

God directly intervened—suspending His natural laws—each time a human encountered a life-threatening situation. This would cause indescribable chaos and confusion all over our planet. This chaotic, haphazard system would argue more for atheism than it would for theism!

Where was God when that plane full of innocent passengers slammed into the north tower of the World Trade Center? He was right where he has always been—in heaven, on His holy mountain (Psalm 15:1), with Christ at His side (Mark 16:19)—a place where there is no more suffering. We must remember that while we do not understand every facet of human suffering, we can (and have the obligation to) explain enough to negate the charge that misery is incompatible with the existence of God. And we must yearn with every fiber of our being to make our permanent abode in those heavenly mansions (John 14:1-3) where “the wicked cease from troubling and there the weary are at rest” (Job 3:17). God did not forget us on September 11, 2001 just as He did not forget Christ when He hung on that cruel cross of Calvary. From the time He created us in His image and likeness (Genesis 1:26-27) until the time each of our souls returns to Him (Ecclesiastes 12:7), He is our God.

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- 1 Ladies Day
- 2 Youth Devo
- 4 Ladies Class
- 5 J.D.'s Class 5:30 At Mexigo's
- 6 College Devo at Pult's
- 7 Father/son Breakfast
- 8 4th—6th Grade Youth Rally
- Prison Volunteers Get together
- 9 Elder/Deacon Meeting 3:30pm
- 9 Fellowship Group
- 10 Monday Night For The Master
- 11 Ladies Class
- 14 Men's Night Out Hornets Game
- 18 Ladies Bible Class
- 19 Golden Doers Breakfast
- 4th-6th Grade Devo
- Tom Wacaster report on India
- 21-23 Seminar with Brad Harrub
- 24 Yellow House
- Monday Night For the Master
- 25 Ladies Class
- 28 Singing Youth of Denver
- 28-29 College Ladies Mystery Retreat
- 29 Prom Alternative

**Stringtown  
 Preaching Assignment:  
 Sunday, April 16th**

Bobby Johns  
 Jim Begin

**Sunday, April 23th**

Richard Howard  
 Wade Sumpter Jr.

**April**

**Contribution Counters:**

Richard Howard, Greg Chilcoat, Kyle Wilson, Tommy Paul

Sunday AM	April 16th	April 23rd
Opening Prayer	Jack Frye	David Hendricks
Scripture Reading	Eugene Cannon	Kyle Wilson
Prayer - Bread	Johnie Fredman	Jeff Butler
North 2	Darrell Nemecek	John Lee
North 3	Gene Albright	Josh Nail
North 4	George Patterson	Clint Bowker
Prayer - Fruit	Russell Neill	Tommy Paul
South 2	Wib Scroggins	James Byers
South 3	Wayne King	Jarrod Tollett
South 4	Jim Vercelli	Weldon Cravey
Alternate 1	Tommy Vass	Jimmy Davis
Alternate 2	Charles Yahola	Caleb Estes
Balcony 1	Wendell Sherrell	Cody Frye
Balcony 2	Paul Ballard	Don Kite
Closing Prayer	Alan Simpson	Wade Sumpter
Song Leader	Scott Estes	Richard Howard
Bus Driver	Greg Chilcoat	David Hendricks
Attendance Count	Alvin Jamar	Brent Lowe
Usher - North	Dawson Hendricks	Matthew Lowe
Usher - Center	Dylan Hayes	Justice O'Neal
Usher - South	Kervon James	Eli Paul
Nursing Home	Elmer Gerth	Alvin Jamar
Nursing Home	Greg Hatton	John Lee
Nursery Attend	Diana Hatton	Jo Hughey
Sunday Night	April 16th	April 23rd
Scripture Reading	Garett Hatton	Reese Howard
Bread	Roy Long	Bart Conley
Fruit	John Lee	Caleb Estes
Contribution	Daniel Jonka	Dylan Hendricks
Opening Prayer	James Byers	Garett Hatton
Closing Prayer	Charles Yahola	Clint Bowker
Song Leader	Raymond Johnson	Scott Estes
Bus Driver	Steve Iorga	Kelley Benson
Wednesday	April 19th	April 26th
Bus Driver	Kyle Wilson	Keith Ailey
Announcements	Kelley Benson	Jeff Butler
Song Leader	Dylan Hendricks	Brent Lowe
Invitation	Jack Frye	Johnie Fredman
Closing Prayer	David Hendricks	Elmer Gerth

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**Southwest  
 church of Christ**  
 505 West 17th  
 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**

332-3430  
 1-877-332-3430 (Toll Free)  
 Fax: 332-0775  
[swcocada@cablone.net](mailto:swcocada@cablone.net)

**Elders**

Jim Begin 421-9079  
 Daryl Pults 436-1345  
 Jack Frye 332-8744  
 Raymond Johnson 310-0317

**Deacons**

Jeff Butler 436-4810  
 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

**Ministers**

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*

**Where Is God At Times Like These?**

by Brad Harrub, Ph.D.

