



Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

# Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

*Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting*

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If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

## Announcements

### Wednesday Nights

Wednesday, **April 4**, the menu is **Salisbury Steak**. Sign up in the hall, indicating how many meals you are purchasing. Also, indicate if any of them are for takeout.

### Ladies' Joy Class

All ladies of all ages are invited to join the Joy class on most Tuesday mornings at 9:00 a.m. This Tuesday, **April 3**, the Joy Class will be celebrating the life of Christine Noha with a luncheon. Come for the fellowship and craft time at 9:00 a.m., and stay for lunch at 11:30 a.m.! Everyone is invited! Please bring a covered dish so that we will be sure to have enough food.

### Young Adult Bible Study

Thursday, **April 5**, at 6:30 p.m., in the church Fellowship Hall.. You will be watching the second half of the movie *Silence*, and discussing it. Note this date is moved up a week from the printed calendar.

### Sacred Harp Singing

The Savannah Sacred Harp Singers will meet on Saturday, **April 7**, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Come on by to sing Christ-honoring four part acapella music for fun! Loaner books are available. Talk to Dawn Stanford if you have any questions.

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### This Week at FABC

#### Today

Breakfast 8:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.  
No Evening Service

#### Wednesday

Dinner: Salisbury Steak 5:45 p.m.  
Awana & Youth 6:30 p.m.  
Prayer & Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

### FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Jimmy Creech	414-8841
Mickey Fell	920-4557
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter (CH)	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Billy Morris, Sr.	398-1038
Steve Posner	704-5617
Kelly Stanford	441-2151
John Sumner	658-4186
Michael Walker	655-2497
Ric Zittrouer	210-0344

# Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018

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10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

\* Opening Chorus & Greeting

“Worthy Is the Lamb”

*Words are on the back of the bulletin*

\* Call to Worship

Mark 16:6

\* Hymn #138

“Christ Arose”

Scripture Reading

Acts 11:19-30

Stephen Jackson

Special Music

Receiving of Tithes And  
Offerings

\* Hymn #137

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

Message

Bob Dimmitt

*Man of Sorrows*

*Mark 14:27-36*

Communion

\* Hymn, below

“Doxology”

## **Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings  
flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

\* All those who  
are able, please  
stand.

Man of Sorrows  
Easter Sunday 2018  
Mark 14:27-36

## **Matt 26:30, & 36-37**

Verse 37 He began, indicates a sudden a steep descent into the billows (clouds) of distress.

## **Mark 14:33-34**

Exceedingly sorrowful, the original implies a sudden & horrifying alarm at a terrific object

## **Isaiah 53:2-3**

Jesus was a man whose chief distinction was, that His life was one of constant painful endurance.

During the Passover Meal there are 4 cups of wine. The 4 Cups represent the 4 expressions of deliverance promised by God Exodus 6: I will bring out, I will deliver, I will redeem, and I will take.

## **Hebrews 5:6-10**

Jesus learned obedience, not that He needed correction, but He learned the cost of obedience, he understood learning the full meaning of the cost of obedience through this great suffering.

*Continued from p. 1*

## **Youth Fun & Games at Daffin Park**

The Youth and anyone interested in joining them are traveling to Daffin Park right after morning worship on Sunday, **April 8**. See Tim Wade if you have any questions.

## **Deacons' Meeting**

**Monday, April 9**, 7:00 p.m. Please note the different night this month!

## **T4G Conference**

Bob Dimmitt, Tim Wade, and Robert Holland will be out of the office from **April 10 to April 13**, while attending the Together for the Gospel Conference. Pray for them!

## **Quarterly Meeting**

Our next quarterly congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, **April 15**. The time will be announced.

## **Senior Saints**

The Senior Saints will go to lunch on Tuesday, **April 17**. Details and sign up sheet to come!

## **A Touch of Hope**

Join Pat Beatty in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, **April 19**, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. to work on blankets for next year's round of displaced students!

## **Secret Church**

This year's secret church is Friday, **April 20**, from 7:00 p.m. to 12:50 a.m. This live stream broadcast from Nashville of intense Bible teaching from David Platt is on the topic of "Cults and Counterfeit Gospels". Sign up in the hall so we know we have enough study guides. There is no cost to participate, but a voluntary offering will be taken.

## **Weekly Catechism Question**

### **Question #46:**

What did God at first reveal to man for the rule of his obedience?

### **Answer:**

The rule which God at first revealed to man for his obedience was the moral law.

