

Washington church of Christ

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The Washington Messenger

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June 15, 2014

Order of Services Sunday June 15, 2014

Song Leader	Cameron Wydro
Prayer	Stan Thompson
Preaching	Bob James
Lord's Supper	
Prayer for the Bread	Scott Thomas
Prayer for the Cup	Brian Jeffries
Prayer for the Collection	David Osinski
Assisting at the Table	Tom Dolan
Morning Closing Prayer	Arnold Thompson
Evening Opening Prayer	Ralph Ruggiero
Announcements	Bill Duryea

Schedule of Weekly Services

Sunday Morning Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Classes	7:30 pm
Thursday Morning Bible Study	11:00 am

Contentment...

I can remember some years ago when people were talking about the possibility of a four day work week in some circles. It seems that the thinking was that all of the advancements of modern technology would allow folks to work more efficiently such that the typical five day work week would no longer be required to complete their assigned tasks.

I'm not sure what happened to that theory, but I have an idea ... you see, through much of time, man has demonstrated an insatiable appetite for "things", often coupled with a strong desire to be materially "rich", such that more and more work is required. This often causes us to struggle to find contentment with what, and how, "God is providing them ... and, compromises the importance of spiritual blessings versus material blessings.

I remember when Israel, through the power of God, had taken the city of Jericho. God had commanded;

And you, by all means abstain from the accursed things, lest you become accursed when you take of the accursed things, and make the camp of Israel a curse, and trouble it. But all the silver and gold, and vessels of bronze and iron, are consecrated to the LORD; they shall come into the treasury of the LORD." (Joshua 6:18-19 NKJV)

But, Achan's greed motivated him to disobey God in that he took a Babylonian garnet, some silver and some gold and hid them in his tent. When Joshua faced him about his sin he responded;

When I saw among the spoils a beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels, I coveted them and took them. And there they are, hidden in the earth in the midst of my tent, with the silver under it." (Joshua 7:21 NKJV)

He very accurately describes the progression of his sin, which began at his eye, which he permitted to gaze upon them, which inflamed his desire, and made him covet them ... and that desire made him take them ... and having taken, he resolved to keep them ... and to that end hide them in his tent.

God had just provided Israel a great victory, but rather than focus on His power and goodness, Achan focused on his own desires which resulted in his sin. While not specifically mentioned in the scriptures, it seems that Achan was not seeking to fulfill a **need**, but a **desire** ... and I would further state that it was a desire to become rich.

Now godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out. And having food and clothing, with these we shall be content. (1 Timothy 6:6-8 NKJV)

In this passage the Apostle Paul teaches that the truly godly person is not interested in becoming rich. He possesses inner resources which furnish riches far beyond anything that the world can offer ... and it is great gain. This is the life of true devotion to God.

The individual who actively loves God has peace with Him, spiritual joy, assurance of salvation, the conviction that *“to them that love God all things work together for good, even to them that are called according to his purpose”* (Romans 8:28). Therefore, he feels no need for material goods stored up for many years, which can never satisfy the soul (Luke 12:19-20).

In his commentary, Adam Clarke says of this point;

“ ... the word contentment signifies a competency, a sufficiency; that measure or portion of secular things which is necessary for the support of life, while the great work of regeneration is carrying on in the soul. Not what this or the other person may deem a competency, but what is necessary for the mere purposes of life in reference to another world; food, raiment, and lodging. So, if a man has the life of God in his soul, and just a sufficiency of food and raiment to preserve and not burden life, he has what God calls great gain, an abundant portion. It requires but little of this world’s goods to satisfy a man who feels himself to be a citizen of another country, and knows that this is not his rest.”

In today’s time we as God’s children more than ever need to solidify our trust in Him to provide for us what He deems best. Our peace and contentment in this life must come from our faith in Him, and the knowledge that His love and care is more than enough to sustain us physically and materially ... and His Spiritual blessings are beyond measure.

I have been young, and now am old; yet have I not seen the righteous forsaken, nor his seed begging their bread. (Psalms 37:25 RV)

Our Prayer List...

For Spiritual Responsiveness – All of our wayward members

For Physical Healing – Georgia DeLorenzo ... Sharon Ferencze’s Mother ... Everett Guyton

For Wisdom and Good Judgment – The Leaders of our congregation ... the leaders of our nation

For God’s Care and Good Providence – Our young people away at college ... Our young people here at Washington ... our members who are traveling ... the men and women in military service ... our congregation.

The Evangelist and Teachers We Help Support – Jon Focht – Tim Bunting – Scott Smelser – Dan Wydro

EVENTS AND NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS THAT WE ARE AWARE OF ARE ...

⤴ WE ARE MAKING THE PREPARATIONS TO HOST A BOOTH AT THE WARREN COUNTY FARMERS FAIR. . OUR OBJECTIVE IS TO MAKE CONTACT WITH PEOPLE ATTENDING THE FAIR, AND THROUGH CONVERSATION, PRINTED INFORMATION, FREE BIBLES, AND REGISTERING FOR ONLINE BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSES, PROVIDE THEM WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN, OR LEARN MORE, ABOUT JESUS CHRIST.

THE DATES FOR THE FAIR ARE SATURDAY, JULY 26TH THROUGH SATURDAY, AUGUST 2ND. OUR BOOTH WILL BE OPEN FROM 12 NOON UNTIL 10:00PM EACH DAY. THERE ARE STILL TIMES AVAILABLE FOR ANYONE WILLING AND ABLE TO HELP MAN THE BOOTH. PLEASE SEE THE SIGN-UP SHEET POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD.

⤴ WE HAVE A NEW **ONLINE** BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE. IT SHOULD BE ACTIVE SOON ... WATCH FOR IT!

⤴ CHECK OUT SCOTT SMELSER’S WEBSITE “3MINUTEBIBLESTUDY.COM”.