

**AS I
HEARD IT**

SERMON NOTES IN 2008

BY DEAN LADD

Let's Pray:

Our creator Father –

Today we honor your glory and give thanks for your many blessings as we reflect on the freedoms we enjoy in this great country as represented by our Stars and Stripes flag. This flag has a renewed meaning to us as we now proceed with this solemn flag retirement ceremony after finishing the first of hopefully many future such Flag Day parades in our city, involving over a thousand scouts and other youth – our future leaders.

Father - - I am especially thankful that you had future plans for me, in surviving a near fatal battle wound 68 years ago, to raise a family and enjoy great grandchildren. Many others, I served with, remain eternally young after sacrificing their young lives.

We are reminded by today's observance that freedom is not free and that each new generation has the responsibility to defend it.

Thank you, Father, as we glorify you in all our activities during our allotted lifespan. In the Lord's name – Amen.

Following are my notes from church sermons that were published in the church news letter during 2006 before we moved and attended another church near there.

AS I HEARD IT

BY
DEAN LADD

LINCOLN HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CHURCH SERMON NOTES IN 2006

Sermon by	Title	Date
Gary Oliver	Becoming Men of Steel Again	3/5/06

Theme: Men--focus your prayers to glorify Christ and share God's word.

Conclusion: Men—become “men of steel” as spiritually mature fathers of the church otherwise men won't be attracted to our church.

Key points:

1. Women in the 1st century church followed Paul's admonition to have a participatory role in the service but to leave teaching and leadership to the men.
2. In Jewish orthodox synagogues of today there is still a division of duties where men and women each have their part.

3. Pastor Gary greatly values the role of women in church with their superior verbal skills and feels Paul's admonition is no longer applicable to women of today but cautions against possible domination and inappropriate dress and make-up that could disrupt focus on worship.

Sermon by	Title	Date
John Loehne	Are You Listening to Jesus?	3/12/06

Theme: Nothing can separate us from God's love.

Conclusion: Do you really believe that you will be resurrected like Jesus and that He will love and accept you as you are?

Key points:

1. Issac was to be a burnt offering for sin. Jesus was an offering for **all** sin. A ram was substituted for Issac as a sin offering. God gave His only son for **all** of us.
2. In God we have the victory.
3. The disciples who witnessed Jesus with Elijah and Moses during His transfiguration later also saw the kingdom of God coming in its power.
4. We can have the power that Jesus provides.
5. We can pray directly to Jesus without any intermediary

Sermon by	Title	Date
Gary Oliver	Church Leadership	3/19/06

Theme: Scriptural Characteristics of church leaders.

Conclusion: It is a privilege to be a church leader and normal to feel unworthy.

Key points:

1. Implementation of our new mission statement is the responsibility of our leadership.
2. Lead spiritually and the rest will follow.
3. Believe that God will work miracles in our church if we give completely of ourselves and pray faithfully.
4. Paul describes in 1Tim 3:1-7 how church leaders must be good examples to follow. Next weeks sermon will specifically discuss deacons.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Garry Oliver	Step Up to Life	6/25/06

Theme: Who are your spiritual children?

Conclusion: Make the choice to put complete trust in Jesus and give His work #1 priority in your life over other life's activities.

Key Points:

1. Being a Christian involves caring about bringing others to Christ like fishermen.
2. Your heart attitude determines your distance from God.
3. You may know a great deal about Jesus and salvation but don't really care.
4. The Holy Spirit helps you move up the steps to spiritual maturity.
5. Tell God in your own words that you confess your sins by name, that you are repenting, that you truly believe in Jesus and ask for Him to come into your life, making you new again.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Dave Hammond Intern at Christ the Redeemer Church	Only One Way to Live--Two Ways to Die	7/2/06

Theme: The righteous will live by His faith. Hab 2:4

Conclusion: Put full confidence in Christ—not in one's prideful, arrogant self. Remember that He died on the cross for our sins

Key Points:

1. The apostle Paul often referred to Old Testament scripture for equipping one's self for the Lord's work.
2. Habakkuk is all about salvation through faith in Christ.
3. God allows suffering through actions of ungodly regimes but will ultimately judge righteously.
4. The key to living a Christian life is to patiently wait for God's timing.
5. Rejoice in the God of our salvation.
6. Pastor Garry remarked that judgment is now coming upon America through the radical Islamic movement similar to Judah's suffering from the Chaldeans.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Jae Choi, Intern youth pastor at Christ the Redeemer Church	The Good News	3/26/06

Theme: Here He is—Jesus, the prophesized Messiah.

