

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ron Austin

Assisting: Ricardo
Tyler Christian

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Jonathan Garrett

Those serving Wednesday

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Chad Futrell

Teacher: Chad Futrell

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: John Patchell

Pantry Item
Canned Potatoes

Sermon Notes

Family Finances

I. Self-Supporting

II. Provide for your Children

III. Give to the Lord

IV. Provide Adequate Housing

V. Meet All Obligations

VI. Funds for Recreation

VII. Emergencies & Retirement

June 11, 2023

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

3808 Village Dr
Fayetteville, NC
28304

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(910) 425-1108

Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!

Service Times

Sunday:
B. C. 9:00am
Worship 10:00am

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

Volume 41 Issue 10

The
Cape Fear Crier

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

The Silence Of God (cont'd)

A. W. Dicus (1888-1987)

Why should there be repeated manifestations of such power to prove God's divinity? Such power does not need to be verified. Scientists have not disproved evidence of such powers and until he is able to do so, God's silence is indicative of His infinite wisdom. Wise men are men of few words and true science requires but little or no justification. The more explanation that a theory requires the less the possibility of its being true. Denying another's statement does not prove one that we might make, neither does denying the infallibility of the Bible prove men's theories of science. True scientists will not resort to such tactics. As men cannot disprove God's statements, it is wise and just that God remains silent. Such silence is indicative of divine proof.

II. *God's silence is a proof of the Infallibility of the Bible and indicative of God's Infinite wisdom in religion.*

In Hebrews 1:1 we read, "God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by His Son." In the Mount of Transfiguration God spake, "This is my beloved Son, hear ye him." Then the voice of God became silent.

Christ, before His ascension, spake the commands of God by which Christians were to be directed and then after informing the disciples of the coming of the Holy Spirit to reveal these commands, the voice of Christ became silent.

The Holy Spirit came as promised. The commands of Christ were revealed to the apostles as the Spirit gave them utterance. The Holy Spirit then became silent.

In the New Testament we have these commands, given by Christ and revealed by the Holy Spirit each in their respective turn. It is a reflection on the infinite wisdom of the Godhead to request or to even contend for a direct revelation of guidance by either God, Christ or the Holy Spirit. Such revelation, should one be given, would cast

doubt on the one already given. Some claim a special message from the Holy Spirit. Others contend that they are guided directly by the Lord. Others seem inclined to believe that God puts such directly in their hearts while many seem possessed with the illusion that the guarding angel is ever near to direct them in right or wrong. All such conceptions are certainly without faith. Neither of them would be accepted by a court of justice nor recognized as evidence in any discussion. One would not think of accepting such as authority in a material transaction.

To demand or even expect a direct revelation is to reject the one given in the New Testament. This intimates, at least, the incapacity of the New Testament to do what God, Christ and the Holy Spirit unitedly designed, advocated and fulfilled that it would do, hence, a reflection on the wisdom of the Godhead.

The Godhead is silent. Why? Because He has spoken. Having spoken with authority, there is no need of repetition or explanation. A repetition would not add to the clearness, neither would additional information increase man's possibilities, for that already given is thorough (See Col. 2:9; II Tim. 3:17). The only reason left for such contention is to escape what is written. It is the unbroken silence that causes man's uneasiness. It is this unbroken silence that causes man to become careless and indifferent toward that already spoken. The psalmist David foresaw this situation for we read in the sixteenth and seventeenth verses of this psalm (Psalm 50): *"But unto the wicked, God saith, what hast thou to do to declare my statutes, or that thou shouldst take my covenant in my mouth, seeing thou hatest instruction and castest my words behind me."* Then in verse twenty-one, we read, *"These things hast thou done, and I kept silence; thou thoughtest that I was altogether such an one as thyself, but I will reprove thee and set them in order before thine eyes, now consider this, ye that forget God, lest I tear you in pieces and there be none to deliver."* God spake then. He is silent now. God warned, and even prophesied the situation as it now is; that man would take His words into his own mouth, that they would hate His instruction and cast it behind them, but through all this He would keep silent.

When men ask God to speak, are they asking Him to break this promise? Would it not be advisable to meditate beforehand, to at least wonder what God might say, should He speak? Is it probable that He would say, "Well done," when we have not done what He commanded or probably done differently from what He commanded, when we have requested a special guidance and thus questioned His infinite wisdom to thoroughly do what He designed to do? When men seriously reflect on what God might say, should He speak, they will pray for Him to remain silent until they can repent and accept what He said when He did speak, for this is the divine purpose of His silence. (This is part 2 of 3 of an article that Brother A. W. Dicus ["Our God, He Is Alive" composer] wrote a number of years ago. It still rings true. - BTH)

By the Numbers

Attendance 6/4/23
Bible Class: 35 A.M. Worship: 73 Wed. B. C.: 32

Family News and Notes

Linda Jenkins is placing membership with us! Welcome! **Debra Ross'** younger brother, **Stephen Carr**, passed away a couple of weeks ago. Memorial service will be in Philadelphia, PA. **John Patchell's** niece is struggling with her health. **John Williams** is doing much better. He has his last knee surgery will be on June 28th. **Connie Budd, Debbie Smith's** mother, passed away. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo. **Linda Hernandez** has a significant heart problem. Let's remember one another in prayer. Pray for our world leaders at this time. Active military: Pray for all 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. We have 5 active duty members here at Cape Fear. Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Deborah Ross, Sandra Hedgepeth**, and the **Davis** family. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Bible Reading Plan

June 11	June 12	June 13	June 14	June 15	June 16	June 17
Neh 9-11	Neh 12-13	Est 1-5	Est 6-10	Job 1-4	Job 5-8	Job 9-11
Pr 11	Pr 12	Pr 13	Pr 14	Pr 15	Pr 16	Pr 17

Events

Wedding shower for Jacob and Katie: congregational potluck on June 25th after worship
Silver Linings: No SL's until August 18.

