

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649  
 (812) 944-2305  
[www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org)

**Sundays**  
 Bible Study..... 9:30 AM  
 Worship..... 10:30 AM  
 Worship..... 6:00 PM

**Wednesdays**  
 Bible Study..... 7:30 PM

**Elders**  
 Allen L. Morris.....812-967-4536  
 Stephen W. Nale.....812-948-9917

**Deacons**  
 Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766  
 Elbert Metcalf.....812-246-5938  
 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

**Editor**  
 Stephen W. Nale.....502-727-7559

**Beginning Our 66th Year Dec. 3, 2023**

Goals For 2023  
Theme  
 "Courageous Christians in 2023!"  
Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40:  
Sunday AM: 50  
Sunday PM: 40: Wednesday Bible Study: 30

Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget

Invitations: 130

Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading

Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer

Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service

Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana  
Hold A Men's Training Class

Hold One Gospel Meeting

-Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch

**James Hahn**  
 will be preaching today.

**We are on week # 50 of our daily Bible reading.**

**Prayer List**  
 Sharon Nale, Polly Ward,  
 Macon Ward, Debby Spears  
 (Roseann's sis) Sharon  
 Thompson, Kay Thompson  
 Gene Ward & Beth McFarland  
 Brooke Thomas, Pam Caudill  
 Debbie Lewellen, Cathie Hall  
 Ronnie Kahl

**THIS MONTH:**  
**Courage and Good Conscience**  
**1 Pet. 3:16, 2:19; Acts 23:1**

**Who Have You Invited To Services This week?**

**Lord's Supper Reading**  
**Luke 22:14-20**

**Scripture Reading**  
 AM: Ex. 5:1-2  
 PM: John 5:31-36

**Encouragement Tally**  
 Invites this month 6  
 Invites last month: 12  
 Visitors YTD: 12

Place Stamp Here

**Clarksville Church of Christ**  
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy  
 Clarksville, IN 47129-1649

Our Theme for 2023...  
**"Courageous Christians!"**  
 1 Cor. 16:13  
 Clarksville Church of Christ  
 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.  
 Clarksville, IN 47129  
**First Service December 7, 1958**

The  
**Clarksville Beacon**  
 www.Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org



Volume 35 Number 50

Clarksville Church of Christ

December 10, 2023

**Who Is The Lord That I Should Obey His Voice?**

**Welcome!**  
 If you're visiting with us today, we want you to feel welcome and we want you to feel like our honored guest! We also want you to know that all we're interested in here at the Clarksville Church of Christ is the Truth. Jesus said, "You shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32. The truth He's talking about is God's word. Jesus said, "Sanctify them by thy truth, Thy word is truth." John 17:17. Therefore we hope you'll appreciate that we'll give you book, chapter and verse from the Bible, the word of God, for everything that we say or do here today, so that everything that we do may bring glory unto God, I Pet. 4:11.

**VISITORS**  
 Please fill out a visitor's card or scan the QR code below and provide the information requested.



- Text: Exodus 5:2**
- I. Who Is the Lord?**  
 A. Good Question! Matt 21:23  
 B. Until we recognize who He is, we will not be concerned with obeying His voice!
- II. Job 1:9**  
 A. A charge against Job \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. A charge against God \_\_\_\_\_
- III. Message of Job**  
 A. Job 31:35-37 \_\_\_\_\_  
 B. Job 38:1-3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 C. Job 40:4 \_\_\_\_\_
- IV. Message of Acts 17:23-31**  
 A. God is Creator of all: vs 24  
 B. God is Sustainer of all: vs 25  
 C. This relationship makes us accountable to Him: vss 30, 31  
 1. Rom. 1:20, 21  
 2. Rom. 9:20, 21

*James Hahn*

## Witnesses to the Deity of Jesus

Text: John 5:3-47

### Himself

- John 5:31 cf. John 8:14
- John 4:25,26
- John 9:36,37
- John 8:58

### John the baptist

- John 5:32-35
- John 1:14,15
- John 1:29-34

### Works He Did

- John 5:36
- John 3:2
- John 20:30,31

### The Father

- John 5:37
- Matthew 3:17
- Matthew 17:5

### The Scriptures

- John 5:39
- Luke 24:47
- Isaiah 53 cf. Acts 8:35

### Moses

- John 5:45-47
- Deut. 18:15 cf. Acts 3:22

### Holy Spirit

- John 15:26
- Acts 2:4 cf. Acts 2:36

### Apostles

- Acts 1:22,23
- Acts 4:19,20
- 2 Peter 1:16,17

James Hahn

## Elders: Oversight and Authority

CHRIST was made the head of the church which he purchased with his blood and was, and is, vested with all authority. His complete will is revealed in the New Testament from which we learn that each Christian is to have a part in the work which he has assigned. From among the saints who compose the church, special workers are to be chosen, according to the need of the cause, and by reason of certain qualifications which they have acquired. These workers are identified as elders, deacons, and evangelists. Each group of special workers has its particular function to serve, working together in peace and harmony with the body of the saints. In this investigation we are interested in the eldership, the work which such men are expected to perform, and the qualifications necessary for their appointment.

Three words in the Greek New Testament serve to outline the nature of the work to be done by the men appointed to this high office. In our English translations these special servants are called **elders** because they are older in wisdom and experience; they are called **bishops** because they are overseers of the work; they are called **shepherds** because they feed and tend the flock.

The title elder was not a new word when first applied to the leadership of the church of God. Older experienced men were ever regarded as more suited to the task of leadership. Ex. 4:29.

In the twentieth chapter of the book of Acts we read that Paul sent from Miletus and called for the elders of the church at Ephesus. Among other things, he said to them, *“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over which the Holy Ghost has made you overseers, to feed the church of God which he has purchased with his own blood.”* vs. 28. Two things will be noticed here. First, they were said to have been made **overseers**, or **bishops**, by the Holy Ghost; and second, as such they were to feed and tend the flock.

But how does the Holy Spirit make overseers? To answer the question directly let us say that he does so by revealing what they should strive to do, what they should endeavor to be, then instructing the church to seek out and submit to the leadership of such men. When they measure up to the requirements of the pattern and truly *“desire the office of a bishop;”* when they are designated as the recognized bishops of the church, they are as truly made such by the Holy Spirit as if he should name them audibly from the skies above.

To take the oversight means to act as shepherds. As for example 1 Pet. 5:2 could very well read, *“Be shepherds of the flock, taking the oversight thereof.”* Paul instructed Timothy, *“Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor.”* 1 Tim. 5:17. Again, in Hebrews 13:7, we read, *“Remember them which have the rule over you who have spoken unto you the word of God.”* And in verse 17 of the same chapter, *“Obey them which have the rule over you and submit yourselves to them; for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief...”* Finally, in verse 24, he says, *“Salute all them which have the rule over you.”* The term “rule” as used in these passages means primarily to lead. By the exemplary lives of the elders the members are encouraged to follow them. Such leading may be compared to the mental act in which one is led by facts and circumstances to reach certain conclusions. With proper regard for the good men who act as our shepherds we are led, by and by, to imitate their faith and to follow their teachings.

In his writings Peter charged, *“The elders which are among you I exhort, Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly, not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; neither as being Lords over God’s heritage, but being ensamples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd shall appear, ye shall receive a crown of glory that fadeth not away.”* They are not to rule with official decrees and dictatorship methods, but with a kindly disposition and godly living they lead others in paths of righteousness. Someone has wisely said, I’d rather see a sermon than hear one any day.” Accordingly, a man of God who serves the church as an elder must give good heed to his manner of life that his every example may serve to lead others to imitate his Master.

H. Robert Williams