

# Second Street Church of Christ



October 8, 2017

## Being Secure in an Unsafe World – A Study of Psalms 46

### MINISTER

### Office

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### SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Bible Class....9:00am  
Sun. Morn. Worship.10:00am  
Sunday Evening.....5:00pm  
Wed. Evening.....7:00pm

*Endeavoring to keep  
the unity of the Spirit  
in the bond of peace.  
Ephesians 4:3*

How can we be secure living in an unsafe world? The Psalmists tells us through their own experiences: “God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalms 46). That’s where we can find true security and peace. In Psalms 46, we are reminded of three things:

**Our Security is in God, not in this world.** We have only one source of security - God. When hurricanes or wildfires or earthquakes occur, when wars break out or governments fail, health deteriorates, or friends betray, God is our only security. Despite all of our advances, our world is no safer today than it was when Psalms 46 was written. We need to turn to God, to find rest for our souls. The psalmists wrote, “Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalms 46:10). The Bible also says, “Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the Lord our God. They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm” (Psalms 20:7-8).

**Our Security comes from our Faith, not from our circumstances.** The writers of Psalms 46 were able to feel secure, not because of circumstances but because God was with them. God is within the city, and therefore it will not fall (Psalms 20:5). And, “The Lord Almighty is with us...” (Psalms 20:7). Our faith in the presence of God gives us hope and security. There are those who live in great prosperity with lots of money and possessions (good circumstances). Yet, their lives are consumed with worry and fear. “Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be shaken but endures forever” (Psalm 125:1).

**Our Security is in Eternity, not in the Present.** “Come and see the works of the Lord” (Psalms 46:8a). The fact is ... ultimately, God wins. “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28). God works in all the situations of our lives to bring about His good.

As Christians, we understand that there is evil in the world. But we also know that God is in the world and He is much stronger than evil. With God by our sides, we can overcome the worst of circumstances, and we are assured of a home beyond this present reality.

Larry Fitzgerald  
Abilene, TX Bulletin Digest

## *Announcements*

**Welcome Visitors!!** You are our honored guest, and we are glad you came our way! We invite you back to our evening services at 5:00 and Wednesday Bible study at 7:00 pm.

**Evan Cox** will be speaking today.

**Be praying** for our search for a minister, that one will be chosen that has a love for the Gospel and will always speak nothing but Your Word.

**Bear Stuffing** Oct. 10th.

**Pinevale Food Pantry Drive** – Pinevale will be picking up the items soon. If you haven't had a chance to get any items, here is the list. **Ziplocs** – **gallon/quart/sandwich, Canned pasta-ravioli/spaghettios/etc, Seasonings-salt/pepper/garlic/seasoning salt.**

## **Truth Makes No Retreat**

When right is wrong and wrong is right,  
With truth turned upside down;  
When night is day and day is night,  
And candor can't be found;  
Has come the time to turn and run?  
Should saints admit defeat?  
Remember, friend, we've just begun,  
And truth makes no retreat!

Dalton Key  
Broken Arrow, OK  
Bulletin Digest

## **GPS Signal Lost!**

This is all I heard when I had Laura's broken cell phone thinking I had just cured what was ailing it. Thankfully, though, I was made aware of the recurring problem.

How do we know when we've lost our 'signal' with God? When our relationship is not in-sync with His will? First things first, the Bible is the only life-map for everyone (2 Tim. 3:16-17), the directions are always the same even within varying times & cultures (Acts 1:8; 1 Cor. 4:17; Col. 1:5-6), and it has always been God's intent for everyone to follow His route in order for us to be safe (1 Tim. 2:3-4). By way of reminder, it is practiced sin that removes us from a relationship with God (1 John 3:4, 5:17). Here are a just a couple ways to know when we are straying:

First, through our own conscience, that inner catalog we keep of right vs. wrong (1 Tim. 1:18-19; James 4:17). But our conscience must be shaped by God's Word. Note Paul's charge to Timothy (v.19) to keep faith AND a good conscience. Man's conscience is not God's good conscience unless we believe God's Word. Paul further says some rejected God which caused them spiritually to be shipwrecked (God's signal lost!).

Secondly, through the help of brethren. Matthew 18:15-17 is the gold standard in helping a brother or sister in sin. To the loving Christian wanting to help out a friend in trouble, it must be done first in private, which means social media is out of the question. Gentle, loving help (Gal. 6:1-2) is keeping it in-house and respecting Jesus' instruction. To the brother or sister who is struggling, please understand the church loves you and wants you to come home where you belong...safe with God!