Conclusion: So, accept the fact that Jesus came to save us and beckons us to follow Him.

Key Points:

1. Mankind was still being held hostage in sin by Satan 400 years after Malachi's

- message of warning about God's coming judgment.
2. Then Mark wrote of the good news in 1:1-15 where Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist as The Holy Son of God--not just a man but the prophesized Messiah.
 3. Jesus proclaimed that God's will be accomplished on earth as in Heaven.
 4. Jesus is King of the kingdom of God and needs loyal subjects. So it is important for us to turn and repent from our sinning that includes divided loyalties and lingering unbelief.

Sermon by Gary Oliver	Title Church Leadership	Date 4/2/06
---------------------------------	-----------------------------------	-----------------------

Theme: I Tim 3:8-12 Biblical requirements for Deacons.

Conclusion: The spiritual tone of a church must begin with the top leadership faithfully following Jesus through the atonement of the cross.

Key Points:

1. There are many names for church leadership but it is not biblical to make distinctions between lay and preacher leadership.

2. Each church leader has certain spiritual gifts and abilities such as teaching, worship and administration, all working together in charge of spiritual oversight.
3. Deacons are both ministers and individuals just like the rest of the congregation. They should however be spiritually mature servants, not like an "old boy's" board of deacons as once experienced by Pastor Gary.

Sermon by Gary Oliver	Title King and Sacrifice	Date 4/9/06
---------------------------------	------------------------------------	-----------------------

Theme: Isaiah 53... Jesus is the for-shadowed suffering servant.

Conclusion: Two thoughts:

Do you belong to Jesus' new covenant by asking His forgiveness of your sins and have you been sealed with his blood?

Key Points:

1. Isaiah 53:6 We are all avon (twisted) and in rebellion against God.
2. Attend "Maundy (means commanded in Latin) Thursday" on April 13 (Passover).
3. Passover was the first and most important of the feasts God commanded his people to celebrate.

4. Jesus rode a donkey from the Mount of Olives into Jerusalem as the Messiah King and the sacrificed Passover Lamb. This event is celebrated by Christians as Palm Sunday.
5. At the Last Supper Jesus spoke of a New Covenant that forgives people's sins and gives them a new heart so that they may love Him.

Sermon by Gary Oliver	Title What Judas Missed Out On	Date 4/16/06
---------------------------------	--	------------------------

Theme: It's our choice to come to Jesus with remorse just as we are, asking for forgiveness of our sins.

Conclusion: The Lord doesn't want anyone to perish but to be resurrected to everlasting life with Him.

Key Points:

1. The "Gospel of Judas" in current news is the theology of the Gnostics that Paul warned about.
2. There are various possible theories about Judas' motivation.
3. Judas missed out on:
 - Forgiveness of Christ.
 - Peace of mind and heart.
 - Power of the Holy Spirit.
4. Things to do for forgiveness:
 - Confess that you have sinned.
 - Have a sense of deep remorse.
 - Ask for forgiveness. Judas eventually did the first two things but not this. So he missed the resurrection.
5. Jesus suddenly reappeared to his disciples saying "Peace be unto you". This is a peace that the world cannot provide with its drugs and self-help books.

Sermon by Dave Hammond Intern with Christ the Redeemer Church	Title Make Disciples Matt 28:16-28	Date 4/30/06
---	--	------------------------

Theme: Responding to the Great Commission.

Conclusion: Jesus is the King and wants Christians to make disciples.

Key Points:

1. King Jesus is the great authority in heaven and earth. He proclaimed the Great Commission to make disciples in all nations. "Nations" should actually be translated all ethnic groups.

2. It is not enough to just be a good example but to go across cultural barriers, teaching love of neighbor and to replicate oneself making disciples who in turn make more disciples. The speaker will be leaving next week to do this on a short-term mission to Kasagstan.
3. Jesus remains with us always.
4. It is necessary to equip for mission work.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Gary Oliver	What is an authentic Christian Wedding?	5/7/06

Theme: Weddings usually are too secular.

