

The church of Christ  
(which meets at 9<sup>th</sup> & Main)  
901 N. Main  
San Angelo, TX 76903  
Phone: (325)653-4642  
<http://9thandmaincoc.org>

# The Biblical Messenger

"As the cold of snow  
in the time of harvest,  
so is a faithful messenger  
to them that send him"  
Proverbs 25:13

Vol. 30 No.5

February 2, 2012

## TIMES OF SERVICE

### **Sunday**

Bible Study: 9:30 am  
Morning Worship: 10:30am  
Evening Worship: 5:00 pm

### **Wednesday**

Bible Study: 7:00 pm

## ELDERS

Clyde Freeman  
George Hooper

## DEACONS

Don Cheek  
Curtis Perkins  
Randy Scott

## PREACHER

Josh Romo  
(325) 716-3298 (Cell)

## WORKS SUPPORTED

Deroin Family: Webster,  
Wisconsin  
Cherokee Home for  
Children  
Christian Children's Home:  
New Mexico  
Mexico Mission Work  
Ray Cox: The Russian  
Centre  
In Search of the Lord's Way  
Gospel Broadcasting  
Network  
Preaching the Gospel with  
James Watkins  
Glynn Langston: Braille  
Outreach Worldwide  
Christian Student Center:  
University of Wyoming  
What does the Bible Say  
TV: Johnny Robertson

## **Roman Catholic Faith Examined!** **Did The Catholic Church Give Us The Bible?** **Catholics say Yes! Truth says No!**

**By David J. Riggs**

(continued from last week)

Thirdly, it cannot be proven that the Catholic Church is solely responsible for the gathering and selection of the New Testament books. In fact, it can be shown that the New Testament books were gathered into one volume and were in circulation long before the Catholic Church claims to have taken its action in 390 at the council of Hippo. In the following we list some of the catalogues of the books of the Bible which are given by early Christian writers.

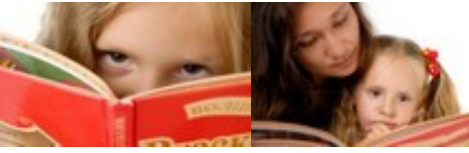
- 326. Athanasius, bishop at Alexandria, mentions all of the New Testament books.
- 315-386. Cyril, bishop at Jerusalem, gives a list of all New Testament books except Revelation.
- 270. Eusebius, bishop at Caesarea, called the Father of ecclesiastical history, gives an account of the persecution of Emperor Diocletian whose edict required that all churches be destroyed and the Scriptures burned. He lists all the books of the New Testament. He was commissioned by Constantine to have transcribed fifty copies of the Bible for use of the churches of Constantinople.
- 185-254. Origen, born at Alexandria, names all the books of both the Old and New Testaments.
- 165-220. Clement, of Alexandria, names all the books of the New Testament except Philemon, James, 2 Peter and 3 John. In addition we are told by Eusebius, who had the works of Clement, that he gave explanations and quotations from all the canonical books.
- 160-240. Tertullian, contemporary of Origen and Clement, mentions all the

New Testament books except 2 Peter, James and 2 John.

- 135-200. Irenaeus, quoted from all New Testament books except Philemon, Jude, James and 3 John.
- 100-147. Justin Martyr, mentions the Gospels as being four in number and quotes from them and some of the epistles of Paul and Revelation.
- Besides the above, the early church fathers have handed down in their writings quotations from all the New Testament books so much so that it is said that the entire New Testament can be reproduced from their writings alone.

Thus, the New Testament books were in existence in their present form at the close of the apostolic age. As a matter of fact, the apostles themselves put their writings into circulation. "And when this letter has been read among you, see that it be read in the church of the Laodiceans also; and that you yourselves read the letter from Laodicea." (Col. 4:16). "I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren." (1 Thess. 5:27). The holy Scriptures were written for all (1 Cor. 1:2; Eph. 1:1) and all will be judged by them in the last day (Rev. 20:12; John 12:48). Jesus said that His Word will abide forever (Matt. 24:35; 1 Pet. 1:23-25).

Fourthly, the Catholic claim of giving the Bible to the world cannot be true because they have not been the sole possessor of the Bible at any time. Some of the most valuable Greek Bibles and Versions have been handed down to us from non-Roman Catholic sources. A notable example of this is the **Codex Sinaiticus** which was found in the monastery of St. Catherine (of the Greek Orthodox Church) at Mount Sinai in 1844 and is now in the British Museum. It contains all of the books of the New Testament and all but small



## “Remember also your Creator in the days of your youth” (Ecclesiastes 12:1)

portions of the Old Testament. Scholars are certain that this manuscript was made early in the fourth century, not later than 350 A.D. This manuscript found by a German scholar named, Tishendorf, who was a Protestant, and this manuscript which is the most complete of all has never been in the hands of the Roman Catholic Church.

