

**Schedule of Meeting Times:**

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM  
 Study Sunday 10:00 AM  
 Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM  
 Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM  
*Singing every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening*  
 Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

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“He said to them,  
 ‘Because of your  
 hardness of heart Moses  
 permitted you to divorce  
 your wives; but from the  
 beginning it has not been  
 this way,’”

—Matthew 19:8

**Servants during March:**

**Songleader:** Dwight (3), Stanley (10), Larry  
 (17), Dwight (24), Stanley (31)

**Reading:** Stanley

**Announcements:** Larry

**Table:** Mike M, Larry, Marty, Stanley

**Wednesday Lesson:** Larry (6), Stanley (13),  
 Kris (20), Larry (27)

**Lawn Mowing (week starting):**

Kris (17), Marty (24), Stanley  
 (31)

**Area Meetings:****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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## “David Did It”

by P.J. Casebolt

It is nothing short of disrespect for the dead, as long as David has been in his sepulcher, for folks to continue blaming him for their religious error. And in doing so, they also show disrespect for the New Will and Testament of Christ, Heb 9:15-17.

The advocates of instrumental music in the worship of the church have always attempted to implicate David in their false doctrine and practice. “David used instruments, and so can we.”

Then, they jump from David and the Old Testament dispensation, all the way over the New Testament dispensation and the church-age into heaven, and attempt to justify their mechanical instruments of music by perverting the symbolic and figurative language of Revelation. And this exercise in religious gymnastics is a tacit

admission that they cannot find New Testament authority for using their pianos, guitars, and drums in the worship of the church.

One of the first things brother Homer Hailey emphasized in his classes on Revelation is that you cannot allow symbolic language, whether found in Daniel or Revelation, to interpret plain, literal declarations of revealed truth found elsewhere in the Bible. I think it is high time that brethren begin to make some of these basic applications for establishing Bible authority once again.

The first time I personally heard anyone try to use David as an excuse for “plural marriages” was back in the 1930’s, and the occasion was a handwritten debate between two Baptist preachers. And my father was one of the participants in the debate. The preacher who

attempted to use David and Bathsheba as justification for divorce/remarriage on grounds other than fornication, clearly held an indefensible position. And that was evident even to those of us who were still very young and had very little knowledge of the Bible.

Incidentally, neither of those Baptist preachers believed in instrumental music, so the one who used Mt 19:1-9 as his text for divorce/remarriage did not put himself in an inconsistent position, at least on that subject. (But some years later when I challenged one of those same Baptist preachers for New Testament authority to wear the name "Baptist," he could not find that authority.

**David**—It was David himself who pointed us to Christ's authority when he said, "Sit at My right hand Until I make Your enemies a footstool for Your feet," Psalms 110:1; Mt 22:44.

**Ezekiel**—The prophet Ezekiel told of the time when the earthly throne of David would be superseded by the spiritual reign of Christ on his throne, Ezekiel 37:25-27.

**God**—On the mount of transfiguration, God clearly, once and for all, exalted the authority of Christ over the Mosaic dispensation, Mt 17:1-5. And this was in direct agreement with the prophecy of Moses himself, Acts 3:22,23.

**Peter**—On the day of Pentecost, the apostle Peter declared that David's sepulcher was still with them and that Christ had been raised up to sit on David's throne, Acts 2:25-36.

**Paul**—In rebuking the Galatians for their attempts at justification by the law of Moses, Paul said, "You have been severed from Christ, you who are seeking to be justified by law; you have fallen from grace," Gal 5:4.

God "permitted" people in times past to do many things which did not meet with his approval, but he did so "because of the hardness of your hearts," Mt 19:8.

God permitted Israel to have a king, but it was never his will that such earthly kings should exist, Hosea 13:11. God allowed some of these kings to exist, and even blessed them in some ways, in spite of the fact that many of them still condoned the sins of Jeroboam and his golden calves (cf 2 Kings 10:29).

So the fact that God permitted David to do a thing was no basis for authority even under the old law, much less under the law of Christ.

We are going to be judged by Christ's word, and that judgment will include both saints and aliens, John 12:48; Acts 17:31; 1 Peter 4:17,18. Notice that God will judge the "world" in righteousness, and that includes the alien sinner, judged by the righteousness of God as

revealed in the gospel, Romans 1:17; 2:16.

"Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent," Acts 17:30. And notice the "now" as contrasted to times past.

That is why Jesus took time and pains to contrast his teaching with that of Moses on a number of subjects (Mt 5), including the matter of fornication, divorce, and remarriage, Mt 5:31,32; 19:9. But in spite of this, brethren still attempt to circumvent the teaching and authority of Christ by reverting to the Mosaic dispensation and saying "David did it," or going even farther back to the patriarchal dispensation and attempting to justify a doctrine/practice in this dispensation by "universal moral law."

And like the sectarians who concede that they have no New

Testament authority when they try the long jump from Moses to heaven, brethren who place so much emphasis on David and "moral law" are conceding that they are not comfortable with their position when confined to the New Testament.

It is one thing to use the examples of the Old Testament as they were intended to be used, Romans 15:4; 1 Cor 10:11, but quite another when we make the "tail wag the dog" and base our main arguments on David and the "moral law."

And if some brethren still deny that they are using David, Moses, or Abraham for authority on the subject of marriage or on any other subject, then I have only one sentence left to write.

It is time they began acting, talking, and writing like they believe what they claim to believe.

—via *Searching the Scriptures*, June 1992. 

## Remember in Prayer

Betty is recovering from bronchitis; high potassium levels were found, and she is to be tested to determine if she needs to begin dialysis. Joyce continues to struggle with brain cancer, but had felt some better last week. Remember others with chronic illnesses as well,

including **Mike B; Carolyn; Kathy Mitchell; and John, Sylvia and Paige Pollard**. Please pray for those suffering due to the fires in Texas; and particularly for brethren that are suffering for whatever cause. Continue to pray for our leaders and our nation. 