

Whispering Hills

Church of Christ



Volume VII, Issue III July 19, 2020

Gathering Times

Sunday Worship 10:30 AM

Updates will be forthcoming as to the continual changes with COVID-19.

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Welcome Christians!!

Leadership

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BLESSED
is the one who
PERSEVERES
UNDER TRIAL | *because having*
STOOD THE TEST
THAT PERSON WILL RECEIVE
the **CROWN OF LIFE**
THAT THE *Lord* HAS PROMISED
TO THOSE WHO LOVE HIM.
JAMES 1:12

HOW TO BE SAVED

1. Hear (Rom 10:17; Jn 6:45)
2. Believe (Jn 8:24; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent (Lk 13:3,5; Ac 2:38)
4. Confess (Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9, 10)
5. Baptized (Mk 16:16; 1 Pet 3:21)

*Nothing
is too hard
for God!*

Weekly Bible Reading

July 19	2020	Numbers	28 - 36
July 20	2020	Deuteronomy	1 - 6
July 21	2020	Deuteronomy	7 - 12
July 22	2020	Deuteronomy	13 - 18
July 23	2020	Deuteronomy	19 - 24
July 24	2020	Deuteronomy	25 - 34
July 25	2020	Joshua	1 - 8

Our religious conviction:

God chose to save the world by sending His Son, Jesus to die on the cross for our sins (Rom 10:17).

Those who choose to listen and obey the Gospel message SHALL be saved (Ac 2:38).

God adds them to the Church of the Bible which His Son is coming for one day (2 The 1: 7 - 10).



Jeremiah and Impending Doom?

God's People were scattered with many of them living in legitimate captivity (Ch 29-32). Circumstances were incredibly serious. The times were so desperately perilous for almost everyone to include Jeremiah, the great and humble servant of God. There was some doubt as to whether or not they would ever see any sort of a return to normalcy again. Jeremiah's hometown had fallen and was under enemy occupation. It is in the midst of the most dire circumstances God commands Jeremiah to buy a piece of property (enemy-held hometown).

"And Jeremiah said, The word of the LORD came unto me, saying, Behold, Hanameel the son of Shallum thine uncle shall come unto thee, saying, Buy thee my field that is in Anathoth: for the right of redemption is thine to buy it" (Jer 32:6, 7)! Jeremiah, being the faithful and obedient servant of God obeys God's command to the letter. The advancing Babylonian Army was building siege ramps against the very walls of Jerusalem! Certainly, looking around at the seemingly unstoppable forces encircling and threatening to exterminate them, it appeared all hope for any sort of a return to normalcy (let alone prosperity) as they had once known it, was surely lost. But, immediately after making the purchase, Jeremiah goes to God in prayer explaining his doubts at being told to do so (Jer 32:16). Through the eyes of his faith, he acknowledges God's Power to deliver, but cannot seem to reconcile what is seen by his physical eyes (Jer 32:17-25). God affirms **"The word of the Lord came to Jeremiah, saying, Behold, I am the Lord God, the God of all flesh. Is there anything too hard for Me?"** (Jer 32:26, 27). Now, God explains to Jeremiah (building his TRUST) despite their terrifying life and death trials of the moment, He would bring His People back to dwell in safety, security, peace and prosperity in this place (Jer 32:36-44). A promise He kept, just as He had said **"And I will cause the captivity of Judah and the captivity of Israel to return, and will build them, as at the first. And I will cleanse them from all their iniquity, whereby they have sinned against me; and I will pardon all their iniquities, whereby they have sinned, and whereby they have transgressed against me. And it shall be to me a name of joy, a praise and an honour before all the nations of the earth, which shall hear all the good that I do unto them: and they shall fear and tremble for all the goodness and for all the prosperity that I procure unto it"** (Jer 33:7-9). Truly, there is nothing too hard for God (Jer 46:27, 28; 50:4, 5, 19, 20).

When in the midst of trying times and circumstances (then as well as now), it can be unbelievably difficult to remove ALL doubt, based upon what we see and hear happening around us (one day the negatives will end and we will return to some semblance of peace, safety, security and normalcy). Perhaps such experiences with our parents and grandparents enduring the darkest days of Wars; The Great Depression; Assassinations, Civil Rights Movements and other world-wide catastrophes, but they did - and so shall we (2 Cor 5:7). It is Christ's church (the church of Christ) we are so incredibly BLESSED to be a part of - promised in the Scriptures His Will never end (Mt 16:18; Ac 3:18; 12:4; 20:28; 1 The 4:16, 17; 1 Tim 3:15; 2 Tim 4:7, 8; Heb 3:14; 6:11). As it outlasted the Roman Empire it was born, so shall it outlast the COVID-19 as we are quarantined.

So, the question is not *whether* or not this current crisis will end, but who will pass through; then, out the other end in the best (and most incredibly unscathed) shape possible (Dan 3:13-27; Ac 4:10-13; 5:29; 1 Pet 1:3-13). The answer is all too easy: It will be those who, because of their faithfulness and obedience to Christ, never losing TRUST; thus, maintaining confidence (2 Cor 4:16-5:7); those making it their aim (irregardless of where they were or what they endured, to please the Lord no matter what (2 Cor 5:9), just as always (1 Pet 5:6-10).

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God" (Rom 12:1, 2). Search the Scriptures, daily (Ac 17:11). Be obedient to the very end.

