

The Tanner St Church of Christ meets each Lord's Day beginning with Bible classes at **9:30 AM**. We continue with our worship at **10:20 AM** and again at **5:00 PM**. We also meet each Wednesday evening at **7:00 PM** for Bible study and worship. Our meeting place is located about ¾ of a mile from I30 at 1512 Tanner St in Malvern, AR.

If you have questions about what we believe and teach, please visit our website, [tannerst.com](http://tannerst.com) to listen to sermons or read past articles from our bulletin. Or you can contact us and we will be glad to find a convenient time to study with you.

Phone: (501) 332-8806 Email: [preacher@tannerst.com](mailto:preacher@tannerst.com)

**Consider: Romans 13:1**

## **Needed News**

**Bill Venable** had his kidney stones removed last week, but is still dealing with a few problems as he recovers from the surgery. **Paula Laubach** continues to deal with issues with her knee. **Adene Gray** has not been feeling well this past week. **Conard Harris, Dolline Fain** and others of our number also continue to deal with health issues.

**Bill & Joyce Venable**, in addition to their own health issues, had a daughter-in-law who required surgery this past week due to a colon issue. She will remain in the hospital until at least Monday for observation as she recovers.

**David Laubach** is in Indiana this weekend.

Each of us should take it upon ourselves to speak with our brethren regarding the various health issues and problems that are constants in many of our families. We need to keep one another in our prayers as well as other family members who are dealing with health issues.

**Gospel Meeting**, March 29– April 1, Terry Sumerlin

# *Seeking His Righteousness*

*"...seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness.." Matthew 6:33*

March 2015

Volume 4 Number 10

## **March 29-April 1**

**Terry Sumerlin** of Lavon, TX

### **How To Be A Christian...**

How To Grow

How To Respect Truth

How To Go For The Gold

How To Speak

How To Disagree

How To Pray

Sunday 9:30 & 10:20 AM

5:00 PM

Monday –Wednesday 7:00 PM

Invite your Friends & Family

# Believe In What Is Right

Kent Heaton

In the book of Daniel, three young men are put to a great test of character as they stood before the King of Babylon in defiance to a decree that will cost them their lives. Nebuchadnezzar had made an image of gold nearly ninety feet tall in the plain of Dura and commanded all people to fall down and worship the image at the sound of various forms of music. When the time came, all the “people, nations and languages fell down and worshiped the gold image which King Nebuchadnezzar had set up” (Daniel 3:7). In the midst of this great throng of bodies bowing down in worship three men remained standing and refused to bow. The penalty for rebellion was clear. “Whoever does not fall down and worship shall be cast immediately into the midst of a burning fiery furnace” (Daniel 3:6).

Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah were Hebrew slaves taken from their homeland in the invasion of Judah by Babylon. They had been placed in the king’s palace to serve and learn the language and literature of the Chaldeans. We know them best by their Chaldean names of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego. Brought before King Nebuchadnezzar the king gave them a second chance to reconsider their refusal to bow down and worship the image. Their reply was clear and demonstrative. "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king. But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up" (Daniel 3:16-18).

The three Hebrews were cast into the furnace but through the grace of God delivered without the hair of their hair

singed nor were their garments affected, and the smell of fire was not on them (Daniel 3:27). God used their faith to show the king of Babylon who “rules in the kingdom of men” (Daniel 4:17). This remarkable story of courage is one fitting for our young people to embrace as they graduate High School and begin the challenging walk of life.

Two things stand out in this story: first, the importance of believing in something; secondly, the need of believing in the right thing. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego did not go along with the crowd. It was not their life’s aim to be like everyone else. They believed in something and not only believed it but were willing to disobey the law of the king because of what they believed in.

It is easy to go along with everyone else and be like the crowd. When the music began to play in the plain of Dura, thousands of people fell down to worship the image. Consider how odd they felt to be the only ones standing. Literally, everyone was bowing but these three men. They could have fallen down and who would have noticed? They possessed a belief system that challenged the moral code of the day. Young people, you must possess a system of belief to find happiness in life that will set you apart. Following the crowd will get you no where (Matthew 7:13,14).

Having a belief system is not enough – you have to believe in the right thing. They refused to worship the image because it was wrong. They stood for what was right because they stood for what God taught them. They served the Lord and not man (Acts 4:19,20; 5:29). As young people going out into the world, you must believe in the right thing and the only thing that is right is what is found in God (John 17:7). True happiness will not be found in bowing down to the music of the day. It will only come from standing for God in the face of great opposition to the norms of today. If your life is going to make a difference it must be made with the Lord as your guide and compass (John 14:6).