### **Scripture:**

Romans 2:14, 15; 5:13, 14

## **Secret Church: This Year's Topic**

The apostle Paul was astonished that some followers of Christ in his day were "turning to a different gospel," and he pleaded with them not to be deceived by those who wanted to "distort the gospel of Christ." These warnings given to the church in the first century are just as relevant today for the church in the twenty-first century.

For the good of our souls and for the sake of the church's mission, followers of Christ need to ask, "What false gospels are being taught today?" and "How can I recognize the true gospel among so many counterfeits?" Answering these questions will be the aim of Secret Church 18, "Cults and Counterfeit Gospels."

We will consider the claims of Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, and other groups that claim to teach the truth. We will also explore more subtle distortions of the gospel, including prosperity teaching that is rampant across the church. In the end, our goal is to walk away from this Secret Church not only enabled to discern false gospels, but also equipped to share the true gospel with people around us and with peoples around the world.



## Save these Dates

*for Children's & Youth Ministry Activities*

<b>April 8</b>	<b>Youth Park Day</b>
<b>May 16</b>	<b>Awana End of Year Program</b>
<b>May 23</b>	<b>Youth &amp; Family: Honor Your Father and Mother</b>
<b>June 17</b>	<b>Parent/Child Dedication</b>
<b>June 18 ‡ 22</b>	<b>VBS</b>
<b>June 24 ‡ 29</b>	<b>D3 Camp</b>
<b>June 27 † Aug 8, Wednesdays</b>	<b>Music Camp: K-6<sup>th</sup> grades</b>
<b>July 21 ‡ 22</b>	<b>Youth Service Weekend</b>
<b>July 23 ‡ 26</b>	<b>Children,s Camp: 3-6<sup>th</sup> grades</b>
<b>August 15</b>	<b>Awana Begins!</b>
<b>August 25</b>	<b>Back to School Bash!</b>

**Y**et more reasons why the Gospel is so needed and is the only true answer for man: We live today in a vast, homogeneous world market, in which human beings are programmed to maximize their self-interest...the world seems more literate, interconnected and prosperous than at any other time in history...but the reality is that the promised universal civilization—one harmonized by a combination of universal suffrage, broad educational opportunities, steady economic growth, and personal advancement has not materialized. Add to that the fact that older forms of authority have been weakened we have an explosion of unpredictable actors from Somali pirates, human traffickers, anonymous cyber-hackers to Boko Haram. There has been a massive shift in which people understand themselves in public life primarily as individuals with rights, desires and interests...as a result we have a tremendous increase in mutual hatred and universal irritability of everybody against everybody else.

from *Age of Anger*, by P. Mishra

# Articles

## 4 Misconceptions about Resurrection...and the Truth.

By Sean McDowell

Not long ago, I was invited onto a radio show to discuss the evidence for the resurrection with a Christian and a skeptic. The skeptical host pushed back on my argument for the uniqueness of the resurrection of Jesus. “Your claim is so obviously false,” he said, “Just look at all the resurrections of the dead in the Bible alone, including people like Lazarus.”

The host was certainly right that many other people have been raised from the dead in the Bible, but he was confused about the difference between rising from the dead and resurrection. This is a common misunderstanding. We are going to briefly consider four misconceptions about the meaning of resurrection, and then clarify the biblical idea.

**1. Resurrection Is Not Immortality of the Soul.** Greek philosophers saw the body as the prison house of the soul. The material world was considered corrupt, fallen, and evil. Thus, the goal of salvation was to escape the physical realm and to be freed from its shackles. **But in Hebrew thought, the material world is considered good.** The soul without the body is incomplete. A human being is a body *and* soul in unity.

**2. Resurrection Is Not Reincarnation.** Eastern religions teach reincarnation, the re-birth of the self (consciousness, soul, mind, etc.) after the death of the body. Reincarnation is considered a curse, not a blessing. Depending on the specific tradition, the goal is to escape the cycle of reincarnation and experience nirvana or personal annihilation. In contrast, the biblical view is that human beings live one life, and then are raised to be judged by God (Hebrews 9:27).

**3. Resurrection Is Not Resuscitation.** As mentioned by the skeptic in the opening story, the Bible records many instances of people coming back to life. Elijah raised the widow’s son (1 Kings 17:17-24). Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:43-44). Peter raised Tabitha (Acts 9:36-42). And Paul raised Eutychus (Acts 20:9-12). But here is the difference between these people and Jesus: They would each die again, but Jesus was raised to immortality and glory.

