

A Publication of the Port Orchard Church of Christ

February 13, 2022

Be Transformed

In John 8, a group of scribes and Pharisees brought a woman caught in the act of adultery before Jesus and asked what should be done. It would seem these men were concerned about following the law correctly, but this was not so. They knew Scripture very well. However, they were mistaken about how to read it and apply it.

What was the problem?

The scribes and Pharisees read the Bible as applying to others but not themselves. They found the sins of others described in Scripture, but not their own. This temptation does not escape us today. We can read the Bible as only applying to our religious neighbors or political enemies. We can read it as pointing out the faults of those we disagree with and never consider how it might correct our brokenness. This is not how to read Scripture, nor is it how we are to live.

If our focus is the sins of others, then there is no redemption for ourselves. Transformation is not possible if I do not know or acknowledge my own faults. I cannot expect change if God's word never speaks to me. If the Bible is about my enemies and not myself, I will use it as a bludgeoning tool to attack others. John 8 is an example of this. The scribes and Pharisees were willing to have a woman put to death to win an argument.

These problems do not apply solely to Christianity and Scripture. We see them in our world. There are groups of people, TV networks, celebrities, etc. devoted to pointing out the problems of others. It is all they talk about. They are even willing to ruin lives just to be proven right.

What good does this do?

None. If all we talk about are the problems of others, then we never better ourselves, and yet this is what much of the discourse in our culture is. Transformation does not happen because we are focused on other people's sins. Winning arguments is the goal rather than forming better communities, organizations, and people.

It is not spiritually healthy to always be looking at others. It is not healthy in a religious environment or any other environment. When we focus on the sins of others and ignore our own, we are laying the groundwork for creating toxic personalities and toxic communities. We will convince ourselves we are doing right as we go after others, all while excusing gross wrongs in our camp. There will be no mercy shown to others because we do not think we need mercy ourselves.

The best thing we can do for ourselves and the world we live in is to allow Scripture to speak to us and help transform us into the image of Christ. Are there wrongs being committed in this world? Absolutely! Are we surrounded by people who refuse to do what is right? Yes, but consuming ourselves with these wrongs does little or no good and can lead to the corruption of our souls. Blame and accusations will not deliver the world from depravity. The only defense against darkness is light.

What must we do?

We must hear the word of God.

Let God's Word speak to you. Listen to His voice and apply His teaching to your life.

We must be transformed.

We are to become like Christ. Get rid of anything in your life that is leading you away from Christ and embrace the ways of Jesus. Put off the works of the flesh and put on the fruit of the Spirit.

We must follow Jesus.

Imitate His words and actions. Seek the good of others, not their destruction. Be a light at all times, but especially in the darkest moments.

- Scott Elliott

Acts Chapter 6 & 7 Study Questions

Chapter 6

1. What is the time (Vs 1)?
2. In your own words what is the problem that arose?
3. Why did the apostles feel the need to choose servants to oversee the food distribution?
4. How were they chosen?
5. What was different about this and the replacement of Judas from Ch 1?
6. What type of people were coming to the faith (vs 7)?
7. What type of man was Stephen?
8. Why were the Jews against him?

Chapter 7

1. Explain Stephens defense in your own words?
2. What examples does he give to support his case?
3. What did he appeal to in the Jewish leaders and crowd?
4. Where does he lose them?
5. Where was Jesus in Stephens vision?
6. Was he a martyr?
7. Who was watching?

The church was created on the day of Pentecost. It was spoken of by Jesus. In Acts we see how we enter into the Kingdom. The gifts that we receive when we chose Jesus and submit to Him through baptism, when we share in His death, burial, and resurrection. We become His possession. In Chapter 4 Luke tells us of a lame man at the gate called beautiful. How he is restored and how the crowd reacted. We learn about the rulers' views of the disciples and of the early church. More than that we learn about the heart of the early disciples. When they are challenged, they chose God and rather than ask for comfort from the persecution, they ask for boldness to keep speaking for God. May we have the same prayer. Please join us as we look deeper into Acts.

Why should I attend Bible class?

Have you ever asked yourself that question? "Should I go to Bible class?" The correct answer is YES! Even if you do not like the class teacher or think you already know the topic. The answer is yes. Bible class is important. It is where we can share our lives and learn more about the God we serve. I would propose to you that, no matter how many times you study a topic you can always learn more. God's Word is like an onion; the more layers you peel away, the richer the flavor, and the more flavor you get. We are starting a new study on "The life of Christ." We are looking at His life from the different gospels. Now we could say, I know who Jesus is and what He taught. I don't need to be in class. That could very well be true and if it is, then you have something to add to the class. Be a blessing to others in the class and share your understanding. I try to have discussions in my classes. I want us to engage with the text and dig for what we need from it at that moment. As we start to look to the future, I want to encourage everyone to get involved with classes. We have one on Sunday mornings and one on Sunday evenings; plus some small groups that are meeting at other times. We are to be a people of the Word, and that means that we study it together. Remember, we all have something to contribute. It is also a blessing to learn together. I hope that you will make time to join in our study time as we seek to know Christ better. - Trent Herbert

Delano Bay Christian Camp Summer Camp Registration Open!

www.delano.org

(We are holding four camps this summer)

