

From the Pastor

The eighth Beatitude reads, “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:10).

At the Feast of Tabernacles God gave us a vision of His kingdom to come once again. We also understand that in pursuing the way that leads to God’s kingdom—following the path of righteousness—we will be brought into conflict with the way of this world.

Paul was inspired to write in 2 Timothy 3:12, “Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.” Luke further recorded Paul’s words in Acts 14:21-22, “And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls (lives) of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, ‘We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.’”

Trials will come. Jesus Himself said in the parable of the sower in Matthew 13 that persecution would arise because of the word—the truth we believe and live by. The full context of that statement is in verses 20-21, “But he who received seed on stony places, this is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself, but endures only for a while. For when tribulation or persecution arises because of the word, immediately he stumbles.”

Through the centuries many have been shaken from the foundation of the truth by trials that arise “because of the word.” But, remember it is through trials that our Father sees the commitment, conviction, and motivation of our heart. To endure the time of great trial that is coming we must build a solid relationship with God. Such a relationship is the source of a solid firm foundation. It is the source of real faith in God.

Such a relationship with God—truly coming to know God and love God—is built by obeying God’s commandments in letter and spirit. (1 John 2:3-4; 5:3)

It is by truly obeying God from the heart that we grow in righteousness. However remember, living righteously will bring us into conflict with this world. But, living righteously (becoming like Jesus Christ) is the only way to inherit life in God’s coming kingdom—His family.

Vivian and I will be gone this coming week for a week and a half. God willing we will see you when we return.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	6:46pm	6:49pm	6:52pm
Sunset Friday 11-3	6:41pm	6:44pm	6:48pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



October 28, 2017

Victoria

Sermon: Jim Chapman

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Arnold Mendez

Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: Orlando Mascorro

Sermon: DVD

“For whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.”

Matthew 12:50

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 10/28	Regular Sabbath times and locations for Corpus Christi, Harlingen, and Victoria. San Antonio will meet in the Main Auditorium at the regular time. Mr. Dave Evans from HQ will be in San Antonio
Sabbath 11/4	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Victoria. Mr. Moody will be on vacation. Mr. Mendez will be in Corpus Christi and Harlingen. DVD's are scheduled for Victoria and San Antonio
Sabbath 11/11	Regular times and locations for Corpus Christi, San Antonio and Victoria. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. Mr. Chapman will be in Victoria. Mr. Hendren will be in San Antonio. Mr. Watts will deliver the sermon in Harlingen.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: The next regularly scheduled potluck will be November 4.

Harlingen Congregational Meal: After Sabbath services on November 18th, Harlingen will be having a meal together. The location is Cracker Barrel Restaurant, 110 Bass Pro Drive.

