



The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ
Vol. XXXVIII January 22, 2012 No. 2

Confidence Corner

John F. Board

In this week's *Confidence Corner* we are going to examine a possible reason as to why there are four accounts of the gospel (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John) in the New Testament. In John 19:19-20 we read "Pilate also wrote an inscription and put it on the

cross. It read Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city, and it was written in Hebrew (Aramaic ESV), in Latin, and in Greek." Could this be a clue as to why we have the four accounts of the good news of Jesus Christ today? Let us consider a few thoughts along this line.

As you are probably aware, Matthew's account of the Gospel is written mainly for a Jewish audience. Some scholars question this, but in my study, this concept seems to be fully solidified. Matthew uses the OT Scriptures, he speaks of Jesus as the King of the Kingdom, and he has many other Jewish elements to his account of the gospel. Fascinatingly enough, God chose a tax collector (one hated by the Jews) to reveal the gospel message to the Jews. The evidence must have been overwhelming to those Jews who became followers of Christ, for they would have never cut Matthew any slack.

Mark also penned an account of the gospel with a Roman Gentile audience as his main readers. Mark portrays Jesus as a servant and explains many Jewish elements in the life of Christ so that his Roman audience may understand.

Luke also wrote to the Gentiles (as all non Jews were known) but his emphasis seems to be to the Greek audience. He explains in his preface elements of research that would be essential to the Greek's mindset and emphasis upon wisdom. Luke the medical doctor (Col. 4:14) is also the one who gives great detail to the miraculous nature of the conception of Christ.

John's account of the gospel seems to be for all people and cultures. His is a gospel that's goal is to produce belief.

Why do I mention all of this? Go back to the statement that hung over Jesus on the cross—it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. Could this indicate to us that the three main cultures of people were able to read the inscription? If so, could it be possible Matthew wrote to one of these cultural groups (Jews/Hebrews), Mark to another, the Romans (represented in the inscription by the Latin language), Luke to the Greeks, and John to all cultures for all times? If this is the reasoning for the four accounts of the gospel, then how much confidence may we have that God has done all in His power so that we may know the gospel message and plan of salvation.

jfb

Entitled?

Michael's Meanderings Michael Galloway

I recently read on the internet of a single father who is trying to raise two small girls. The past several years have not been easy years for his family as he has been having trouble making ends meet. His house has been foreclosed on and he is in the middle of renegotiating his mortgage so he can make the payments he owes the bank. I am sure there are many such stories such as this out there but this one has a twist. While he was in the middle of renegotiating his mortgage the Occupy Wall Street movement saw the house had been foreclosed on. They decided the bank was charging too much so they were just going to take the house. In the process of making their point "that the bank charges too much" for these mortgages, they allowed their fellow occupiers to occupy this house. Ironically, they kicked the father and his two daughters out of their home.

The media has recently started calling the society we live in an "entitlement society." It disgusts me to read of those who believe they are entitled to things they have never earned. It is interesting to me, however, that the Bible talks about the principles behind entitlement. The wisest man who ever walked this earth was King Solomon. He was wise because God gave him wisdom. Solomon gives direction with his wisdom to us today through his inspired writings in scripture. He shows us how to live a successful life in all realms. He reminds us by showing us his experiences that in the end all that matters is where we will spend eternity. While Solomon shows us the way to success, he shows us the evil of laziness, the importance of hard work and honesty. These things are shown over and over again in his writings. He shows us that to be successful we must earn what we have through hard work and that we are not entitled to anything. In Proverbs 21:25-26 Solomon says, "25 The desire of the sluggard kills him, for his hands refuse to labor. 26 All day long he craves and craves, but the righteous gives and does not hold back. "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes, but the LORD weighs the heart." There are many times in our society we believe we deserve something for doing nothing. Solomon makes the point that laziness will in essence be the ruin of someone. What wisdom Solomon brings!

