

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM

Speaker, Robert Emerson

Study Sunday 10:00 AM

Worship Sunday 11:00 AM

Worship Sunday 5:00 PM

Singing every 2nd Sunday evening

Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

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We would love to
study God's word
with you!

**Servants during February:****Songleader:** Dwight (3), Stanley (10),
Larry (17), David (24), Chandler (31)**Reading:** Mike**Announcements:** Stanley**Communion:** Buddy, David, Marty, Larry**Wednesday Lesson:** Larry (6), Stanley
(13), Kris (20), Mike (27)**Lawn Mowing (week starting):** On
winter vacation...**Singing:** TBD (24)**Area Meetings:** Jackson Drive (3-8);
Sommerville Road (10-13);
Jackson Drive (Mondays 3/11-
5/13)**Hays Mill church of Christ**

21705 Hays Mill Road

Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." - 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

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Setting Your Spiritual Clock

By Steve Klein

Several years ago it was reported that the telephone operator in a town in Cape Cod received a call every morning asking for the correct time. Finally, overcome with curiosity, she asked the inquirer, "Would you mind telling me why you call about this time every day and ask for the correct time?" "Sure, I'll tell you," the man said. "I want to get the exact time because I'm the man who blows the whistle at twelve o'clock." "Well, that's funny, that is," said the operator, "because every day at the stroke of noon I set our clock by your whistle."

How often do we set standards for ourselves based on what others are doing without considering what standard they are following? The examples of others are worthy of emulation ONLY IF those setting the examples are following the ONE TRUE

standard or rule. This seems to be Paul's point in Philippians 3:16b-17 when he states, "let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind. Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern." To follow the example of others without being aware of what standard they themselves are following is the height of folly. The scriptures speak of those who, "measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise," 2 Cor 10:12.

Setting Your Watch

Every individual has a personal standard which he takes with him everywhere. He may either choose to follow it or ignore it. This inner standard is his conscience. Like a wrist watch which we may check through the day to keep us "on time," the

conscience can be used to keep us on the right track if it has been correctly set. But the conscience can be set by a false standard. Saul of Tarsus lived “in all good conscience” when he was a blasphemer and persecutor of Christians, Acts 23:1; 1 Tim 1:13. The individual who sets his watch by asking a stranger on the street for “the correct time” is a lot like a man who sets his moral standards and religious beliefs by others.

This careless conscience setting is seen, for example, in a Christian whose conscience allows him or her to wear immodest attire because “it is not as immodest as what others wear” or “other Christians dress like this.” It is seen in the person who believes that they can be saved by “faith only,” not because they ever read it in the scriptures (cf Jas 2:24), but because that's what their parents or grandparents believed.

Setting the “Church Clock”

Groups of people sometimes also set their collective conscience by an uncertain standard. In the days of the judges, Israel pled for a king; they

wanted to be “like all the nations,” 1 Sam 8:5. As a group of people, they had set their clock by the surrounding nations. In doing so, they rejected the Lord as their standard of authority, 1 Sam 8:7.

Even so, many churches today set their programs of work according to what surrounding churches (denominations) are doing. Children's church, Easter observances, and “rallies” to entertain the young people are just a few of the practices adopted by some churches of Christ (so-called) which illustrate this point. Each of these things has been done among denominations for decades, and now some churches of Christ are setting their clocks accordingly. Not one of these practices can be found in scripture, either by command, statement, apostolic example or necessary conclusion. These practices are of human origin.

Jesus said, “in vain they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men,” Mt 15:9.

—via *The Exhorter*, June 1, 1996 

Seven Simple Reasons to Believe in the Inspiration of the Bible

By Gardner Hall

Why do we think God guided the men who wrote the Bible? Could men have written the Bible without God's guidance?

The claims of scripture. Though the writers were generally humble men, they confidently claimed to be writing the word of the Lord.

The influence of the scriptures. How could humble fishermen and farmers have written by themselves a book that has served as the legal and ethical foundation for Western culture?

The omissions of the scripture. If men had been writing without God's guidance, they would have included details to satisfy our curiosity: a physical description of Jesus, details about his childhood, details about Paul's death, etc. God didn't feel such details were important for us.


The impartiality of scripture. In contrast with other ancient literature, the Bible reveals all the flaws of all its heroes, Abraham, David, Noah, Peter, James and John, etc. The only exception, of course, is Jesus Christ.

The superiority of the Bible in comparison with other books of antiquity. The literature of the Assyrians, Babylonians, ancient Greeks, Romans and other ancient cultures are full of fantasy and

irrational tales. For example, think of the Greek myths, the Babylonian epic of Gilgamesh, etc. The Bible presents its story in a reasonable and trustworthy manner.

Lack of scientific absurdities. Though the Bible was written in a time of many superstitions and myths about life and the universe, it is completely free of such. If in just one text, the Bible affirmed a flat earth with people falling off the end, an earth supported by Atlas or a monster with an eye in the center of its head it would be discredited. No such absurdity exists.

The unity and order of the scriptures. Although the 66 books of the Bible were written by over 40 different men over a period of some 1600 years, they present an orderly account with a beginning and an end. Other supposed sacred writings such as the Koran, the Vedas and the Tripitaka (scriptures for Buddhists) are disjointed and ill-defined.

If one reads the Bible without a negative agenda he can see that it proclaims deep truths about man and his existence that could only come from a source higher than man. Many honest skeptics have been convinced and changed by such an open minded investigation. You can be too! 

Daylight Saving Time
begins next Sunday, 3/10/19!

Remember in Prayer

Please remember as you pray those that would like to but cannot meet with us, including Lois Adams, Ruth Black,

Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, Polly McNatt, and Hazel Teeples. 