
Port Orchard Church of Christ

Where

Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lifted, Jesus is Lived

Biblical Authority pt.6: How does God exercise his authority through the Bible? By NT Wright

When we turn the question round, however, and ask it the other way about, we discover just what a rich concept of authority we are going to need if we are to do justice to this book. The writings written by these people, thus led by the Spirit, are not for the most part, as we saw, the sort of things we would think of as 'authoritative'. They are mostly *narrative*; and we have already run up against the problem how can a story, a narrative, be authoritative? Somehow, the authority which God has invested in this book is an authority that is wielded and exercised *through* the people of God telling and retelling *their* story as the story of the world, telling the covenant story as the true story of creation. Somehow, this authority is also wielded through his people singing psalms. Somehow, it is wielded (it seems) in particular through God's people telling the story of Jesus. We must look, then, at the question of stories. What sort of authority might they possess?

There are various ways in which stories might be thought to possess authority. Sometimes a story is told so that the actions of its characters may be imitated. It was because they had that impression that some early Fathers, embarrassed by the possibilities inherent in reading the Old Testament that way, insisted upon allegorical exegesis. More subtly, a story can be told with a view to creating a generalized ethos which may then be perpetuated this way or that. The problem with such models, popular in fact though they are within Christian reading of scripture, is that they are far too vague: they constitute a hermeneutical grab-bag or lucky dip. Rather, I suggest that stories in general, and certainly the biblical story, has a shape and a goal that must be observed and to which appropriate response must be made.

But what might this appropriate response look like? Let me offer you a possible model, which is not in fact simply an illustration but actually corresponds, as I shall argue, to some important features of the

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Church Staff:

Cody Rousseau 360.801.8059

Deacons:

Troy Hill 360.674.7181
Brad Orser 360.874.8184
Gary Chasteen 360.895.4143
Gene Gerard 360.876.4612

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!

Saturday 4/30 Deacons meeting

Sunday 5/1 Congregational Meeting

Tuesday-Friday 5/3-6 Pepperdine Bible Lectures/ Office closed.

Tuesday 5/3 Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday 5/4 Youth Group cancelled

Monday 5/9 Community Meal

Tuesday 5/10 Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday 5/11 Youth Group

Friday-Sunday 5/13-15 Ocean Shores Retreat

Sunday 5/15 Senior Saints Potluck

Serving May 1, 2016 :

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 from the Word let us prayerfully consider how the Spirit is moving. Let us receive instruction from it and be guided by it.

Happy Birthdays!

May has arrived! Flowers are blooming, sunshine is shining and the days are staying lighter a little longer each day! With summer just around the corner let us take a moment to celebrate this months many birthdays!

2— Isaac Benjamin. 3— Gary Chasteen. 5— John Bickle. 9— Brandon Delay. 17— Julia Karn. 25— Barbara Chasteen. 26— Levi Herbert. 28— Gene Gerard. 31— Sarah Hill.

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.

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

Prayer Leader: Jim Snead

Scripture Reader: James Greer

Offering Thoughts: Ray Switzer

Communion Meditation: Darrell Fry

Servers: D. Snypp & T. Bratcher

Ushers: W. Hammock & J. Bickle

Greeters: Greg & Sandi Warner

Nursery Attendants: TBD

Sound: Dale Sanders

Slides/Lighting: Chris Hill

Communion Prep: Warners

Communion Cleanup: Wilsons

Praise Team: Darrell Fry

Paula Hill

Rachel Karn

Kenny Benjamin

Sunday School & CW Helper: Lori Sanders

Fellowship Team: Donuts— DeLoris Lawler

Coffee— Lucille Lowe

Cleanup— DeLoris Lawler



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

New Directory

The new directory is out and ready for pickup! If you haven't gotten a chance to grab one there are still more on the table in the foyer. We noticed a bit late that the name and information for the Warner family was left out. We have printed labels that can be attached to your directory for easy addition, or feel free to write their info into your copy!

Congregational Meeting

There will be a congregational meeting following services today (5/1) please plan to stay and attend if at all possible.

Ocean Shores Retreat

There will be a teen retreat at Ocean Shores on the weekend of the 15th this month. If your teen is interested in going please make sure to get a release filled out. Info can be gotten from Gene Gerard.

Wilson Baby Shower

There will be a baby shower for the Wilsons on June 12th during the usual time for the senior saints potluck. Everyone is invited! If you are interested in being a part of the group gift then speak with Tiffany!

Our Prayer List

Healing for: Gary Chasteen, David Latham, Doloris Brun, Jodon Mason, Ben Mason, Karen Taylor.

Kara Mitchell's lumpectomy, that it shows no signs of cancer.

Eunice Orser and her family as they mourn the loss of her mother.

Ladies Retreat and those attending, that the Holy Spirit will be present and active.

Guidance for our deacons as they make decisions regarding our family and church.

Cody and Tiffany as they prepare to start a new journey in their lives.

Josh and Savannah that their baby continues to grow healthily and that Savannah is able to stay healthy.

Deja Cormier as she is adapting to life with a third child, that she and her kids will be healthy and safe.

Prayer for our homebound and infirm as they are unable to attend worship and fellowship with the family.

Prayers for our church as it works through Growth Group materials and seeks to grow in love, faith, and hope.

April 24, 2016

Worship: 51

Class: n/a

Offering: \$2,222.47

Goal: \$3,437.50

biblical story, which (as I have been suggesting) is that which God has given to his people as the means of his exercising his authority. Suppose there exists a Shakespeare play whose fifth act had been lost.

The first four acts provide, let us suppose, such a wealth of characterization, such a crescendo of excitement within the plot, that it is generally agreed that the play ought to be staged. Nevertheless, it is felt inappropriate actually to write a fifth act once and for all: it would freeze the play into one form, and commit Shakespeare as it were to being prospectively responsible for work not in fact his own. Better, it might be felt, to give the key parts to highly

trained, sensitive and experienced Shakespearian actors, who would immerse themselves in the first four acts, and in the language and culture of Shakespeare and his time, and who would then be told to work out a fifth act for themselves.

Consider the result. The first four acts, existing as they did, would be the undoubted 'authority' for the task in hand. That is, anyone could properly object to the new improvisation on the grounds that this or that character was now behaving inconsistently, or that this or that sub-plot or theme, adumbrated earlier, had not reached its proper resolution. This 'authority' of the first four acts would not consist in an implicit command that the actors should repeat the

earlier parts of the play over and over again. It would consist in the fact of an as yet unfinished drama, which contained its own impetus, its own forward movement, which demanded to be concluded in the proper manner but which required of the actors a responsible entering in to the story as it stood, in order first to understand how the threads could appropriately be drawn together, and then to put that understanding into effect by speaking and acting with both innovation and consistency.

Port Orchard Church of Christ
2585 Carr Lane SE,
Port Orchard, WA 98366
360.876.2604
churchpococ@gmail.com
www.pococ.weebly.com