

Port Orchard Church of Christ



Where Jesus is Lord, Jesus is
Lifted, Jesus is Lived

Chronology and the Bible's Arrangement

Since the Bible begins at the Creation with Genesis—the book of beginnings—and ends with the book of Revelation (which many scholars believe was the last recorded book of the Bible), students of the Scriptures often assume that the Bible was compiled chronologically. Many students approach their reading of the Bible with the mindset that everything in Scripture is arranged “from A to Z.” Since Genesis records what took place at the beginning of time, and it is the first book of the Bible, then the rest of the Bible follows suit, right? Actually, what the diligent student eventually finds is that the Bible is **not** a book of strict chronology. **All sixty-six books** of the Bible are not arranged in the order in which they were written. Furthermore, **all of the events** contained within each book also are not recorded chronologically.

Consider the following **arrangement** of books in the Bible:

Although the books of Haggai and Zechariah have been placed near the end of the Old Testament, these men prophesied while the events in the book of Ezra were taking place (cf. Ezra 5:1; 6:14). Twenty books separate Haggai and Zechariah from the book of Ezra, yet the events recorded in each book were occurring at the same time. Obviously, these books are not arranged in chronological order.

Even though 2 Chronicles appears before the book of Job, the events recorded in Job took place long before those that are recorded in 2 Chronicles. In fact, if the Bible were a book of strict chronology, the events recorded in Job likely would be placed somewhere within the book of Genesis, after Genesis 6 (since Job 22:15-16 is more than likely a reference to the Flood).

In the New Testament, one might assume that since 1 Thessalonians comes after the book of Acts, that Luke penned Acts earlier than Paul penned his first letter to the church at Thessalonica. The truth is, however, 1 Thessalonians was written years before the book of Acts was completed.

In addition to the books of the Bible not being arranged chronologically, inspired writers did not always record information in a strictly chronological sequence. Making the assumption that the entire Bible was written chronologically hinders a proper understanding of the text. For example, Genesis 2:5-25 does not pick up where Genesis one left off; rather, it provides more detailed information about some of the events mentioned in the first chapter of the Bible. (Whereas Genesis 1 is arranged chronologically, Genesis 2 is organized topically.) The differences in the

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Welcome Guests

We are so glad that you decided to visit Port Orchard Church of Christ this morning! Since you took this step to join us for worship, we would like to extend to you a warm welcome. Wherever you are this morning, as we lift worship to God, we pray that you are able to leave feeling uplifted, convicted, or encouraged in your faith.

We seek to worship God like the first century church did, with a sense of awe and with a fear of the Lord. Some things we do might seem old

fashioned or traditional, but we want you to know that at its core, it is for the praise of God's glory.

You are not required to do anything weird or ostentatious. We hope that you feel free to join us in worshipping God to the best of your abilities. If you have any specific needs, we have a ministry staff that would love to connect with you. Ask the people sitting around you for names of the ministry staff and to point them out!

Once again, we are so happy to have you here worshipping with us and we hope this is a chance to worship God in a deep and meaningful way.

-Port Orchard Church of Christ

Save the Dates!

Saturday 12/23 Kid Watch & Fundraiser

Friday 12/29 90th Birthday Celebration for Delores Brun



Serving December 17, 2017:

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview

Thomas Morse will be preaching this upcoming Sunday. Worship Service begins at 10:45. We hope to see you here!

Happy Birthday!

Charles Nance-01, Nikole Karn-03, LaDonna Latham-03, Tristen Herbert-05, Sarah Benjamin-08, Kelli Keagle-12, Erika Wheeler-12, Anna Cartwright-17, Jedidiah Herbert-17, Bonnie Mitchell-18, Lilli Bell-19, Darlene Woodrow-24, Wayne Hammock-25, Nancy Armenta-26, Delores Brun-28, Gary White-28, Jake Orser-31, & Randy vanLeuven-31.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

90th Birthday Celebration for Delores Brun

Friday, December 29th. Everyone is invited. We'll begin with a round of hand and foot, Delores's favorite card game, and finish with dinner (provided). More information to follow.

Tom Sibley

Tom Sibley shared a sermon with us last Sunday. If you missed his message, please visit the church website at pococ.weebly.com to listen.

Prayer Leader: Bob McDaniel
Scripture Reader: Dale Sanders
Offering Thoughts: Dave Snypp
Communion Meditation: Brad Orser
Servers: Tim Duffy & Greg Warner
Ushers: Jarrod Coley & Brandon Zepf
Greeters: Greg & Sandi Warner
Prayer Partners: Dale & Lori Sanders
Sound: Lisa Bratcher
Slides/Lighting: Brittany Pringle

Communion Prep: Barbara Chasteen
Communion Cleanup: Bratcher Family
Praise Team: Gene Gerard, Paula Hill, Kenny Benjamin, & Rachel Karn
Children's 9:30 Helper: Karen Taylor
Children's Church: Kelli Keagle
Preaching: Thomas Morse



KidWatch Fundraiser for Tokyo Bound Youth

Tokyo Bound Youth is kicking off their fundraising with a kid-watch on Saturday, December 23rd. Drop your kids off anytime between 9am and 3pm at the bottom level of the church, and several adults and teens will watch them while you get your Christmas shopping done! This service is free, but donations are appreciated. More information will be provided at a later date. See Paula or Sarah Hill if you have any questions!

Don & BobbyJo

Don & BobbyJo, who own the camper in the church parking lot, are in need of work. Don does excellent grounds maintenance. If you have any leads or jobs that need doing, they really need the income and would appreciate your referral.

International Justice Mission (IJM)

Our sister Sarah Benjamin has been working to spread the news about an organization that works to prevent human-trafficking and to rescue those who have been sold into slavery. IJM works with local governments and organizations to accomplish this work. If you would like to get involved, their website is www.ijm.org. They cannot do these things without financial assistance.

Our Prayer List

Healing:

Lori Sanders
Virginia Chapman
Delores Brun
Runell Mason
David Latham
Wayne Hammock's friend Dave
Melvin Byrd
Lisa Bratcher

Encouragement:

Victoria
Those Grieving the loss of Loved Ones

Traveling:

Jim & Cindy Snead
Holiday Travelers

Other:

Herberts expecting their 7th child
Our children, church, nation, President Trump and ministries.
That God will bless our deacons with wisdom in reaching the many decisions they are entrusted with.

December 10, 2017

Worship: 93

Class: 44

Offering: \$3,694.25

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arrangement of the temptations of Jesus recorded by Matthew (4:1-11) and Luke (4:1-13) are resolved when we realize that at least one of them is not reporting the facts in sequential order. Some also question whether Jesus cursed the tree **before** or **after** He cleansed the temple. Since Matthew records this event before the cursing of the fig tree (21:12-19), and since Mark places the cleansing of the temple after Jesus cursed the tree (11:15-19), it is supposed that one of the two writers was mistaken. The truth is, however, Matthew's account is more of a summary, whereas Mark's narrative is more detailed and orderly. Mark's more specific account reveals that Jesus actually made two trips to the temple. Thus, as Albert Barnes noted: "Mark has stated the order more particularly, and has 'divided' what Matthew mentions together" (1997). Obviously, the gos-

pel accounts were not arranged to be a strict chronology of Jesus' life.

When studying with those who know very little about the Bible, it is helpful for them to understand the arrangement of Scriptures. By recognizing that many books of the Bible (as well as the events contained therein) are not in a sequential order, one will have fewer problems digesting Scripture.

Reference

Barnes, Albert (1997), *Barnes' Notes* (Electronic Database: BibleSoft).

Eric Lyons, M. Min.
2002

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