

was supposed to be done.

In the area of Christianity, we need to be cautious, not only about obeying such matters as worship, but we need to make sure that we obey HOW we have been commanded. Worshipping by the authority of Jesus, i.e. "in His name," means that I must give attention to HOW it is done, "in spirit and truth" (John 4:24). Accordingly, therefore, we are given the authority to sing [instruments are not mentioned] (Eph. 5:19, Col. 3:16), to give as we have prospered each Sunday (1 Cor. 16:1), to have men lead prayers and to preach the word of God (1 Tim. 2:8, 2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 14:34) and to partake of the Lord's Supper (Acts 20:7).

If a religious group doesn't worship, organize itself, raise money, spend money and conduct its work by the guidelines of the New Testament—one should be able to refer to scripture for all that is done—then it's not under the authority of Jesus and the requirements of Colossians 3:17 have not been met.

If a religious group doesn't preach and teach the truth relative to the New Testament plan of salvation, holy living and love—giving book, chapter and verse for its position on these matters—then it's not under the authority of Jesus.

How much one can ignorantly rebel against the "name of Jesus" and be saved is not my prerogative to decide. However, I do know that truth is the path that provides the greatest security.

From childhood, I've known what it means to obey and please those who have authority over me. --Floyd



- 1 JD's Class 5:30
- 2 College Devo Pults'
- 3 Father/son Breakfast
- 5 College Trip Allen
- AWTG-Central
- New teachers
- 7 Ladies Class 10:00 AM
- 9 Youth/College Devo 8:00pm
- 11 Allison Davis & Aaron
- Sumpter Wedding- 5:00 pm
- 12 Elders Deacons Meeting 3:30
- Fellowship Group
- 13 MNFM
- 14 Ladies Class 10:00 AM
- 15 4-6 Grade Devo 5:30
- 16 College Devo
- 17 Golden Doers Fish Fry at 12
- 19 College Trip to Wayne
- 20 Yellow House
- 21 Ladies Class 10:00 AM
- 22 Youth Led Service
- 23 4th-6th grade Devo
- 23 College Devo
- 25 Family Devo
- 27 MNFM
- 28 Ladies Class
- 29 5th Wed Night Singing

**Stringtown  
Preaching Assignment:  
Sunday, March 19th**

John Ray  
Bobby Johns  
**Sunday, March 26th**  
Wade Sumpter Jr.  
**Richard Howard**

**March  
Contribution Counters:**

David Hendricks, Bobby Franks, Weldon Cravey, Jim Vercelli

Sunday AM	March 19th	March 26th
Opening Prayer	Dusty Dennis	Larry Darbison
Scripture Reading	Kyle Wilson	Dylan Hendricks
Prayer - Bread	Jack Frye	Johnie Fredman
North 2	Darrell Nemecek	Kyle Wilson
North 3	Vernon Morgan	Caleb Estes
North 4	Josh Nail	Gene Albright
Prayer - Fruit	Scott Estes	Elmer Gerth
South 2	George Patterson	Clint Bowker
South 3	Wib Scroggins	Don Blankenship
South 4	Jarrod Tollett	John Bynum
Alternate 1	Jim Vercelli	James Byers
Alternate 2	Tommy Vass	Weldon Cravey
Balcony 1	Byron Rowsey	Paul Ballard
Balcony 2	Wendell Sherrell	Cody Frye
Closing Prayer	Tommy Paul	Ken Roper
Song Leader	Johnie Fredman	Richard Howard
Bus Driver	Greg Chilcoat	Kyle Wilson
Attendance Count	Cody Frye	David Hendricks
Usher - North	Alex Vercelli	Chase Bowker
Usher - Center	Andrew Vercelli	Dakota Blackwell
Usher - South	Nicky Vercelli	Derek Cranford
Nursing Home	Alan Simpson	Jim Vercelli
Nursing Home	Wade Sumpter	Tommy Vass
Nursery Attend	Sharon Estes	Jill Frye

Sunday Night	March 19th	March 26th
Scripture Reading	Trevin Vass	YLW
Bread	Gene Albright	Tommy Vass
Fruit	Clint Bowker	Kyle Wilson
Contribution	Don Blankenship	Charles Yahola
Opening Prayer	Keith Nail	YLW
Closing Prayer	Russell Neill	YLW
Song Leader	Scott Estes	YLW
Bus Driver	Kelly Benson	Cody Frye

Wednesday	March 22nd	March 29th
Bus Driver	Eugene Cannon	Alan Simpson
Announcements	Raymond Johnson	C.J. Vires
Song Leader	Cody Frye	Richard Howard
Invitation	Pete Duncan	Dusty Dennis
Closing Prayer	Russell Neill	Brent Lowe

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**Southwest church of Christ**

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Ada, OK 74820

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Sunday on:

KTEN Channel 10, 6:30 a.m.  
KOCO Channel 5, 8:00 a.m.

