

From the Pastor:

1 Peter 1:1 reads, “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to the pilgrims of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, Bithynia,”

This is a letter from Peter, one of the original 12 disciples who became apostles after Jesus death and resurrection. As we know 11 of the original 12 disciples became apostles. Judas committed suicide (Matthew 27:3-10) and his position/office was filled by Matthias (Acts 1:15-26).

The Greek word translated as apostle here is “apostolos.” The Online Bible Greek Lexicon (OBGL) defines apostolos as “a delegate, messenger, one sent forth with orders.” Danker’s Lexicon give a bit of commentary on how the word was used in the Greek world. In some cases it was used to a commander of “a naval expedition.” It was also used to refer to “a bill of lading” or “letter of authorization (relating to shipping).” “In contrast, in isolated cases it refers to persons who are dispatched for a specific purpose, and the context determines the status or function expressed in such English terms as ‘ambassador, delegate, messenger.’”

So in the Greek world apostolos could be used to refer what is sent (bill of lading) or a person who is sent.

In the New Testament “apostolos” was the word chosen by God to refer to those He sends out to deliver His message. We see apostolos literally translated in John 13:16, “Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent [‘he who is sent’ is from the Greek – apostolos] greater than he who sent him.”

This is why I have no difficulty referring to Mr. Armstrong as an apostle. God called him by opening his mind to the truth. Then through him God taught and spread His truth into the world today. Most of the people today who believe and practice the truth of God first heard of that truth from Mr. Armstrong or someone who learned that truth from Mr. Armstrong.

Peter addresses his letter “to the pilgrims of the Dispersion.” Pilgrims is from the Greek “parepidemos” meaning (from OBGL) “one who comes from a foreign country into a city or land to reside there by the side of the natives.” These pilgrims were of the “Dispersion.” Dispersion is from the Greek “diaspora” meaning (from OBGL) “scattering.”

Peter’s letter is addressed to the Jewish and/or Israelite (here primarily Jewish) Christians (remember Peter is the apostle to the circumcision – Galatians 2:8) scattered throughout the Roman Provinces mentioned (Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia). These are some of the same people to whom James wrote in his letter. James 1:1 records that he wrote to “the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad.” These are Jewish and Israelite Christians.

Why Israelite Christians? It is believed that the other apostles went to where the other tribes of Israel had settled in Western Europe fulfilling Jesus’ instruction to them in Matthew 10:6. James nor Peter were writing to unconverted Jews or Israelites. As you read those letters you see that they were written to people who understood God’s truth.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:07pm	8:06pm	8:06pm
Sunset Friday 8-23	8:01pm	8:01pm	8:01pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



August 17, 2019

Victoria

Sermon: Steve Moody

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Mark Monsivais
Sermon: HQ DVD

Harlingen

Noah's Ark & Early Man Seminars: Arnold Mendez

“A wise man fears, and departs from evil; but the fool behaves overbearingly, and is confident.” (The Holy Scriptures by the Jewish Publication Society – JPS)
Proverbs 14:16

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 8/17	Regular times and locations for all congregations.
Sabbath 8/24	Regular times and locations for all congregations. Mr. Moody will be in Corpus Christi. The HQDVD by Britt Taylor will be played in San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.

COGWA's P.O. Boxes

COGWA has always maintained two P.O. Boxes—one for correspondence and one for tithes and offerings.

Because of the move to the new office in McKinney, we will be closing the Allen P.O. Box this month. We ask that you no longer mail anything to P.O. Box 1009, Allen, TX 75013.

Please make the necessary changes to ensure we receive your correspondence and tithes and offerings by using the appropriate P.O. Box listed below.

Correspondence ONLY should be mailed to:

COGWA
P.O. Box 3490
McKinney, TX 75070-8189

Tithes and offerings ONLY should continue* to be mailed to:

COGWA
P.O. Box 731480
Dallas, TX 75373-1480

*Note: This is our bank address and has not changed. The white, preprinted envelopes mailed with your receipts use this address.

Using the correct P.O. Box is a big help to us—and can save the Church money. We are charged a fee if anything other than money is sent to our bank address (P.O. Box 731480, Dallas, TX 75373-1480).

But any money sent to the McKinney P.O. Box has to be forwarded to the Dallas P.O. Box for processing. If you use the white, preprinted envelopes we provide, you don't need to do a thing. But if you use bill pay to send your tithes and offerings, please confirm that you are using the correct address: P.O. Box 731480, Dallas, TX 75373-1480.

COGWA Fall Music Festival: September 1

Save the date - the fall music festival is back. This year the COGWA Fall Music Festival will be held on September 1st at Whitley Vineyards Wine Bar, located at 401 College Street in Montgomery, Texas. This is a live music event starting at 11 am and lasting until 7:15 pm.

There will be five bands and two singer/songwriters performing classic rock, country, pop, and folk music.

A canopy will be constructed onsite to provide a shady place for your lawn chairs, or you

can bring your own pop-up. You'll find more information about the event, the bands and the show schedule on information table.

Friday Night Live:

Join us this Friday evening, Aug. 16, for our "Friday Night Live" webcast Bible study, which will begin at 8 p.m. Eastern Time (7 p.m. Central, 6 p.m. Mountain and 5 p.m. Pacific).

This month's study, presented by Dave Myers, is titled, "Come Out of the World." In 2 Corinthians the apostle Paul, quoting Isaiah, tells us to "come out from among them and be separate." How are we as Christians supposed to come out from those in the world when we have to deal with them almost every day? What is it that we are to come out of? How can we be separate from the world while living in it? What philosophies and ideas are "unclean" and need to be removed? Join us for Friday Night Live for answers to these and other questions.

Please plan to join Dave Myers for this study, "Come Out of the World." That's this Friday evening, Aug. 16, at 8 p.m. Eastern time, for Friday Night Live.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Pot Luck: The next potluck will be on September 7.

Victoria Bible Study: Believe it or not August has 5 Sabbaths in it. The fifth Sabbath will be August 31. Since the last Bible Study went fairly well we will do the same thing this time. It will not be a pot luck. But, please give any questions that you may have to Mr. Tucker or email them to me at steve.moody@cogwa.org. Thank you.