

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Deer Park

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

October 4, 2026

Volume 59 Issue 39

See Details Inside

Prayer Page

"Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer." Romans 12:12

Daily BIBLE Reading Schedule

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Ladies Pillow Ministry & Devo

Tuesdays 9:00 to 11:00

Facebook Page

Church of Christ
Deer Park, Texas



Web Site - dpcocf.org



Instant Potatoes
Canned Chicken
Ranch Bean
Pork and Beans
Can Pinto Beans



Blessed Are those Who Are Persecuted Paul Green

My Grandmother taught 5th grade Bible Class for many years, so naturally I was excited as the time approached for me to be a student in her class and was also excited to obtain the coveted postcard with 5 stars, each star representing memorization of the following:

- Names of the Apostles
- Books of the New Testament
- Books of the Old Testament
- Psalm 23
- The Beatitudes

The Beatitudes have continued to encourage me from that early age until now. They are found in Matthew 5:3-12 and begin Jesus' Sermon on the Mount from Matthew chapters 5-7. Growing in the attributes of the Beatitudes show increased maturity of our personal character and help identify ourselves as followers of Christ.

The final Beatitude and the subject of this article is found in Matthew 5:10-12: *"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."* ¹¹ *"Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me."* ¹² *Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."*

Notice that Jesus states in vs. 11, **"when"**, **"not 'if'"** persecution will come to his followers because of him. Persecution is guaranteed for a true follower of Christ. But it is not our nature to aspire to press on to maturity when being persecuted. Our natural tendency is to go on the defensive and fight back when we are persecuted, or to at least get even.

Here are some examples of the many warnings in scripture of our certain persecution as a follower of Christ:

- Jesus states in John 15:18, *"If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated me first"*.
- Paul states in 2 Timothy 3:12, *"In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Jesus Christ will be persecuted"*.
- Peter states in 1 Peter 4:16, *"However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name"*.

And some examples of those who were persecuted and their response that we can learn from:

- The Apostles, early in their ministry, were imprisoned, flogged and ordered not to speak in the name of Jesus. But they left rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering for Christ, and, of course, they continued teaching and proclaiming the Good News. (Acts 5)
- Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, was stoned to death by members of the Sanhedrin after stating that they had betrayed and murdered the Messiah, and proclaiming that he could see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God. As he was being stoned, he asked the Lord to not hold their sin against them. (Acts 6-7)
- The Apostle Paul was imprisoned, flogged, beaten with rods, stoned, shipwrecked, in danger from bandits, fellow Jews, Gentiles and false believers, in hunger and thirst, and cold and naked. And most intriguing to me: after enduring all of the above, was the daily pressure he faced regarding his concern for the churches (2 Corinthians 11). Christ's church was always at the forefront of his mind, regardless of his persecutions.

(Continued Page 2)

And some examples of encouragement for us when being persecuted:

- Romans 5:3-5 *"Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us".*
- James 1:2-4 *"Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything".*
- Jesus told his disciples in Matthew 10:28: *"Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell."*
- And remember Jesus' encouragement from vs. 12 of our opening text to rejoice and be glad when persecuted because great is our reward in heaven.

Jesus' promise of this great reward gives us encouragement to endure anything our adversaries throw at us.

Are you being persecuted because of righteousness? If not, this may be a call to mature in our faith, courage to speak of our faith, study and grow in knowledge of scripture, service to others and teaching others.

Let Us Press on to Maturity (Hebrews 6:1), accepting persecution with all joy knowing that it is because of our righteousness and faith in Jesus Christ.