Conclusion: At a Christian wedding God is meeting with the attendees to bless the marriage.

Key Points:

- 1 The coming wedding of Jon Gilliland and Barb Le Doux will be such an example based on scripture. Matt 19:6
2. A Christian wedding celebrates the union of man and woman as a life-long commitment, comparable to Christ's eternal relationship to his church. The same-sex movement is counter to God's word and creates serious consequences.
3. A Christian believer should not be unequally yoked to a non-Christian.
4. Marriage is all about God's arrangement and not just falling in love.
5. It is God who blesses the marriage ceremony through the pastor on behalf of all those in attendance.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Gary Oliver	We Need More Widows	Mothers Day 5/14/06

Theme: Treat our elderly with respect, kindness and gentleness for their prior accomplishments

Conclusion: Our church may be called by God to focus our mission even more on the elderly.

Key Points:

1. Our concept of church membership should become closer to an authentic family that will spend eternity together.
2. Be sensitive to the needs of widows as recounted by scripture in the first century church, explaining the need for caring deacons.
3. There are examples of service by elderly women such as Lydia in scripture who was very generous and selfless. Other examples were Sister Teresa in India and current-day Russian church women with their ministry to abandoned children and to the sick and dying. Younger widows should help other needy

widows.
4. We need to remain active in the Kingdom of God.

Pastor	Title	Date
G. Oliver	Caught by God's Grace	2/5/06

Theme: Hate and prejudice can be transformed through God's saving grace by receiving the Lordship of Jesus in our hearts.

Conclusion: Become passionate in praying and working with others to come to know Jesus. Never underestimate how they can be caught by God's grace.

Key Points:

1. Jesus is the eternal ruler of the universe who loves us even though we may not deserve it.
2. Do you really feel God's grace?
3. God's grace can operate in the most unexpected ways.
4. Example given of the Japanese lead aviator, Mitsuo Fuchida, who attacked Pearl Harbor in WW II. After the war he was influenced by a Christian tract written by one of Doolittle's aviators, Jacob De Shazer. De Shazer had been captured and became a Christian while suffering as a POW. He then served as a missionary in Japan for 30 years. Fuchida was transformed from hate and prejudice by God's grace and became a Christian evangelist.

Sermon by	Title	Date
G. Oliver	Jesus, the Only Mediator	2/12/06

Theme: Paul's emphasis to Timothy was to fight well, upholding faithfully the truth that there is only one God and only one mediator (Jesus who died for our sins and was raised from the dead).

Conclusion: Pray to not be mis-lead by today's well organized false world-wide movements seeking to transform all religions into a single one-world religion that would supposedly eliminate intolerance and promote peace.

Key Points: (Essentially how socialism is being re-packaged)

1. Some church leaders preach that all paths (not just Jesus) lead to God.
2. Pastor Garry himself returned to the truth of Jesus after his early college ministry that was influenced by "universalism", so wide-spread today.
3. There is a well organized world-wide movement today promoting that most religions have some accuracy that should be combined into one "true" religion.
4. Organizations such as "Earth Charter", promoted by Gorbachev, United Religion Institute" (URI) and the UN promote a one world religion. They claim this

will help prevent wars and terrorism because of conflicts over different religious beliefs and will better protect the environment.

Sermon by	Title	Date
G. Oliver	The Lifesaving Station	2/19/06

Theme: God wants devoted men that will pray together while constantly searching for lost souls.

Key Points:

1. If men are passionate about praying, the whole church will become a praying church.
2. Give of time and effort for the support of God's work.
3. Beginning church facilities (life saving stations) typically evolve into more comfortable ones and become mainly just gathering places for its members.
4. The original mission of lifesaving still receives lip service but lacks necessary commitment.
5. Typically, the more dedicated members eventually split-off and begin their own lifesaving station (church). The cycle then repeatedly evolves into new churches that in-turn also become "exclusive "clubs".
6. Example of life saving stations history on our east coast.

Conclusion: "Rise up, O Men of God" (as in the older wording of the old hymn title) and pray for the saving of lost souls.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Carey Hughes	Sin and Superstition	2/26/06

Christ the Redeemer Church

Theme: Yes Jesus, help me.