PRAYER REQUEST

Continuous Prayers: Walter Simon, Mack & Carolyn Clouds, I.V. Jones (Bro Jones' dad), Ron Forge, Christina Jones Patricia Hurd, Ray & Ruby Busby (family of the Busby's), Sheila Harris, Sam Lily, Miguel Graves, Joyce Fair Joyce Gutierrez, Dre Day (friend of Bro Owens' son), Adam McCants (father-in-law of Bro Ramsey's daughter) Joel Sotelo Vazquez [Mexico City, Mexico]

Sick: Arthur Henry, Dan Allen, Jerry Birdow, Jose (Bro Santos' friend),

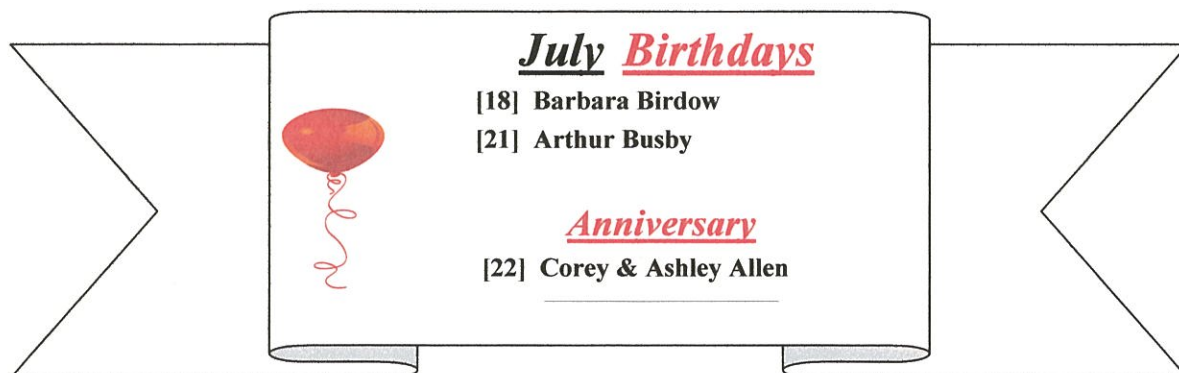
General: Demetria Washington, Greg Owens (Bro Owens' brother), Kelvin & Michael Porter (Sis Owens' brothers), Simon Young, Randy Murray, Darius Bell (Bro/Sis Bell's son), Sam Lily (Sis Guthrie's stepson) Chris White, Kaylan White, Bro Ward, Carolyn Andrews, Pat Harper, Bro/Sis Williams. Brenda Moore Patrick Roberson (Bro/Sis Owens' nephew)

UPDATES:

1. **James Hunter, Jr** requesting PRAYERS for strength on a daily basis in Christ (26 Jun 20)
2. **Vernon Skinner** (son of Sis Skinner) undergoing medical treatment (26 Jun 20)
3. **Quinn Beacham** (friend of Bro Ramsey) hospitalized w/ Liver Failure/Low Blood Pressure (26 Jun 20)
4. **Adam McCants** (father-in-law of Bro Ramsey's daughter) hospitalized w/ Kidney Failure (27 Jun 20)

Upcoming Activities/Announcements

1. **Door Knocking Campaign** Postponed until further notice.
2. **Duncanville Lectureship 2020:** Cancelled





Sermon Notes

1 Cor 9:16 - 18 “For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel! What is my reward then? Verily that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.”

Subject:

Scripture Reference:

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SPEAKING WHAT THE LORD PUT IN MY MOUTH

Numbers 23:7 – 12

INTRODUCTION:

1. The text is a question posed by a spokesman of God.
2. [We] need to be asking ourselves if [we] are: "Speaking What The Lord Put In My Mouth"?
 - A. Are [we] true in the statement often said, "...speak where the Bible speaks..."?
3. This message will examine this thought.

BODY:

1. THE TEXT (Num 23:7 – 12)

- A. The question (v12) is a sound statement.
 1. The Ammonites/Midianites "hired Balaam to be against Israel and to curse, **BUT** God turned the curse into a **BLESSING**" (Neh. 13:1, 2).
 2. God, through the donkey, "stayed the madness of the prophet"
 - A. Num. 22:21 – 35
 - B. 2 Pet 2:15
- B. Balaam could only do otherwise under the penalty of death (Num. 22:34, 38).
- C. The contemporary application of the text:
 1. There are many important lessons for the church (Ac 2:47).
 2. There is a warning to spokesmen of God
 - A. 1 Cor 14:37
 - B. 2 Tim 2:15
 - C. 1 Pet 4:11

2. FALSE SPEECHES ARE ELIMINATED WHEN WE SPEAK FOR THE LORD

- A. As with Israel, in the church, there is to be **NO** toleration of idolatry and false prophets
 1. Zec 12:13
 2. Ac 5:11, 13
- B. False teachers are **NOT** to be tolerated in the church (1 Pet 2:1, 2; 1 Jn 4:1; Jude 4).
 1. Paul spoke of "false brethren" (Rom. 16:18; 2 Cor 11:14, 26; Gal. 2:4).
 2. Spoke of those holding a form of godliness, **BUT** denied the power (2 Tim 3:5).
 3. Warned of men arising, speaking perverse things (Ac 20:30).
 4. Called the names of some erring from the truth (2 Tim 2:18).
- C. Pertaining to false teachers Christians are exhorted (2 Tim 2:16, 17; 3:8).

3. A TRUE SPOKESMAN OF GOD WILL SPEAK ONLY WHAT THE LORD SAYS

- A. Truth will prevail with or without us (2 Cor 13:8).
- B. Gospel preachers are **NOT** at liberty to preach anything, **BUT** God's Word.
 1. 1 Cor 4:6; Gal 2:5
 2. 1 Tim 4:16
 3. 2 Tim 4:2
 - A. False Teachings will damage sound words and hinder sound doctrine.