

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Tyler Christian

Assisting: Ron Austin
Ben Grant

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
Rice

Sermon Notes
Learning To Wait

I.

II.

III.

September 10, 2023

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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

Wednesday Night:
B. C. 7:00pm

Ladies' Class:
Tuesdays 10:00am

Elders
Wade Hedgepeth
Byran Hatcher

The
Cape Fear Crier

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

Is Biblical Ignorance Acceptable?

If the amount of Scripture pertaining to a subject is any measure of emphasis on the theme, then the knowledge of the Bible is one of the most emphatic teachings of the Bible. The question Christians must answer is can we afford the “luxury” of not knowing the Bible? If knowledge of the Bible an optional, take-it-or-leave-it matter, then we can. If I as an individual or we as a nation can let Biblical knowledge slip, then we are just fine. It must be acknowledged, however, that there is a price that must be paid to have knowledge. Who is willing to pay it? At the same time, there is a price to be paid for ignorance. Are we willing to pay that?

Isaiah and Hosea were prophets of God during the same historical period some seven to eight hundred years before Christ was born in Bethlehem of Judea. But they labored in different geographical areas. Isaiah worked in Judah in the south while Hosea was in the northern kingdom of Israel. They faced common problems and their messages were similar. The same sins existed in both nations. They received about the same reaction from the people. The most prevalent sin among the people and at the root of their problems was ignorance of the will of God. Here was their teaching as it came from the Spirit.

In Isaiah 1:2-3, “*Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth, for the Lord hath spoken. I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me. The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib, but Israel doth not know: my people doth not consider.*”

The ox and ass are among the least intelligent animals. Yet, the ox knew his owner and the ass knew the source of his supply. But the people of Judah were not only ignorant of the will of their Father, but were unwilling to be otherwise. They “doth not consider,” that is, were not concerned.

The mistake they were making is the same mistake that many are making today. As Isaiah and all the prophets showed, the people were

too busy in a society of relative plenty, enjoying their pleasure, centering their lives on earthly affairs, having neither the time or interest in being students of God’s holy precepts.

Their rebellious attitude and ignorance of the Word of God had its results. Isaiah 1:4-6, *“Ah sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, a seed of evildoers, children that are corrupters: they have forsaken the LORD, they have provoked the Holy One of Israel unto anger, they are gone away backward. Why should ye be stricken any more? ye will revolt more and more: the whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. From the sole of the foot even unto the head there is no soundness in it; but wounds, and bruises, and putrifying sores: they have not been closed, neither bound up, neither mollified with ointment.”*

They had forsaken the Lord, provoking His wrath. Rather than making progress as they had deceived themselves into thinking, “they are gone backward.” Does this not picture so much around us, even the liberal apostasy among some in the church in our time? The “head is sick, and the whole heart faint.”

In their ignorance, Isaiah was inspired to write that they would revolt more and more. Those who do not know the truth of God have no deterrent to their continued rebellion. The ultimate result is seen in verse seven, *“Your country is desolate, your cities are burned with fire: your land, strangers devour it in your presence, and it is desolate, as overthrown by strangers.”* Sadly, their land would become as Sodom and Gomorrah, invaded by world empires.

In Hosea four, this tenderhearted prophet preached to his people in Northern Israel. He probably lived to see Israel humiliated, swallowed by the invading Assyrians, and taken into captivity that permanently removed that nation from existence.

This happened as Hosea 4:6 explains, *“My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee, that thou shall be no priest to me: seeing thou hast forsaken the law of thy God. I will also forget thy children.”*

This was the nation that had heard such great prophets as Elijah, Elisha, Amos and others. Admonitions, instructions, warnings galore had been sounded throughout the land for generations. There was no excuse for their ignorance. Opportunity to return to God had been theirs repeatedly. Their ignorance was willful and deliberate. The prophets would plead, *“Hear the word of Jehovah.”* But the people ignored every plea. The national pulse grew weaker and weaker until the death of the nation was inescapable. What a high price to pay for ignorance of God’s will! Ignorance demands its price and will extract it from those who are content to remain so.

A working knowledge of God’s will comes only to those who are willing to pay the price in study, work, meditation, research and devotion. There is no excuse but the price will be higher for those ignorant of God’s word.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Attendance 9/3/23

Bible Class: 35

A.M. Worship: 63

Wed. B. C.: 48

Family News and Notes

Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s dad, is undergoing cancer therapy. **Gerry King, Margaret Langston’s** sister, had a stroke and is in ICU. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **John Patchell’s** niece is struggling with her health. **Kim Perkins’** father is still struggling as the doctors are trying to stabilize his medications. **John Williams** is recovering well from his knee surgery. **Frances Salaz** is going through chemo and she had a procedure done last week. **Linda Hernandez** has a significant heart problem. **Barry and Melany Hatcher** safely arrived in Singapore. They fly to Indonesia tomorrow. **Dustin Pool** begins his work with the Dover church of Christ in Dover, TN today. 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

Sep 10	Sep 11	Sep 12	Sep 13	Sep 14	Sep 15	Sep 16
Zec 4-6	Zec 7-9	Zec 10-12	Zec 13-14	Malachi	Mat 1-4	Mat 5-7
Ps 71	Ps 72	Ps 73	Ps 74	Ps 75	Ps 76	Ps 77

Events

Gospel Meeting: Sheffield Drive C of C. Sept. 24-28. Tim Canup speaking.
Silver Linings - Friday, 15th at 11am.
Fall Gospel Meeting - Oct 22-25. Terrance Brownlow-Dindy speaking.
Creation Debate - October 25 at 11:30. On GBN. Will stream in Langston Hall.

