

THE LEON VALLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders: Gerald Clanton
Mike Gentry

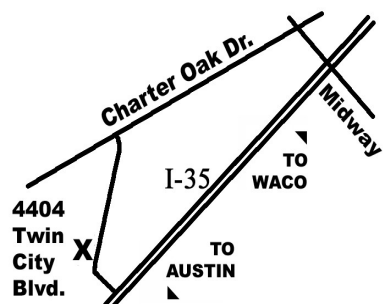
Deacons: Craig Clanton
David Foster
V.O. Speights

Preacher: Warren King

WHEN WE MEET

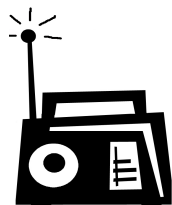
Sun:	Classes	9:30 A.M.
	Assembly	10:30 A.M.
	Assembly	6:00 P.M.
Wed:	Classes	7:30 P.M.

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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Volume 5

Number 24

Courageous Jehoshaphat

“His heart was courageous in the ways of the LORD”

- 2 Chr 17:6 (ESV)

Jehoshaphat does not get the press that many other kings of Israel and Judah get. His only mention in the New Testament is in Matthew’s genealogical table. He is not remembered as the “*man after God’s own heart*” (like David), or as the wisest of the kings (like Solomon), or even as a scoundrel (like Ahab). The scripture simply says “*his heart was courageous in the ways of the Lord*”. But, that says a mouthful.

It says he had the courage to stand up against the popular demands for pagan worship, with its loose morality. He had the courage to lead his people away from sin.

It says he had the courage to proactively spread God’s Law among his people. He was not ashamed to be a follower of the Lord – and to encourage others to do the same. He had the courage to lead his people to Jehovah.

We don’t hear much about Jehoshaphat; but, we should. His courageous example can motivate God’s people even today to be “*courageous in the ways of the Lord*”.

Another Perspective

Anointing the Sick with Oil

“Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven” (Ja 5:14-15). The question sometimes arises as to whether this instruction teaches a binding practice for us today. Let’s consider the evidence.

The references in the New Testament to anointing with oil fall into six categories: messianic (Ac 4:26-27), metaphorical (1 Jn 2:20), refreshment (Mt 6:17), funerary (Mt 26:12), medicinal (Lu 10:34), and miraculous (Mk 6:13).

The medicinal and/or refreshment use of oil appears to be the only applications of the anointing with oil that fits James 5:14. No metaphor, messianic or funerary language is indicated. And though anointing with oil was used to carry out miracles, miraculous spiritual gifts were only passed on through a direct gift from God or the laying on of the apostle’s hands (Ac 8:14-19). This is not possible today since there are no living apostles. We can conclude that James is telling elders (who are called to the sick) to do what they can to offer refreshment and medical assistance to the sick and also to pray to God. If a member should request oil for refreshment or medicinal treatment, it should be done. If a member does so expecting a miracle, it should not.

– Kyle Pope (edited for space)

Just Thinkin'

We had done the research. This was supposed to be a 'conservative' church. Coffee and donuts at the door signaled otherwise. Some would have left immediately; but, the next-nearest town with a faithful church that we were aware of was 200 miles away. We decided to make this educational.

And, it was that. In the next two hours we observed hand-clapping and sensual swaying during the song service - with microphones used by a select few of the talented singers in the audience. We heard jokes immediately before the Lord's Supper - with not so much as a prayer to prepare our minds for it. We heard a sermon that used a total of three scriptures: Mt 22 (love), Ro 13 (love), and 1 Co 13 (love). The class was on 2 Thessalonians; but, the message was 'be non-judgmental'. We discussed our concerns with one of the members, but were quickly brushed off.

Jeremiah wept, *“Ask for the old paths... and walk therein”* (6:16). It can still make a grown man weep today. Think about it.