

Camden Church of Christ

Christ Centered ~ Bible Based



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March 15, 2020

Elders

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Deacons

Dennis Richardson

William Blow

Tom Ulderich

Joe Sisco

Michael Laux

Wesley Sparks

Daniel Richardson

Britt Johnson

Sid Osment

Minister

Daniel Cook

731.441.5217

Youth Minister

Paul Ulderich

731.792.5522

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY

Bible Study 9:00 am

Morning Worship 9:50 am

Evening Worship 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 pm

Was Jesus a Liar, a Lunatic, or the Lord?

I'm not the one who come up with this question found in the title above, but I think it is an interesting one to think on. There are some today who will admit that Jesus lived and was no ordinary man, but they are not willing to accept that He was God's Son. Muslims tell us that He was just a prophet. But what true prophet ever claimed that he was also Deity? Jesus was both.

Others say Jesus was a wise man and teacher of moral behavior, but He was just a man. Well, what wise man ever said "that the entire world revolves around himself and that the fate of all men is dependent on their acceptance or rejection of him" (McDowell, Josh, *The New Evidence That Demands a Verdict* [Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1999], 138)? If He were just a man and made such claims, we would not call Him wise, we would say He had lost his mind. These things could not possibly be true of any mere man, and yet, these are the claims of Jesus.

Jesus claimed to be the Son of God (Jn 10:24-33; 8:58; cf. Ex 3:12-14). That is either true or false. If it is false, then He was a liar or a lunatic. If He was only a man and knew it, then He lied by saying He was the Son of God. Or, if He truly thought He was the Son of God, but He wasn't, He was out of touch with reality. Either way, whether he was a liar or out of His mind, we should not follow Him (much less trust Him to save our souls). But, if He was not lying or out of His mind, the only other possibility is that He really was who He claimed to be, in which case we must believe and obey Him in all things.

Josh McDowell, in his book referenced above, comments on the question before us and quotes the following from C. S. Lewis's book, *Mere Christianity*:

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: "I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God." That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would

(Continued on back cover)

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS.
Please fill out a white visitor card, including your mailing address and email address, and drop it in the collection plate. We are so glad we can worship together today.

We Need Your Help – Please take a moment to look around you and see if someone is missing. If you notice someone, please check on them or let somebody else know. Thanks!

Care Groups – Care groups **A** and **C** will not be meeting today.

Second Harvest – Everyone is welcome to come and join us on Mondays to volunteer at second Harvest (3:30–6 p.m.).

Nursery Attendants

- March 15: Heather and Addisen Larkins
- March 22: Sheri Osment and Sydney Blackurn

Care Groups – Care groups **A** and **C** will **not** be meeting next Sunday.

Meeting Down Front – There will be a short meeting down front to discuss Amy and John’s wedding shower after this morning’s worship service.

Kyle Butt’s Lessons – If you missed one of Kyle’s lessons last week, or would like to hear them again, they have been uploaded to the church’s website. You can also get a CD of one or more of his lessons upon request.

Trash – Please make sure that all trash placed in the trashcans are in bags. It is no fun to clean out a dirty trashcan after trash has been left in it without a bag. Thank you for helping us with this.

Devotionals – If any of our men would like to give a 4 or 5 minute devotional on a Wednesday evening, please sign the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for the date that you would like to do it.

Please Continue to Pray for:

Cancer: Betty Hyde, Phyllis Sanders, Margaret Turner, Rex Wynn, Margaret Joyner, Wayne Johnson, Richard Fry, Hope Whetherford, Bill Cargle, Doug Rains, Joe Swearingen, Robert Blackstock (a friend of Greg Matlock), Charlotte Loggains (LaBriska Blow’s mother), Larry White (a friend of Greg Matlock), Angela Henry (Nancy Curtis’s niece), George Smith (brother of Brenda Travis), Marsha Hatley, Jace Jones (a friend of William Holder), Jimmy and JoAnn Arnold (friends of Tracy Tolley), Darlene Tunnel (Dwayne Robinson’s sister), Cindy Lomax (a friend of Mike Wilson), Wendell Cary (member at Westport congregation), Lisa Lowry (a co-worker of Michelle Ballard), Bryant Allen (Michelle Ballard’s brother), Loman Ballard (Stacy’s father), Becky Orr (John Taylor’s Aunt), Lora Pettigrew (Glenda Sparks’ aunt), Lesia Jordan (a friend of Susie Belisle), Joe Garner (a friend of Ross Cole), and Leslie Hicks (Susan Hicks’ husband).

