



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015

join us!



### Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

**Prepare for Worship!:** We encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts and praying for the worship of our God. Our KCPC weekly newsletter *The Shepherd's Voice* can be a helpful guide for your time of prayer.

**Adult Sunday School:** Continuing this Lord's Day, the pastor and elders will be teaching on *The Triune God* soon. **Goal of class:** To help us to read our Bibles with a better understanding of each Person of the Triune God, and to have communion with each person in worship and prayer.

**New Members!** We are thankful to receive **Dr. Mike and Mary Kucks** into membership at KCPC during the morning worship service on Lord's Day, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Men's and Boy's Breakfast:** This Saturday morning, **May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30-10 am.** Come and

**Women's Bible Study:** The study meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend.

### KCPC Online!

'*The Shepherd's Voice*' and many other helpful resources are available online at [www.ketocin.org/resources](http://www.ketocin.org/resources)

**Evening Worship this Lord's Day at 6 pm:** Come to worship and close the Lord's Day together. We will begin new sermon series on 2 Timothy, followed by fellowship meal.

**Coming Soon- Preaching Sermon Series:** In morning services beginning Summer 2015: '*The Book of the Twelve*' (or the **Minor Prophets**); in the evening services beginning this Lord's Day evening: '*The Pastoral Epistles*' (**2 Timothy**). Pray that God would prepare our hearts for these upcoming sermon series.

**Locust Street Film Night:** This Friday, **May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 pm** we will be viewing and discussing Charles Laughton's '*Night of the Hunter*'! One of LSFN's favorite films to watch and discuss.



"This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts."

- Zechariah 4:6

***From Your Pastor***  
***Biblical Spirituality from Meditating upon the Glory of Christ***  
- John Owen

“...Beholding the glory of Christ is one of the greatest privileges that believers are capable of in this world, or even in that which is to come. Indeed, it is by beholding the glory of Christ that believers are first gradually transformed into his image, and then brought into the eternal enjoyment of it, because they shall be ‘forever like him’, for they ‘shall see him as he is’ (2 Cor. 3:18, 1 John 3:1-2). ***On this depends our present comforts and future blessedness.*** This is the life and reward of our souls (John 14:9, 2 Cor. 4:6).

So I exhort you to spend much time meditating on the glory of Christ in his humiliation. Unless we are diligent in this, it is impossible to keep our faith steadily fixed on Christ or be ready for self-denial and taking up our cross, for the humbling of Christ is the chief motive for this duty (Phil. 2:5-8). And no man denies himself rightly, who does not consider the self-denial of the Son of God. For what are the things of which we are deny ourselves? Is it not our goods, our rights and freedoms, our relations and our lives? They are perishing things which, whether we like it or not, death will separate us. But the glory of Christ is forever. Believers will never be separated from it. So if you find yourself at any time unwilling to part with this world, then lift up your eyes and by faith behold the glory of Christ who ‘made himself of no reputation’.

So to sum up: There are three things concerning the seeing of the glory of Christ. There is the (1) shadow, (2) the perfect image, and (3) the reality itself. Those under the law had the shadow. They did not have the perfect image (Heb. 10:1). Under the gospel we have the perfect image, which they did not have. We have a clear, complete revelation and declaration of it in Scripture. But the actual enjoyment of the reality is reserved for us in heaven.

So the mediatory work of Christ involved both suffering and glory. And so he calls his church to follow him, first through sufferings and then into glory. ‘If we suffer, we shall also reign with him’ (2 Tim. 2:12). Some would reign now on this earth, and we may say with Paul, ‘Would you did reign, that we might reign with you.’ But the members of the mystical body must be conformed to the Head. In Christ, sufferings went before glory. And so it must be with us. Satan and the world both offer immediate glory, but this glory will be followed by eternal suffering. First the good things of this life, and then the eternal misery is the way of this world and its god (Luke 16:25).

A total eclipse of the sun does not destroy its natural beauty, light and glory. It is still the same as it was in the beginning, ‘a great light to rule the day’. So the glory of Christ in his divine nature was deliberately eclipsed in his state of humiliation on the earth. But now the glory of his divine nature shines forth in its infinite lustre. And when those who saw him on earth as a poor, sorrowful, persecuted man, dying on the cross, came to see him in all the infinite, uncreated glories of the divine nature, their souls were filled with transcendent joy and wonder. This is one reason why he prayed for them while he was on earth that they might be with him where he is to behold his glory.  
***He knew it would fully satisfy them for evermore.***

***Blessed Jesus! We can add nothing to you, nothing to your glory. But it is a joy to us that you are what you are – that you are so gloriously exalted at the right hand of God. We long to behold that glory more and more according to your prayer and promise. Amen.”***

In Christ’s love,

Pastor Biggs

***“The Spirit as Sanctifier comes with power to conquer an unbelieving heart.  
The Spirit as Comforter comes with help and encouragement to be received by  
a believing heart.”***

- John Owen

# THIS LORD'S DAY

**Sermon Title: “The End?”**

– Pastor Charles R. Biggs



**Theme of Sermon:** The end of Mark's Gospel focuses on the glorious resurrection of God's Beloved Son and the constant threat to discipleship because of our fears, unbelief and hardness of heart. How will you respond to God's King as His disciple? Fear or faith? What will be the end of Mark's Gospel story for you?

**Scripture Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 15:3-9, 20-28, 50-58

**Scripture Text:** Mark 15:42-16:20

## Questions for Family Discussion/ Thoughtful Meditation:

- \* **Read Mark 15:42-16:8:** Contrast Joseph of Arimathea's courage with the fear of the disciples (15:43, 16:8: "...For they were afraid").
- \* **Children:** Believing Joseph of Arimathea is described as "looking for the kingdom of God" (15:43). Look into Holy Scripture and discuss what that means (Hint: Luke 1:68ff; 2:25, 37, 23:51).
- \* Why does the angel (who looks like a young man) tell the women to go and tell the disciples and Peter about the resurrection, and meet Jesus in Galilee? (16:7)? What are the implications of this for Peter, for the disciples, for the women?
- \* If you look at the margin footnotes in the Greek New Testament and in your ESV Bibles you will see: "**Some of the earliest manuscripts do not include 16:9-20.**" Read aloud 16:9-20. Does this sound like Mark's Gospel, Mark's language? Is the content faithful to biblical teaching elsewhere? Is the "matter heavenly"? Does it sound perfect and inspired? (see *Westminster Confession of Faith*, 1:5). What if Mark's Gospel ended with 16:8? What might be Mark's point in such an "abrupt" ending? How might it literarily cause you to respond?
- \* **Read Mark 1:1, 15:39, 16:8.** How might these verses help readers to understand the main point of Mark's Gospel more clearly?

## Hymns

**Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain  
How Firm a Foundation  
Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands**

## How to meditate upon Scripture:

*"Read a scripture with a serious intention of the mind, whereby we come to search out the truth, and settle it effectually in the heart."*

- Thomas Hooker