Key Points:

1. Water was important to Jesus ministry.
2. Jesus healed a powerless invalid waiting to be healed at Bethesda pool and told him to sin no more.
3. Jesus was attacked by the Jews with a twisted religion for doing healing on the Sabbath.
4. Typical person today also has erroneous opinions about earning God's acceptance.
5. Not every sickness is related to sin but mankind's sinful nature began with Adam's sin of rebelling against God.

6. The crippled condition of our souls is healed by Christ dying for us on the cross and rising from the dead providing only that we receive Him by faith to control our hearts.

Conclusion: Only Jesus, the living water, offers true healing.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Gary Oliver	Christian Attitude About Money	5/21/06

Theme: Jesus wants us, not our money and possessions. (A dialogue sermon)

Conclusion: How does, reading the passages in 1 Tim 6, change our attitudes and the use of money?

Key Points:

1. We need to distinguish between wants and needs and be content with enough food and clothing. It is easy to be trapped by worldly influences.
2. It is the love of money (not money itself) that is the root of all evil in the world.
3. The greatest purpose God has for our making money is to support the Lord's work and to help others in genuine need. We need to deliberately plan how much of this is beyond spending on ourselves and our own family.
4. Jesus wants our soul and for us to be available to others through Him.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Jae Choi, Intern from Christ The Redeemer Church	Jesus Attacked (Mark 2 & 3)	5/28/06

Theme: Only Jesus can forgive our sins.

Conclusion: How is your soul? Since Jesus came to save sinners you need only to come as you are in faithful trust, admit you are a sinner and repent.

Key Points:

1. It is not scriptural that there is a connection between sin and physical sickness.
2. Religious leaders accused Jesus of blasphemy for breaking the Sabbath by performing healings on that day. He responded that the Sabbath was made for man—not that man was made for the Sabbath. They planned to kill him.
3. It was ironic that the religious leaders were spiritually paralyzed while the paralyzed man was healed by Jesus.
4. Jesus was also attacked by the religious leaders for eating with sinners and tax collectors for Rome.
5. Welcome or reject Jesus—it is a matter of life and death.

Sermon by
Garry Oliver

Title
Step Up To Life

Date
6/4/06

Theme: Spiritual growth is a step by step process.

Conclusion: Your heart attitude determines your distance from God. Which of the five steps are you on in the handout by Elmer Murdock?

Key Points:

1. The resurrection of the dry bones in Ezekiel 37:1-14 foretells the coming of the Holy Spirit as promised by Jesus. It came like a wind upon those gathered at Pentecost.
2. The gospel of Jesus was then spread to all the nations by those represented at Pentecost.
3. Christians of today likewise need to cry out to God and become witnesses for Christ like after Pentecost wherever they are—not remain like dry bones just waiting for the Holy Spirit to surround them.
4. We can use “Step Up To Life” as a tool for spiritual growth and becoming a better witness.

Sermon by
Garry Oliver

Title
God’s Been Trying to Get Your Attention

Date
6/11/06

Theme: God had a wonderful plan for your life even before you were born.

Conclusion: Are your other involvements keeping you from thinking about God?

Key Points:

1. God gives all of us the choice to be witnesses for Christ—not just leaving it to the pastor.
2. Jesus wants to show us how to fish for people. This fishing is easy but needs the assistance of the Holy Spirit. This isn’t accomplished by just going to church and being a good person.
3. The transaction of the Holy Spirit is needed in being born again from water. John 3:5
4. We can get filled like a sponge doing everyday things that exclude God such as mentioned in “Step Up To Life” by Elmer Murdock.

Sermon by
Eliezer Braun
Director, Shuva Israel from Samaria

Title
An Abba’s Message From Israel Today

Date
6/18/06

Theme: The miraculous in-gathering of Jewish people from around the world to the Holy Land in fulfillment of Biblical prophecy continues in spite of dangers. (Isaiah 49)

Conclusion: Israeli leaders, especially in Samaria, seek the encouragement and support of "true" bible-believing Christians for this continuing In-gathering.

