

Periodical  
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<b>CENTRAL'S ASSEMBLIES</b>	
<b>BRING A FRIEND AND ATTEND</b>	
<b>SUNDAY</b>	10:30 A.M.
<b>WORSHIP A.M.</b>	10:30 A.M.
<b>WORSHIP P.M.</b>	Canceled
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
<b>MID-WEEK CLASSES</b>	Online

"I am the Light of the world: he that followeth Me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

John 8:12 KJV

**IN SEARCH**  
OF THE LORD'S WAY  
"These were more noble... they searched the scriptures daily..."

**SEARCH PROGRAMS:**

January 3 - "What Will You Do With Jesus?"  
 January 10 - "Saved or Lost?"  
 January 17 - "What is Truth?"  
 January 24 - "Sayings from the Cross 1"  
 January 31 - "Sayings from the Cross 2"

Record for January 17, 2021

Bible School	No Classes
Worship Service	0
Sunday Evening	No Services
Wednesday Evening	0
Contribution	\$1,266.87

Cleaning Team for the week of January 24: Team #3

You Can Find Our Worship Service On:

Central's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/centralchurchofchristshawneeok/>

Central's YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCq8ft4soarDDSYork8ol9xpw?>

Central's Webpage:

<http://www.shawneecentralcofc.org/media.php/t=sermons>

If you would like to mail your offering, mail it to:

Central Church of Christ  
P.O. Box 1228  
Shawnee, OK 74802

If you would like for someone to bring you communion supplies, pick up your contribution, or have any other needs please call the Church office at 405-273-3065, or you can contact one of our Elders or Deacons.

To give through Tithely follow this link:  
<https://tithe.ly/give?c=423231>

Our recorded worship services will be ready by 2:00 p.m. on Sunday. You can find this on our Church website.



January 24, 2021 Vol. L 25, No. 04

# THE GOSPEL GUIDE

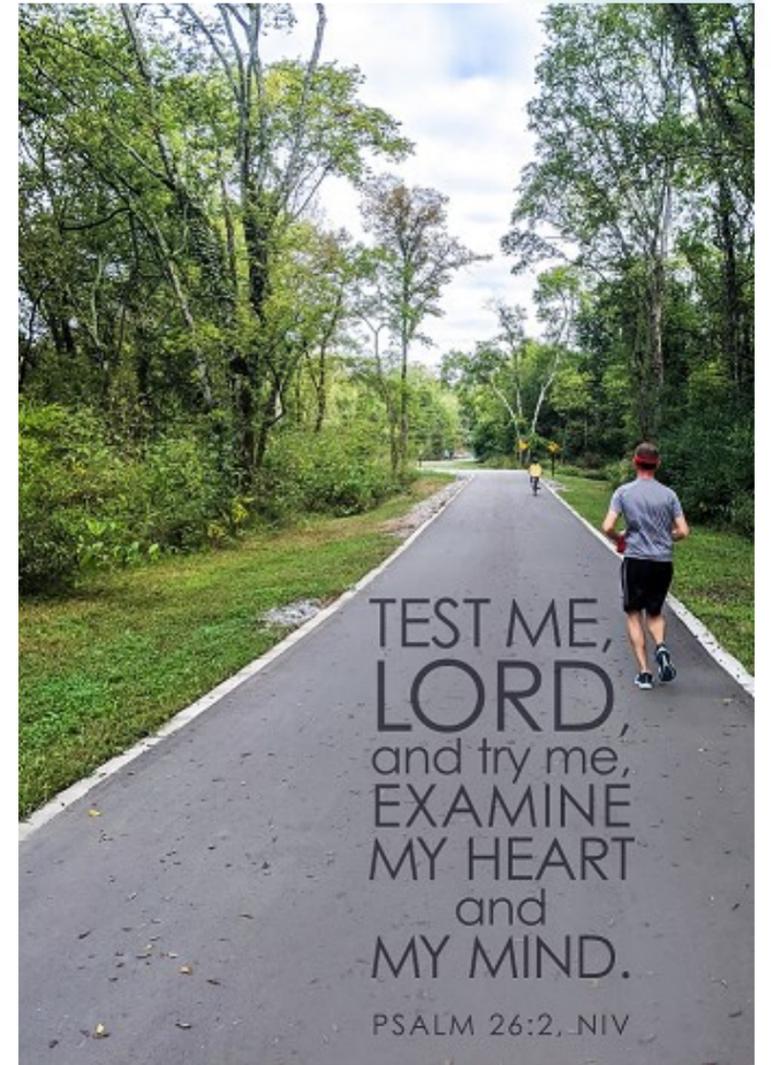
**Minister:**  
Logan Edmison

**ELDERS:**  
Paul Harris  
Steve Kelly  
Bob Perry  
Bob Stephens

**DEACONS:**  
Dale Beard  
Joe Curtis  
Tracy Gettle  
Keith Lawrence  
Ron Taffe

**Secretary:**  
Lois Carter

**MISSIONS:**  
Haiti Children's Home  
Hope Harbor Children's Home  
Liflyfield Christian & Adoption  
Nicaragua  
Search  
Southern Africa Bible College



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## Looking at the Hebrew Scriptures

In his book, *Dominion and Dynasty*, Dr. Stephen G. Dempster says that every plot has a beginning, middle, and end. The Hebrew order of books of the Old Testament consisted of Genesis at the beginning and Chronicles at the end. The Middle consisted of Exodus through Daniel. The beginning provides context, the middle provides the content, and the end provides closure.

