

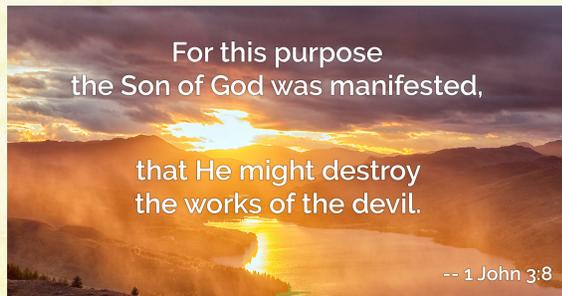


# THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

## KCPC's 15th Anniversary Celebration

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

*Week Ending February 10th, 2018*



**Congregational Memory Verse for 2018—KCPC's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary!** "For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love. For if these qualities are yours and are increasing, they keep you from being ineffective or unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ." -2 Peter 1:5-8

**Prepare for worship** by spending 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!

**Evening worship** this Lord's Day at 6pm; we will continue our series through John and enjoy a fellowship meal together. This month, evening worship will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays, with our monthly fellowship lunch on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.

**Annual congregational meeting** this Lord's Day at 9:15am; the budget for 2018 will be presented. All members are encouraged to make the effort to attend!

**Locust Street Film Night** on Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> will be a special Valentine's Day-themed dinner, featuring F. W. Murnau's "Sunrise" (1927). RSVP for dinner at 6pm to [gcweitz@gmail.com](mailto:gcweitz@gmail.com); otherwise, enjoy the film at 7pm!

**Men's and boy's breakfast** on Saturday, Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-10am. We will continue to discuss Rod Dreher's *Benedict Option: A Strategy for Christians in a Post-Christian Nation*. This month we will focus on the topic of how to live a counter-cultural-kingdom Christian life in our sexuality, drawing from ch. 9: "Eros and the New Christian Counterculture."

**Coming soon** as part of KCPC's 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, we will have a missions focus in March and a special 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary worship and celebration in July.

**A Good Friday service** will be held at KCPC on Friday, Mar. 30<sup>th</sup> together with our sister congregation, Potomac Hills PCA.

**Pastor/Elder family visitation** Your pastor and elders will be seeking to schedule in-home family visits for pastoral care and prayer over the next several months. Let us know at any time how we can best serve you as your shepherd-elders.

**Women's Bible studies** meet in the daytime on 2nd & 4th Tuesdays 12:30-2:30pm, beginning a new study on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> using William W. Harrell's *Let's Study 1<sup>st</sup> Peter* (contact Joanie Leake at [j2leake@gmail.com](mailto:j2leake@gmail.com) for details), and in the evening on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 7pm, studying Ecclesiastes using Zack Eswine's book *Recovering Eden* (for more information, contact Margaret Biggs at [missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net](mailto:missmargaretbiggs@comcast.net)).

*"God is a delicious good."*

**-Thomas Watson**

## A Study of the Shorter Catechism

### ***“Law and Love”***

-Rev. Charles R. Biggs



**Question 41:** Where is the moral law summarily comprehended? **Answer:** The moral law is summarily comprehended in the ten commandments (Deut. 10:4; Matt. 19:17).

**Question 42:** What is the sum of the ten commandments? **Answer:** The sum of the ten commandments is, To love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves (Matt. 22:37-40).

**An Explanation:** The Bible teaches us that God is love (1 Jn. 4:8). Everything God does is loving (Ex. 34:5-7). All that He commands His people is loving. The moral law, revealed in the ten commandments, is an expression of God’s love to His people, revealed in order to teach His redeemed people how to live in a loving way. The moral law is a summary of what real love looks like.

For example, the preface to the ten commandments teaches that God chose His people and has released them by His grace from slavery and brought them into His most glorious light to bless them. The first commandment teaches us how to love God first, before all other persons and things, so that we might realize the purpose and enjoy for which we were created. The ten commandments are made up of two tables: the Holy Spirit wrote the first four commandments to teach how to love God, and He wrote the other six to teach how to love others as ourselves.

God saved His people and brought them to Himself by His grace and power to equip them to worship Him and to show the world the love for which man was created as image-bearing servants of God. When asked what was the most important part of the moral law, our Lord Jesus responded by teaching that love for God and neighbor was most important (Matt. 22:39-40). But this call to perfect love reveals to us our inability to love, and our sin against God and others. The law is powerless to change us, but hear the Gospel: What the law could not do, God did in sending Christ to fulfill the law through perfect love, and to redeem sinners who trust in Him alone (Rom. 8:1-4).

Jesus teaches us how to love through His most holy law. Each commandment is useful in teaching God’s people how to live in Christ by His Spirit as His dearly and beloved redeemed children in love (Eph. 1:4-5, 4:1-3). In fact, the Apostle Paul boldly declares that our living in union with Christ, loving God and neighbor as ourselves—not perfectly, but sincerely by faith—is a fulfillment of the law (Rom. 13:8-10). This means that when we seek to be obedient by faith in Christ, depending upon His grace, we realize the purpose for which we were created and the end for which the commandments were revealed: to learn to love.

**Prayer:** Teach us to love, dear Father. Teach us to love like Christ Jesus. Teach us to love You with all of our beings, and our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us for our selfish, unloving hearts. We will run in the way of Your commandments when You enlarge our hearts, O LORD!

***“Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery, you shall not murder, you shall not steal, you shall not covet,’ and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.”***

**-Romans 13:8-10**

# THIS LORD'S DAY

## *Sermon:*

“Oath”



-Rev. Charles R. Biggs

## *Theme of Sermon:*

The Lord's commands are always wise and never burdensome, but King Saul laid an unwise oath and heavy burden upon God's people that dishonored and displeased God and caused Israel to sin.

## *Scripture Lesson:*

Galatians 5:1, 13-15; Proverbs 8:10-17; 1 John 5:1-5

## *Sermon Text:*

1 Samuel 14:24-46

## *Hymns*

Father I Know That All My Life, 559

Forever Settled in the Heavens, 59

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder, 172

## *Questions for Meditation and Preparation*

- Read 1 Sam. 13-14. Children: What did King Saul do to his people in verses 24 through 52? List two reasons why what Saul did was sinful in God's eyes.
- How different is King Saul from his son Jonathan? (Remember last week's sermon as well.) How do Saul's actions affect Israel? His son Jonathan?
- What are the differences between biblical oaths and unbiblical oaths? Does God use oaths? How does this help us understand the Gospel of Christ better?
- Do you hear the voice of Samuel in chapter 14? If not Samuel, do you hear God's voice? What should we learn from this?
- In 1 Sam. 13-14, how is Jesus Christ revealed to our faith in this passage? How is Jesus different and a much better king than Saul? How might this encourage and edify you as you see the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ?

***“ If it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you...How can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? ”***

***-Matthew 12:28-29***