Another valuable manuscript that has never been possessed by the Roman Catholic Church is the **Codex Alexandrianus**. It, too, is now on exhibit in the manuscript room of the British Museum in London. It was a gift from the Patriarch of Constantinople (of the Greek Orthodox Church) to Charles I in 1628. It had been in possession of the Patriarchs for centuries and originally came from Alexandria, Egypt from which it gets its name. Scholars are certain that this manuscript was also made in the fourth century and, along with the **Codex Sinaiticus**, is thought to be one of the fifty Greek Bibles commissioned to be copied by Constantine.

In the light of the foregoing, the boastful claim of the Roman Catholic Church that it has been the sole guardian and preserver of the sacred Scriptures down to the present, is nothing but pure falsehood. The Bible is not a Catholic book. Catholics did not write it, nor does their doctrines and church meet the description of the doctrine and church of which it speaks. The New Testament was completed before the end of the first century, A.D. The things in it do not correspond to the Catholic Church which hundreds of years after the death of the apostles slowly evolved into what it now is. The Catholic Church is not the original and true church, but a "church" born of many departures and corruptions from the New Testament church. Even if the Catholic Church could prove that it alone is the sole deliverer of the Scriptures to man today, it still remains that the Catholic Church is not following the Bible and is contrary to the Bible. Furthermore, even if the Catholic Church could show conclusively that it alone is responsible for gathering the books, it does not prove that the Catholic Church is infallible, nor does it prove that it is the author of the Bible. God has at times used evil agencies to accomplish His purpose (Jer. 27:6-8; 43:10; Hab. 1:5-11; John 11:49-52).

We have studied, therefore, that the Catholic Church argues that since one of its councils in 390 selected the sacred books, one can accept them only on the basis of its authority. We have answered by showing: (1) The Bible is inspired and has authority, not because a church declared it so but because God made it so. (2) Jesus did not teach the people in His day that they could accept the Old Testament Scriptures only on the basis of those who placed the books into one volume. (3) It is a mere assumption that the Council of Hippo in 390 was a Council of the church which is now the Roman Catholic Church. (4) God did not give councils the authority to select His sacred books, nor does He expect men to receive His books only on the basis of councils. (5) The Catholic Church is not

solely responsible for the gathering and selection of the New Testament books. (6) The Catholic Church has not been the sole possessor of the Bible at any time. (7) Even if it could be proven that the Catholic Church gathered the books into one volume, it still remains that it is not following the Bible today.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY

- A Catechism For Adults**, William J. Conan, ACTA Publications, Chicago, Illinois, 1959.
- Catholic Encyclopedia**, Knights of Columbus, (Fifteen Volumes), The Encyclopedia Press, Inc., New York, 1913.
- Canons and Decrees of the Council of Trent**, H.J. Schroeder, B. Herder Book company, St. Louis, London, 1950.
- Lives and Times of the Roman Pontiffs**, Chevalier Artand De Montor, D & J Stadler & Co., New York, 1869.
- Question Box**, Bertrand L. Conway, The Columbus Press, New York, N.Y., 1913.
- Question Box**, New Revised Edition, Bertrand L. Conway, The Paulist Press, New York, N.Y., 1929.
- The Bible is a Catholic Book**, Knights of Columbus Religious Information Bureau, St. Louis, 1948.
- The Faith of Millions**, John A. O'Brien, Our Sunday Visitor, Huntington, Ind., 1938.
- The Faith of Our Fathers**, James Cardinal Gibbons, John Murphy Co., Baltimore, Md., 1917.
- What is the Bible?** W.H. Anderson, International Truth Society, Brooklyn, New York, 1962.
- Who Gave the Bible to the People?** Knights of Columbus Religious Information Bureau, St. Louis, 1948.

### CATHOLIC TRANSLATIONS

- Confraternity-Douay Version**, Timothy Press, Chicago, 1959
- Douay-Rheims Version**, Catholic Book Publishing Co., New York, 1945.
- Catholic Edition-Revised Standard Version**, Published by Thomas Nelson & Sons Ltd for the Incorporated Catholic Truth Society, London, 1966.
- Catholics Assembled Canon?
1. the Syriac and Coptic versions were translated from the Greek in the second century
  2. Latin Version was translated from Greek in the 2nd century in 375 the Gothic Version was translated by Ufilas
  3. Jerome stated that in his work of revising the Old Latin he used a Greek Bible which belonged to Origen who lived in the early part of the third century
  4. Constantine, the emperor of Rome, at the end of the third century, ordered fifty copies of the Bible transcribed
  5. Origen, born A.D. 185 and died A.D. 254, named all the books of the Bible in his writings
  6. Eusebius, 270 A.D., lists all of the books of the NT
  7. Cyril, 315 A.D. to 386 A.D., lists all NT books, except Revelation
  8. Both the Vatican Manuscript and the Sinaitic Manuscript date back earlier than 390 A.D.