The book of Genesis begins with Adam and ends with Judah going into exile because of the famine in the land. The Chronicles begins with the lineage of Adam to David and ends with Judah going into exile because of sin in the land. Genesis ends with Jacob (Israel) saying, "...God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, Isaac, and to Jacob" (50:24). Chronicles ends with king Cyrus saying that God has commanded him to build God a house at Jerusalem which is in Judah. "May the Lord his God be with him and let him go up" (2 Chronicles 36:23). It is interesting that the Hebrew word for "visit" and the Hebrew word for "bring you out" in Genesis 50 is the same Hebrew words for "commanded" and "let him go up" in 2 Chronicles 36.

The Hebrew scriptures can be summed up by a Beginning (Adam and Eve being exiled from the garden, Israel being exiled from the land of promise in Genesis) and a Middle (Israel returns to the land of promise in Joshua, David's dynasty being set up in 2 Samuel 7, and Judah being exiled in 2 Kings 25). The narrative is then interrupted by writings that examine the atrocities of the exile and look forward to the hope of a return. The narrative continues with Daniel in exile and predicts the end of exile.

Daniel complicates things slightly because even after the return of exile, it seems as though the people of God are still going to be in exile. Thus, the Hebrew scriptures end with the book of Chronicles where the people of God go into exile. Notice that the only return from exile that does not happen in the Hebrew scriptures is Adam and Eve's exile from the garden. Even through Ezra and Nehemiah, the people of God are still in spiritual exile even though they have returned from exile. There is still conflict internally and externally, and it is not the spiritual restoration that the prophets predicted. Even the prophets in the time of the restoration (i.e. Malachi) do not paint a very glorious picture of the people.

Daniel asks God when they will finally get to return from exile. God answers in chapter 9 that the return from exile is only the beginning.

(continued in the next column)

The true return from exile is going to occur after the holy ones of Israel are persecuted greatly, the Holy One (Messiah) is executed, the Temple is destroyed, the enemy is destroyed (Rome, the fourth beast from Babylon, Daniel 7), and is replaced by a worldwide order that involves forgiveness and everlasting righteousness (compare Psalm 86:9).

The Hebrew scriptures end with the people of God returning from exile, but not mankind returning from exile. And thus, God tells Daniel, "Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end... the wise shall understand... But you, go your way till the end; for you shall rest, and will arise to your inheritance at the end of the days" (12:9, 10, 13).

Therefore, the Old Testament ends in one sense, without closure. Until Matthew comes and says, "So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations, from David until captivity in Babylon are fourteen generations, and from captivity in Babylon until the Christ [Messiah] are fourteen generations" (1:17). And Luke tells us, "He [Jesus] will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end" (1:32-33). And now, Jesus has commissioned those that have come out of spiritual exile to go into the world (the domain of the Davidic King), and disciple many out of spiritual exile (Matthew 28). Thus, they will crush the serpent under their feet (Romans 16:20) and access the river of life (John 7:38-39). The curse of sin is taken away because sin is taken away, and all the nations have access to the tree of life (Revelation 22:2-3).

"To him who overcomes I will give to eat from the tree of life, which is in the midst of the Paradise of God" (Revelation 2:7). Because of Jesus, mankind can finally return from the exile caused by sin.

**Logan Edmison**

**Preacher at Central Church of Christ in Shawnee, OK**

**Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!  
For His mercy endures forever.**

**Psalm 107:1 NKJV**

## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

**Don Mack** had surgery on January 18 to remove cancer.

**Lydia Carter** will get her MRI results Monday.

**Maggie Prater's** dad **John Rampey** has Covid and is in the hospital. He is critical and very sick.

**Faye Truesdell** is out of the hospital and is with her daughter in Amrillo.

They that wait upon the Lord shall  
renew their strength; they shall  
mount up with wings as eagles.  
Isaiah 40:31 KJV

If you would like to continue to  
receive the  
Gospel Guide by mail please call the  
Church office and let Lois know. We  
can also email it to you with an  
email address that you provide.  
Please do this by January 31.

405-273-3065

We have a computer desk and a credenza that are FREE to anyone who needs it. Contact the office if you are interested.

Join us Wednesday Night where Logan Edmison will bring a study on the book of Ecclesiastes entitled "A Full Life."

This will be available online.



**CONTINUING PRAYER CONCERNS**  
All these members and friends have continuing health concerns or other special circumstances.  
They appreciate your interest and prayers.

<b>Don Mack</b>	<b>Rita Romberg</b>	<b>Fredith Hanifan</b>
<b>Chad Beard</b>	<b>John Sullivan</b>	<b>Hayden Leonard</b>
<b>Carla Dame</b>	<b>Thelma Divine</b>	<b>Selene Williams</b>
<b>Carl Weeks</b>	<b>Reginald Ford</b>	<b>Diane Lawrance</b>
<b>Emma White</b>	<b>Frank Romberg</b>	<b>Dorothy Strickland</b>
<b>Boyd Cheney</b>	<b>Sandra Pollard</b>	<b>Thearlene Morris</b>
<b>Debbie Taffe</b>	<b>Debra Campbell</b>	
<b>Blake Carter</b>	<b>Sandon Hilditch</b>	

## Reading the Bible in a Year Together

January 25, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 18-21

January 26, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 22-24

January 27, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 25-27

January 28, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 28-30

January 29, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 31-33

January 30, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 34-36

January 31, 2021  
Exodus Chapters 37-39

## TIPTON HOME



Our Tipton Home collection for the month of **January is Saltine Crackers.**

Please place these items in the barrel in the foyer. Thank you.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**Sunday morning worship service will be at 10:30a.m.**

**Wednesday Night service will be online.**