Others: Elton Hatley, Luke Crossett, Joan Ballard, Eva Maiden, Dorothy Redden, Tarry Stockdale, Jewel Hatley, Susie Brackins, Tracy Tolley, Linda Hams, Tammy DeBruce, Lynn White, Lisa Haynie, Vickie Cox, Shirley Overby (a friend of Greg Matlock), Ann Dinkins (Angela Hick’s mom), Janet Holland (friend of Rebecca Whitfield), Dorothy and Pete Chappell, Johnny (Susie Brackins’ brother), Rita Hatler, David Taylor, Larry Fisher (Jana Ulderich’s step-father), Walter Bryant (a friend of Ross Cole), Tommy Hams (the brother-in-law of Greg Matlock), Beau Griffin, Chesney Bell, Louise Holder (Jim’s mom), Russell Holmes, Aaron Roberts (a friend of Garrett Todd and Shawn McDowell), Donnie Cuthbertson (a friend of Ross Cole), Bonnie Fleischman (Georgia Lashlee’s daughter), Jeff Homan (a nephew of Emma and John Dawson), Brian Melton (a friend of John and Cindy Lumpkin), Buddie Webb, David Nowlin (a friend of Joan Phillips), Jessie Robinson, Larry Yarbro (Grandfather of Mark and John Yarbro), Thomas Little (a friend’s grandson of Wanda Horner and Marge Phillips), Sue Bell, Ray Frazee and family, Mildred Hedge (J.C. Hedge’s widow), Keith Hamm (a friend of Greg Matlock), Joey Horton (a friend of Sid Osment), and Janice and Billy Watkins.

Sympathy: To the families of: Carl Frazee (Ray’s brother), Bryan Cunningham (the son of Charles and Sherry), and Hattie Collins.

Military: Mallory Pratt Triplett, US Marine Corp; Joshua Melton, US Marine Corp; Austin Riley, US Navy

Special Donations

- Given to the building fund in memory of **C.H. Hardin & Charles Wyatt** by m/m Charles Whitfield.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Charley Wyatt & Rodney Ivey** by m/m Sid Osment.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Marvin Phipps & Rodney Ivey** by m/m Johnny Lumpkin.
- Given to the building fund in memory of **Marvin Phipps & Rodney Ivey** by m/m Bill Jarnagin.

Our caring remembrances are gratefully appreciated by the families and by the church.

Recent Prayer Requests

- **Janice White** is at Paris Rehab (room 117).
- **Greg Matlock** has back surgery scheduled for March 25 on his L5 vertebrae.
- **Richard Wright** is doing better, but still not a hundred percent.
- We want to continue to pray for **tornado victims**.
- **Brenda Rains**, Tracy Tolley's aunt, is in Jackson General Hospital with pneumonia.
- **Tracy Tolley** is suffering from migraines.
- **Alayna Russell's mom** is back home and doing a little bit better, but still not completely well.
- **Bryant Allen**, Michelle Ballard's brother, had a heart attack Monday night. He had two stints put in and is now stable.
- **Susie Brackins** fell last Sunday morning. She is waiting to see an orthopedic doctor.
- **Pat O'Brien** needs our prayers. She has stopped chemo. She was told that she has 3 to 6 months.
- **Kim Fisher**, a friend of Nicole Blackburn, remains on a ventilator with dialysis at Jackson Madison General Hospital with complications from a hernia repair.
- **Anastyn Taylor** has the flu (type A).

FROM THE ELDERS

The elders welcome all newcomers. If you would like to be identified as a member here or if you have not had the opportunity to meet the eldership, we would like to meet with you briefly to introduce ourselves and to explain our position on certain issues and matters of doctrine.

