

430 Years

Elders:

John Deffenbaugh
Wayne Douthitt
Glen Honeycutt
Rick Hyder
Bill Reiboldt

Deacons:

Pete Babb
Carl Cobb
Alan Cook
Barry Flint
Casey Flint
Josh King
Mike Kidwell
Tim Murray
Bryan Reiboldt
Jim Scott
Peter Wald

Local Evangelists:

Danny Boggs
Luke Yates

Worship Assemblies

10 a.m. Sunday
6 p.m. Sunday

Bible Classes

9 a.m. Sunday
7 p.m. Wednesday

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Paul presses a powerful point in Galatians 3:17-18: salvation comes through obedient faith in Christ, not by the Law of Moses and faith in one's own ability to live up to it. God promised Abraham that all the nations of the earth would be blessed in his offspring—Christ (Genesis 22:18, Galatians 3:16). “This is what I mean: the law, which came 430 years afterward, does not annul a covenant previously ratified by God, so as to make the promise void. For if the inheritance comes by the law, it no longer comes by promise; but God gave it to Abraham by a promise” (v.17-18). The promise preceded the Law. The Law was not a matter of God going back on his promise, nor was the Law God's fulfillment of his promise. The promise was about Christ.

Some allege that we cannot trust what Paul wrote because he made a mistake in his numbers. The problem? Paul said that the Law of Moses was given 430 years after God made the promise to Abraham. But Moses said: “The time the people of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years. At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt” (Exodus 12:40). The assertion is that Paul needed to tack on many more years—maybe a couple hundred—to get from the time God made promises to Abraham until the time God gave the Law to Moses. If you can't trust him to give you good numbers, how can you trust him to give you good news of salvation?

While a deep study of this matter leads you to other chronological issues that need to be resolved (and can be resolved), a little lesson in how we got the Bible will help us here.

1. The initial words of the Old Testament came into print when the Holy Spirit gave them to Moses some 3,500 years ago.
2. Moses and most of the Old Testament prophets used the Hebrew language.
3. Though the Old Testament is really, really old, the Hebrew manuscripts used for translating it into English and other languages today are “only” 1,000 to 1,500 years old. Those manuscripts were copied by scribes known as Masoretes.
4. In between the time of the Old Testament writers and the Masoretic copyists, copies of the Law were being made in Samaria. The oldest remaining of these copies seem to be from the first centuries B.C. and A.D.
5. In between the time of the Old Testament writers and the Masoretic copyists, the Old Testament was also translated into Greek. These Biblical books along with a few others were translated in the second and third centuries B.C.
6. Interestingly Exodus 12:40 in both the Samaritan Pentateuch and the Septuagint translates to something like this in English: “Now the sojourning of the children of Israel and of their fathers, which they sojourned in the land of Egypt *and in the land of Canaan* was 430 years.” That phrase makes a big difference in our discussion.
7. Jewish historians Demetrius in the third century B.C. and Josephus in the first century A.D. both included the patriarchs' time in Canaan in the 430-year span, not just the bondage in Egypt. The 430 years started well before the Israelites were delivered from Egypt and received the Law.
8. As reliable as the Masorete scribes usually were, it looks like in Exodus 12:40 they made an omission that has caused some headache ever since for Bible students paying close attention.

Putting everything together, this seems to be the best explanation for Paul's number: 215 years passed from the time God called Abram and made the promises to him until the time Jacob and his family landed in Egypt. Then another 215 years passed before those Israelites left Egypt via the Exodus and received the Law via Moses a few months later. Thus, 430 years, and no reason to doubt Paul on history or the gospel.

Danny Boggs

His own people, eager to do what is good – Titus 2:14



Currently confined to home: Betty Ball, Joyce Clarkson, Lee Crabtree, Glen Crumbliss, Faye Haught, Mae Hill, Wilma Hill, Gary Neilan, Bette Sinden, Bobbie Tuggle, Ruth Ann Wilson.

- Isis Wolgamott had her tonsils and adenoids removed today and tubes put in.

Tim and Carla Murray and Keri Collinsworth will travel to Honduras July 11-16 to visit the children helped through Childhaven. Please pray for their efforts and safety as they seek to be a blessing to families living in extremely challenging circumstances.

Congratulations to Belinda Pope and Derek Couch on their recent wedding! Andrea Wald's hostess group is collecting money towards the purchase of gift cards for their wedding gift from Hillcrest. Please see Andrea or Anna for more information.

One Word: Remember to read about "worship" this week.



every
ONE
counts!

Every "One" Counts: Thank you for adding an extra dollar to your offering each week to help people in need. We recently were able to help two

families with electricity bills thanks to your generosity. Please let Luke know if you have any people who could use some financial help.

Men: Would you be willing to serve communion occasionally on Sunday nights? Come to a meeting after services this Sunday night to find out more.



This Sunday's Sermons:

AM: Luke Yates

PM: *One Word: Worship*
(Danny Boggs)

Titus 2 Ministry: Ladies—everyone college age and up! Please bring a salad and join us for lunch in the fellowship room at noon July 21 to lay the groundwork for something new.

Fifth Sunday Opportunity: On July 29, everything we give above our budgeted needs will help to pay off the loan on our valuable new activities center. Please make prayerful plans.

Everyone is welcome to come sit in the shade or float in the water this Saturday from 10-4 at the **Cook's Campground**. Bring lawn chairs and your own flotation toys. Text M'lle at 417-389-2238 if you plan to attend and if you would like to help with food.

Join the **senior saints for lunch** in the fellowship room at noon this Saturday.

Help encourage the residents at **Medicalodge** as we share a **short devotional** with them at 1:30 this Sunday.

Men's BBQ Night: next Monday, July 16, at Big Ben's BBQ Station in Carthage. Meet at the Hillcrest parking lot at 6:00.

Youth Devotionals: We'll have one this Thursday in the activities center at 6:30. If you would like to host in the activities center by serving the meal and planning a game this week or another Thursday night this summer, please sign up at the bulletin board.



Golfers: Enjoy your sport while helping to raise money for Green Valley Bible Camp Saturday, August 11, at Cave Springs, Arkansas. See the flier posted on the bulletin board.



Vacation Bible School is less than two weeks away, 6:30-8:15 each night!

- Kids can take sheets from the welcome desk to register and invite friends.
- Everyone get a shirt and wear it to advertise.
- Some roles remain to be filled. Contact Luke to get a job.

PRAYER LEADERS

Sunday, July 15

- AM Opening: Mike Kidwell
- AM Closing: Charles Phillipsis
- PM Opening: Harold Speir
- PM Closing: Joe Moreno

Wednesday, July 18

- Opening: David Fehring
- Closing: Sam Collinsworth

RECORDS	07-08-18	07-09-17
Bible Study	136	122
AM Worship	199	193
PM Worship	118	136
Wednesday	91	104
Contribution	\$7,486.04	\$9,190.75
Budget	\$7,643.38	\$7,630.58