



# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC This Week

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

*Week Ending September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017*



**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 the preaching of the Word and our fellowship!

**Sunday School resumes September 10<sup>th</sup>.**

**Evening Worship:** We will continue our sermon series on the Gospel of John at 6pm this Lord's Day, followed by a fellowship meal.

**Women's Bible Studies:** The daytime study meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 12:30-2:30pm, studying the book of Ruth with Paul Miller's interactive study *A Loving Life*. Contact Joanie Leake at [j2leake@gmail.com](mailto:j2leake@gmail.com) for details. The evening study meets 1st & 3rd Tuesdays 7-9pm, enjoying a study of biblical friendship with Ed Welch's *Side by Side*. For more information, contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net).

**Men's and Boy's Breakfast:** On September 9<sup>th</sup>, at 8:30am, we will begin studying "The Puritan Option" (seeking maturity in Christ as a counter-cultural-kingdom people). Based on a critical appreciation and evaluation of Hunter's *To Change the World* and Dreher's *The Benedict Option*. Bring a favorite breakfast dish to share!

**Locust Street Film Night:** On September 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, enjoy a viewing and discussion of Alfred Hitchcock's atmospheric thriller "Rebecca" (1940); dinner at 6 pm.

**Ashburn Saints Bible Study:** A weekly study will be resuming at Winger House; details forthcoming.

**Reformation Day Service:** Mark your calendars for our 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary Reformation Day service with sister congregations at Bethel OPC in Leesburg on October 29<sup>th</sup>; pastors Biggs, Hammond, Proctor, and VanDelden will preach on "The Attributes of the Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic."

**Winter/Spring 2018 Sunday School:** Our beloved deacons will teach on the nature of the Diaconate and how we can show Christ-like compassion through our service and stewardship of God's good gifts in our congregation and community. Pastor Biggs will teach a class on the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregational Memory Verses 2017:**

"God is not man, that He should lie, or a son of man, that He should change his mind. Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not fulfill it?" -Numbers 23:19

"Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it." -John 14:13-14.

*"Here then is a test for our theology: Truth that does not seek to transform the knower is only the empty ghost of knowledge."*

**-John Calvin**

*From Your Pastor*  
**“Introduction/Study Guide for the Books of Samuel:  
A Man After God’s Own Heart”**  
*Charles R. Biggs*

**Summary of Books of Samuel:** According to God’s perfect timing and through His most holy and wise determination, God graciously granted Israel a king after His own heart. Though Israel was largely characterized by “doing what is right in their own eyes” (Judges 21:25), God powerfully raised up Samuel, who served as a transition from the time of the judges to the monarchy. Samuel was to be the last of God’s faithful judges to lead and deliver Israel (1 Sam. 7:15), he would be the voice of God as Israel’s prophet (1 Sam. 3:20; Acts 3:24), and he would be the servant of God as Israel’s priest (1 Sam. 2:35). As prophet, priest, and judge, Samuel would anoint Israel’s first king (1 Sam. 10:1) and best king (1 Sam. 16:13).

**Place of Books in Larger Redemptive-Historical Story:** The Book of Samuel is a tale of two kings. King Saul was the kind of king the sinful people wanted, one who was like the nations (1 Sam. 8:5b; cf. Deut. 17:14b). King David was a man after God’s own heart (1 Sam. 13:14). More broadly considered, redemptive history is itself a tale of two kings. Adam, God’s first king, was chosen to have dominion over the earth and to show forth to the world God’s righteousness and rule as His vice-regent, but he rebelled (Gen. 1:26; Eccl. 7:29). Christ was God’s ultimate chosen king who would faithfully reveal God’s reign and rule and be exalted to rule over heaven and earth. “...He will give strength to His king and exalt the power of His anointed [Messiah]” (1 Sam. 2:10b).

