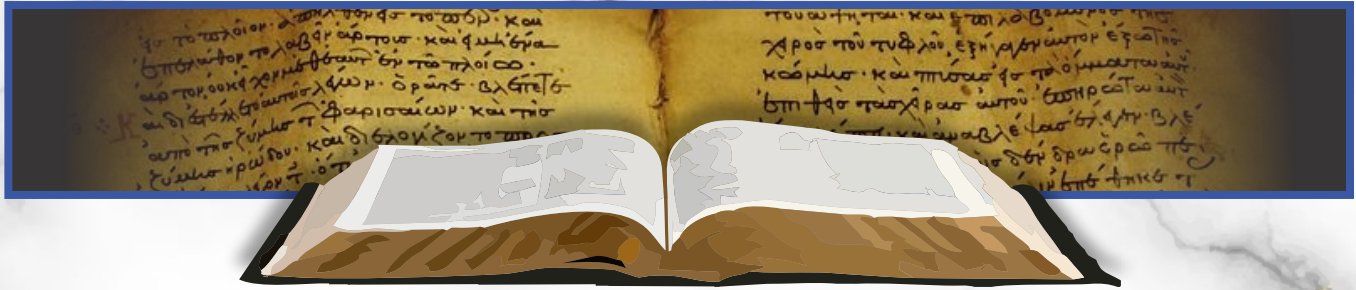


(Words of Life)

# Rhēmata Zoēs

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## The Preacher's Pillar

Morne Stephanus

*I charge you therefore before God and the Lord Jesus Christ, who will judge the living and the dead at His appearing and His kingdom: Preach the word! Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort, with all longsuffering and teaching, (2 Timothy 4:1-2).*

This well-known charge to Timothy can rightly be used as a universal mandate for preachers of every age. Since Enoch (Cf. Jude 1:14) and no doubt before, to the present day, the instruction to public proclaimers of God's Truth has been the same. **Preach and preach the Word at all times, preach with the motive to convict, rebuke, and exhort, and do it with endurance and doctrine.** Through this mandate, God has made known His divine will in every generation. Even Christ came to earth to serve as a *Herald or public proclaimer* of the Father's Will (Cf. Luke 4:18, **Wordstudy Greek and Hebrew Dictionary**).

Essential as it may be, the task of a preacher has never been easy, nor did God promise that it would be (Cf. Luke 13:34, Matthew 10:16, James 5:10). Ridicule, discouragement, financial hardships, heartache, depression, prosecution, and even death are to be expected when entering the pulpit. Does the reader perhaps know of any other profession where one can be so poorly treated for speaking the Truth? The horrendous treatment of preachers is unacceptable and should never be tolerated by the faithful. However, in the true vein of Paul's discourse about the synergy of the Body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-31 & Ephesians 4:15-16), the role of preachers is bolstered by the righteousness and kindness of God's servants. When one surveys the history of preaching, faithful men and women are readily seen holding up the hands of God's watchmen.

When Jezebel hunted down the prophets of the Lord, Obadiah supplied them with protection and provision (1 Kings 18:3-4). What was his motivation? The scripture says he did so because he "*feared the Lord greatly.*" When false and idolatrous priests and

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prophets sought to kill Jeremiah for speaking the Truth (Jeremiah 26:11), the people rose to Jeremiah's defense (Jeremiah 26:16). Their reasoning, (paraphrasing) *this man is speaking on behalf of God as did others before him* (Jeremiah 26:17-19). When Elijah was disheartened by the ungodliness of Israel (1 Kings 19:9-10), God encouraged him in the form of those who were still faithful (1 Kings 9:18). When the Jews plotted to kill Paul, faithful brethren helped him escape (Acts 9:23-25). When Paul required financial assistance, faithful brethren provided for his necessities (Philippians 4:15-18). Gaius provided for preachers who were traveling (3 John 1:3-5), and John called his actions an imitation of God. Also, Onesiphorus was a great encouragement to Paul while he was a captive (2 Timothy 1:16-18).






