

From the Pastor

God Most High—our Father—is the Supreme Power of the universe. Jesus said when He walked on this earth in John 14:28, “My Father is greater than I.”

When standing before the Sanhedrin and answering the High Priest (before Jesus was sentenced to be crucified), He spoke clearly and boldly about where He would be in the near future. His words are recorded in Matthew 26:64, “Jesus said to him, ‘It is as you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven.’” Jesus’ words angered the High Priest who accused Jesus of blasphemy. But, notice what Jesus said. He would be “sitting at the right hand of the Power.” This is the translation contained in the Majority Text Greek Interlinear and as translated in the New King James Version of the Bible.

God Most High is the Power in the spiritual and material universe. He is indeed omnipotent. We do not know all of the “ins and outs” of God and His Power. But, we do know that Holy Spirit is the name given in the Bible to God’s Power. Reading from the Majority Text Greek Interlinear as the Greek actually records, Luke 1:35 reads, “And answering, the angel said to her, ‘Holy Spirit will come upon you, and power of Most High will overshadow you; therefore also the Holy being born will be called Son of God.’” Power of the Most High God is what Holy Spirit is. (The Greek does not have the definite article “the” in many places in that verse.)

God’s Holy Spirit which proceeds from the Father (John 14:26; John 15:26) is a limitless reservoir of power. It is the power the Father and the Son use to do whatever they do. When the Word was on this earth as the human being Jesus, the Father had given Him unrestricted access to the Holy Spirit (John 3:34). Jesus still had to do His part through prayer, meditation and fasting to stay close to God. But, He did not have to grow in His access to God’s Spirit.

Holy Spirit is the power that God also gives to us. However, we do not have unlimited access to that awesome reservoir of power. God’s full power is there. It is available to us. But, we will not grow in that power (access to it) unless we use that power to change (Hebrews 5:12-14). In other words, we will only grow in spiritual strength as we seek to use God’s Spirit (which we have in us after real repentance, baptism and the laying on of hands) to change—as we strive to use God’s Spirit to be conformed to the image of God’s Son—to make the qualities of Jesus Christ’s life our own.

	Victoria	Corpus Christi	Harlingen
Sunset Today in:	8:03pm	8:03pm	8:03pm
Sunset Friday 8-26	7:57pm	7:57pm	7:57pm

Church of God South Texas

Victoria - Corpus Christi - Harlingen



August 20, 2016

Victoria

Sermon: Jim Chapman

Corpus Christi

Sermonette: Arnold Mendez

Sermon: Steve Moody

Harlingen

Sermonette: DVD

Sermon: Gilbert Gonzalez

“In this you greatly rejoice though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

1 Peter 1:6-7

Announcements and Schedule

Sabbath 8/20	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria.
Sabbath 8/27	Regular locations and times for Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Harlingen, and Victoria. Mr. Jim Chapman will be in San Antonio. There will be a DVD in Victoria. Mr. Mendez and Mr. Salyer will be in Harlingen and Corpus Christi.

Prayer Requests and Updates

Louisiana Flooding Update From Phil Sandilands, pastor, New Orleans, LA; Laurel MS:

Mary Rice's son was able to get to Mary's home, and it is flooded. While I don't know the extent yet, this one appears to be much worse for her than the flood in March. Please keep the family in your prayers as this is a devastating loss for them again – the second flood in six months.

Lowell and Donna Vice did not have power in their home yesterday (Baton Rouge), and the flood waters were in their subdivision, but not in their home. It also looks like some cellular providers had a service interruption in the area, so I am not able to reach them by phone yet. They may still be without power, I don't know.

Wilda Louque is also requesting prayers for several family members that live within a few miles of her. Her brother, Jerry Mitchell, lost everything in the flood. So did her sister-in-law, Fayrene Mitchell. The Louque's home is on high ground in the area and they did not flood, but they have been stuck at home and not able to get out yet.

Our area is clear, and I was able to get out yesterday and do some visiting. It also looks like I-12 is either open or partially open now. It will take a long time for this area to recover from this flood, so please keep all of the brethren in your prayers. I know that many of you want to help in some manner, and we will be accessing what we can do to help.

Upcoming Activities: Dates to Remember

San Antonio Potluck: September 3, 2016

Larry and Judy Salyer Visit: On the Sabbath of August 27, Mr. Larry Salyer, a member of the Ministerial Board of Directors, and his wife Judy will visit the Harlingen and Corpus Christi congregations. After Sabbath services the members will meet at the Home of Arnold and Janie Mendez for a covered dish social. This will allow us time to fellowship with the Salyer's. Please see Janie Mendez or Tina Hernandez and let them know what you will be bringing, or for a food assignment.