

# From Faith to Faith

Granbury Street Church of Christ

## Return

Kevin W. Rhodes

Once King Hezekiah decided to initiate a series of reforms in Judah, rejecting the errors of his father and restoring worship according to the law, he determined to have Judah keep the Passover as well (2 Chr. 30:1-5). However, he did not consider it enough for him to decide this himself; he wanted all of God's people to do whatever it took to keep God's will. Therefore, he sent people to visit throughout not only Judah, where he reigned, but in Israel as well (2 Chr. 30:6). They went with a simple message really: "return to the LORD." However, as the text demonstrates, returning to the LORD is not only a matter of returning to the assembly. It is not so simple as renewing acquaintances in the congregation. It is not as routine as coming forward. The LORD cares deeply and wants people to return to Him, but He also requires us to travel the right pathway back and to leave the baggage behind that we accumulated during our wandering.

If you are ready to return to the LORD, humble yourselves before Him and do not allow pride to get in the way (2 Chr. 30:11; Jas. 4:10). Returning to the LORD means coming back as a servant to obey Him—not as an agent attempting to make a bargain (2 Chr. 30:12; Heb. 5:8-9). To return to God is to return to serve Him, to give up personal direction in order to accept His direction (2 Chr. 30:8b; Rom. 12:1-2). If you really want to return to the LORD, come prepared to confess your sins (2 Chr. 30:22; 1 Jn. 1:9). God already knows them all, and others know many. So do not hold back. Acknowledge where you have been that you might return to where you ought to be. When you return to the LORD without reservation, you can then worship Him with your whole being, and He will accept your presence before His throne (2 Chr. 30:24-27; Jn. 4:24). Oh, it will be difficult at times. You may have to accept that loved ones, past or present, are in sin (2 Chr. 30:7; Lk. 14:26). You may have to start all over and let down your defenses (2 Chr. 30:8; Jn. 17:17). You will need to learn to sorrow for your sin instead of mocking God's will (2 Chr. 30:10; Gal. 6:7). But it will all be worth it.

Returning to the LORD requires returning your heart to the LORD. And it is beautiful, because when you return to the LORD, He will return to you (Jas. 4:8). Then, and only then, you can fully enjoy the compassion and mercy of the LORD (2 Chr. 30:9; 2 Pet. 3:9). So, dear lost soul, please prepare your heart to seek the LORD (2 Chr. 30:19; Mt. 6:33), for in doing so, you will find the joy you seek (2 Chr. 30:21, 23; Phil. 4:4).

### Shepherds

Sid Carruth  
Jeff Day  
Kenneth Helm  
Clark Lehtinen  
Tim Norman

### Deacons

Gary Barger  
Ryan Cowan  
Vince Grinnell  
Justin Hewlett  
Bill Hughes  
Russ Jones

### Preacher

Kevin Rhodes

### Sunday

*Bible Study*  
9:00 am

*AM Worship*  
10:00 am

*PM Worship*  
5:00 pm

### Wednesday

*Ladies Class*  
10:00 am

*Bible Study*  
7:00 pm

Cleburne,  
Texas

Volume 12,  
Number 40

October 11,  
2015

# A Program for Spiritual Prosperity

Kevin W. Rhodes

**K**ing Hezekiah successfully led Judah to a renewed interest in the law and dedication to the LORD. Through his leadership, the people destroyed the pillars, images, altars, and high places associated with idolatry, and the priests and Levites returned once more to the worship prescribed in the Law (2 Chr. 31:1-3). He also called on the people to support the priests and Levites financially, which they subsequently did in great abundance (2 Chr. 31:4-10). Hezekiah then ensured that the offerings of the people would be set aside for their intended purpose and distributed to those carrying on the work for the appropriate support of them and their families because of their decision and dedication to serve the LORD (2 Chr. 31:11-19). The inspired record then summarizes both Hezekiah's actions and motivations: "Thus Hezekiah did throughout all Judah, and he did what was good and right and true before the LORD his God. And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, in the law and in the commandment, to seek his God, he did it with all his heart. So he prospered" (2 Chr. 31:20-21).

