



# Welcome To The Killeen Church of Christ!

*"Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep His commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."* Ecclesiastes 12:13



www.kcofc.org

**VOLUME 30  
NUMBER 36**

**SEPTEMBER 3, 2023**

\*\*\*\*\*

### **SHEPHERDS**

*Lee Fisher  
Zachary Petties*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **DEACONS**

*Roger Deem  
Paul Portley  
Gaylen Williams*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **PREACHER**

*Phil McIntosh*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **TREASURER**

*Gaylen Williams*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **MONTHLY SUPPORT:**

*Cherokee Home  
For Children  
Cherokee, TX*

*Christian Homes &  
Family Services  
Abilene, TX*

*Foster's Home  
For Children  
Stephenville, TX*

*Sunny Glen  
Children's Home  
San Benito, TX*

### **SERVICE SCHEDULE**

SUNDAY BIBLE CLASS - 9:30 AM  
SUNDAY AM WORSHIP - 10:30 AM  
SUNDAY PM WORSHIP - 5:00 PM  
WEDNESDAY - 7:00 PM

## Unearthing Gems

By Phil McIntosh



Have you ever gone digging in your backyard as a kid or maybe at the beach with your family and uncovered something buried in the ground? It's fascinating to unearth something previously hidden. Oftentimes it is a piece of an old bottle or perhaps some form of metallurgic money, but occasionally people have found some extraordinary things in the ground. People have found arrowheads, bullets, rings, and less savory items such as remains of animals or even people long departed. If you are one who enjoys learning about the past, then these types of discoveries are thrilling. Those who observe objects of antiquity are able to connect to the past and past civilizations in a way previously impossible; you can connect in a way that book reading and documentary watching simply cannot duplicate. Simply put, these finds and others make history come alive.

We as Christians are more interested in artifacts of a biblical nature than we are George Washington's sword or a canon from the Civil War. Of those sort of ancient artifacts there are an abundance. In a recent sermon we discussed the Assyrian King Sennacherib (705-681 BC) who attacked the Israelites at Lachish and planned to attack Jerusalem (*Isa 36:13-20*). Artifacts found relating to this king range from his famous relief (a gypsum carving of sorts) which displays the conquest of Lachish to Sennacherib's Prism, which outlines his victories. Such finds as these allow the past to stand on our front door; we are transported through these materials back some 2,500 years and see the evidence of the people, kingdoms, power, war, and the results. We are also shown God. These finds do not need to "prove" the Bible; we believe the Bible is exactly what it says it is- it is the word of God, as determined by God, delivered by God's Spirit (*2 Tim 3:16; 2 Pet 1:20-21*). However, they do corroborate the Bible and lend evidence to the biblical account as God has revealed it to us. The artifacts unearthed can serve to strengthen our faith in God's word while we live among a generation who are critical toward the accuracy and inspiration of Scripture.

One such "gem" was recently unearthed that has been traced even further back in antiquity than most. Many artifacts relate to the time of the United Kingdom (1040-920 BC), the Divided Kingdom (920-721 BC), the Exilic period (720-538 BC), or the Post-Exilic period (538-250 BC- *if we use the beginning Roman rule as a guide*). Surely there are an abundance of finds during the period of the Hasmonean Dynasty and Roman rule, but those aren't quite of the age we're aiming at here for "ancient" finds. The specific artifact I wanted to bring to your attention dates earlier than all of those periods, but before we see it, let's learn about what portion of Scripture to which it is connected.

After the Israelites had been freed from their Egyptian captivity, God took them through the Sinai peninsula and toward Canaan. You might remember that the older generation lacked trust in God, ultimately falling in the wilderness as a direct result of their faithlessness (*Num 14:26-37*). It was to the younger generation Moses spoke the words of the book of Deuteronomy as they planned to enter the Promised Land (*Deut 1:1-4*). In *Deuteronomy 11*, we find these words related to some future activity once they reached that land of promise:

"Behold, I set before you today a blessing and a curse: <sup>27</sup>the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you today; <sup>28</sup>and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn aside from the way which I command you today, to go after other gods which you have not known. <sup>29</sup>Now it shall be, when the LORD your God has brought you into the land which you go to possess, that you shall put the blessing on Mount Gerizim and the curse on Mount Ebal." -*Deuteronomy 11:26-29*