**4. Resurrection Is Not Translation.** The Bible records at least two instances where people were taken directly to God without dying. Enoch lived 365 years and then was taken up directly to be with God (Genesis 5:21-24). The prophet Elijah was taken to heaven by a whirlwind (2 Kings 2:1). These are not examples of resurrection because there is no evidence either experienced death.

So, what *is* resurrection? As my father and I state in the updated *Evidence that Demands A Verdict*, resurrection is a return to physical life. But it is not a return to the

present physical existence with all its limitations. Resurrected bodies are transformed, incorruptible, and eternal (1 Corinthians 15:20-23).

**Jesus was not resuscitated, reincarnated, or translated. And his soul did not escape to an immaterial realm. Jesus was resurrected—*never to die again*.** And since Jesus is the firstfruits of those who are yet to come, if we trust in Christ, we too will one day have transformed, resurrected bodies and be able to experience eternity with Christ and the Church in the New Heavens and New Earth (Revelation 21-22). ❖

## Was the Resurrection of Jesus a Late Church Invention?

By Sean McDowell

To be a Christian today is to believe in the resurrection of Jesus. But what about the first Christians? Could belief in the resurrection have been a late church invention? If so, then Easter celebration is deeply misguided and Christians ought to reject the evidence for faith.

**Critics often claim that there were a variety of “Christian” beliefs in the first and second centuries**—some that embraced the resurrection of Jesus and others that rejected it. The resurrection party happened to “win,” and so contemporary Christians accept it.

The problem with this claim is that there is no early Christianity apart from belief in the resurrection. Let me say it again—*The earliest records we have all indicate that belief in the resurrection of Jesus was at the heart of the Christian faith.* Consider four points.

**1. Early Christian Creeds:** Creeds are verbal proclamations that circulated *before* their inclusion in the NT (e.g., Romans 1:3-4, 1 Peter 3:18). They give us a glimpse into the earliest Christian beliefs. Perhaps the oldest creed comes from 1 Corinthians 15:3-5:

*“For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.”*

Notice two things. First, Paul passes on a tradition that he had previously been given. Given the formulaic structure of this passage, most scholars agree that Paul is passing on material he received. Second, the resurrection is of “first importance” for the faith.

**2. Early Christian Preaching:** The book of Acts records the beginning and expansion of the church. Resurrection is mentioned in most of the speeches, which make up roughly one-third of the book. In the first speech in Acts, Peter describes how God appointed Jesus to do wonders but he was killed by lawless men, and yet “*God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it*” (Acts 2:24).

**Cont. from p. 7**

**3. Early Letters of Paul.** The epistles of Paul are filled with references to the resurrection. N.T. Wright observes,

“Squeeze this letter [Romans] at any point, and resurrection spills out; hold it up the light, and you can see Easter sparking all the way through. If Romans had not been hailed as the great epistle of justification by faith, it might easily have come to be known as the chief letter of resurrection.”

**4. Early Church Fathers:** Resurrection was a central theme for many of the believers shortly after the apostles. Affirmations of the resurrection can be found in Ignatius *Letter to the Magnesians* 11, Polycarp *Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians* 1.2, *1 Clement* 42:3, and the *Letter of Barnabas* 5:6.

The centrality of the resurrection can be seen in the earliest Christians creeds, the first written documents, the first preaching, and in the apostolic fathers. There simply is no record of early Christian faith divorced from the resurrection.

**The resurrection of Jesus was not a late church invention. It was the heart of the earliest Christian faith and proclamation.❖**

## **I Thank God for My Doubts: A Personal Reflection**

By Sean McDowell

It might sound crazy, but *I can honestly say that I thank God for my doubts.* It's not that I always appreciate having doubts. Sometimes doubts can be a burden. But even so, I realize something deeper about the reason God has for my doubts. Let me explain.

I am a consistent doubter. I doubt almost everything including purchases, beliefs, & my daily choices. It is simply the way I am wired (& probably also the result of having a father who constantly challenged me to think). To be honest, sometimes the doubts can seem crushing. So, why would I thank God for them?

**The answer is simple: *It's doubts that drive me to seek truth.*** That's right, doubts drive me to read, study, think, question, & constantly try to uncover what is true. It bothers me to not know something, & I tirelessly try to uncover truth about it.

Without my doubts, I doubt that I would have written a 300+ page academic book on the Fate of the Apostles or helped my father update his classic book *Evidence that Demands A Verdict*, which is 800 pages. I certainly am motivated to create resources that genuinely help people, but so much of my own drive comes from my personal doubts & skepticism. I want to be confident about what I believe.