NEXT WEEK

March 22, 2020

SERVE THE LORD WITH GLADNESS

Morning Prayers

Sid Osment
Danny Hardin

Evening Prayers

Doug Phipps
Garrett Todd

To Serve at the Lord's Table

Frank Belisle
Garrett Todd
Dennis Richardson
Doug Phipps

Jeff Belisle
Paul Ulderich
Daniel Richardson
Danny Hardin

Alternates

Adam Blackburn, C.J. Baker, John Taylor
(Nursery)

Evening Communion

Wesley Sparks

William Blow

Door Greeters

North

Garrett and Megan Todd

South

William and LaBriska Blow

If unable to serve, please tell William Blow.

FOR THE RECORD

Week of March 8, 2020

Sunday School	131
Sunday Morning Worship	238
Sunday Afternoon Worship	105
Wednesday Night	94

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either be a lunatic—on the level with the man who says he is a peached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a mad man or something worse. . . . But let us not come up with any patronizing nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

Was Jesus a liar? This cannot be. If Jesus was lying, how are we to explain the perfect life that He lived, the wisdom which He exhibited, the miracles He performed, casting out demons, His resurrection from the dead, and all the Old Testament prophecies that were fulfilled in Him? These things would have been impossible for one who was anything less than the Son of God. He was no liar.

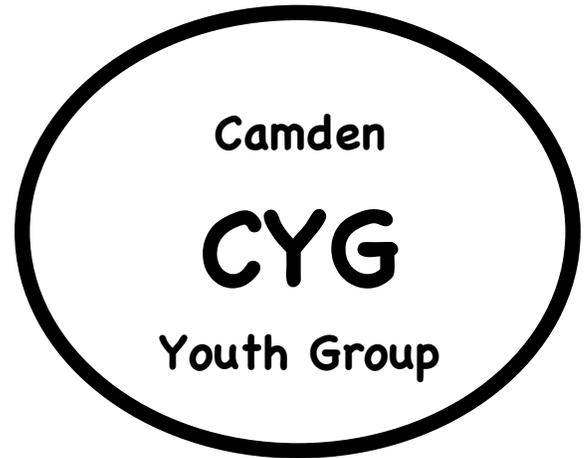
Jesus was not someone who was out of his mind either. A philosopher by the name of Peter Kreeft was quoted as saying:

A measure of your insanity is the size of the gap between what you think you are and what you really are. If I think I am the greatest philosopher in America, I am only an arrogant fool; if I think I am Napoleon, I am probably over the edge; if I think I am a butterfly, I am fully embarked from the sunny shores of sanity. But if I think I am God, I am even more insane because the gap between anything finite and the infinite God is even greater than the gap between any two finite things, even a man and a butterfly.

Well, then, why [was Jesus not a] liar or lunatic . . . [A]lmost no one who has read the Gospels can honestly and seriously consider that option. The savviness, the canniness, the human wisdom, the attractiveness of Jesus emerge from the gospels with unavoidable force to any but the most hardened and prejudiced reader. (McDowell 161)

If Jesus wasn't a liar, and He wasn't a lunatic, then the only other option is that He is exactly who He claimed to be. That doesn't mean that a person still can't reject Him, but a person must either reject Him or accept Him; he can't just go somewhere down the middle. To try and set Him up on a shelf somewhere as a great moral teacher while rejecting His claim to be God's Son, is not a valid option.

- Daniel Cook



Monday, March 16th: 2nd Harvest Food Bank from 3:30-6

March 18th: FEED. 6pm All Ages

March 28th: Skating trip. Leave building at 1pm eat lunch before. All ages

April 4th: Spring Fling. All Ages

Scripture Readers

March 15th AM Trevor Smith

March 15th PM Hunter Sparks

March 18th Adam Blackburn

March 22nd AM Austin Sparks

March 22nd PM Jaden Johnson

March 25th Tom Ulderich

March 29th AM Cameron Ballard

March 29th PM CJ Baker

April 1st Aden Harden

April 5th AM Michael Laux

April 5th PM Daniel Richardson