After the rebellion of God’s first king, God graciously proclaimed the Gospel-good news of the coming of another king, Jesus Christ, who would destroy rebellion, sin, and all evil, and would rule and reign righteously over heaven and earth (Gen. 3:15). This coming king is revealed progressively throughout Scripture. God promised that Abraham’s line would include kings (Gen. 17:6) and that a ruler and king of the people would come from Judah (Gen. 49:10; Micah 5:2). In the time of Moses, God revealed that when the people of Israel were settled in Canaan that Israel would desire a king like the sinful nations around them, and that God desired a humble king, who would rule faithfully according to God’s good and righteous law (Deut. 17:14-20). God revealed in the time of David that his heir would build God’s dynasty-house and reign eternally upon his throne (2 Sam. 7:12-16). This righteous king, the Lord Jesus Christ, would be fully revealed as Son of Adam (Luke 3:38), Son of Abraham (Matt. 1:1), Son of Judah, Son of David (Matt. 1:1), heir to David’s throne (Matt. 1:20; 21:15), and holy Son of God (Luke 1:32-35, 3:38; Matt. 3:17).

**Four Main Characters:** The Covenant LORD God of Hosts; Samuel of Levi; Saul of Benjamin; and David of Judah.

**Four Important Scriptures for Memorization/Meditation:** 1 Samuel 2:2; 15:22; & 16:7; 2 Samuel 7:12-13.

**Major Themes about God:** Sovereign Providence of God; Presence of God; Power of God; Covenant Promises of God; Faithfulness of God; Holiness of God; Decree of God; Immutability of God; Fear of God; God’s glory (“weightiness”); God’s surprising work in history /reversals of historical norms.

**Date and Authorship of Books:** ca. 1050 BC (time when Samuel began to write) – 970 BC (end of David’s reign).  
Written/edited by Samuel (1 Sam. 10:25; cf. 1 Sam. 25:1a), Nathan (2 Sam. 7:2; 12:1) and Gad (2 Sam. 24:11).

**Outline of Books of Samuel:**

- I. Samuel (1 Samuel 1-7)
- II. Saul (1 Samuel 8-15)
- III. David I (1 Samuel 16-31)
- IV. David II (2 Samuel 1-20)
- V. Kingdom (2 Samuel 21-24)

**Shorter Catechism Memorization:** Q: What are God’s works of providence? A: God’s works of providence are His most holy, wise, and powerful preserving and governing all His creatures and all their actions.

**“As for Me, I have set My King on Zion, My holy hill.’ I will tell of the decree:  
The LORD said to me, ‘You are My Son; today I have begotten you.’ ”**  
**-Psalm 2:6-7**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## Sermon

### “Samuel”

-Pastor Charles R. Biggs

Scripture Lesson: Judges 13:1-7, 17-25; Luke 1:5-7, 24-25, 57-66

Scripture Text: 1 Samuel 1:9-28

#### Theme of Sermon:

*The awesome LORD of Hosts hears the prayers of His people, and in His time remembers and acts on their behalf. Because of His goodness and power, a child is born to prepare the way for the coming king.*

## Hymns

Come My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare, 628

God Moves in a Mysterious Way, 128

All Praise to God Who Reigns Above, 4

## Questions for Meditation/Reflection

- *Children: Read 1 Samuel 1. What is Hannah's problem? Who ordained this problem for her? Who makes this problem all the worse? How does Hannah handle her problem? What might this teach you about being godly people who suffer in this life?*
- *Is it hard for you to receive by faith that God ordains our problems in this world, though He loves us? Why, or why not? How might reflection on God's character bring us rejoicing?*
- *Why do you think Eli the priest thinks Hannah has had too much to drink?*
- *What does the name 'Samuel' mean? Who will Samuel become? How does this prove that God brings good out of our problems as He has promised?*

*“True piety consists in a sincere feeling which loves God as Father as much as it fears and reverences Him as Lord, embraces His righteousness, and dreads offending Him worse than death.”*

-John Calvin