 16:16 mentions 'Armageddon'. Some claim that this, along with Revelation 19:11-21, is a prophecy of a literal battle that is to take place between Christ (and His followers) and the kingdoms of the earth.

The English word 'Armageddon' is derived from the combined Hebrew term Har-Magedon. It means 'the mountain of Megiddo', and refers to a famous battlefield located on the Plain of Esdraelon that runs south and east of Mount Carmel. It was there that Deborah and Barak defeated Sisera and his army (Judg 5:19). It was there that Josiah was slain (2 Ki 23:29-30). It was referred to as a place of great mourning (Zech 12:11). As Marathon was remembered by the Greeks as a place of great victory, and Waterloo was remembered by the French as a scene of great defeat, so Armageddon has become emblematic of any decisive battlefield.

In the highly figurative language of John, which characterizes the book of Revelation, he refers to the battle between truth and error that began in the First Century, and even now is raging. It will be consummated with the final victory over wickedness when Christ returns for his victorious saints. It is singular indeed that the Jehovah's Witnesses, who presently refuse to bear arms, anxiously await the time when they believe Christ will bear arms against the wicked in the 'Battle of Armageddon'. Inconsistency is one of the fruits of false teaching.

– Bob West (edited)

Just Thinkin'

It has been said that truth suffers more from the lives of its defenders than from the arguments of its opponents. I believe it.

If truth had to merely answer sophistry, it would have a relatively simple task. Just point out the fallacies and inconsistencies in the opponent's arguments and the case is won – at least for those who care about truth.

But, when those who espouse truth live lives that contradict that truth – well, they have given the enemies of truth something to rejoice over. For what no amount of sophistry can do, hypocrisy does. It gives truth the appearance of weakness and provides an excuse for its opponents to reject it (2 Sa 12:14, Ro 2:21-24).

No wonder the most severe of Christ's rebukes was reserved for the hypocrites. He could easily silence their arguments through appeals to scripture. But, how does one silence hypocrisy? Its practitioners will persist, even if they have to crucify truth – and influence – to do it. Think about it.