*1st - 3rd Grade Camp
July 17th – 20th*

*4th - 6th Grade Camp
July 24th - July 30th*

*Junior Teen Session
7th - 9th Grade Camp
July 10th - 16th*

*Senior Teen Session
10th, 11th, 12th, New Grad)
June 25th - July 2nd*

Our Prayer List

- Congratulations to Fuzzy and Elizabeth Volpitta, their daughter, grandparents Nancy Armenta and Trent and Michelle Herbert on the birth of a little boy on February 8th. Pray special blessings for this little one.
- Sharon McDaniel for healing and encouraging results.
- Jon Powless is scheduled on February 15th for surgery to remove the skin cancer on his head.
- Karen Taylor healing after a fall at her daughter's home.
- Carol Henry Smith's son Steve - results from his cancer treatments.
- Nancy Armenta's upcoming surgery on March 25th for a stage 3 mass on her kidney,
- Tony DelBarto - Stent procedure on March 3rd.
- Karen Taylor's friend JC Pate who has stage 4 throat cancer.
- Jessica Zepf having some medical issues.
- Linda Fry - healing and comfort from pancreatic cancer.
- Darrell Fry and his family over the passing of his cousin and also his aunt. Darrell is traveling to California from Arizona this weekend for the services.
- Sandi Warner's son Michael's father Brink who has Covid.
- God's blessings and meeting the needs of our church family and biological families.
- Our medical personnel and also first responders and all they are dealing with because of the problems associated with Covid.
- Our nation and leaders. Port Orchard Church of Christ and our deacons, our leadership team and brothers and sisters. Pray for those who experience feelings of anxiety, stress and even depression loss of jobs normally and additionally from Covid.
- Praise, thanks and gratitude for our Heavenly Father who knows all and sees all and takes care of us.

Church Office Hours:

Because of Jon Powless' doctor appointments in preparation for his surgery on February 15, the church office will be closed February 11 - 15.



Sicut Cervus

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mJid_sA06al

Sicut Cervus

All 16 parts recorded by Mike Eldridge: Acapeldridge

Music by Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina, 1608.

Lyrics from Psalm 42:1 "Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus."

Literal translation: "Like as the hart desireth the water-brooks so longeth my soul after thee, O God."

"If you've seen any of my other videos, you'll know that this is unlike anything I've done so far. Because of the constant movement throughout the piece and the unique phraseology, I decided to record 4 tracks for each of the 4 parts, a total of 16 tracks.

"Combined with the task of compiling four times the usual amount of video, it was a challenge! But I've been excited to share this with you, and I hope you'll find the effort to have been worth it."

- Mike Eldridge: Acapeldridge
<https://melttheheart.com>

POCOC Web Site (<http://pococ.weebly.com>)

- Weekly Bulletin – Click on **Bulletin & Newsletters**
- Current newsletters from Trent Herbert, Tristen Herbert and Roy Merritt. Click on **Bulletin & Newsletters**
- Live stream of worship services on YouTube Channel - Previous recordings, too:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ then click on the video.
 Please subscribe to be notified when new videos post or when we go live.
- Pre-Covid audio sermons are also still online – Click on **Teachings**
- Current Event Calendar - Click on **News & Events**

Sunday Worship for February 13, 2022 (10:30 am – 12:00 – noon)

(Children are dismissed after communion for Children's Church)

Watch live stream or after our worship time:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL_SrX11URAKOYw7JOR9ZIQ

Speaker: Trent Herbert	Singing: Bob McDaniel	Scripture: Trent Herbert	Prayer: Brad Orser	Communion: Dave Snyp
9:30am Adult Class: Auditorium The Life of Christ: Trent Herbert		Children Class: Downstairs Combined Class		
Call Laura Fry or the Church Office (360-876-2604) for Zoom Meeting ID				
Acts Class (Zoom) Sundays: 6:00 – 7:00 pm		Prayer Meeting (Zoom) Wednesdays: 5:00 pm		
Men's Fellowship Downstairs Fellowship Room Tuesday, 10:00 am		Ladies Prayer Group (Zoom) Tuesdays: 10:00 am		

Communion and Tithes & Offerings

We are meeting inside the building, but we are still not passing trays row by row. Be sure to pick up your communion supplies as you enter the auditorium. It contains both the juice and the bread.

There are a few options for giving your tithes & offerings:

- 1) The collection box is in the foyer at the entrance to the auditorium.
- 2) Online bill-pay with your bank or credit union. Your bank will mail your check for you.
- 3) Mail your tithe/offering check directly to the Church address. We have a lock mailbox.

Port Orchard Church of Christ 4135 Carr Lane SE Port Orchard, WA 98366 360-876-2604 - churchpococ@gmail.com	February 6, 2021 Tithes & Offerings – \$ 4,269.00
If you have any questions, please give me a call. God bless you. Gary Chasteen (cell) 360-731-4104	

Happy Birthday!

February: Melvin Byrd – 9, Terri [Hall] Whallon - 9, Zari Keagle – 9, Deloris Lawler – 9, Jason Hall – 20
March: Charlotte Hahn – 4, Brad Orser – 12, Troy Hill – 15, Darrell Fry – 25, Faith Wichman – 28, Roger Taylor – 31