*Jon Warnes  
Rosenberg, TX  
Bulletin Digest*

# Doors

**I** know your works. See, I have set before you an open door, and no one can shut it; for you have a little strength, have kept My word, and have not denied My name” (Revelation 3:8 NKJV).

One of the most visited sites in Kathmandu, Nepal is the Hindu temple called “Pashupati Nath.” This is actually a large complex of temples and related structures including schools, housing for priests and other religious officials, and administrative buildings. One notable feature is the limitation on entry. The main temple door has a sign posted denying access to anyone except Hindus.

Doors can be many things. They are normally entries (and exits) which provide access. This may be literal or metaphorical (for example, “doors of opportunity”). At the same time, a door may be a barrier. A closed, locked, door prevents entry and/or exit, either barring one from the privileges of an insider or keeping one as a prisoner. In other usages, a door may be a passageway or transition from one place or situation to another, a frame (at least the doorway) through which other views are possible, or a prized artifact, valued for itself.

Of all of these possibilities, the normal meaning of access or denial is most prevalent. An open door is an invitation to enter; one that is closed at least raises the question as to whether access is possible. A door which does not yield to knocking is a rejection – it denies us of any privilege or advantage which access might promise.

In the Letters to the Seven Churches in the Book of Revelation, there are many promises made to faithful disciples. None hold more promise or encouragement than that offered to the Church in Philadelphia in which Jesus describes an open door which no one can close. Where that door leads, and what advantages it provides is subject to interpretation and analysis. Perhaps he is describing a door of opportunity for service in his kingdom. Perhaps he is promising eternal rewards to those who overcome. It is, of course, possible that both these and other meanings may be included.

*The door which Christ opens to us offers incredible blessings.*

Whatever the specific nature of the promise, Jesus is emphatic in making it an unlimited guarantee. He presents this certainty: “And no one can shut it!” What God gives his followers cannot be taken from them by any enemy, whether the opportunity to serve or eternal bliss.

Men make many promises, some honestly and others hypocritically. Those made sincerely are subject to human frailty. We often intend to do a thing but are simply unable to complete it. Jesus does not suffer from those weaknesses. He is all powerful and all knowing. As he identified himself in the previous verse, he is “He who is holy, He who is true, He who has the key of David, He who opens and no one shuts and shuts and no one opens.” What the Lord promises he will provide.

The door which Christ opens to us offers incredible blessings. Only one thing can prevent our receiving those blessings. That is our own choice. Whether we enter through the door is up to us. If we believe him and choose to enter, we cannot be prevented. If we deny him, we cannot be forced to enter. But until and unless we enter through the door, the blessings are unattainable. “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches” (Revelation 3:13).

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## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

**Bible Study**      **9:00am**  
**Worship**        **10:00am**  
**Evening**         **5:00pm**

### Wednesday

**Bible Study**      **7:00pm**

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Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is*  
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

**Psalms 133:1**

The process for becoming a Christian is  
the same as it was over 2000 years ago!  
To become a Christian, one must:

*Hear the Gospel - Rom. 10:17*

*Believe the Gospel - Heb. 11:6*

*Repent of Sins - Luke 13:3*

*Confess Christ - Rom. 10:10*

*Be Immersed Into Christ - Acts 2:38*

*Live a Faithful Life - Rev. 2:10*

None of these alone will make you a  
Christian. These commands are from  
God and must be obeyed from the heart  
to become a Christian.

### Prayer List

Paula Wanner	Dianne Vandagriff
Cassie Tierce	Kathy Alexander
Phillip Pharr	Mark Conley
Stephanie Moore	Margie Pharr
Ellie Sander	Frances Robinson
Lou Dodson	Lynn Sander
Tim Denson	Jim Johnson
Jimmy Searcy	Barbara White
Christy Hickox	Brenda Leatherwood
Susan Vandagriff	Kenneth Orrick
Patsy Wanner	Henry Vandagriff
John Johnson	Betty Moore



### October Birthdays

*Aly Williams 10/3*  
*Joey Moore 10/15*  
*Jerry Dees 10/17*  
*Braxton Cleveland 10/24*  
*Jeffrey Higginbottom 10/28*  
*Glenda Williams 10/28*

### October Anniversaries

*Mallory & Brad 10/21*  
*Steve & Michelle 10/25*

*Sympathy*