



The Pearland Harvester

EQUIPPING THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF SERVICE, BUILDING UP
THE BODY OF CHRIST

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A STONE THAT SHOUTS

mother of Jesus—upon arriving at the tomb and discovering that the stone has been rolled away.

That stone, which Matthew says was a **“large stone”** and which Mark describes as an **“extremely large”** stone (Mt. 27:60; Mk. 16:4), was a silent witness that shouts to the world. Morison compares their shock to what Robinson Crusoe experienced when he saw the footprint in the sand. He didn’t need someone with a loud speaker to tell him that he was not alone on his island. The footprint shouted that much to him. And the stone that was rolled away so that the open sepulcher could be inspected spoke as profoundly as anything anyone could have said.

I cannot accept the explanation that Morison has for who rolled the stone away, nor do I agree with his theory on the identity of the **“young man”** who was sitting in the tomb, robed in white (Mk. 16:5). But that the stone is itself a silent witness to the resurrection of Jesus is, I think, very compelling.

But Christ does not depend upon a silent stone to argue for belief that He is the Son of God. He depends upon the credible and unimpeachable testimony of eyewitnesses. They were not charlatans. Had that been the case, the smart thing for them to do (assuming they could agree to concoct such a tale) would have been to travel as far from Jerusalem as possible before proclaiming their rabbi was resurrected. The likelihood of finding gullible men who would believe such a thing would have increased the farther they traveled from Jerusalem. But in less than two months after His death, they were announcing His resurrection to a worldwide audience that had assembled in Jerusalem, the very city where the events took place. If any minute part of their testimony could have been disproven, the entire testimony would have been discredited. It was not.

Those who schemed to put Him to death were aware of His resurrection even before His disciples were (Mt. 28:11-15). Those highly respected members of Jewish society had sought and gained permission to secure the tomb on the basis that His disciples might steal His body under the cover of darkness and then claim that He was resurrected. No one had greater motivation to produce His body and silence His followers; yet, they were unable to do so. The best they could do was to offer large sums of money to the soldiers if they would agree to say that **“His disciples came by night and stole Him away”** while they slept (Mt. 28:11-15). At a later point in time, all His disciples were rounded up and placed on trial before the Sanhedrin (Acts 5:17-28). They were charged with two crimes: 1.) preaching in His name after having been ordered not to do so again (cf. Acts 4:18) and 2.) publicly stating that the Council itself was guilty of His blood (Acts 5:28). Yet the Council did not accuse them of deceit or blasphemy in claiming that He was resurrected. If they absolutely knew that He was not risen from the tomb, why not charge the disciples with making a false claim?



The answer to that question is simple. Had the chief priests and their Sadducee party made such a charge in court, they would have had to contend with the Pharisees who were also a part of the court. Their bribery would have been exposed, and the embarrassment of an empty crypt with its stone rolled away would still demand an explanation other than resurrection. No explanation existed. Nor is it speculation to assume that it would have happened that way. More than twenty years after the resurrection of Jesus, that scenario did occur. The entire Council, along with the chief priests, were assembled and Paul **“perceiving that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees ... began crying out in the Council, ‘Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; I am on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead!’”** (Acts 22:30 – 23:10).

The witnesses have never been silenced, nor will they. Our task is to unashamedly and joyously share their testimony to our generation.

TRIVIA CHALLENGE

We fought with Persian kings, but we also taught a great man. We informed, encouraged, and strengthened a righteous Jew. We are known in the Bible only by our first names, and no predecessors are mentioned or progeny follows us. Who are we?

Answer to last week's question: Five golden tumors that represented the five lords (AKA kings) of the Philistines (1 Samuel 6:17). Gary Adams gave the first correct answer.