**News, Notes & Events :**

**College Devotional & Dinner-** each Monday at 6:30pm. Please sign the list on the bulletin board if you would like to help with the meal.

**HEB College Retreat-** will be February 24th-26<sup>th</sup>.

**Youth Devotionals-** will be the second Sunday of every month. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board if you would like to help.

**Men's Leadership Class-** will meet each Thursday at 6:00pm at 1909 Jade Dr.

**Youth Devotional-**will be Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup> after the evening service in the home of Randy & Dawna Scott. 3021 Rockbrook Dr.

**Update:** change of address

**Johnnie Caskey**

Change of address (see bulletin)

**Please see the printed bulletin in the foyer for information about those who are ill and all prayer requests.**

**February Birthday's**

Gwen Perkins 8<sup>th</sup>  
 Daphne Cheek 9<sup>th</sup>  
 Carolyn Rosalez 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Joyce Ames 20<sup>th</sup>  
 Dustin Davis 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Sarah Davila 24<sup>th</sup>  
 Rosa Russell 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Jack Russell 26<sup>th</sup>  
 Maureen Wood 27<sup>th</sup>

**February Anniversary's**

Chris & Lizet Hogeda 22nd

**Serving This Sunday 2/5/12**

**Morning Worship:**

Songs.....Hilton Blackwell  
 Opening Prayer.....Lloyd Mims

Lord's Table

**Southside:**

James Fisher.....Paul McCurdy  
 Westley Lenertz(contribution).....Collin Perkins  
 Scripture.....D.J. Rios  
 Closing Prayer.....Paden Reed

**Northside:**

**Evening Worship:**

Song Leader.....Luke Perkins  
 Opening Prayer.....John Mayfield  
 Closing Prayer.....Roger Hagood

\*If you can not serve, please call Velton Taylor.

**Sunday Sermons**

AM: Josh Romo, preaching  
 PM: Josh Romo, preaching

**Duties for the Month of February**

Church Bus.....Sunday – Mayfield  
 Communion Prep.....Toney

**Attendance for January 29th**

Bible Classes.....88  
 Morning Worship.....117  
 Evening Worship.....97  
 Contribution.....(See Bulletin)  
 Wednesday Night Bible Class (1/25/12).....58

**If you have a need in any one of the following areas, please contact the men listed next to each category.**

Membership.....Mike Fergason 944-4656  
 Church Finance.....Velton Taylor 653-5855  
 Education.....Hilton Blackwell 450-2349  
 Evangelism.....Jim Vinson 651-6463  
 Building & Grounds.....Velton Taylor 653-5855  
 Transportation.....John Mayfield 653-0762  
 Publicity.....Josh Romo 716-3298  
 Benevolence.....Troy Billington 949-7647  
 Missions.....Bill Reed 944-8012

**Visitors Welcomed, Members Expected,  
 Everyone Loved!**

Pantry Item:  
 macaroni & cheese, tuna, canned fruit & crackers

*The Biblical Messenger* (USPS 713-410) is published weekly except Thanksgiving and Christmas by the **9<sup>th</sup> and Main church of Christ**, 901 N. Main St., San Angelo, TX 76903-4057. Periodicals Postage Paid at San Angelo, TX 76902-9998 **POSTMASTER: Send Address changes to THE BIBLICAL MESSENGER, 901 N. Main St., San Angelo, TX 76903-4057.**

**Assembly Times**

**Sundays**

Bible Classes .....9:30AM  
 Worship.....10:30AM  
 5:00 PM



**Wednesdays**

Bible Classes.....7:00PM

901 N. Main  
 San Angelo, TX 76903  
 Phone: 325.653.4642

**Leadership**

**Elders:** Clyde Freeman, George Hooper  
**Deacons:** Don Cheek, Curtis Perkins, Randy Scott  
**Preacher:** Josh Romo

[Subscribe HTML](#)

[Subscribe PDF](#)

[Unsubscribe HTML](#)

[Unsubscribe PDF](#)

**Change email address** Please enter both OLD and NEW email addresses in the message body.

If you have comments or suggestions click [Comments](#) and enter your message. Thank You! ALL comments welcome!