Time and space will not allow a deeper study into all the records of brethren helping, protecting, praying, and providing for God's men. Furthermore, recorded biblical history is not the extent of the kindness shown by God's people to His watchmen. For every disgruntled Jezebel and Diotrephes that causes preachers to reconsider the ministry, thousands of faithful brethren encourage the preacher to stay in the pulpit. Their desire for righteousness and strength of faith are the catalysts for this kindness. Many good brethren are preacher's Ebed-Melech (Jeremiah 38:7-13), Shunamite woman (2 Kings 4:8-10), and Epaphroditus (Philippians 2:25). Truly God has perfectly joined the Body so that every member aids to the edification of the whole.

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The Biblical Christianity Podcast is the official podcast of the BCS church of Christ and the Texas School of Preaching. BCP airs weekly (Fridays), covers relevant topics from a strictly biblical perspective, and may be accessed via:

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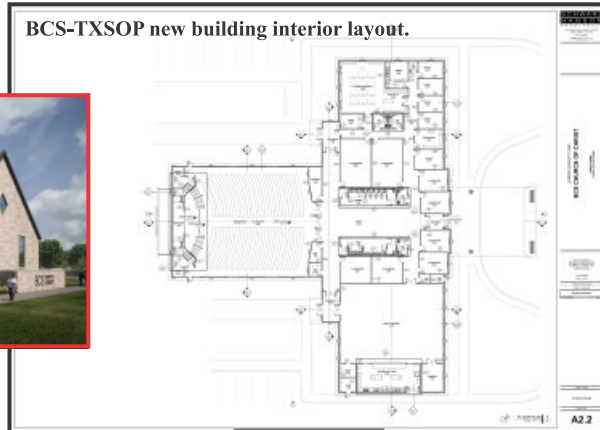
# BCS-TXSOP New Facility!

Recently, the Lord God has blessed the BCS church of Christ with exponential growth, and the Texas School of Preaching with a beautiful start! An inevitable need for expanded facilities has become an awesome reality!



Exterior rendering of the new forthcoming BCS-TXSOP building.

BCS-TXSOP new building interior layout.

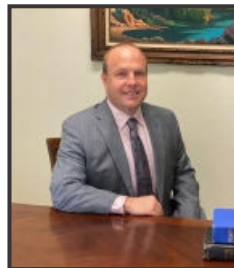


As can be seen in the interior layout portion of the BCS building plan, one wing will be a dedicated space for the Texas School of Preaching. This space is much needed, as the BCS fellowship hall presently triples as a fellowship hall, high school classroom, and one of the two TXSOP classrooms (the BCS auditorium is the current makeshift second TXSOP classroom). With a fantastic faculty, and forthcoming facilities, the Texas School of Preaching is on schedule, with the perpetual grace of God and the support of generous brethren, to continue contributing significantly to the training of bold, sound preachers of the Gospel of Christ. To God be the glory!

The financial responsibility of the Texas School of Preaching's portion of the forthcoming facility is estimated at 1 million dollars. If you love the work the school is doing, and would be interested in partnering with us with in the endeavor to glorify God through the training of strong Gospel preachers, please contact TXSOP.....

[Terrance.dindy@tx-sop.com](mailto:Terrance.dindy@tx-sop.com) (580)-235-2503  
 Brant Stubblefield (405) 756-0880

## INTRODUCING OUR NEW DIRECTOR OF RECRUITING & CHARITABLE GIFTS



Brant came on board with TXSOP in the Summer of 2023. All who know Brant are familiar with his great zeal and ability in the pulpit. Additionally, brother Stubblefield shares with us a passion for training men to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ with great conviction, love, skill, strength and distinction. Brother Brant is a tremendous addition to the TXSOP team!