Daily Bible chapter reading schedule, beginning Thursday, April 13, 2017:

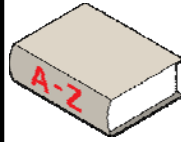
- Thursday—1 Corinthians 3-4
- Friday—Genesis 36-39
- Saturday—Ruth
- Sunday—Psalms 27-29
- Monday—Job 19-20
- Tuesday—Isaiah 51-55
- Wednesday—Matthew 26-28

For the Record—4-9-17	
Sunday AM	117
Sunday PM	52
Wednesday (4-5-17)	32
Contribution	\$3,510
Weekly Budget	\$5,800
YTD Contribution	\$66,887
YTD Budget	\$87,000



NEW ADDRESS:

Jeremy, Heather, & Brenton Cook
 2525 Barry Rose Rd #705
 Pearland TX 77581



It's time for a new Pocket Directory! Please review the sheets on the bulletin board and make necessary changes by April 23, 2017. Thanks.

KEPT IN PRAYER

Fran Barnhill will probably be released from Houston Methodist St. John Hospital today after undergoing tests. The doctors think it is a pain management issue.

Dawn Bell is still in TIRR. Her release date has not been determined. The best time to visit is between 11 AM and 1:30 PM because of the rigorous therapy schedule. Short visits are requested.

Haley Biegay has severe stomach pain and is awaiting test results.

Nina Layton fell and fractured her right kneecap.

David Smith is back at Trinity Oaks and is on oxygen 24/7. He would enjoy short visits.

Jim Alford (Judy Indest's brother) had graft surgery Monday covering about 40% of his body after a serious burn accident last Saturday. He is still in very critical condition and will remain in Jennie Sealy Hospital for about 40 more days. Because of the danger of infection, visitors are limited to immediate family.

Carol Hasten recently received a cancer diagnosis. They're trying to get into either MD Anderson or Scott & White in Temple for treatment.

Sharon Johns's (Connie Powell's sister) open-heart surgery went very well. The Powells are very grateful for the prayers.

Continuing Need:

Our Members: Fran Barnhill, Dawn Bell, Haley Biegay, Debbie Brown, Annette Bumpers, David Clayton, Jeff Coe, Daisy Dees, June Evans, Bennie Sue Galindo, Ross Genaro, Dorendia Hamilton, Charlyne Harper, Murrell Hill, Judy Indest, Wanda Kirby, Dorothy Kirkland, Jo Knight, Wanda Knight, Clifford & Nina Layton, Jan Lemoine, Valerie McHargh, Harold & Alice Moore, Becky Nicholson, Adam Parker, Vi Price, Betty Pridgen, Chase Shelton, David Smith, Loma Stone, Sandy Stone, Doris Stuteville, Angela Terry. **Others:** Carol Addison, Jim Alford, Leona Anderson, Catherine Bailey, Octaline Beaupierre, Erica Matte Blair, Jeffrey Buesch, Raquel Castillo, Debbie Cook, Evelyn Cordell, Ray Craycraft, Judy Dame, Larry & Carla Doolen, Billie Dykes, Linda Evans, Roger Farmer, Gwen Fikes, Glenda Garner, Betty Goad, Sarah Goeman, Carol Hasten, Robert Hudman, Sharon Johns, Kaliya Kelly, Elaine King, Jay Langley, Jason & Jenny Langley, Kerry Lemoine, Martha Locke, Austin & Celia Matthews, Jim & Julie Maxcey, Shirley McWhorter, Mary Means, Pat Miller, Lewis Moss, Jean Nudelman, April Parker, Wilma Parker, Mark Pridgen, Cloey Pruitt, Alice Puckett, Ryan Rangel, Trena Russell, Sandra Brown Ryan, Butch Sapp, Shirley Scarsdale, Henry Schaefer, Don Scott, Sherly Scott, Tony Smajstrla, Andrew Smith, Michael Smith, Rick Stone, Erin & Elijah Timmons, Leon Vanderveer, Bennett Vincent, Mary White, Wanda Williams, Anthony Young, Lesli (friend of Heather Brown's friend), Dakota (baby boy of Lianne Biegay's friend).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gary Adams is our contact elder for April. If you would like to schedule a meeting, please see Gary.

April 2017

- 26 Ladies' Bible Class—10 AM—Annex
- 30 Friends & Family Day

Friends



April 30, 2017

Invite someone to be your guest and to stay for a great meal!



Family Day



The Arms of Hope Grocery Run will be the week of May 1-5, 2017. We need to collect the following:

Coffee (please check the expiration date)

Please bring your items by Sunday, April 30. Arms of Hope did not specify quantity, but let's have a generous donation.