The images have now been forever etched into the recesses of our minds. Our generation never will forget the pictures of that hijacked plane purposefully nose-diving into the north tower of the World Trade Center. Before we had time to catch our breath and fully comprehend what was happening, both towers imploded and careened towards the ground—leaving everything for miles around covered in a morose gray ash. As our brains began to calculate the morbidity of this tragedy, we quickly learned that there were, in fact, other hijacked planes and more victims subjected to flaming rubble. In the blink of an eye, countless individuals lost their lives—some choosing to do so in their attempt to cripple the United States. But the majority were innocent men, women, and children—men, women, and children who started that fateful day with their normal routine, never expecting to take their final step into eternity on that tragic day of September 11, 2001.

As news crews scrambled to provide us with the most shocking images and the most heart-rending stories some of us have ever seen, a quiet but detectable uncertainty began to ripple throughout communities in light of these tragic events: “Where was God, and why did He let this happen to so many innocent people?” Had we been forgotten? A semblance of these questions was echoed thousands of years ago by King David, who desperately asked: “Why standest thou afar off, O Lord? Why hidest thou thyself in times of trouble?” (Psalms 10:1). The Israelite Gideon lamented: “Oh my lord, if Jehovah is with us, why then is all this befallen us?” (Judges 6:13). During tragedies like the attack on the World Trade Center, questions similar to these will be heralded not only from street corners in front of news cameras, but also whispered through sobs and tears in the dark recesses of private bedroom closets.

The appeal is simple enough to understand: “If there really is a God, then why did so many people die?” This simple question often becomes a stumbling block for individuals—who subsequently make a conscientious decision not to believe in God. Many rationalize it this way: if God can prevent evil, but will not, then He is not good; or if He wants to prevent evil, but cannot, then He is not all-powerful. Unfortunately, it is often during the pain that we forget that God is in the same place—heaven—He was when His own Son was being maliciously nailed to that old rugged cross almost two thousand years ago. Fortunately, on that grim day God remained in heaven as the sin of all humanity was placed on His Son’s back and nailed to that cross.

Thanks to God’s incredible love (1 John 4:8), humanity—all of humanity—has been endowed with free will (see Genesis 2:16-17, Joshua 24:15, Isaiah 7:15, John 5:39-40, 7:17, and Revelation 22:17). God loves us enough to allow us freedom of choice. Thus, all of those responsible for the savage attack upon the Pentagon and the World Trade Center woke up on that Tuesday morning with the freedom to choose what they wanted to do or where they wanted to go, for we know that God is no respecter of persons (Acts 10:34).

So why, then, didn’t God reach down and save those innocent people, as many have asked? Why didn’t He just stretch out His almighty arm and cradle those hundreds of innocent lives in the palm of His hand? Again, because God loves us! We live in a world regulated by natural laws that were established at the creation of the world. For example, the laws of gravity and motion behave consistently; thus, if you were to step in front of a moving bus, the laws of motion would keep that bus moving even though it would result in your death. But individuals still ask “Why?” Why could not God intervene to prevent such disasters? Think for just a minute what sort of world this would be if

Continued on back page

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## Atheism's Attack on America and the Church

- Why is Christianity being discriminated against?
- What is happening to our morals & values?
- Can a Christian be an evolutionist?
- How is the media influencing our children?
- What is your responsibility as a Christian parent?

We invite you to join us as we investigate the evidence. This lecture is FREE and open to all ages.

### Dr Brad Harrub, Ph.D.

Brad Harrub currently serves as the Director of Scientific Information at Apologetic Press and Founder of Focus Press. He earned a doctorate in Anatomy and Neurobiology. He is the coauthor of the book, *Diamonds in the Rough, The Truth About Human Origins*, and *Investigating Christian Evidences*. He was an invited speaker to the International conference on Creationism, he has appeared on the television show "Origins."

### April 21-23

Friday	7:00 p.m.	Was Darwin Wrong
Saturday	10:00 a.m.	Evolution Hoaxes
	11:00 a.m.	Atheism's Attack on America
Neon		Free Lunch provided
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	America's Inevitable Doom
	10:00 a.m.	The Value of Human Life

*Southwest church of Christ  
505 West 17th  
Ada, OK*

### For The Record

Bible Study	246	Wednesday PM	254
AM Assembly	395	Contribution	\$8,885
PM Assembly	249	Budget	\$8,800

### BREAD GROUPS April 16th No BREAD Group

#### April 23rd Group #1

Jack & Jill Frye, David & Darla  
Hendricks, Greg & Diana Hatton, Jim  
& Tina Vercelli, Richard & Camille Howard,  
Kyle & Shenny Wilson, Keith & Gayle Ailey, Don & Ima  
Jean Blankenship, Raymond & Jane Johnson



### Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 16 **Todd Denson, Bill Blackwell, April Marguand, (A) Don & Darlene Gollihare**
- 17 **Kaylie Fredman**
- 18 **(A) Norman & Jackie Duncan**
- 20 **Macy Dennis, Lisa Fulton, Bryan Kingery, Nicky Vercelli**
- 21 **Gracie Robertson, Jessisa Lee, Zane Stonecipher, J.T. Underwood**
- 22 **Camile Howard, Aaron Sumpter**

#### AM Sermon: Salvation Comes to a Fellowship Scripture Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17

In this lesson we will see how eternal salvation came to this ancient fellowship at Thessalonica. It came because, first of all, God acted. Without God taking the first step to save them, then no one would have made it to heaven. However, if these people, before being a part of this fellowship, had not been willing to heed the call of God, then the Divine Initiative would have been fruitless. Man's part in his own salvation is that he answers the call of the gospel and continues in a state of faithfulness by holding to the "traditions" taught him by the apostles and prophets of the New Testament. This is a good lesson to invite friends to hear.