**Brant Stubblefield**

## WORTHWHILE

### "Quotes"

"Truth sounds like hate to those who hate truth."  
 - Unknown

## TXSOP PARTNERS

- |                           |                             |                          |  |
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| Wayne church of Christ    | Calvin & Ginger Engeldinger | James Finney             | Claud & Patsy Fryar                    |

# TXSOP

## Spring 2024 (Quarter A7-B3) Academic Schedule

Alpha Class - Quarter 7 (January 8 - March 8)		
Logic 2 – Jason Rollo	10:00am - 12:30pm	Monday/Wednesday
Revelation – Jason Rollo	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Monday/Wednesday
Elementary Greek 6 – T. Brownlow-Dindy	9:00am - 9:55am	Tuesday/Thursday
1 & 2 Corinthians – T. Brownlow-Dindy	10:00am - 12:30pm	Tuesday/Thursday
Psalms 1 – Tom Moore	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Tuesday/Thursday
Minor Prophets – Morne Stephanus	8:00am - 12:00pm	Friday (Block 1)
Between the Testaments – Michael Light	1:00pm - 5:00pm	Friday (Block 2)

Beta Class - Quarter 3 (January 8 - March 8)		
Elementary Greek 2 – T. Brownlow-Dindy	9:00am - 9:50am	Monday/Wednesday
Expository Preaching – T. Brownlow-Dindy	10:00am - 12:30pm	Monday/Wednesday
Acts – Tom Moore	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Monday/Wednesday
Apologetics 1 – Dinc McDonald	10:00am - 12:30pm	Tuesday/Thursday
Joshua, Judges, Ruth – Morne Stephanus	1:30pm - 4:00pm	Tuesday/Thursday
Personal Evangelism – John Hall	8:00am - 12:00pm	Friday (Block 1)
Pentateuch 3: Leviticus – John McCormack	1:00pm - 5:00pm	Friday (Block 2)

# The Preacher’s Perspective

## A Word from Paul Concerning Academic Integrity

Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Sr.

Apart from the Christ Himself, there is not a greater example or instructor of preachers than the Lord's apostle Paul. In addition to penning the premier and most comprehensive books pertaining to the work of a Gospel preacher, Paul himself provides an almost impeccable model of what all preachers should strive to be. It should behoove every Christian, and especially those who minister in the word, to heed the Pauline exhortation: “Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ” (1 Cor. 11:1, *King James Version*).

Imitating Paul and adhering to his Spirit-inspired instruction concerning the ministry of the Gospel includes ascertaining from Scripture and applying that which he has written (or that which was written about him) regarding integrity in preaching. While not biblically arranged under the heading: “integrity in preaching,” the following concepts are certainly relevant to the topic and replete in the writings of the apostle.

*Academic Diligence—*

The most well-known words of Paul regarding putting forth the academic effort required of the minister of the Gospel is found in his second epistle written to his protégé, son in the faith, and companion in the ministry, Timothy. The Pauline exhortation to Timothy is to “Give diligence” (2 Tim. 2:15, *American Standard Version*) in his handling of God's word. This “give diligence,” which translates from the Greek: σπουδάζω (spoudadzo), is defined by Thayer: “to exert one's self, endeavor, give diligence” (585). Integrity in the ministry of the word is

lacking where the preacher fails to exert himself or put forth the effort required to show himself approved unto to God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

### *Purity of Life* –

Not many things are more beneficial to the work of Christ than Christians who “adorn the doctrine of God our Savior” (Ti. 2:10). On the other hand, not much is more harmful to the work of the ministry than a preacher who compromises the perceived integrity of the faith through an impure lifestyle. Paul reminded the Thessalonian church that they were witnesses, and God also “how holily and justly and unblameably [he and his fellow ministers] behaved [themselves] among you that believe” (1 Thess. 2:10). It is absolutely incumbent upon every Christian, and especially ministers of the word, to walk in purity – undefiled by the world.