Key Points:

1. He considers evangelical churches to be the main support for Israel so travels around the world seeking their support.
2. He stated that to be "true" Bible-believing Christians you should love the Jewish people.
3. The time has come for God to bring His people back to the land he promised. This started when the UN voted in 1947 for the partitioning of the modern State of Israel. UN support has since eroded.
4. Temporary housing is being provided for 250 thousand immigrants per year. Many are descendants of the ancient tribe of Manassas who had been dispersed to such countries as Ethiopia, Sudan, India, Peru and Spain.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Garry Oliver	How Do they Make Holy Water?	7/9/06

Theme: The significance and symbolism of water baptism.

Conclusion: Baptism is an act of obedience to the Lord by dying to our old self.

Key Points:

1. Water becomes holy when used for baptism, in-turn making the one being baptized holy through a special relationship with Christ.
2. Water in Bible times was considered to have special healing properties. Touching Jesus' garment or even water mixed with his spit brought healing.
3. Our church follows biblical practice of baptizing by immersion those old enough to understand the significance of trusting in Jesus.
4. We use various word pictures to describe the significance of baptism such as: Through baptism one identifies with Christ's death and resurrection and we are sealed by God's spirit. It's like making a pledge as in a wedding.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Jerry Malone	How to Get With It	7/23/06

Theme: God has a plan for the universe through Christ and His church.

Conclusion: Enter fully into the plan God has for you.

Key Points:

1. Like Queen Esther and Mordecai in the O.T. you need a plan—little and big ones.
2. A plan entails risk like during Paul's missionary journeys, but God is working most when things are tough.
3. We have to carry the plan out.
4. Pray that the plan is God's will.
5. God gives the vision then provides the money.
6. Develop your plan in several stages and work your plan to its completion.

Sermon by
Garry Oliver

Title
Don't Be a Lonesome Dove

Date
7/30/06

Theme: Israel like Jonah (dove translates into Hebrew as Jonah) will be preserved.

Conclusion: God's plan for Israel is unfolding before our eyes as in the past.

Key Points:

1. Brief report on the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference.
2. Reading and emphasis on statement in bulletin that every worshiper should be like a member of a symphony playing together for God's audience.
3. Discussion about current events in Israel.
4. Remember that God reigns.

Sermon by
Garry Oliver

Title
How Will You Be Remembered?

Date
8/6/06

Theme: Jonah, the reluctant prophet, is remembered as one of the most important in the O.T. and foreshadows Jesus' death and resurrection.

Conclusion: Listen to God and do what He wants you to do.

Key Points:

1. Look for God's will for you. It may be different than you first perceive.
2. Jesus referred to Jonah as repeatedly being reluctant to do God's will.
3. Informal discussion about sharing our facility with Christ the King Anglican Church.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Garry Oliver and Jerry Cimijotti Pastor of Christ the King Church	Get Acquainted Joint Service	8/13/06

Theme: Congregations meet each other and be briefed about sharing use of our facility

Conclusion: Our theologies are compatible and there was excellent social interaction

Key Points:

By Garry--

1. God told Joshua that Moses, His servant, is dead and that Joshua was now the leader. But God also said He would be with us to the end of the age. So it is not about our leader or the people but about God and the mission of Jesus Christ who is king of our lives.
2. The Bible is God's love letter to us. Constant meditation on it will transform our lives by penetrating our hearts.

By Jerry--

1. Referring to Mr. Universe and his muscles; they should be used not to just impress but to impact others.
2. Referring to Romans; members of a congregation are all individuals but are part of the body of Christ using their different spiritual gifts to the benefit of one another in proportion to their faith.

Sermon by	Title	Date
Dan Grether	Report On His Mission to South Africa and Egypt	8/20/06

Theme: Cultural impacts on Christian faith.

Conclusion: God gives hopeful promises in Deut. 30:1 for repenting from idol worship and serving the Lord.

Key Points:

1. He preached in Soweto S/A to people who are very open to the gospel in open places, public schools, trains and prisons. But 42% have AIDS and there is ancestor worship.
2. He also preached in the largest Christian church in Cairo about how Moses warned about the consequences of idol worship.
3. During a prayer meeting upon his return to Spokane his thinking was expanded about cultural impact of Islam and idol worship and how our own culture is likewise affected by such masked idols as TV and movies that we must resist.