2017 sign-up sheets for communion preparation and sound/projector are on the bulletin board.

We are also in need of more volunteers for nursery duty and leading the youngsters in song before the services.

There is one campsite available for anyone who wants to go on the Family Encampment scheduled for April 28-30, 2017. For details, please see Bob & Mitzi Williams or DC & Debbie Brown.

April Birthdays

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Morgan Cuellar | 2 Derek Mauney |
| 3 Wendell Romain | 3 Dianne Westmoreland |
| 7 Jack Chisum | 7 Elaine Genaro |
| 7 Blake Williams | 13 Shawn Cravens |
| 13 Tracey Mauney | 14 Jean Coe |
| 16 Brenton Cook | 19 Michael Terry |
| 23 Charlie Story | 25 Lacey Gartrell |
| 28 Lucille Adams | 30 Angela Terry |

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 7 John & Lacey Gartrell | 9 Orlando & Amy Cuellar |
| 18 Don & Connie Powell | 25 Josh & Ashley Hundley |

The ladies in the April food preparation group are: Leah Bateman, Lacey Gartrell, Susan Lenamon, and Jean Coe. Please contact Kristin Alatrash if there are questions.

Those to Serve

Pearland Church of Christ

...equipping the saints for the work
of service, building up the body of Christ...

2217 N. Grand Blvd.

Pearland, TX 77581 • 281-485-2436

Wednesday Evening April 12	Wednesday Evening April 19
Building Lock Up—Gary Adams	Building Lock Up—C Lindelof

Morning Worship April 16		Morning Worship April 23	
Opening Prayer	Daniel Brown	Opening Prayer	Bobby Parker
Song Leader	TBD	Song Leader	TBD
Communion		Communion	
Presiding: Zack Williams		Presiding: Chris Lindelof	
Jake Satterwhite	Josh Hundley	Tom Langford	Phil Godwin
Jacob Carriere	Nathan Scarsdale	Blake Williams	Grayson Townzen
Jimmy Terry	Bob Williams	James Maxcey	Russell Genaro
Announcements	Gary Adams	Announcements	Gary Adams
Closing Prayer		Closing Prayer	
Nursery Attendants		Nursery Attendants	
Lianne Biegay	Molly Godwin	Laurie Maxcey	
Ushers (*indicates head usher)		Ushers (*indicates head usher)	
*Lynn Adams, Charlie Story, Wendell Romain		*Paul Hamilton, Clifford Layton, Derek Mauney	
Greeters		Greeters	
Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale		Kevin & Maresha Scarsdale	
Audio—Projector for AM		Audio—Projector for AM	
Riggs, Whitmire		Riggs, Whitmire	
Building Lock Up for AM & PM—C Lindelof		Building Lock Up for AM & PM—K Scarsdale	
Evening Worship		Evening Worship	
Song Leader	TBD	Song Leader	TBD
Communion	Jimmy Terry, Bob Williams	Communion	James Maxcey, D Mauney
Closing Prayer	Gary Adams	Closing Prayer	Gary Adams

Worship Times:

Sunday

Bible Study9 am
Morning Worship.....10 am
Evening Worship.....6 pm

Wednesday Bible Study.....7 pm

ELDERS

Gary Adams 281-797-2575
Chris Lindelof 281-224-2183
Kevin Scarsdale 713-447-1866

DEACONS

James Maxcey
Bobby Parker
Charlie Story
Bob Williams

MINISTERS

D.C. Brown Pulpit Minister
Zack Williams Youth Minister

MISSIONARIES

Benin, West Africa:
Paul Tohionon - Bohicon
Pascal Djedatin - Dassa
Blaise Atta - Bétérou
Clément Djebede - Okéwo
Gaston Nda - Natitingou
Valentine Ndimonte - Natitingou
André Assogba - Gobé
Dorotheé Tchekpo - Savé et Bessé
Paul Kouagou - N'Dali
Jonas Sambieni - Kaboua
Gabin Agbeci - Savalou
Portsmouth, Dominica, West Indies
Lewis Romain