
Port Orchard Church of Christ

Where

Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lifted, Jesus is Lived

Biblical Authority pt.5: Purpose and Character of God's Authority By: NT Wright

But what is God doing with his authority? We discover, as we look at the Bible itself, that God's model of authority is not like that of the managing director over the business, not like that of the governing body over the college, not like that of the police or the law courts who have authority over society. There is a more subtle thing going on. God is not simply organizing the world in a certain way such as we would recognize from any of those human models. He is organizing it—if that's the right word at all—through Jesus and in the power of the Spirit. And the notion of God's authority, which we have to understand before we understand what we mean by the authority of scripture, is based on the fact that this God is the loving, wise, creator, redeemer God. And his authority is his sovereign exercise of those powers; his love and wise creations and redemption. What is he doing? He is not simply organizing the world. He is, as we see and know in Christ and by the Spirit, judging and remaking his world. What he does authoritatively he dots with this intent. God is not a celestial information service to whom you can apply for answers on difficult questions. Nor is he a heavenly ticket agency to whom you can go for moral or doctrinal permits or passports to salvation. He does not stand outside the human process and merely comment on it or merely issue you with certain tickets

that you might need. Those views would imply either a deist's God or a legalist's God, not the God who is revealed in Jesus Christ and the Spirit. And it must be said that a great many views of biblical authority imply one or other of those sub-Christian alternatives.

But, once we say that God's authority is like that, we find that there is a challenge issued to the world's view of authority and to the church's view of authority. Authority is not the power to control people, and crush them, and keep them in little boxes. The church often tries to do that—to tidy people up. Nor is the Bible as the vehicle of God's authority meant to be information for the legalist. We have to apply some central reformation insights to the concept of authority itself. It seems to me that the Reformation, once more, did not go quite far enough in this respect, and was always in danger of picking up the mediaeval view of authority and simply continuing it with, as was often said, a paper pope instead of a human one. Rather, God's authority vested in scripture is designed, as all God's authority is designed, to liberate human beings, to judge and condemn evil and sin in the world in order to set people free to be fully human. That's what God is in the business of doing. That

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Welcome Guests

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

We seek here 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 their

names 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.

Cody Rousseau

Save the Dates!

Sunday 4/17 Kerri McDaniel Bridal Shower

Tuesday 4/19 Ladies Bible Class

Wednesday 4/20 Youth Group

Friday 4/22—4/24 Ladies Retreat

Friday 4/22—4/24 Inspire: Men's Retreat

Tuesday 4/26 Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday 4/27 Youth Group

Port Orchard News and Events

Pulpit Preview— James to preach

This week we will be hearing a sermon from James Greer. As he shares with us this week let us prayerfully consider what the Spirit is guiding us to learn. Thank you James for sharing with us this week!

Happy Birthdays!

Spring has arrived and the sun is starting to finally warm things up!! With it's arrival we have many brothers and sisters to celebrate their birth with. Let's celebrate the birthdays of our family members with joy and thanksgiving!

1— Veva Janes. 4— Virginia Martin. 6— Jim Snead. 7— Lucille Lowe. 10— Maydeane Furstenwerth; Jacob Hammock; Brandon Karn. 12— Jarrod Coley; Brad Orser. 13— Rick Velasco. 17— James Greer. 19— Rubin Carter. 21— DJ Magneson. 28— Lori Sanders

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Meals Needed

Bonnie Mitchell, along with Pene Hammock and Judy Van Lueven will be coordinating the temporary providing of meals on occasions when they are requested. Upon receiving the request, we will coordinate with the family to ascertain their needs — length of time, dietary restrictions etc. Once this has been determined through various means of communication we will contact the families here at POCOC for those who would like to participate with providing the meals.

Serving April 17, 2016 :

Prayer Leader:	Jim Snead	Communion Prep:	Warners
Scripture Reader:	James Greer	Communion Cleanup:	Wilson
Offering Thoughts:	Dale Sanders	Praise Team:	Gene Gerard
Communion Meditation:	Ray Switzer		Connie Greer
Servers:	D. Snypp & T. Bratcher		Rachel Karn
Ushers:	W. Hammock & J. Bickle		Cody Rousseau
Greeters:	Greg & Sandi Warner	Sunday School & CW Helper:	Brittany Pringle
Nursery Attendants:	TBD	Fellowship Team:	Donuts— Connie Switzer
Sound:	Jacob Hammock		Coffee— Ray Switzer
Slides/Lighting:	Chris Hill		Cleanup— Connie Switzer



There are some of you who want to always provide a meal, some who choose not to and some who would like to do so occasionally. Please email me if you fall in any of those categories and I will make a list which will be confidential.

This is a great ministry and can be an opportunity to serve others. If you have any questions, please be sure and call:

Bonnie Mitchell 360-895-0453 (h) 360-265-3266 (c)
Pene Hammock 360-871-9678
Judy Van Lueven 360-692-0361

Nursery and Communion

Thank you to all who served in the nursery and preparing and cleaning up communion this year!

Are you gifted with little kids? Would you like to serve somehow but don't know where to start? We have just the place for you! We need for more people to sign up for doing the nursery and communion prep/clean-up for 2016. There are only a few slots left for Communion, so if you feel like you are willing and able, please sign up in the foyer for the next opportunity on our community board. We will be printing a new Nursery sign up soon!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies Retreat

The ladies retreat is scheduled for April 22-24. Registration form and payment can be turned in to LaDonna Latham. Any questions regarding the retreat can be fielded by Lisa Bratcher. Information will be on the bulletin board and registration should be taken care of as soon as possible!

New Directory

There will be a new directory published as soon as possible this month! If you didn't get in your updated info and there is an issue it will have to wait until the next publication date. New directories should be printed and out by the end of this month!

Bridal Shower: Kerri McDaniel

There will be a bridal shower held for Kerri McDaniel on April 17th at the church building at 3PM. If you are interested in being a part of the group gift please see Tanya or Savannah by April 10th.

Our Prayer List

For the victims in the bombings in Belgium.

Healing for : Gary White, David Latham, Dorothy Janes, Bonnie Mitchell, Bonnie's son-in-law Tony, Gary White, Jodon Mason, Rick Velasco, Bette Widman, Ken and Pat Woodrow.

That Kara Mitchell's biopsy shows no cancer.

Delores Brunn's family and their struggles with health and other issues.

For Cody and Tiffany and those who will be involved with getting Tiffany's brother Jacob settled into a home.

For the Ladies Retreat and their speaker, the Growth Groups journey.

For Julie Snypp's uncle Tom who now is under Hospice Care.

Praise for Rick Velasco having quit smoking.

Guidance to our Deacons as they pursue Cody's replacement.

Prayer for Deja and Rodney Cormier and for Deja's pregnancy.

Pray for members who are homebound and unable to worship and fellowship with us.

Prayers for our church as we begin a new journey with the Growth groups and curriculum.

April 10, 2016

Worship: 85

Class: 38

Offering: \$3,491.00

Goal: \$3,437.50

is what his authority is there for. And when we use a shorthand phrase like 'authority of scripture' that is what we ought to be meaning. It is an authority with this shape and character, this purpose and goal.

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