I hope that even while living in a society that holds many unwise traits we, as Christians, continually realize the wisdom of living in the way of the Lord that the Bible shows us is so wise for all realms of our lives. —MG

Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. — *Can We Fall from Grace?*
Galatians 2:11-14

P.M. — *Miraculous Gifts & the 21st Century*
Hebrews 2:4

Writer's Block

Here it is early Wednesday morning and I am still trying to figure out what to write for *The Caller*. It is about time for *The Caller* to “go to press” and I am beginning to feel the pressure of the deadline I need to meet. There is a sinking ship in the news that stories reveal how little people know of the “contract” they sign when they purchase a ticket. There are a plethora of other current events of which I could try to draw spiritual applications. As well God has provided in His Word numerous passages from which I could provide exegesis. Yet I guess what has come to mind this morning, as I deal with this writer's block, is just how awesome that Ultimate Author, God, really is!



There is a sense in which God's “authorship” is not limited to Scripture. As a part of His revelation to man, God has provided natural revelation. Psalm 14:1 reveals, “The fool says in his heart there is no God” (ESV). One who says there is no God is a fool because as Psalm 19:1 reads “The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims His handiwork” (ESV with capital “H” emphasis in His by this author jfb). Romans 1:20 states, “For His invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse” (ESV emphasis again on H in His by this author jfb). God's revelation in the natural realm is indeed awe inspiring. Standing at the ocean, at the foot or on top of a tall mountain, or simply watching the actions of the various lights of the sky, all bring a sense of humility to us as we think of the awesome power of our God.

Not only has God provided man with a natural revelation. He has also provided man with a written revelation! Consider the feat of this task. With a book that we intend to write, the task seems so daunting. Who of us has ever completed a book? To plan out the entire book to the point of its conclusion and then to go back and begin the work that takes such discipline to complete the task, is overwhelming to most. Yet God was able to be the ultimate author of a book that in writing time spanned over 1600 years, involved 40 different penman's hand who needed guidance in each word that they wrote, and continues to be a best seller year after year.

Truly when I think of what my God has accomplished I am even more impressed with the written revelation we have before us. But it is only through an eternal, omniscient, omnipotent God that such a work could be accomplished. To be sure, God never had writer's block. He always knew what and how perfectly to reveal what man needed to know. As long as there are uninspired men such as myself writing, there will be errors and times when we just cannot think of what to write. With humans, even when we think we know what is a good idea to share with others we may give ourselves too much credit. With God, such is never the case. His Word is always relevant and a perfect guide for our lives. I pray you take advantage of the great blessing we have from God's revelation to man—natural and written—especially written.

*John F. Board
Elizabethtown, KY*

News and Notes

ELLA MAE MCCLASKEY had her 5th chemo treatment Monday. **JOE PAWLEY**, Susie Pawley's father in law, underwent heart surgery January 18 at Hardin Memorial.

MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Jeff Allen	Johanna Morgan
Carl & Delsie Axton	Pansy Sells
Faye Guess	Grace Speer
Roy Hilton	Charlene Thorp
Roy Johnson	Barbara Underwood
Ruby Keister	John & Dorotha Weaver
J Martin	Lawrence Wells
Carl Mercer	Jim White

Remember the following military personnel:

Afghanistan—Nick Harding
Korea — Barry Barclay, Michael Morrow
Fort Knox—Stephen Hanson, Alex Simmons, David Tirado, Brian Witcher, Greg Koskey, A. J. Anderson
Others—Robert E. Wooten, Korry Leverett, Nathan McClain, Aaron Wellman, Dan Sloat, Tim Gil, Kyle Nowland, Cameron Ponder, Brian Wilkins, Drew McAlpin, Kelly Leverett, Chris Carroll, Kevin Meredith, Kelly Witcher

Additional Prayer List: Billie Jo Ballard, Nick Beireman, John D. Board, Larry Bridges, Sandra Brooks, Roy Buckles, Curt Cannon (TN), Sue Cantrell, Pauline Cardin, David Cash, Michael Clymer, David DeFratus, Jerry Dunn, Peggy Fryer, Tanya Galloway (FL), Michael & Melissa Golwitzer, Ann Haraway, Ginell Harris, Rose Johnson, Brad Joiner, Geraldine Jones, Linda Logsdon, Sherry Marcum, Steven Martin, Gayle Massey, Terri McDonald, Rob Pell, Will Pendergrass, Steve Poplewell, Rodney Raby, Joe & Patsy Richter, David Rose, Brandon Schuler, Roge-Geneal Smith, Bill Stewart, Terri Thompson, Juanita Tillery, Lonnie Underwood, Margaret & Terry Whisenant, Virginia Wiser, Rick & Peggy Zorn

2012 Pocket Directory

A sample copy of the 2012 pocket directory is on each table in the lobby. Please verify your address, telephone number(s), and email addresses by January 25.

Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 1/22/12 Peanut butter

Jail Ministry

If you are interested in working in the jail ministry as either a teacher or helper, please give your name to Brian Woodring or the church office by January 29.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ? **YOUTH DEVO**, Saturday night, **January 21**, 6:00 p.m. at the Muncy's. Boys bring soft drinks and girls bring desserts. The bus will leave the building at 5:15 p.m.
- ? **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **January 22**, at 3:00 p.m. The 5th Grade & Under youth are encouraged to attend along with their families. Plans are to meet at Dairy Queen immediately following the singing.
- ? **YOUNG MEN'S SERVICE**, Sunday night, **January 29**.
- ? **YOUTH TNT**, Friday night, **February 3**. Meet at the building at 6:00 p.m.
- ? **5TH GRADE & UNDER YOUTH BOWLING**, Saturday, **February 4**, at 3:00 p.m. at Dix-E-town Lanes. Plans are to eat at McDonald's afterwards. Please refer to the sheet on the bulletin board for additional information on cost and to sign up for those planning to attend. See Sheldon Lackey for questions and/or additional details.
- ? **FHU LECTURES, February 5-10**. Super Saints interested in going to the lectures, please sign the sheet posted on the bulletin board by Wednesday night, January 25. There will be a short meeting after services that night to discuss travel arrangements.
- ? **SWEETHEART DINNER**, Saturday night, **February 18**

NOTE

The Koskey family (Greg, Magda, Paola & Estefany) have informed the elders they no longer desire to be identified with the congregation at Elizabethtown.

BENEVOLENT CENTER UPDATE DECEMBER 2011

Food Center	214 families helped
Clothing Center	93 families helped

BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE UPDATE DECEMBER 2011

Courses graded	464
New enrollees	76

OUR RECORD FOR

January 15, 2012

Sunday Bible Study	143
Sunday Morning Assembly	211
Sunday Evening Assembly	141
Wednesday Bible Study	116
Ladies Bible Class	17
Contribution (Budget -- \$6,888)	\$6,626

**Elder/Coordinator for January
Ron Carter**

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
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Church Office: 765-6446
Fax # 737-0491

Elders:

Ron Carter	358-5792
Henry McAlister	765-7386
Terry Nowland	312-1730
Mike Pence	737-8123
Rick Whobrey	769-9267

Ministers:

John Board	763-1677
	cell # 505-3925
Michael Galloway	cell #662/322-7823

Secretaries:

Brenna Board	763-1677
Kim Whobrey	769-9267

Email: chofchrist@windstream.net

Visit us on the World Wide Web:
www.ETOWNCOFC.ORG

Bible Question

This Week's Bible Question: What blind man kissed his two grandsons?

Last Week's Bible Question: Name Job's three friends who heard about his adversity and came to comfort him. The correct answer is Eliphaz, Bildad and Zophar, Job 2:11. Those who correctly answered the question are: Artie Peters, Lorene Harris, Jean Smith, Mary Walker, Betty Bray, Katy Watson, Bloria Taylor, Joyce Pack, Wilma Stull, and Stephanie Smith.

Please write down your answer and put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to chofchrist@windstream.net by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Bible Classes	9:30 A.M.
Morning Worship	10:30 A.M.
Evening Worship	6:00 P.M.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class	10:30 A.M.
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Wednesday

Evening Bible Class	7:00 P.M.
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Jan. 21 — Youth Devo, Muncys
Jan. 22 — Singing at Atria
Jan. 29 — Young Men's Service
Feb. 3, TNT, Youth
Feb. 4 — 5th Grade & Under Bowling
Feb. 5-10 — FHU Lectures
Feb. 7 — Tuesday Lunch
Feb. 18 — Sweetheart Dinner
Daily Bible Reading Schedule
January 22 — Genesis 30-31
January 23 — Genesis 32-34
January 24 — Genesis 35-37
January 25 — Genesis 38-40
January 26 — Genesis 41-42
January 27 — Genesis 43-45
January 28 — Genesis 46-47

PARTICIPATION

Are You Part of the

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Elizabethtown Church of Christ
P. O. Box 652
Elizabethtown, KY 42702

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