

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Sibio Farrington

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Phil Byrd

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Kyle Pool

Assisting: Tyler Christian
Ben Grant

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Luka Herrera

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Pantry Item
Canned Chicken

Sermon Notes *Grieving the Holy Spirit*

I. Do Not Be _____

II. Do Not Be _____

III. Do Not _____

March 30, 2025

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

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Fayetteville, NC
28304

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Website:
capefearcoc.org
Find us on
Facebook!
Sermons are
archived on our
YouTube page!

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 48 Issue 13

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Biblical Ignorance

There are many passages of Scriptures dealing with the necessity of Biblical knowledge. 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. This article will concentrate on whether we can afford the “luxury” of not knowing the Bible. Most, in practice, view knowledge of the Bible an optional, take-it-or-leave-it matter. It viewed this way on both the individual and national levels, There is a price that must be paid to have knowledge. What is less understood is the greater price to be paid for ignorance. Who is willing to pay that?

Isaiah and Hosea were prophets of God during the same historical period some seven hundred fifty years before the Savior was born in Bethlehem. They labored in different geographical areas. Isaiah worked in Judah in the south while Hosea was in the northern area 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.

“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.” Is. 1:2-3

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 nor

interest in being students of God’s holy precepts. In their ignorance, Isaiah was inspired to write that they would revolt more and more. Those who know not 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.*” He went on to tell how their land would become as Sodom and Gomorrah.

“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.” Hosea 4:6

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.

Again, we need to be reminded why they were so willing and deliberate in their ignorance. It bears repetition because it is not unlike many today. Verse seven, “*As they were increased, so they sinned against me: therefore will I change their glory into shame.*” In their prosperity we see what low levels of living they had reached. Hosea 4:1 says there was no truth in the land, no mercy, no knowledge of God. Swearing, lying, killing, stealing, adultery, blood-letting, were their characteristics. When the knowledge of God’s truth makes its exit from a people, the door is opened for the entrance of anything and everything vile and corrupt. Shades of our time!

The prophets would plead, “*Hear the word of Jehovah.*” But the people gave no heed. 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, meditation, and devotion. No generation has a monopoly on Biblical ignorance, but it is obvious that Biblical ignorance is at exceedingly high levels in our time. Biblical ignorance is the reason atheism exists. It is the foundation of the “new morality.” It supports rebellion against authority, the rioting, drunkenness, prejudice, hatred, and uncontrolled crime. It all finds fertile soil in minds which do not know and do not care for the will of the Lord.

The conditions in Northern Israel as cited by Hosea, and those in Judah mentioned by Isaiah, are disturbingly similar to reports being published concerning our land today. The law of God, being unalterably true, must be learned, respected, and obeyed. Seeking God’s forgiveness through His Son, Jesus Christ, and resolving to let His way be the way we will go is the one and only preservation for our people.

-BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 3/23	B.C.: 28	Daily Bible Readers: 11
Chapters Read: 261	Worship: 52	Wednesday: 22

Family News and Notes

Jan Keen is continuing her cancer treatments. She did have a setback this week, but hoping to be able to resume treatment soon. **Sandra Hedgepeth** is now in Village Green Rehab. She will be there for several weeks. **Carolyn Grant** (Ben’s mother) had surgery yesterday. **Carlos Boles** was in a motorcycle accident but is doing much better. **John McDougale, Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke and hurricane damage to her home. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers. Fishers’ of Men class has its final class today! Class went very well and there are several Bible studies being conducted as a result. Please pray for those in Bible Studies - teachers and students!

Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez, and the Davis family.**

Bible Reading Plan

Mar 30	Mar 31	Apr 1	Apr 2	Apr 3	Apr 4	Apr 5
Deut 24-25	Deut 26-27	Deut	Deut 30-31	Deut 32-34	Jos 1	Jos 2-3
Acts 5	Acts 6	Acts	Acts 8	Acts 9	Acts 10	Acts 11

Events

Men’s Lunch: Friday, at 11am @ Golden Corral
Building Workday: Saturday, April 26. 9-noon.
VBS: August 9th - go ahead & put it on your calendar!