**PM Sermon by Johnie Fredman**

### PRAYERS & UPDATES

- **Gerald Moberly** is having health problems.
- **Jessie Ballard** will be going to Baylor for tests on April 21st. Thank you for your continued prayers.
- **Norman Bullock** is having considerable struggles with his health.
- **Jerry Hatton** is back at Ballard's Nursing Home but is still not doing well.
- **Thomas Denson**, father of Tom Denson, is in Valley View Hospital.
- **Charlene McFerran**, member at Allen, is in ICU at Valley View Hospital.
- **Continue to remember** Becky Myers, Pete Duncan, Mildred Clark, Mary Brecheen, Coni Turner and Joe & Tandy Hudson, Lillie Ingram, Travis Wingard, Don Simpson and Fisey Jarrett as they struggle with their health.

\*\*\*\*\*  
★ **Remember our Troops:** Richie Payne, Tommy ★  
★ Gould, Carl Howard, David Kemp, Rowdy Isbill, ★  
★ Todd Gollihare and Dale Russell. If you have ★  
★ someone you would like to be included on this list, ★  
★ please contact the office. ★  
\*\*\*\*\*

### NEWS & NOTES

**Asking for Prayers:** Bobby Winters came forward asking for prayers Sunday morning.

**Ladies** are needed to sit with Anna McCoy for a short while. Please call the office for more details.

**New Life Behavior Class**, taught by Ron Ingram, will be held each Friday in the old kitchen from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**Monday Night for the Master** will meet Monday, April 24th in the fellowship building at 6:00 p.m.

**The Children's Home of Lubbock** is in need of scour pads. Please place them in a box in the foyer. They will be here May 3rd to pick them up.

**Brad Harrub Flyers.** On Saturday, April 15 at 11:00 a.m., everyone is invited to help distribute flyers in the neighborhood surrounding the church. The flyers will be used to invite people to the meeting with Brad Harrub and to the Day of Giving. We will divide up into teams of two and each team will then distribute flyers within a one or two block area. An hour of our time on a Saturday morning will allow Southwest to reach further into our immediate community. For additional information see Kelley Benson or C. J. Vires.

**Tom Wacaster** will be here Wednesday, April 19th, to report on his India trip.

**Singing Youth of Denver** will be arriving Friday, April 28th. We are still in need of housing for 30 kids. Contact the office if you can help.

**Day of Giving, Saturday, May 6 (8:00 am - 1:00 pm)**  
Ways you can help:

- 1) Donate quality clothes, furniture, household items, toy, appliances, etc. Receipts for donated items can be provided.
- 2) Nothing to donate? With the changing of the seasons, people are always in need of children's clothes. Purchase \$10, \$25 or \$50 worth of children's clothing to donate.
- 3) Volunteer to help! We need people to help with setting up, to help the day of the event, to help with clean up and to help with refreshments. Sign-up sheets are in the foyer. There is something to do for anyone wanting to help.
- 4) A small amount of funding is needed to help with purchasing bibles that will be given away. Donations for bibles may be given to Kelley Benson or C. J. Vires.

We are in need a few items to help get ready for the event:

- 1) Free Standing Clothes Racks (Please see C. J. or Kelley, ASAP)
- 2) Clothes Hangers
- 3) Plastic Sacks (Wal-Mart Type)

### YOUTH & COLLEGE NEWS

**Father & Son Night at OKC Hornets.** A few tickets for the Father & Son Night at the OKC Hornets game on April 14 are still available. Tickets are \$10. Tentatively, some are planning to car pool to the event and will meet at the church parking lot at 3:30 p.m. with plans to eat at somewhere in Bricktown prior to the 7:00 p.m. game. For tickets or additional information see C. J. Vires.

**Youth/Parent Meeting** will be April 19th after services.

**VBS Meeting** will be May 3rd after services

**Deadline** for youth Dallas trip is May 2nd.

**Youth & College Devotional** at the Southwest Bible Center this Thursday at 8 p.m.

#### Remember Our Shut-Ins

Emma Jones, Lois Shaw, Novella Blake, Lena Hunt, Randy Wilson, Bonnie Medlock, Lorene Lull, Jennifer Lillard, Anna B. McCoy, Floretta Cockrell, Austin Blackwell, Loretta Broadway, Bessie Bryant, Esther Davis, Jerry Hatton, Pauline Henderson, Ellis & Corene Julian, Ruby Low, Ruby McFarland, Mary Pennington, Bernice Rogers, Darrell Tarron, Nadine Vogt, Charles Whittington