

ACCORDING TO THE PATTERN

Hebrews 8:4, 5

Now if He were on earth, He would not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law; who serve a copy and shadow of the heavenly things, just as Moses was warned by God when he was about to erect the tabernacle for, "See," He says, "That you make all things according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain."

Hebrews 8:4, 5 contains a quotation from Exodus 25:6 where Moses, who was about to erect the tabernacle, was told "make all things according to the pattern which was shown you on the mountain." We do not have any trouble understanding that. God told Moses, in no uncertain terms, to make the tabernacle according to the pattern. Moses was not left to build it any way he wanted. He had to follow the blueprint.

The author of Hebrews quoted Exodus 25 to demonstrate why there had to be a change of the Law. The Law had to change so that Jesus could be our High Priest. Without a new "Law," Jesus could not function in that capacity. It might sound strange to some, that one, who is Eternal God, could not be a High Priest on earth. Yet the author made the point that "if He were on earth, He could not be a priest at all, since there are those who offer the gifts according to the Law."

That is an obvious reinforcement of the point made in Hebrews 7:11-14. He could not serve in that role "for it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, a tribe with reference to which Moses spoke nothing concerning priests." He could not serve as a priest on earth because there was no authority for one from the tribe of Judah filling that role.

The pattern is important, it must be followed. There are some, today, who want to question the need for biblical authority for what we do in worship. If the one who is Eternal God had to yield to the authority of the Father, why would we expect that we could do any less? Why do we not use the instrument in our worship today? Why do we not do a whole host of other things? The answer remains what it has always been. There is no authority for it.

--Ron Harper--

“Mama Says”

“God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?” Numbers 23:19

Mamas. They are the smartest people in the world. They offer the hard advice in such a way that is kind yet correcting, gentle yet loving. Mothers give life-changing counsel such as that explained in the *Footloose* song, “Mama Says.” For example, some lyrics include: “Don’t hold your breath for longer than an hour,” “Don’t drink hot coffee lying down.” “Once you drive up a mountain, you can’t back down.” Mama’s advice got all of us through a lot of hard circumstances growing up and perhaps continues to do so. There is no replacement for a mother’s love and mother’s advice.

Even so, I recall stories of “little white lies” mothers have told their children. My favorite is when a mother told her five-year-old son that when the ice cream truck is playing music, it means the truck is out of ice cream. It is true that mothers do lie to their children and at times can even give false counsel on certain topics.

Now I’m not trying to throw blame and judgement on our mothers, fathers, or grandparents, but one can easily see the effect that a family belief system can have on the family dynamic. Even in the Lord’s church when we ask people why they believe in God, many times the answer is, “Well, that’s just how I grew up.” That is simply the wrong answer. Today, people are more apt to believe what Mama says about God and salvation rather than what the Bible says.

Fortunately, our Heavenly Father will never lie to us, though we might not like the truth he gives. We need to stop reading our Bibles and start **STUDYING** them. Let’s find out what our Father wants us to **know** and **do** rather than what our earthly families have professed, then share that in love with them. Mama always said, “Jesus loves you.” On that note, she is absolutely right.

Joshua Houston

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Selma Boyd, Ernestine Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Sue Reeves, Odell Grissom, Nora Fann, Virgie Leonard, Lester Clark, Shirley Tenpenny, Kaylie Joy Pendgrast, David Davidson, Nina Summer, Marvin Miller, Carolyn Dunnivant

SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard, Tommy & Shirley Bibb, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Melba & Jeanie Young

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

***MEMBERS**

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Lizzie Bush, Sue Reeves*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*, Virgie Leonard*, Ernestine Taylor*, Laura Wiser*, Lillian Whitworth, Edna Vance*

SMYRNA: Geri Melton*

CREEKSIDE AT THREE RIVERS: Nina Summer*

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

BUILDING & MISSION FUND

We have received a donation to the Building Fund and Mission Fund in memory of **Marie Fleming** by the following:

***Narene Davidson**

***Dean Thompson**

NEWS & NOTES

- We extend sympathy to the family of **Verlon Wiser**; he passed away on Sunday, March 19th. He was the brother-in-law of Laura Wiser. Services were held on Wednesday in Shelbyville.
- The **Salem Creek Youth** and **College groups** will have a joint lock-in on March 31st – April 1st beginning at 9pm on the 31st. We will have a devotional along with the lock-in that will serve as our devotional for March. Please also plan to bring food and write what you plan to bring on the sign-up sheet.
- **Senior Saints** – Wednesday, April 5th will be the last day to sign-up, so that a meal count can be provided to the caterer.
- **Special Kids race** on Saturday, April 8th at 7 am volunteers needed for the water station.
- **Ladies' Day** at East Main on Saturday, April 8th from 8:15 till 12 noon. Lunch will be provided. More information on bulletin board in foyer.
- There will be an **Easter Egg Hunt** on April 15th at 2pm here at Salem Creek. Volunteers needed.
- **All December & May graduates** please submit 20-25 photos or digital pictures on disc by April 16th. Photos that are submitted will be returned to you in May.

Salem Creek church of Christ
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Email: office@salemcreekcoc.org

We're on the web!
www.salemcreekcoc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday

Morning Worship	9:00 am
Bible Classes	10:15 am
Evening Worship	5:30 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May)	10:00 am
Evening Bible Classes	6:30 pm

ELDERS

B.K. Ham
 Jim Hatfield
 Jon Holland
 Andy Mitchell
 Randall Phifer
 Keith Short

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Rick Acklin	Rick Corum
Larry Benson	Andy Melton
Michael Bowman	Brian Melton
Craig Buckner	Alan Pepper
Joe Byars	Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

March 19, 2017

Sunday	AM worship	217
	Bible classes	166
	PM worship	139
	Contribution	\$8,043.00

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	128
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)	15

When county schools are closed due to inclement weather A.M. Ladies class will be cancelled

To Our Honored Guests...

We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!

We were honored by your presence!

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
 30 minutes prior to service*

March 26

Greg & Debbie Sells

April 2

Jim & Gayle Glover

