



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

"Knowing the love of Christ together with all the saints." - Eph. 3:18-19

Week Ending, January 24th, 2015



Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

Prepare for Worship! Your pastors and elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts and praying for the worship of our God. Please remember the importance of prayer for our worship services, and especially the need for the Spirit's work in preaching (Mark 4). Pray that we would come with expectant hearts to hear what the LORD would say to us! (Hab. 2:1-3).

Adult Sunday School class on 'Ordinary' continues this week! Our Sunday school class begins at 9:30am. The adults are studying a new series based on Michael Horton's book *"Ordinary"*. This week: "The Young and the Restless". *Come and find out how extraordinarily radical it is to be ordinary!*

Evening Worship this Lord's Day at 6 pm! Come and join us for another opportunity to worship God and to learn from God's Word as Pastor Dan ministers

it to us. We shall have a fellowship and meal afterwards together to close the Lord's Day!

Shorter Catechism Memorization for KCPC in 2015: See pg. 3, 'From Your Pastors' Section. Let's seek to memorize the Shorter Catechism together as a congregation, and if you already have, go back over it for spiritual review. Each week, Lord willing, there will be a question and answer from Shorter Catechism, followed by a very brief explanation of it, a memory verse, and a prayer. Please go over this especially with your children.

Women's Bible Study: The study meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend. Contact Stacy Halley for more information.

KCPC Book table Featured Reads: For the upcoming Easter season, and also books that would complement the present sermon series on Gospel of Mark: *'The Shadow of the Cross: Studies in Self-Denial'* by Walter Chantry; *'The Cross He Bore: Meditations on the Sufferings of the Redeemer'* by Frederick Leahy; *'Jesus on Trial'* by James Boice and Phil Ryken.

Deacon's Offering: Lord's Day, February 1, the deacons will be collecting an offering of sacrifice and generosity from us that may help the poor and needy in our community. Please pray how much you are able to give at this time to bring glory to Christ in His healing the wounds of our neighbors, and taking care of the fatherless and the widows in distress.

Locust Street Film Night- Valentine's Celebration! On February 13th at 7 pm, we will be viewing and discussing *'Casablanca'*. One of the finest films and love stories of our time. Make plans now!

"But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?"

~^{ESV} Malachi 3:2

From Your Pastors

A Study of Shorter Catechism

Question: What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him?

Answer: The word of God, which is contained in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy him.

Scripture memory: All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness... ^{ESV} **2 Timothy 3:16**

A brief explanation:

God is not silent, He has spoken. God has clearly spoken and revealed Himself in creation and in men's consciences, but He has especially revealed Himself in His God-Breathed-Out Word (Psalm 19; Rom. 1:19ff; 2:14-16; Eph. 2:20). God condescended to reveal Himself to His creatures, and to grant them knowledge about Himself and about His will. God has given us the Holy Scriptures, sixty-six books of the Bible, to know Him, and learn from Him so that we might glorify and enjoy Him! Isn't God good to us?!

Man rebelled in Adam and refused to heed God's Word. In this terrible fall, man's mind was darkened, and His ability to hear was damaged. God's Word is not readily available on our minds and hearts as sinful creatures. We do not by nature think God's thoughts after Him as we were created to do. Even when man has God's Word, he is not content with it, but often refuses to listen, or desires to know of secrets about God and about himself that God has not been pleased to reveal (Deut. 29:29). Sinful man also desires in his fallen, "endarkened" state to add to God's Word (Rev. 22:18). But let us received with humility the Word as God has revealed it (Isa. 66:2; Jer. 9:20a; James 1:21). God has spoken to us with authority and clarity, and this is sufficient for all of life and godly living (2 Peter 1:3ff). God's Word profits us in teaching, reproof or rebuking us, in correcting us, and in giving us right thoughts about God and ourselves.

God has particularly given His God-breathed-out Word to teach us our desperate need for His grace because of our great sin against Him (Eph. 2:1-10). We have all fallen short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We have all sinned and are deserving of God's wrath. Yet God in Christ, came to teach us that the God who requires perfect obedience to His Word, has also provided a Substitutionary Substitute to live perfectly for us where we have failed, and to take all of the curses of our disobedience upon Himself! Christ has come to teach the truth, and to listen to the truth, and to live the truth for man's sin and failures. Christ is the Truth; He is the Word (John 1:1-3; 14:6). God is rich and mercy and gives His own ears to hear and obey His Word.

A prayer: Dear Father, help us to hear and obey your Word. To receive it as it is, the very Word of God. Let us receive it with humility, reverence, and obedience. Let us live for you, and to be thankful that you have privileged us with having your perfect, infallible, inspired Word. Let us memorize it and hide it in our hearts. We often have deaf ears, grant us hearing ears like your Beloved Son (Isaiah 50:4).

In Christ's Love,
Pastors Biggs and Halley

"Have faith in God."
~ ^{ESV} **Mark 11:22**

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon Title: "Barren"

– Pastor Charles R. Biggs



Gospel of Mark Series: Act III: *The Desolation and Reconstruction of God's Holy Temple.*

Theme of Sermon: Israel's glorious Prophet, Priest and King finds Israel and her temple barren. Jesus has come miraculously to rebuild God's people and holy temple to be filled and pregnant with all the fullness of God!

Scripture Lesson: Jeremiah 7:11-15; 8: 11-13; John 15:1-11

Scripture Text: Mark 11:12-26

Questions for Family Discussion/ Thoughtful Mediation:

* **Read Mark 11:12-26.** Notice the "intercalation" or "sandwiching" of Mark's literary artistry in his Gospel: You have A: The cursing of fig tree; B: Jesus's judgment in temple; A1: Explanation of fig tree. A and A1 are to explain what Jesus is doing in 'B' in the temple. What do you learn? Do you think Jesus is cleansing the temple, or cursing the temple?

* **Children: Read Mark 1:1-11 and 11:1-11.** Compare the beginning of Mark's Gospel in 1:1-11 with Jesus' approach to Jerusalem's Temple in 11:1-11. Answer these questions: 1) How is Jesus revealed as Son of God as He comes to Jerusalem? 2) How are His paths made straight, and the way of the LORD highlighted? 3) How does one who comes prove He is mightier than John the Baptist?

Who shall build the temple of the LORD?

^{ESV} **1 Chronicles 17:11-12:** When your days are fulfilled to walk with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, one of your own sons, and I will establish his kingdom.

He shall build a house for me, and I will establish his throne forever.

^{ESV} **Malachi 3:1b-2:** And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you."

^{ESV} **John 15:16**