Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: John Williams

Lord's Table:

Presiding: Scot Parchman

Assisting: Steve Pool

Kyle Pool

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Brynn Hatcher

Evening Worship

Song Leader: N/A

Opening Prayer: N/A

Sermon: N/A

Lord's Supper: N/A

Closing Prayer: N/A

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: N/A

Scripture: N/A

Reading: N/A

Invitation: N/A

Pantry Item Chili <u>Sermon Notes</u> The Fruit Tree

I.

II.

111.

January 10, 2021

Welcome!

Cape Fear Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr Fayetteville, NC 28304 Phone: (910) 425-1108 Website: capefearcoc.org Find us on Facebook!

Service Times
Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am
Evening 5:00pm

Wednesday Night: B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class: Tuesdays10:00am

Elders Scot Parchman Wade Hedgepeth Byran Hatcher

<u>Deacons</u> Steve Pool John Williams Cape Fear Crier

Volume 32 Issue 2

"Cry aloud and shout...for great in the midst of thee is the Holy One of Israel." Isaiah 12:6

In the Fullness of Time

The Bible contains numerous concepts that cause us to think deeply. One such concept is the phrase "in the fullness of time." This concept is found throughout the Scriptures. The phrase is always associated with two events: 1. The coming of the Messiah, and 2. The establishment of the Kingdom. The coming of the Messiah and the establishment of the Kingdom were both part of God's plan to save mankind.

The arrival of these things are first noted in prophecy by God Himself in the Garden (Genesis 3:15). This prophecy was fulfilled by God when He sent His Son "in the fulness of time" (Galatians 4:4-5). God sent His Son when the time was right. What were the conditions that made it "the fulness of time?"

The Romans were the rulers of the world when Christ came, just as predicted by Daniel (Daniel 2:40-44). The Romans incorporated all the qualities of previous empires and added their own unique qualities, like a more equal justice system and constructed roads) not just wheel-worn paths. Rome allowed freedom of religion. Any religion that was already established could continue unimpeded. Large public worship was allowed thanks to the Babylonians. The Persians established a system of law that was unbreakable. The Romans continued this tradition The Greeks provided a universal language among common people. There remained regional languages, but there was now a common

language where people from different areas could more effectively communicate.

With these conditions being just right Jesus was able to come into the world, be the one and only sacrifice for sin, and establish His Kingdom. That Kingdom was able to thrive and grow in the favorable conditions provided by the Roman Empire. This can be construed as the fulness of time. God, from the beginning, planned for the birth, death, and resurrection of His only begotten Son as the atonement for sin and hope of the world.

He also planned for the establishment of His Kingdom. A kingdom that would include all the nations of the earth. The mixture of nations through marriage, the freedom of religion, freedom of public worship, the common language, and the system of roads all aided in spreading the gospel to all nations.

after considering all the ingredients provided by previous world empires, and their melding together over hundreds of years, it is clear the the time of the Roman Empire was the fullness of time. This brief list is only a small portion of hundreds - if not thousands - of other factors that made this the perfect time for Jesus to come into the world. What is obvious through this small sample of circumstances is the mind of God on display. From the beginning of time He had a plan to redeem man. This plan was executed flawlessly, demonstrating His omnipotence and omniscience. Today, the Christian, and truth-seekers, have the advantage of looking back through the evidence and see the past unfold just as God predicted it would.

The omniscience of God should give man confidence in His promises. When He says something will come to pass, it will happen. Knowing this about God and the steps He took to allow the fulness of time to come to pass leaves man with only one question: "Why should I not trust in the Lord and obey His commands?"

- BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 1/3/20 Bible Class: 28 Contribution: N/A

A.M. Worship: 46 DB Readers: N/A P.M. Worship: N/A Chapters Read: N/A

Family News and Notes

Claudia Farrington is having a difficult time right now. Frances Salaz is going through chemo. Vicky Carver's son, Joe, needs our prayers right now. Charles Perkins has been struggling with some health issues. Venson Oliver had abdominal surgery last week and is recovering. We have been blessed thus far that none of our members have had serious complications with Corona Virus, though we have all been affected negatively. We do want to pray for those family members that have lost loved ones these past 10 months. Please also say a special prayer for Alex Freshley as he was diagnosed with Crohn's disease. Active military: Pray for our active duty military members; they could be called to a conflict area at a moment's notice. Remember to pray for their families as well.

Also remember: Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Alex Freshley, Lettie Gray, Frances Salaz, Tylia Landrum, Gwen Jennen, John and Linda Williams, the Pollard family, Claudia Farrington, Rick Caldwell, Margaret Eads, and Thelma Adams. Please pray for those in Bible Studies, teachers and students!

Special Recognition

Events

Ladies Bible Class: Tuesday at 10am

Monday Reminder: Every Monday morning at 8am on Facebook.

Wednesday Devotional Message: Every Wednesday evening at 6pm on Facebook