



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, July 2, 2016



"...I thank my God in all my remembrance of you...making my prayer with joy" – Phil. 1:3-4

Upcoming Events- Lord willing!

Prepare for Worship: Your pastor and elders encourage you to spend time in prayer each Saturday evening, preparing your hearts for the Lord's Day, and praying for the worship of our God. Pray for the Holy Spirit's blessing on preaching of word and fellowship!

Women's Bible Study: The study meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday nights at 7pm. All women are welcome to attend. Women are presently studying the **Book of Daniel**. Contact Margaret Biggs for more information: missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net

Please read newest 'NEW HORIZONS' on evangelism in the local congregation.

Deacon's Offering this Lord's Day: Prayerfully consider how you would like to financially contribute to our monthly Deacon's Offering to help the needy in our congregation and neighborhood.

Prayer Meeting this Sunday evening at 6 pm: We will be sharing our needs and concerns and praying together as God's people. We will also be praying specifically for our outreach efforts on Fourth of July Purcellville Parade.

Fourth of July Outreach in Purcellville! This Monday KCPC is going to have a float in the Purcellville Fourth of July parade on July 4th at noon. We invite all to participate in the parade. We will be tossing candy to the kids and handing out literature to the adults about KCPC, with special emphasis on the evening Gospel of John series and Locust St Film Night.

Locust Street Film Night's Summer Sci-Fi Fantasy Series continues in July: We will be viewing and discussing the spectacular sci-fi classic **'Forbidden Planet'** (1956; Walter Pidgeon, Leslie Nielsen) for our next screening. Come and join us for the film that influenced the minds of both creators of Star Wars and Star Trek. **August: 'The Planet of the Apes'** (1968; Roddy McDowall, Charlton Heston).

Men's and Boy's Breakfast for August: Guest speaker **Dr. Steve Hake** from Patrick Henry College on the importance of discipleship. Make plans to join us! **No men's breakfast for the month of July.**

Labor Day Family Camp at Machen Retreat: Make plans now to join Pastors Biggs and Flora for a wonderful time of teaching, prayer, fellowship, and refreshment on September 3-5. Theme: **Trinitarian Spirituality from the Gospel of John.**

"Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts."

- Jeremiah 15:16

From Your Pastor

Study of the Shorter Catechism: Sanctification

Question 32: What is Sanctification? Answer: Sanctification is the work of God's free grace,(1) whereby we are renewed in the whole man after the image of God,(2) and are enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness.(3)

(1)2 Thess. 2:13 (2)Eph. 4:23,24 (3)Rom. 6:4,6; Rom. 8:1

Scripture Memory: *"...Just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:4)*

An Explanation: Man was created by our good God as upright, holy, and righteous. But man rebelled against our kind king (Ecc. 7:29). Although the fall did not completely destroy the image of God in man, it did great damage of deeply tainting man with sin. In the fall, man lost his original righteousness and communion with God, became spiritually dead in sin, and was defiled in all parts and faculties of soul and body (Gen. 2:17; 3:6-8; Gen. 6:1; Jer. 17:9; Rom. 3:23; Eph. 2:1; see WCF, 6.2). What was holy about man became corrupt, what was righteous became sinful and rebellious, and what was enlightened and illumined by God's truth became darkened (Eph. 4:19-24). We are not our former selves; we have been plunged into an estate of sin and misery. Fallen mankind can sing with sadness the popular song: *"Yesterday, all my troubles seemed so far away, now it looks as though they're here to stay...I'm not half the man I used to be, there's a shadow hanging over me..."*

"...A work of God's free grace..." But God in His steadfast love and kindness has not left us in an estate of sin and misery (see WSC, Q&A 19-21). He has provided our Lord Jesus as a Savior from the guilt and power of sin. In Christ, we are sanctified and restored (1 Cor. 1:30). Sanctification is a work of the Spirit of God in our union with Christ where the damage done by sin to the image of God is renewed in us.