"...but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Philippians 4:6

Prayer Needs and Requests

Our Country & Our National Leaders look to & be guided by God;
God Bless & protect President Trump & God Bless the United States of America;
People of Israel & Ukraine;
Pray for things going on in Iran;
Noah Mining is on the USS Bush & deployed to the middle east (Sam & Debbie Mining grandson);
Gene Barton (Nancy Barton husband) fell 9/16 & broke 3 ribs & is in a lot of pain;
Johnny Singletary (Emma O'Bannon grandfather) quintuple by-pass 9/10 & is home improving;
Bernice Reed had injections in neck area, praying for pain relief rather than surgery;
David Camp had hand surgery 9/22nd;
Stephen Datray (Eileen Adair son) back & leg problems;
Eileen Adair scan produced a good report with another CAT Scan 1st week of Oct & blood work soon before seeing regular doctor;
Sandra Burke (Jimmy & Peggy sister-in-law) is extremely anemic & is had her 4th infusions on 9/18th & seeing cardiologist 9/22nd;
Cherie Conrad (Debby Mining cousin) had hip replacement & cellulitis;
Sam Mining has injured his back & looking at possible tests;
Darren Camp (David Camp's son) is improving by leaps & bounds;
Loyce Alvarado (Susan Williams' sister) is hoping to go back to work in Oct;
Steve Deviller (Jerry Goucher friend) wife passed recently;
Lynda Goucher (Jerry Goucher & Rosa Reeves sister-in-law) AFib issues;
Building Program;
Inmates of our Prison Ministry (601 Inmate students);
Pray in Faith;
Pray for & Grow in Wisdom;
Be THANKFUL for our MANY BLESSINGS;
Share the Gospel of Jesus;
Remember God is in Control;
A Faithful God Deserves Praise;
Are We Faithful to Him?;
PUT GOD FIRST!;
God Keeps His Promises;
Produce Much Fruit;
Be Present;
Hallelujah!
What a Savior!;
Ask for Wisdom;
Give;
Commit;
Let Your Light Shine;
FEAR GOD!
Practice Our Christianity Daily;
Be THANKFUL for our MANY BLESSINGS

Continual Prayers

Eileen Adair;
Adair Family;
Gene Barton (Nancy Barton's husband);
Diane Bowman (Tammy Imel friend);
Gina Branstetter;
Carole Broyles;
Jimmy Burke chronic weakness/dizziness;
David Camp;
Deanna & Norman Cox (Carole Broyles sister & brother-in-law);
Louise & Cathy Friday;
Deavyn Gordon;
Dennis & Mary Gray;
Joyce Gray (mother of Dennis Gray);
Dale Guillory;
Nalin Hayter;
Marion Hood (aunt of Shannon Burke);
Justin Imel health issues;
Summer Imel (Justin & Tammy Imel niece);
Pat Jackson & Norma McBride (Peggy Burke friends);
Cheryl McKinney (Tammy Imel sister-in-law);
Billy O'Bannon;
Bernice Reed;
Brandon Reed;
Kenny Reed;
Robert Reed;
Mike Reed;
George & Karen Revez (Dale Guillory friends);
Mike Ritter;
Johnny Salas;
Andrew Shirley (Scott & Erin Burke Son-in-law) heart issues;
Yolanda Solomonsz pulmonary fibrosis;
Jim & Linda Thomason;
Lara Tucker (Nancy Barton niece);
Charlott Wagner still needs our prayers (friend of Dale Guillory);
Eliza Whitcomb;
Sheri & Bruce Williams (Dale Guillory's sister);
Debbie Williams (Gene & Nancy Barton's daughter) health issues;
Susan Williams;
Karl Vinson

Please Remember These Battling Cancer

Tammy Adair;
Amy Cote (O'Bannon & Burke friend);
Gerald Elliott;
Mother of Mrs. Farris (Gina Branstetter friend);
Nova Lee Garza (9 yr old granddaughter Eliza Whitcome) continuing treatment at Texas Children's;
Roseann Hudoba;
Betty Hunt (Tammy Imel sister-in-law's mother);
Mike Wilson & wife Sue - Mike has early bone marrow cancer;
Terry Knight has tumor & receiving chemo;
Stephany Plank-breast cancer;
Maurene Martin-colon cancer;
Nathan Lunday-prostate cancer (Dale Guillory friends);
Candice Rudolph (Shannon Burke friend);
Julie Smith (Dennis & Mary Gray friend) stage 4 Lung Cancer-in hospice;
Jess Williams (Nancy Barton son-in-law)



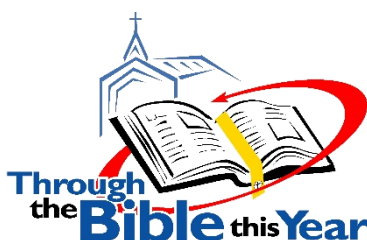
Ladies' Class & Pillow Ministry

Every Tuesday
9:00 - 11:30 am

Stay as long as you can.
You DO NOT need to sew.
WORKING ON CHRISTMAS.
We are Studying "Angels"
by Charles B. Hoge

