

### Those to Serve

(B) Jorge Garza  
(FV) Judd Wall  
(O) Doug Pruett  
(A) Jack Wall  
1st prayer Jack Wall  
2nd prayer Mike Mallett  
Announcements: Calvin Burks  
Singing: Kevin Grant

### Dealing With Sin

When confronted with the reality of your own sinfulness, **you can:**

- JUSTIFY YOURSELF like Adam did (Gen. 3:12)
- COVER IT UP like David did (2 Samuel 11,12)
- DENY IT like Gehazi (2 Kings 5:20-26)

**or you can:**

- CONFESS IT like the prodigal (Lk. 15:17-19)
- REPENT OF IT like Ninevah (Jonah 3:10)
- FORSAKE IT like Zacchaeus (Luke 19:8)
- WASH IT AWAY like Paul (Acts 22:16)

-by Jim Martin

### Prayer List:

David Jones  
Virginia Lovell  
Janell Houts Hall  
Odell Mallett  
Dora Martinez  
Mona Lancaster  
Willis Hughes  
Letha Sheldon  
Ruby Jones  
Pray for our Nation  
Our Troops  
Law Enforcement  
Rescue Personnel

**June 27th**

*Noon Fellowship*

**July 4th**

*Mission Sunday  
& Independence Day*

**July 25th**

*Noon Fellowship*

**August 1st**

*Mission Fund*

*Happy Anniversary*

**July 10th**

*Judy & Kevin Grant*

**July 25th**

*Valerie & Jorge Garza*

*Happy Birthday*

**Mike Lovell July 16th**

**Keith Stifflemire July 22nd**

# Edifier

**Evant church of Christ**

*310 W Brooks Drive*

*Evant, TX 76525*

*254-471-5705*

**June 27, 2021**



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."*

**Sunday Worship:**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

**9:30 am Bible Study**

**863-899-0987**

**10:20 am Worship**

**Email: wvann@yahoo.com**

**12:30 pm Afternoon**

**www.evantchurchofchrist.org**

**Wednesday Night**

**6:00 pm**

## ***Introduction to the Book of Romans***

Outside of the Church of Christ, Romans is one of the most popular books in the New Testament. I have never been sure, but it seemed like we were not sure what to do with it. After much study and effort, I have concluded that it the hardest and richest book of the entire Bible.

Romans is complicated on many levels. Probably because it deals with subjects like the universality of sin, our accountability to God, His plan to save by faith, and how that was His plan from the beginning (even Abraham was saved by faith). He deals with subjects like redemption, justification, imputation, and even God's plan for Israel.

Some have said that Romans could be considered the greatest Christian manifesto of freedom in Christ ever written. Yet, at its heart Romans is highly pragmatic. On various levels, Paul brings the many sides of Christian theology to bear on our lives in ways that are simply masterful. He elevates the position of all people who were considered secondary in Jewish, Greek, and Roman societies by building a powerful case that we are all equal in God's eyes. No single person or group holds a privileged place in God's eyes. That position belongs to Jesus and Jesus alone.

Paul sets forth his authorship at the very beginning and modern scholarship still has not tried to dispute it. It was written somewhere around 55-58 AD. Just remember that dating these letters is highly speculative and even scholars have different opinions about when it was written.

The purpose of the book of Romans is to present the gospel as God's power for salvation (Rom. 1:16-17). That salvation is offered by the power and grace of God to believers (all peoples, Jews, and Gentiles alike), and that by faith in Jesus' act of redemption we are saved. In God's eyes, no one is too bad, too good, or too far removed from Him to need saving or to be reached. If they accept by faith that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by faith in Him they can be saved, that is enough.

Martin Luther, while studying Romans, came to the realization that righteousness can only be achieved through God's grace; not by works and not by penance. Before this, he did everything he could to find righteousness in his works and eventually reached the point of absolute frustration till all that remained was a hatred for God. He described in heart-breaking detail how he never felt good enough, never able to reach a place where he felt at ease with his salvation, until he studied the book of Romans.

Let me encourage you to read this great and complicated book as often as you can. The more time you spend with it, the more freedom you will enjoy. Romans, along with Galatians, has drastically changed my life and faith. If you let God's word always be true and everyone else liars (Rom. 3:4), then it can for you as well. It is my prayer that you will find the freedom Jesus died to secure for you and fully embrace, like Abraham, a righteousness that God offers freely (Rom. 10:1-4). God bless.

**By Jeff Arnette**

## ***Absence Is A Symptom***

Fever is an easily discernable symptom of a disorder somewhere in the body. The primary problem may be a hidden infection that would not otherwise be noticeable until it was in an advanced stage. The presence of fever, however, reveals that the infection exists. The fever is a symptom of an underlying cause.

This does not lessen the significance of fever. Hospitals check a patient's temperature every few hours because the temperature gives such insight into the condition of the body. Sometimes a patient is kept in the hospital several days after he feels well because of a lingering fever. The fever indicates that "feeling well" can be deceptive and may not reflect a person's true condition.

Unnecessary absence from worship services is a fever-like symptom. It invariably is an indication of a more basic spiritual infection or disorder of some kind. The primary problem may be deeply hidden.

As a fever may possess a man who does not know what causes it, even so a man can neglect worship without being aware of the problems that cause him to do so. He can easily camouflage his lack of concern for worship by involvement in his work, his family, or some other interest. This is especially easy when his other interest is a worthwhile one. He is then better able to rationalize that his neglect of worship is reasonable behavior under his circumstances.

Deliberately missing a worship service is always spiritually significant. It is significant because it reveals the presence of a wound, an infection, a depression, or some other primary spiritual disorder. Furthermore, the fact that a person "feels well" about his spiritual life is not a guarantee of spiritual health.

Although the church should be more interested in causes than symptoms, it cannot avoid the implications of continued absence from worship services. This would be like a parent ignoring a high fever in his child. The fever is a symptom, but the primary cause may take the child's life if the fever is ignored. Absence may take a spiritual life if it is ignored.