



## BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST

9278 FM127, Pittsburg, TX 75686

Email: [blodgettcofc@gmail.com](mailto:blodgettcofc@gmail.com)

Website: [blodgettcofc.com](http://blodgettcofc.com)

### *Time of Services:*

*Sunday: 10:00 A.M. class, 11:00 A.M. worship, and 6:00 P.M. worship*

*Wednesday: 7:00 P.M. class*

### *Preacher:*

Larry Black (cell) 903-588-4253 email: [lblk@peoplescom.net](mailto:lblk@peoplescom.net)

Benevolence – Rick Toland: 903-452-1887

Evangelism - Heath Hines: 903-717-1423

Edification - H. L. Robertson: 903-856-5461

Building Maintenance - Dwayne Porter: 903-285-5548

Grounds & Van - John D. Porter: 903-563-5945

Finance - Larry Reynolds: 903-767-0742

Wednesday Devotional Speaker: Rick Toland



**BLODGETT CHURCH OF CHRIST**

PUTTING YOU ON THE RIGHT PATH

# BLODGETT CHURCH of CHRIST Bulletin

VOL. 19

July 23, 2023

NO. 30

## **"In Olden Times - It Was Different"**

"It is, unfortunately, one of the chief characteristics of modern business to be always in a hurry. In olden times it was different."

Do you know the feeling? It seems like things just get worse and worse; surely things were better before.

The author of the above quote certainly thought so... back in 1884, when those words were published in The Medical Record. About 140 years ago, someone was convinced that "modern business" couldn't compare to the way things had been. "In olden times it was different." The fact is people have always let nostalgia shape their views of the past. Over two thousand years ago, the author of the book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible wrote, **"Do not say, 'Why were the old days better than these?' For it is not wise to ask such questions" (Ecclesiastes 7:10).**

Rather than glorify the past or even vilify the past, we should learn from it. The apostle Paul wrote, *"For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope"* (Romans 15:4). We should look at what went on in the past and let history teach us. We should try to live better lives because of things we learned from the past.

Rather than saying "In olden times it was different," why not say "In times to come, it will be different"? I can assure you, the future will be very different. The last book of the Bible, the book of Revelation, tells us of that time: **"Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away" (Rev. 21:3-4).** That future will be very different indeed.

By: Tim Archer

### **Joe Hubert Blue (1875-1954)**

An interesting old pulpit is found in a classroom at the West Main church of

Christ, Tupelo, Mississippi. Cliff Roden, now deceased, brought the old pulpit to the West Main congregation from the Pleasant Valley church of Christ, Greenway, Arkansas. On this well-made yet simple wooden pulpit, there are two plaques. One small metal plaque reads: "Pleasant Valley C.O.C. Greenway, Arkansas, 1929-1984." The second plaque has a four-paragraph typewritten statement in a plastic encasement. I will share this statement about the old pulpit that was originally located at the Pleasant Valley church.

*"Ephesians 3:8: Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, was this grace given, to preach unto the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ.* Perhaps no one appreciated the grace of God which allows men to preach better than Brother Joe H. Blue. History is often made by those who are unaware of their historical position. Such is the case with brother Blue.

In July of 1929, brother Blue was invited by the church in Pleasant Valley, Arkansas, to come and preach a gospel meeting. The church in Pleasant Valley was young, as was the community itself, both having been founded in 1910. Construction of the meeting house was in 1924. It was in this meeting house that brother Blue preached with great success. The church was growing to the glory of God, but to the chagrin and consternation of local denominational adherents.

The windows of the building had been removed to assist with air circulation. Uncouth youths took advantage of the situation by pelting brother Blue with everything from rotten eggs to green walnuts. However, like the apostles of old, brother Blue was undaunted by this persecution and continued to preach the gospel in truth and simplicity. As a final, yet feeble, effort to end the preaching of the unsearchable riches of Christ, dynamite was placed under the pulpit one night after services so that the building might be destroyed. Providence and ignorance, unlikely allies, cooperated that evening. The men were not skilled in working with explosives. A bad blasting cap was used. The fuse burned until the oxygen was exhausted and burned itself out leaving only a hole burned in the pulpit where the dynamite had lain.

The pulpit behind which you now stand is the very one behind which brother Blue preached in that meeting. An examination of the underside will reveal the charred reminder that even in this century there are those who are not open to the preaching of the Word of Truth and will resort to any means to see it halted. This stand remains as a memorial to brother Blue and to all those who have endured and will endure persecution for the gospel's sake."

*NOTE: Brother Blue confirmed the Pleasant Valley church of Christ incident. He wrote, "I have been stoned with green walnuts, and with eggs. I have had dynamite put under the pulpit while I was preaching; yet have not begun to suffer what our Lord suffered."*

## Family News

- **Sharon Fields** is a candidate for back surgery, but they want to try injections first in lieu of surgery.
- **Jimmy Jones** is in the Pittsburg hospital for tests.
- **Clem Williams** has been in the Pittsburg hospital with pneumonia and dehydration.
- They were able to save all of **Dalton Davis'** fingers except his little one.
- **Mack** and **Sue Hendrix** had some respiratory problems last week.
- There will be a men's business meeting next Sunday following the evening service.

## *Family Humor:*

- Booksellers conducting a market survey asked a woman, "Which book has helped you most in your life?" The woman replied, "My husband's check book!!"
- Pharmacist to customer: "Sir, please understand, to buy an anti-depression pill, you need a proper prescription; simply showing marriage certificate and wife's picture is not enough.
- My parents taught me about WEATHER. "This room of yours looks as if a tornado went through it."
- My parents taught me about HYPOCRISY. "If I told you once, I've told you a million times. Don't exaggerate!"

## The Value of a Smile

A smile is the best antidote for discouragement. It brings rest to the weary, sunshine to those who are sad, and hope to those who are hopeless and defeated. A smile is so valuable that it can't be bought, begged, borrowed, or taken away against your will. You have to be willing to give a smile before it can do anyone else any good. So if someone is too tired or grumpy to flash you a smile, let him have one of yours anyway. Nobody needs a smile as much as the person who has none to give.