OCTOBER Birthdays

Courtney O'Bannon	13
R.J. Imel	16
Sam Mining	17
Jimmy Burke	22

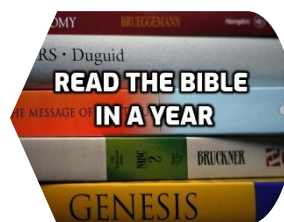


Daily Bible Reading October 4- October 10

Sun 4	am	Isaiah 29-30
	pm	Ephesians 6
Mon 5	am	Isaiah 31-33
	pm	Philippians 1
Tues 6	am	Isaiah 34-36
	pm	Philippians 2
Wed 7	am	Isaiah 37-38
	pm	Philippians 3
Thur 8	pm	Isaiah 39-40
	pm	Philippians 4
Fri 9	am	Isaiah 41-42
	pm	Colossians 1
Sat 10	am	Isaiah 43-44
	pm	Colossians 2

God's Plan for Saving Man

Divine Love: John 3:16
God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9
Holy Spirit's Word: 1 Corinthians 2:12-13
Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism: Acts 22:16
Christian's Love: Matthew 22:37
Christian's Work: James 2:24
Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10
From House to House Heart to Heart



Early Christians - What They Believed by Nat Cooper (Continued from 9/27/26 Newsletter)

Is It Even Possible: Now, our times are so different. In matters of religion, the **average man** on the street sees one church as good as another. His association may simply be a matter of convenience: it is near his house, has a kindergarten for his child, the parking is good, the architecture is strikingly beautiful. The **university set** considers all churches to be equally false. Most **politicians** will become visual in any religious faith if the people can be added to their voting log. So, the concept of returning to the first-century church as a pattern to follow is a new idea. Or as one Russian asked, "Is it even possible?" Are people of this persuasion likely to pick up the Word of God and study while asking, "**WHAT DOES GOD WANT?**"

People Saw It for Themselves

In time, people saw the truth of what was being preached. These were matters that happened before their very eyes. Jesus' ministry, His disciples' preaching, their witness to the crucifixion, the miracles that happened, the resurrection of Christ, the establishment of the church of Christ—**THESE THINGS DID NOT OCCUR UNDETECTED (Acts 26:28)!** Conviction followed! On Pentecost, at the conclusion of Peter's piercing sermon, the people cried out of their souls, "**What shall we do?**" And Peter told them (**Acts 2:37-38**). Three thousand people obeyed the gospel that day.

I Am Simply a Christian

I must say, when I am asked about my salvation, it gives me great pleasure to stand with Christ's teachings and say, "**I am simply a Christian,**" just like the people in the early church, no more and no less. *And what's wrong with that answer?* **That's all I should be able to say!**

Deeper

Acts 2:21,47; 4:12; 11:14; 15:11; 16:30,31; Romans 8:24; 10:1,9; 1 Peter 3:21; Romans 6:1-6



Church of Christ Deer Park
617 Avon Street
Deer Park, TX 77536

Church Of Christ Deer Park Invites you to join us in Worship!

We are located at:

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Deer Park, TX**

Phone: 281-479-1010

E-mail: [dpchurch.office@
sbcglobal.net](mailto:dpchurch.office@sbcglobal.net)

Web Site: www.dpcofc.org

Facebook Page:

Church of Christ Deer Park,
Texas

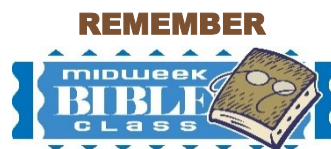
Meet With Us

Sunday Morning

Coffee & Donut Fellowship	9:00am
Bible Class	9:30am
Morning Worship	10:30am

Wednesday Evening

Bible Class	6:30pm
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WEDNESDAY 6:30

SERVICES THIS WEEK

October 4, 2026

Donut Fellowship 9:00am

Bible Class 9:30am

Worship 10:30am

Song Leader: **Dennis Gray**

Scripture Reading & Prayer:
John 10:11

Prayers & Thoughts for the Lord's Supper:

Sermon: "Jesus the Good Shepherd"
Paul Green

Closing Payer:
Jimmy Burke

Greeter: **Eileen & Tammy Adair**
Communion Prep: **Sam & Debby Mining**
Livestreaming: **R.J. Imel & Jerry
Goucher**

Stay tuned to our
Email Messages, Everything happening on
Facebook Page:
Church of Christ Deer Park, Texas

REMEMBER WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: I am blessed to be with brethren. I am blessed to serve. I am blessed to learn from others. I am blessed to hear the Word of Life. I am blessed to remember what's important. I am blessed to recharge my spirit. I am blessed to correct my life. We look forward to seeing you Wednesday!