### *Ministry Focus* –

Worthy of notation is the fact that Paul exhorted Timothy, his son in the Gospel, to “endure hardness as a good soldier of Christ” (2 Tim. 2:3), and reminded him that “No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier” (2 Tim. 2:4). The temptation exists for preachers to employ too much of the Lord's time on endeavors that are not directly associated with fulfilling the ministry. Paul declared in truth concerning his rigorous pursuit of Christ: “but one thing I do...” (Phil. 3:13). The Greek expression *εν δε* (hen de) here conveys the idea of a singular focus. Certainly for the preacher, neither are family, friends, respite, health, or the occasional recreational endeavor to be neglected. However, too much time spent in leisure may be considered poor stewardship of the minister's time. As Paul told Timothy, “do the work of an evangelist” (2 Tim. 4:5).

### *Humility* –

As the apostle Paul began his farewell discourse among his beloved teammates, the elders of the Ephesian church, he besought them to recollect how that he had served the Lord among them “with all humility of mind” (Acts 20:19). High-minded or arrogant preachers do disservice to the ministry, and often repel those who otherwise would benefit from their knowledge and experience. Jesus Christ is the ethical standard in the ministry of the truth, and Paul reminds us that God the Son “...made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: and being found in fashion as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross” (Phil. 2:7-8).

### *Comprehensive Instruction* –

Hovering around the top of the ministry ethics priority list is the preacher's obligation to preach the whole counsel of God. Because it accords with the divine dictate found in the Holy Scriptures, the Texas School of Preaching is irrevocably committed to training men to imitate Paul in keeping back nothing that is profitable in preaching and teaching the truths of God (cf. Acts 20:20). The apostle's hands were clean concerning the blood of all men, for he had “not shunned to declare unto [them] all the counsel of God (Acts 20:26-27). The church today needs preachers with clean hands and comprehensive sermon notes!

### Works Cited

Thayer, Henry. *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974.

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Park Heights church of Christ	Cold Spring church of Christ	Willette church of Christ	Reta George
James Watts	Karen Mann	Gonzales church of Christ	(Any unrecognized supporter is an unintended oversight on our part. We will strive to correct it.)
Rising Star church of Christ	Randy Reagan	Porter church of Christ	<b>WE ARE EXTREMELY THANKFUL</b>
Melrose church of Christ	Scott Johnson	Thomas & Deborah Edwards	<b>FOR ALL OF OUR PARTNERS IN</b>
Village Creek church of Christ	Van church of Christ	Emory church of Christ	<b>THIS EFFORT TO GLORIFY OUR</b>
Joe Wesley	Parkview church of Christ	Mount Vernon church of Christ	<b>ALMIGHTY GOD!</b>
Allen & Linda Griffith	Chesapeake church of Christ	Rule church of Christ	(continued on pg. 8)
San Angelo church of Christ	Quitman church of Christ	Quannah church of Christ	

# WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS GOOD WORK!

**Dear Christian Family Member(s),**

As you well know, great efforts such as this, designed to glorify God in carrying out His divine will, require financial resources. We know that since the Gospel is indispensable in the salvation of man (Rom. 1:16; 2 Thess. 1:7-9), and the salvation of man is God's primary concern (1 Tim. 2:3-4), He will provide. In exploration of the biblical record, you doubtless have become familiar with the fact, however, that many times God's necessary provisions for monumental works such as this come from the very blessings that He has already generously provided us. When the Lord commanded Moses to construct the tabernacle and all the necessary items of Old Testament worship, He petitioned the people to give graciously from their hearts (Ex. 25:1-2). When David made preparations for the erecting of the temple, he gave bountifully of his own wealth, and other children of God eagerly did the same (1 Chr. 29:1-14).

Notice a critical fact concerning the building of God's temple that holds true regarding the work of the Texas School of Preaching, and the conducting of *any* extensive God-glorifying task: “...**the work is great, [and] is not for man, but for the Lord God**” (1 Chr. 29:1). The Texas School of Preaching is for the Lord God! This school of ours (yours and mine) exists to glorify God, to magnify Christ, and to carry out God's will in equipping faithful men (2 Tim. 2:2) to execute the epic work of preaching the Gospel. This is in order for the church to be edified and fitted for our eternal future (Acts 20:32), and the world educated and fashioned for entrance into the kingdom of God's dear Son (Col. 1:13).