Also, later on in the book we see the curses specifically listed which they were to offer up once in that land:

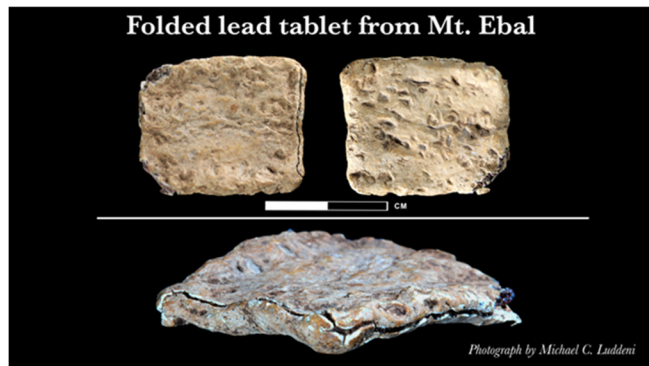
And Moses commanded the people on the same day, saying, <sup>12</sup>"These shall stand on Mount Gerizim to bless the people, when you have crossed over the Jordan: Simeon, Levi, Judah, Issachar, Joseph, and Benjamin; <sup>13</sup>and these shall stand on Mount Ebal to

curse: Reuben, Gad, Asher, Zebulun, Dan, and Naphtali. <sup>14</sup>“And the Levites shall speak with a loud voice and say to all the men of Israel: <sup>15</sup>‘Cursed is the one who makes a carved or molded image, <sup>16</sup>an abomination to the LORD, the work of the hands of the craftsman, and sets it up in secret.’ “And all the people shall answer and say, ‘Amen!’ ... (and thus these curses continue until verse 26).  
 - Deuteronomy 27:11-26

When you turn your Bible over to Joshua chapter 8 you see Joshua “built an altar to the Lord God of Israel in Mount Ebal”, the Israelites divided up to pronounce the blessings cursings, and Joshua read that account from Moses to them (*Josh 8:30-35*).

While you and I should (and hopefully do) believe that account on its face, something recently unearthed stands to corroborate the details of such verses. In December of 2019, a woman who was working with the Associates for Biblical Research (ABR) was wet sifting some contents from a dump pile that the late Dr. Adam Zertal had taken from Mt. Ebal in the 1980s. The artifact she found is what they call a *defixio*, or a “curse tablet.” It was a small lead tablet, folded over, which was scanned with tomographic scans by the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic to reveal what was inside. And what was inside was extraordinary. They found inside words penned which represent a proto-alphabetic text written in an intelligent form of literary structure called a *chiasm* (e.g. I love my wife, she’s good to me; she’s good to me, I love my wife). Here is what the defixio said (from ABR):

You are cursed by the god *yhw*, cursed.  
You will die, cursed – cursed, you will surely die.  
 Cursed you are by *yhw* – cursed.



Fascinatingly, not only do we have an old Hebrew script with the earliest known usage of the Divine name (YHWH), but we also have connections to Moses’ speech, the Israelites’ entrance into Canaan, and the altar Joshua built on Mt. Ebal. In addition, we also have evidenced by this artifact, proof that ancient people could

speak and write intelligibly, a blow to those who question the abilities of ancient writers. ABR believes this artifact dates to the Late Bronze Age (1500-1150 BC). Can you imagine that possibility? Not only does this “curse tablet” corroborate the content and accuracy of Deuteronomy and Joshua (and, by extension, the entire canon of God’s word), but it also represents a tablet that could conceivably have dated back to almost the very time of Joshua himself! Certainly this is a “gem” that has been unearthed. So we march on, appreciating the gems that point to the Bible, and trusting God as Divine and Infallible (*Rom 3:4*).

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

1-CAROLYN WILLIAMS  
 6-SCOTT DAVIS  
 9-REGGIE BASS  
 14-CLAY CULVER  
 14-KENNETH SELLERS  
 27-CRETA BALES  
 28-VICTORIA POLANCO  
 30-LESA CROCKETT

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY  
 TO BILLY & ALEXIS GAITHER ON  
 SEPTEMBER 17TH!