**Gospel of Christ**

Channel 35 (Cable One Channel 21)  
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

*The Southwesterner*



**Sunday**

Bible Classes: 9 a.m.  
Morning Assembly: 10 a.m.  
Evening Assembly: 5 p.m.

**Tuesday**

Ladies Bible Class: 10 a.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

**Office**

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swcocada@cableone.net

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Jack Frye 332-8744

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Dusty Dennis 439-0808  
Scott Estes 436-3357  
Greg Hatton 320-5571  
David Hendricks 332-2453  
Richard Howard 436-4081  
John Lee 436-1579  
Brent Lowe 265-4228  
Butch Platt 332-0122  
Alan Simpson 436-0405  
Tommy Vass 332-9985  
C.J. Vires 332-8213  
Wade Sumpter, Jr. 436-6658

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Floyd Kaiser 580-265-4526  
Johnie Fredman 332-8630  
David Rodriguez 399-2468  
Ron Ingram 436-5516

**Secretaries**

Paula Hatton  
Denise Platt

**Missionaries**

Ron Cyphers Haiti

**LIVING UNDER AN AUTHORITY**

While a child, in my parents' house, I always knew the authority I was under...and, it wasn't my own.

Allow me to explain. There were more than a few mornings when I didn't want to feed the cows, but I did because the authority I lived under said I had to. This authority even told me how to do it, which cows to give hay in the pasture and which ones to feed in the barn.

In the evenings, I often didn't want to feed the chickens and dogs, but I did because I was submissive to the authority I lived under. I did all I was supposed to and by my authority's instructions. I rarely considered rebellion as an option.



This authority, of course, was my father and mother.

Perhaps my upbringing is why following Christ is so natural to me. I've always felt comfortable under an authority and have never considered it demeaning to obey. As a matter of fact, it was always somewhat reassuring that someone I trusted told me what to do.

In the New Testament, the apostle Paul provided understanding as to the authority the Christian lives under. He wrote, "Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father" (Colossians 3:17).

The expression "in the name of" means "in recognition of the authority of" (Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, vol. 3, p. 100).

For instance, in Matthew 18:20, in the context of explaining church discipline, Jesus said, "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst." This was simply Jesus saying that when two or three were together "by His authority" or "under His command," they assembled also in His presence. The necessary implication is that not just any assembly was blessed with the presence of Jesus, but only such assemblies that were submissive to the authority of Jesus by obeying Him.

The supreme aim of the assembly of the church, therefore, is to do what Jesus wants. Only then, is He in the midst.

Now, back to Colossians 3:17. This passage means that as a Christian I must be constantly aware that my words and my deeds, all inclusively, must harmonize with the authority of Jesus. The acceptance into my life of His will must direct my every conscious moment.

Even when the authority of Jesus converges with another divinely acceptable authority, such as civil government or parents; if there is any disagreement between the two authorities, the authority of Jesus must come first. This is why Peter and the apostles said to the rulers of their day, "We must obey God rather than men" (Acts 5:29). This is why children are to obey their parents "in the Lord" (Ephesians 6:1).

Although most Christians probably understand the matter of obeying Jesus before any other authority, there is an aspect that many do not understand. It is an aspect that, again, I learned as a child. You see, I knew I not only needed to obey, but it needed to be obeyed HOW they wanted it done. I needed to obey according to their instructions or I was rebelling against their authority as surely as if I had not obeyed at all.

It was like this: If I put the cows in the barn that were supposed to be fed with hay in the pasture, I might have said that I fed the cows when, in fact, I had not. Why? Because I had not followed the instructions about how it was to be done.

If I fed the dogs chicken-feed and the chickens dog-food, I might have said that I had done my chores, but I had not, because while feeding the animals, I had not done it the WAY it

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