This brief paragraph outlines a process both simple and profound. When reordered for our practical benefit, we can see even more of how we too should approach everything in life. (1)

From our first reflection of ourselves and consideration of the vastness of the universe, we should seek the One who created it (Acts 17:24ff). (2) But more than this, our hearts should always be set on serving God fully and completely (Rom. 12:1-2). (3) Whatever we do to serve God should center on what He Himself has said and commanded rather than on our personal desires (Rom. 6:16-18). (4) In this way, we can move forward with confidence knowing that what we are doing is truly obedience, doing what God Himself has declared good, right, and true (1 Th. 5:21-22). (5) When we know what God wants by studying His Word, we should then do it with our full heart, giving our all (1 Pet. 2:2; Mt. 22:37-40). (6) Having done this, we can have confidence that we will prosper in life, because we know we have pleased God (2 Tim. 1:12).

Some time after this, Hezekiah lost his way spiritually. He failed to follow the approach that had made him so successful as a king and as a soul. Many people waste years trying to force God to accept their program for pleasing Him, but the only plan that will work is following what God has told us He wants. It is not a matter of selecting just one, two, or even four parts of what pleases God. The whole is what pleases God, and that is what we must give Him.

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# News and Notes

## Among our sick

- Ken Boroughs had another chemo treatment on Wednesday.
- Nan Homan had three shots in her back on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup>.
- Wanda Doty Knight, Royce Gorman's cousin, had a heart catheterization Sunday at Huguley. There were 3 blockages. The doctor put in a stint. She went home Monday.
- Charles Melton had a shot for his back on Monday at the surgical center.
- Charlotte Moulder had surgery on Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, at USMD Hospital in Fort Worth.
- Lonnie Polson remains in room 617 at Plaza Medical Hospital in Fort Worth.
- Ida Thompson was moved to the Grandview Rehab Center on Sunday.

## Baptism and Restoration

Diana York was baptized on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Tommy York was restored on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Their address is 705 W. Kilpatrick St.; Cleburne 76033. Tommy's number is 817-487-5879. Diana's is 817-706-6802. We welcome them to our family. God bless you both in your decisions.

## Responses

Britt Bachhofer confessed sins and asked for prayers during the gospel meeting. Please remember him in your prayers. God bless you in your decision.

## *Sympathy*

Our sympathy is extended to the family of George Wise. Services were Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup>.

Also, our sympathy is extended to the family of former member, Joyce Bankhead. The funeral was Monday in Stephenville. Burial was Monday.

## Please Note...

- Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, will be the Senior Game Night in the annex starting at 6:00 PM.
- Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, will be the elders, deacons and preachers breakfast at 8:00 AM at Sunrise Cafe with a meeting to follow at the building. Please let the elders know if you cannot attend.
- Saturday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, will be Family Day starting at 10:30 in the annex.
- CENTURION OF SCRIPUTE CHALLENGE 2015. Act 17:30; Luke 13:3  
Acts 17:30 <sup>30</sup>Truly, these times of ignorance God overlooked, but now commands all men everywhere to repent.  
Luke 13:3 <sup>3</sup>I tell you, no; but unless you repent you will all likewise perish."

## Those who Serve Lords' Supper: 10/11

### Front South

Andrew Collins  
Sid Carruth  
Jeff Day

### Front North

Bill Cashion  
Don Crecelius  
Kyle Day

### Back South

Colton Allen  
Gary Barger  
Steve Baze

### Back North

J. D. Allen  
Dale Ash  
Britt Bachhofer

## Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

Justin Hewlett  
Will Cammack

Sunday PM

Robert Pennay  
Jim Hudgins

Wednesday PM

Conner Hackler

## Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Andrew Collins

Wednesday

Andrew Collins

## Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Russ Jones

Sunday PM

Russ Jones

Wednesday PM

Kyle Day

## Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

Larry McWilliams

## Collection Counting

Justin Hewlett / Ken Boroughs / Wayne Gentry

## Wed. PM Devotional (8/14)

Vince Grinnell



## Sermons for Sunday

AM

Justin Hopkins

PM

Justin Hopkins



## Listen to the Gospel!

### Granbury Street's Worship

LIVE every Sunday Morning at 10:00 am on  
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

### Luis and Mike in the Mornings

(Monday - Friday) from 7:00 am - 9:00 am cst on  
KnowTheTruthRadio.org

### Biblical Foundations with Pat McIntosh

(Monday - Friday) 7:00 am or 11:00 am  
btradio.net



## Our Records

Bible Class .....	156
AM Worship.....	230
PM Worship .....	176
Wednesday Bible Class 9/30.....	166
Contribution .....	\$8,080

## Granbury Street Church of Christ

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