"...We are renewed in the whole man after the image of God..." When thinking of sanctification, we should be reminded that Christ is the true image of God (Heb. 1:1-2; Col. 1:15). Christ Jesus is what man was created to be and how man was created to live as obedient son to a loving Heavenly Father. Jesus is the ideal son of the perfect Father. Adam as son rebelled ungratefully against his Father, Israel as son rebelled against his Father, we as sons have rebelled against our Father. But Jesus has perfectly lived, died, been raised and exalted as the ideal son and perfect man made in God's image, who is a willing and able Savior and Sanctifier of sinners (Heb. 2:10-18). Man was created for the worship, service and love of God. Christ Jesus did that with all of his heart, soul, mind and strength *for us!* (cf. Matt. 22:37-40). **By looking to Him, we are transformed** (cf. 2 Cor. 3:18; Heb. 12:2a).

"...Enabled more and more to die unto sin, and live unto righteousness..." In Christ, believers are taught to cooperate with this new nature that has been implanted into us by the precious and powerful Holy Spirit of God, by putting off the old tarnished self, the contaminated self, the poisoned self, the sinful self, and to be renewed by putting on the new self given to us in Christ Jesus! (Eph. 4:22-24). When we are united to Christ in our union with Him His Spirit not only imputes His perfect righteousness to us, but we begin to be renewed in the likeness of Christ. **Conformity to Christ for the glory of God is the ultimate reason for our salvation** (See Romans 8:29a; cf. Eph. 1:4). Conformity to Christ or holiness is not optional for the Christian. Without holiness, or Christ-likeness, no man shall see the Lord (Heb. 12:14b). Let me be clear: **conformity to Christ is holiness**. Truly holy people look and act like Jesus to a certain degree. Holiness or being conformed to Christ's likeness has two important aspects: mortification and vivification. Mortification is a dying to our old way of doing things through the flesh. Vivification is living a new life in obedience to God. Believers can only mortify flesh and live by the Spirit knowing that in reality they have died and been raised with Christ (see Rom. 6:4-14). The Christian believer is in a constant warfare to do this by God's grace (Gal. 5:16-25). In justification, we are the passive recipients of God's act of grace upon our lives. In sanctification, we are the active participants of God's work of grace in our lives (Phil. 2:12-13).

A Prayer: Father, sanctify me through the blood of Jesus Christ, cleansing my heart this day, and fill me with your Spirit that I may do intense and intentional warfare against my flesh. May I keep my eyes on Jesus, and be conformed to Him more today!

In Christ's love,
Pastor Biggs

"...Rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

- Luke 10:20

THIS LORD'S DAY

Sermon Series: "Acts of the Exalted Lord Jesus"

Title: "The Philippians"

- Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Scripture Lesson: Luke 24:44-49; Philippians 1:1-11

Scripture Text (s): Acts 16:6-40

Theme of Sermon/Worship: *The Lord Jesus through His Spirit graciously establishes His Church in Macedonia...and the Gospel continues to the ends of the earth!*

Thoughts and Meditations for Preparing Your Heart and Family for Worship:

* **Children:** Read **Philippians 1:3-4, 7-8, 3:1, 4:1, 4-10**. What is the major theme that runs through Paul's Letter to the Philippians?

* Who directs the steps of the disciples to God's people in Acts 16:6-10? Who opens the hearts of God's people to hear and believe the Gospel? Who causes us to rejoice in our difficulties and trials? Who uses us to show forth the power and grace of God? What does this reveal about the kindness and mercy of God in Christ? Does this make you joyful from the deepest part of your being? Why, or why not?!

* What is the specific sacrifice that the Apostle Paul must make in Christ to both establish and to encourage the Church at Phillippi? (see Acts 16:22-24; Phil. 1:12-17). What is Paul's attitude in this? How can he have this kind of response to such suffering? Where is Paul at the end of his life? Has this sacrifice made a difference?

Hymns

1. 342 - Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

2. 441 - Jesus Shall Reign

3. 95 - Though Troubles Assail Us

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

... "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

- Acts 16:31