A few years ago, I was lamenting that God didn't give me more faith. I have a pastor friend who clearly has the gift of faith. He's always optimistic about his family, faith, & church. No matter how dim things get, he'll constantly say, "Don't worry. God is in control. He's got this."

Yet, as much as I believe him, I still find myself thinking, "But how do you really *know*? What if God has other plans? Are you sure?" I just can't help it. I ques-

tion things. But why? Ultimately, I think there are two reasons.

**First**, as I mentioned above, doubts motivate me to study, research, learn, & go deeper in my understanding. If it were not such a skeptic, I would probably never spend so much time trying to learn & educate other believers. If you have a weakness, have you ever considered how God may have a deeper purpose for it?

**Second**, & perhaps most important, my doubts drive me to rest in God's grace rather than my own understanding. When doubts plague me, & I can't resolve something in my mind, I am driven to God for his mercy. **Jude 1:22** says to "have mercy on those who doubt." And I often think of the powerful words spoken by the Apostle Paul, when he reflected on his own weakness: "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9).

**God uses our weaknesses to draw us into deeper relationship with Him & for greater personal sanctification.** In fact, God seems to enjoy using our weaknesses & shortcoming, so that He gets the glory. These are life-changing truths for which I rarely doubt. ❖

## J.C. Ryle's Eight Symptoms Of False Teaching

1. *There is an undeniable zeal in some teachers of error*—their "earnestness" makes many people think they must be right.
2. *There is a great appearance of learning and theological knowledge*—many think that such clever and intellectual men must surely be safe to listen to.
3. *There is a general tendency to completely free and independent thinking today*—many like to prove their independence of judgment by believing the newest ideas, which are nothing but novelties.
4. *There is a wide-spread desire to appear kind, loving, and open-minded*—many seem half-ashamed to say that anybody can be wrong or is a false teacher.
5. *There is always a portion of half-truth taught by modern false teachers*—they are always using scriptural words & phrases, but with unscriptural meaning.
6. *There is a public craving for a more sensational and entertaining worship*—people are impatient with the more inward & invisible work of God within the hearts of men.
7. *There is a superficial readiness all around to believe anyone who talks cleverly, lovingly and earnestly*, forgetting that Satan often masquerades himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14).
8. *There is a wide-spread ignorance among professing Christians*—every heretic who speaks well is surely believed, and anyone who doubts him is called narrow-minded and unloving.

All these are especially symptoms of our times. I challenge any honest and observant person to deny them. These tend to make the assaults of false doctrine today especially dangerous and make it even more important to say loudly, "Do not be carried away with strange doctrine!"

# Missionary of the Week

## Kendra Stanford World Horizons - India

Kendra Stanford is pursuing long term work in north India. World Horizons starts businesses in order to employ local residents and to interact with and serve the community, and to reach them with the gospel of Christ. Kendra is in Lucknow as a student to study the Hindi language at the school her mission operates. She recently completed a leadership course held in Bangalore, India. She recently traveled to Malaysia, for meetings with other workers with World Horizons. She also flew to Indonesia to visit David and Natalie Holsten in Papua. After this short break, she returned to Lucknow and continues her studies. She is also organizing more art events for her community, which she hopes will open up opportunities to discuss the gospel message.



*From her most recent letter:*

- Pray for my language progress over this next year as I continue language learning. Pray for the financial support I need to continue all my classes and pray that I will have more opportunities to meet practice partners and build more friendships through practicing language this year.
- Pray for my upcoming art event March 3-4. Pray for safe travels for the team coming and for safety as we travel to the village and back. Please pray that we will have opportunities to share about Jesus as people come to see the art and that connections for future art events in the city will be made. (Note: This has already taken place, so please pray for good fruit to come of it.)
- Pray for the staff at my language school. Over the past year two of the teachers from both Hindu and Muslim families have expressed interest in learning more about Jesus and reading the Bible. It would be amazing to see them both come to know Jesus personally over this next year, but that won't happen easily or without spiritual opposition so please be praying that God will work to reveal Himself and that they will come to know the truth no matter what opposition might try to distract them.
- Pray for God to work in big ways in our community over the next year. Pray for my team and I to continue investing in relationships with friends God has given us here as well as to continue making new friendships. Pray that God will use us as vessels to point others towards knowing Him personally and that Jesus will be revealed as truth to our friends here and that we will see lives transformed for God's glory over the next year.

## Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

### Adult

“Revelation” - Organ Side Overflow

Room: Matt Coleman

“Chronological Survey of the Bible” -

Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt

“The Gospel of Luke” - Youth House:

Steve Posner

“1 John: *Before the Mirror of God’s Word*” -

Room 28: Jennifer Smith, Women’s Class

### Students & Children

Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra Bridges

1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter/Danny & Kamee Roberson

3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su, Donna Martin

Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room 200: Jimmy & Angie Creech

3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Ric Zittrouer & Richie Mills

3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Mary Ann Fowler, Amy Horton

Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade, Bobby Deloach

Youth Girls - Room 207: Sona Bailey, Jessica Dimmitt, & Lauren Wade

## Bible Reading Schedule

April 2018

1	Hosea 5-7 & 1 Corinth. 1
2	Hosea 8-10 & 1 Corinth. 2-3
3	Hosea 11-12 & 1 Corinth. 4-6
4	Hosea 13-14 & 1 Corinth. 7-8
5	1 Corinthians 9-11
6	Joel 1-2 & 1 Corinthians 12
7	Joel 3 & 1 Corinthians 13-14
8	1 Corinthians 15-16 & Jude
9	Lamentations 1-2 & Titus 1-3
10	Lamentations 3 & 2 Corin. 1
11	Lament. 4-5 & 2 Corin. 2-3
12	2 Corinthians 4-8
13	Amos 1-3 & 2 Corinth. 9-10
14	Amos 4-6 & 2 Corinth. 11
15	Amos 7-9 & 2 Corinth. 12-13
16	Obadiah & 1 Thessa. 1-5
17	Jonah & 2 Thessalonians 1-3
18	Micah 1-4 & 1 Timothy 1
19	Micah 5-7 & 1 Timothy 2-3
20	Nahum 1-2 & 1 Timothy 4-6
21	Nahum 3 & 2 Timothy 1-4
22	Habakkuk & Philemon
23	Zephaniah 1 & Hebrews 1-2
24	Haggai & Hebrews 3-5
25	Zechariah 1-3 & Hebrews 6-7
26	Zechariah 4-7 & Hebrews 8-9
27	Zechariah 8-9 & Hebrews 10
28	Zech. 10-12 & Hebrews 11
29	Zech. 13-14 & Heb. 12-13
30	Malachi & James 1

**S**elf-pity is the response of pride to suffering. Self-pity does not look like pride because it appears so needy. However, the desire of those who pity themselves is not for others to see them as helpless, but as heroes. The need self-pity feels does not come from a sense of unworthiness, but from a sense of unrecognized worthiness. This is called the response of unapplauded pride.

*John Piper (edited)*



## **Worthy Is the Lamb**

Worthy is the Lamb that was slain;  
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.  
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain,  
to receive  
Power and riches and wisdom and  
strength  
Honor and glory and blessing!  
Worthy is the Lamb,  
Worthy is the Lamb,  
Worthy is the Lamb that was slain.  
Worthy is the Lamb!



## **Sign up for Flocknote**

Our text messaging alert system can help you keep up with what's happening here at Ferguson. To join, simply text FABC to 84576. You will receive a new text with a link to click on, sign up, and join relevant groups. When you sign up, please include your first and last names, email address, and mobile phone number. Then choose which groups you would need notices from. Be sure to at least join the "Congregation" group. Tim Wade or Dawn Stanford are happy to help you figure it out, if need be.

Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from  
[www.fabchurch.com/sermons](http://www.fabchurch.com/sermons)

## **For Hearing Impaired**

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

## **Nursery April 1**

**10:30 A.M.**

**Babies:**

Carolyn Blanton, Linda Walker

**Toddlers - 4 year olds:**

Lance & Julie Ficek/

Emily Wise, Lilly Horton, Allie Mills

**6:00 P.M.**

No Service

## **Nursery April 8**

**10:30 A.M.**

**Babies:**

Donna Martin, Kirsten Jones

**Toddlers - 4 year olds:**

Karrie & Lindsey Walker/

Aaron Waite, Linnea Posner

**6:00 P.M.**

Sona Bailey, Cindy Dimmitt,  
Shawn Champion

## **Ushers April 1**

**10:30 A.M.**

Kelly Stanford, Michael Walker,

Billy Waters, Johnny Bridges

**6:00 P.M.**

No Service

## **Ushers April 8**

**10:30 A.M.**

Reggie Brown, Jimmy Kicklighter,

Bucky Lanier, Jack Moore

**6:00 P.M.**

Jimmy Donaldson, Ron Fowler

## **Sunday Greeters - April 1**

Leasa Brown, Ceci Sheffield

## **April Lock-Up Deacons**

Jimmy Creech, Mickey Fell