



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

KCPC This Week

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

Week Ending, August 20, 2016



"Claiming to be wise, they became fools..."

– Romans 1:22

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

"Parables of Jesus" Mini-Series in August: We will pause from our Acts Sermon Series for a brief mini-series on the Parables of Jesus.

Guest Preacher this week: Stuart Jones! We are grateful to once again welcome Rev. Jones to our pulpit while our pastor takes a few days of study leave to complete a class at seminary.

Locust Street Film Night's Summer Sci-Fi Fantasy Series concludes this Fri. August 19th: *'The Planet of the Apes'* (1968; Roddy McDowall, Charlton Heston). Coming Soon in the Autumn: Preston Sturges' *'Sullivan's Travels'* and Martin Rosen's animated classic interpretation of *'Watership Down'*.

No Sunday School in August: We will take a break in August to give our teachers a break. We will resume our Sunday school classes on Sunday, September 11.

Men's and Boy's Breakfast this Saturday, August 20: Guest speaker **Dr. Steve Hake** from Patrick Henry College on the importance of discipleship. Make plans to join us! Coming soon: PHC president Jack Haye and other special guests!

KCPC Family Meeting: August 28th during the Sunday school hour. Make plans to attend.

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN: Labor Day Family Camp at Machen Retreat: Make plans now to join Pastors Biggs and Flora on September 3-5.

From Your Pastor
“Sanctification” by J. C. Ryle*

“Sanctify them by your truth...” (John 17:17)

“Sanctification is the invariable result of that vital union with Christ which true faith gives to a Christian. “He who abides in Me, and I in him, the same brings forth much fruit (John 15:5). The branch which bears no fruit—is no living branch of the vine...The faith which has not a sanctifying influence on the character—is no better than the faith of devils (James 2:19). It is a dead faith...It is not the gift of God. In short, where there is no sanctification of life—there is no real faith in Christ...True faith works by love. It constrains a man to live unto the Lord from a deep sense of gratitude for redemption...Being much forgiven—he loves much!

...Sanctification is the outcome and inseparable consequence of regeneration. He who is born again and made a new creature, receives a new nature and a new principle and always lives a new life...The Apostle John expressly says that ‘He who is born of God... ‘does not practice sin,’ ‘practices righteousness,’ ‘loves the brethren,’ ‘keeps himself’, and ‘overcomes the world’ (1 Jo. 2:29; 3:9-14; 5:4-18). Simply put, the lack of sanctification is a sign of non-regeneration. Where there is no holy life—there has been no holy birth.

...Sanctification is the only certain evidence of that indwelling of the Holy Spirit which is essential to salvation. ‘If any man has not the Spirit of Christ—he is none of His’ (Rom. 8:9). The Spirit never lies dormant and idle within the soul. He always makes His presence known by the fruit He causes to be borne in heart, character, and life...We may know the Spirit is in a man—by the effects He produces in the man’s conduct.”

...Sanctification is the only sure mark of God’s election. The names and number of the elect are a secret thing, no doubt, which God has wisely kept in His own power and not revealed to man...But if there is one thing clearly and plainly laid down about election, it is this—that elect men and women may be known and distinguished by holy lives. It is expressly written that they are ‘elect through sanctification,’ ‘chosen to salvation through sanctification,’ predestined to be conformed to the image of God’s Son,’ and ‘chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world that they should be holy’ (1 Pet. 1:2; 2 Thess. 2:13; Rom. 8:29; Eph. 1:4; 1 Thess. 1:3-4). He who boasts of being one of God’s elect, while he is willfully and habitually living in sin—is only deceiving himself and talking wicked blasphemy.

...Sanctification is a thing which admits of growth and degrees. A man may climb from one step to another in holiness, and be far more sanctified at one period of his life, than another...More sanctified...because every grace in his new character may be strengthened, enlarged and deepened... ‘Sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth’ (John 17:17)...If there is any point on which God’s holiest saints agree, it is this: that they see more, and know more, and feel more, and do more, and repent more, and believe more—as they get on in spiritual life, and in proportion to the closeness of their walk with God. In short, they ‘grow in grace’ (2 Pet. 3:18).

...Sanctification depends greatly on a diligent use of Scriptural means. The ‘means of grace’ are such as Bible reading, private prayer, and regularly worshipping God in Church, wherein one hears the Word taught and participates in the Lord’s Supper. I lay it down as a simple matter of fact, that no one who is careless about such things must ever expect to make much progress in sanctification...Our God is a God who works by means, and he will never bless the soul of that man who pretends to be so high and spiritual, that he can get on without them.”

In Christ’s Love,
Pastor Biggs

* From the classic book *‘Holiness’* by J. C. Ryle

THIS LORD'S DAY

Title: “*Confusion*”

- Pastor Stuart R. Jones

Scripture Lesson: Gen 2:18-25

Scripture Text: Romans 1:16-32

Hymns

38 Immortal, Invisible

57 Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah

252 When I Survey

“...Faith believes that God is our Father, hope anticipates that he will ever show himself to be a Father toward us; faith believes that eternal life has been given to us, hope anticipates that it will soon be revealed; faith is the foundation upon which hope rests, hope nourishes and sustains faith.

– John Calvin (Institutes of the Christian Religion)