LADIES, PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

**Baby Shower**

HONORING

**Jessica Rogers**

SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY **24** AT 3:30 PM

IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

JESSICA IS HAVING A BOY AND  
 IS REGISTERED ON AMAZON

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Sunday AM: "God Does the Impossible"**

**Lk 7:12-15**

*"<sup>12</sup> Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her. <sup>13</sup> And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not. <sup>14</sup> And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare him stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise." <sup>15</sup> And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother."*

**Sunday PM: "Samaritan Evangelism"**

**Jn 4:7-10**

*"<sup>7</sup> There cometh a woman of Samaria to draw water: Jesus saith unto her, Give me to drink. <sup>8</sup> (For his disciples were gone away unto the city to buy meat.) <sup>9</sup> Then saith the woman of Samaria unto him, How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans. <sup>10</sup> Jesus answered and said unto her, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water."*



Join us Sunday, September 10th, following evening worship, for a Youth Devotional. Please bring snacks & finger food.

**SUNDAY/WEDNESDAY  
QUARTERLY  
TEACHER SIGN-UP SHEET  
LOCATED IN THE FOYER.**



**IF YOU WISH TO TEACH OR ASSIST WITH BIBLE CLASSES,  
PLEASE SIGN UP IN THE FOYER. THERE WILL BE A MEETING  
ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, FOLLOWING MORNING  
WORSHIP FOR ANY MEMBER INTERESTED.**

**September Nursery Schedule**

- 3-Natalie & Nichole
- 10-Amanda & Carolyn W.
- 17-Victoria & Brenda
- 24-Josephine & Briana

*\*We are in need of more ladies to help in the nursery. If you would like to be on the nursery list, please contact the office. Thank you!*

**ORDER OF SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2023:**

- ♦ **ANNOUNCEMENTS:** ANDRÉ PETTAWAY
- ♦ **1ST PRAYER:** PAUL PORTLEY
- ♦ **SONG:** GIANNI GRIFFITH
- ♦ **SCRIPTURE READING:** LEX MCINTOSH
- ♦ **SONG:** GIANNI GRIFFITH
- ♦ **SERMON:** PHIL MCINTOSH
- ♦ **INVITATION SONG:** GIANNI GRIFFITH
- ♦ **SONG BEFORE COMMUNION:**  
GIANNI GRIFFITH
- ♦ **COMMUNION:**  
IVAN MCINTOSH & JONATHAN SMITH
- ♦ **SONG:** GIANNI GRIFFITH
- ♦ **OFFERING:**  
IVAN MCINTOSH & JONATHAN SMITH
- ♦ **CLOSING SONG:** GIANNI GRIFFITH
- ♦ **CLOSING PRAYER:** ZACK PETTIES
- ♦ **AUDIO/VISUAL:** PATRICK SELLERS
- ♦ **SECURITY:** SCOTT DAVIS
- ♦ **NURSERY:**  
NATALIE FISHER & NICHOLE WILLIAMS

**September Cleaning Calendar**

- May be done any time before the next Sunday.
- Please consult with your team leader for further questions.

8/27-TEAM ROGER Patrick Brenda Linda	10-TEAM JAMES Kim-Marie Xavier Jaden Kingsford Barbara	24-TEAM LEE Natalie Derek Ken
3-TEAM ZACK Amanda Diedre Paul Rubye	17-TEAM PHIL Michelle Beverly Josephine Yvonne Lois Marcella	

## NEWS FROM THE PEWS

### **PLEASE REMEMBER OUR MILITARY & CIVILIANS IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

- Michael Rogers and Grayson Bowles are at NTC.
- Kingsford Asare is training at Fort Sam Houston.
- Roman Polanco is in basic training at Fort Jackson.
- Tim Matter is contracting in Bogota, Columbia.

### **PLEASE KEEP THESE MEMBERS & LOVED ONES IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

- Donna Hines' surgery was postponed until this Friday.
- Visiting member, Opal Jones, is recovering from two surgeries related to her cancer.
- Judy Wall's husband, James', pancreas has failed and is now on insulin.
- Lois Brown is having trouble regulating her blood sugar.
- Barbara Hughart is having health problems.
- Adam Zak will have his throat scoped on Tuesday.
- Phil McIntosh's father and nephew have upcoming procedures.
- Please remember Roger & Linda Deem as they travel.