David declared, “...because I have set my affection to the house of my God, I have of mine own proper good...given to the house of my God, over and above all that I have prepared for the holy house...” (1 Chr. 29:3).

The annual operating expenses for the Texas School of Preaching are within vicinity of 220,000.00-250,000.00. Much of this expense will cover the salaries of our office manager and our two additional full-time instructors (who have rounded out our team of six full-time instructors: Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Jason Rollo, Dinc McDonald, Tom Moore, John Hall, and Morne Stephanus). A select faculty of faithful and skilled adjunct instructors also comprise the TXSOP team. These men are also compensated for their fine contributions, as the laborer is worthy of his hire (Luke 10:7).

Additional operational expenses include books, software, library/media resources, required travel, marketing and advertisement costs, dedicated phone services, postage, and adjunct instructor stipends. Below is a general breakdown of TXSOP annual expenses:

- Office Manager salary – 25,000.00
- Full-time Instructor – 65,000.00-75,000.00
- Full-time Instructor – 65,000.00-75,000.00
- Adjunct Instructor Stipend – 20,000.00
- Books – 6,000.00 (this expense will be reimbursed by students, but the school will make the initial purchase in order to have the materials on-hand)
- Travel – 10,000.00 (Including required lectureships, fund-raising efforts, mandatory travels related to select courses)
- School phone line/internet – 2500.00
- Marketing and Advertisement – 2,500.00 (Including website design & management, printed materials, digital & printed newsletter, etc.)
- Postage – 4,000.00

The school has a great interest in creating scholarship funds in the names of residual contributors and in memory of faithful Gospel preachers and Christian brethren who have gone on to eternity. These funds, as nominated, would provide scholarships for faithful men who are devoted to the proclamation of the Gospel and are seeking sound, competent training, yet are having difficulties raising the necessary funds.

Any contribution of any amount – one time or residually – is welcomed, and will be utilized faithfully in glorifying our God in this endeavor.

*Your fellow servant in Christ our Lord, Terrance Brownlow-Dindy, Sr. – Director*

**If you will help us in this necessary work, please call our offices at (979) 450-7612, contact me directly at (580) 235-2503, email our offices at [txsopn88@icloud.com](mailto:txsopn88@icloud.com), email me directly at [terrance.dindy@tx-sop.com](mailto:terrance.dindy@tx-sop.com),**

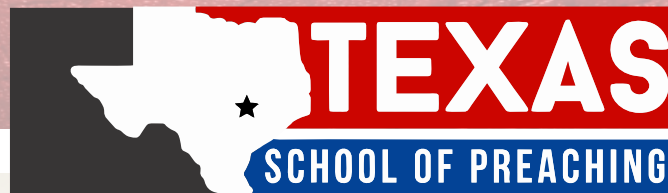
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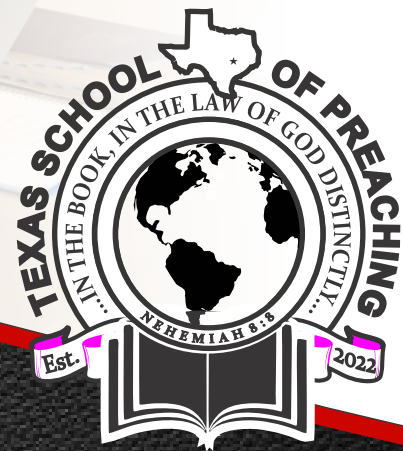
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*...in the book, in the law of God distinctly...*

*Nehemiah 8:8*



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*...in the book, in the law of God distinctly...(Nehemiah 8:8)*

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**WE GREATLY APPRECIATE THOSE WHO SUPPORT TXSOP!**

*In everything give thanks: For this is the will of God in Christ concerning you. (1 Thess. 5:18)*

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