

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

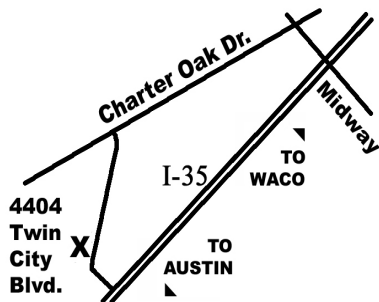
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

Preacher: Warren King

WHEN WE MEET

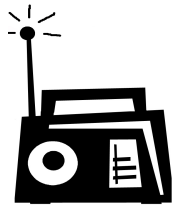
Sun:	Classes	9:30 A.M.
	Assembly	10:30 A.M.
	Assembly	6:00 P.M.
Wed:	Classes	7:30 P.M.

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).



BIBLE MOMENTS Radio Program

Listen to the Bible Moments radio broadcast Sunday mornings at 8:30 on KTEM 1400 on your A.M. dial!
Free audio downloads of the program are available at:
www.biblemoments.org

SIMPLE TRUTH

A PUBLICATION OF THE
LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST
4404 Twin City Blvd. Temple TX 76502

Volume 5

Number 22

The Thousand Year Reign

“...they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.” - Re 20:6

So there you have it – the thousand year reign of Christ. But when, exactly, is that thousand year reign? Has it already past? Is it still in the future? Well, let’s allow the context to guide us to the answer.

First, it will be at a time when the people of God are the *“priests of God”*. And, when is that? Peter affirms that Christians are presently priests (1 Pe 2:5, 9). Even the Revelation states that Christ *“has made us kings and priests to His God and Father”* (1:6). That time is now.

The second clue is that the thousand years will be a time when Jesus is reigning (*“shall reign with Him”*). So, when is that? Jesus predicted that the kingdom would come in the first century (Mk 9:1). Later, Paul referred to Jesus as *“King of kings”* (1 Ti 6:15). Even the Revelation speaks of the kingdom in present tense (1:9). Clearly, Jesus is already reigning over His kingdom!

We could also mention that the number ‘one thousand’, as other numbers in the book, is merely symbolic of completeness. But, is anyone really interested in 144,000 male Jewish virgins? I didn’t think so.

Another Perspective

IF JESUS WAS TEMPTED TO SIN, COULD HE THEN BE GOD?

Does the fact that Jesus was tempted mean that He was not God (in the flesh)? After all, James 1:13 states, *“God cannot be tempted with evil”*.

The answer is ‘no.’ The Bible teaches about the sins of the world (1 Jn 2:16). The devil can tempt us by no other means. How could he tempt God in heaven with the lust of the flesh, with the lust of the eyes, with the pride of life? What would he offer God in heaven? But when Jesus came, and was born of the virgin, and became a partaker of flesh and blood, He could be tempted to sin, and He could have sinned! I cannot even imagine or speculate at the consequences if Jesus were to have rebelled against the Father. But, Jesus did not yield to temptation to sin. Using the scriptures (the very same power we can use to repel the devil), Jesus refused to sin (Mt 4:4,6,10).

If He was tempted to sin, could Jesus then be God? Yes! What did the apostle Thomas say of the tempted (yet without sin), arrested, murdered, buried, resurrected, flesh and bones Jesus? (Lu 24:36-43 and Jn 20:19-25). Thomas said, *“My Lord and my God”* (Jn 20:28).

Let us never emphasize the deity of Jesus by denying His humanity; nor let us emphasize His humanity by denying Jesus’ deity. Jesus was God in the flesh – Emmanuel!

– Roy Diestelkamp (edited for space)

Just Thinkin’

“Make it fool-proof and someone will make a better fool.” This explains some of the stranger warning labels out there: *‘Warning – May contain nuts’* (on a bag of peanuts); or *‘Caution – Remove infant before folding for storage’* (on a baby stroller).

We laugh at such things. But, the Bible provides its own examples of ‘fools’. For instance, Jeremiah rebuked those who credited their origins to trees and rocks (2:27, 10:8). Idolatry made fools of many.

Years later, Jesus rebuked the foolishness of the hypocritical Pharisees: *“Foolish ones! Did not He who made the outside make the inside also?”* (Lu 11:40). Hypocrisy ignores a fundamental truth – God sees us from the inside out. To focus on the one while neglecting the other is to play the fool.

Some think that Jesus condemned the use of the word ‘fool’ (Mt 5:22). But in the context, He was speaking of its use in anger. The fact is, one who engages in foolish behavior is rightly called a fool. And, we should not hesitate to say so.