### **CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK & HOME**

**BOUND:** Tom Holubec; Al Wilson; Eddie Gandy; Alfreda Pettaway; Monica McClean's sister & brother-in-law (Janeth & Neville Grey); Gladys Driver's daughter, (Vicky); Bill Rawlings & mother; Nada Miller; Tom Holubec; Martha Bell; Julie Odum & mother (Sharon Schmidt); Katelyn Bowles' cousin (Brittany); Tanja Arch & her family; Jim Dukes & family; Tim Matter's wife (Elda), brother (Michael), mother, aunt (Vivian), & sister's husband (Christopher); Zack Petties' brother's son (Darius); James Garner, his wife (Tammy); Michelle McIntosh's aunt (Christy Noey), & cousin (Nikki); Gary & Shirl Foster, Gary's mother; Ken Sellers; Josephine Spear, cousin, sisters (Rose & Patricia), neighbor (Clinton) & friend (Iris); the McIntosh's family friend (Bryan Christmas); Alexis Gaither's father, aunt, & friends (John & Marion Slaughter); Creta Bales' cousin (Terry Jackson); Cheryl Flores' aunt (Joy); Donna Hines' stepmother (Darla), & niece (April Miller); former members (Connie Cruz), and (Bobbie Knight); Jon-Jon Simmons, Willard Jack Dunn; Tracy Wilson's mother (Ruth Hyde); Linda Deem's nephew; Amanda Petties' brother (Rex), sister (Jewel), & nieces (Carrington & Moneisha), & sister-in-law; Rufus Brown; Marcella Williams & brother-in-law (Johnnie Milford); Billye Hughes; Jessie Turner; & Linda Walts.

**SYMPATHY:** We wish to extend our sympathy and prayers to the family of Gladys Driver, who passed away last Tuesday. Her service will be here at the building, on Saturday, at 2:00 pm.

**LADIES INFORMATION:** Sign-up sheets are on the ladies' information board for the Ladies Day program volunteers, food, and the upcoming Southwest Ladies Day on September 23rd. -If you have not paid for your T-shirt, please pay before September 9th. For any questions about the T-shirts, please see Alfreda Pettaway.

**CHRISTIAN HOMES & FAMILY SERVICES CHANGE CAN DRIVE:** The change cans are in the foyer and the date to have the cans returned is October 15th.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** On Sunday, September 17th, our 5:00 pm worship service will include a presentation by Brown Trail School of Preaching. It will include information on the school and most likely a request for support. Our speaker will be Caleb Griffith.

## ***Our Speaker Today is Phil McIntosh***

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆  
*We want to especially welcome our visitors!*

*If you are visiting, please fill out an attendance card from the back of the pew directly in front of you, and drop it in offering box as you leave. Thank you for your visit and please join us again!*

### **BIBLE STUDIES AND COUNSELING OFFERED**

- ⇒ Bible Studies With Our Preacher Or Elders
- ⇒ Free Bible Correspondence
- ⇒ Free Marriage And Family Counseling

*To our visitors—Thank you for being with us today, and please come again!*

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**ZACK PETTIES (elder):** [zpetties@yahoo.com](mailto:zpetties@yahoo.com)

**LEE FISHER (elder):** [fisherfam79@gmail.com](mailto:fisherfam79@gmail.com)

**PHIL McINTOSH (pulpit minister):**

[kcofcpreacher@gmail.com](mailto:kcofcpreacher@gmail.com)

**Office:** 254-634-7373 or email us at: [kcofc@hotmail.com](mailto:kcofc@hotmail.com)

## **SEPTMBER CALENDAR**

4-Office closed for the Labor Day holiday

6,13,20,27-Ladies Bible Class, 10:00 am, in the fellowship hall

10-Teacher meeting following the morning service for the fall quarter beginning in October

10-Youth Devotional following evening worship

10-Foster's Home for Children Drive begins

20-Singing Practice at 6:00 pm

23-Southwest Church of Christ Ladies Day

23-Church Bowling (Younger vs. Older) 12:00 pm, at Hallmark Lanes

24-Baby Shower honoring Jessica Rogers at 3:30 pm, in the fellowship hall