

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ben Grant

Assisting: Ricardo Alvarilla
Dale Wiles

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Phil Byrd

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Chad Futrell

Song Leader: Byran Hatcher

Closing Prayer: Tyler Christian

Pantry Item

Cracker Packs

Sermon Notes *Having Hope*

I. _____ *with no hope*

II. *Hope for an* _____ *outcome*

III. _____ *reward*

IV. *Hope in* _____ *promises*

May 25, 2025

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

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Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
(910) 425-1108

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 49 Issue 7

The Cape Fear Crier

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

What Can We KNOW?

Our limitations frustrate us on occasion. We are all too aware of our limited knowledge. We cannot know the time of our death, the date of the second coming of Christ or the date of Christ's birth. We to understand that life “is a vapor” (James 4:14), the Bible discloses only the time of the second coming “no man knoweth” (Matt. 24:36), and the date of Christ's birth is unknown. We know the Savior would be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2) and that Isaiah prophesied a “virgin would conceive and bear a son” (Isa. 7:14). Matthew, the Gospel writer seven centuries later, shows the fulfillment in Jesus according to prophecy (Matt. 1:21-23). Coming to grips with the unknown can be a frustrating exercise, but take heart as the scripture states: “*The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever*” (Deut. 29:29).

We live in an age of relativism and doubt with a culture surrendering biblical truth for whatever is popular. Sadly, a recent survey of religious leaders shows a glaring disbelief in the most fundamental truths of Holy Scripture. Some contend that we cannot know anything for certain, and that truth is relative. This is a stark contrast to what Jesus said, “*Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free*” (John 8:32). The activists promoting relativism says in effect, “what may be truth for one may not be truth for another.” Some are so certain that nothing is certain that it makes one wonder how they can be so certain!

We Can Know That God Exists. The evidence of an omnipotent God is found both inside and outside Biblical record. It is obvious that for anything to be known about God it must first be known that God exists. Paul underlines this basic principle in Romans 1:18-21 — that God's existence was known to the Gentiles. In verse 19 we read, “*because that which is known of God is manifest in them*” — literally meaning that which is capable of being known. Paul affirms in verse 20, “*through the things that are made.*” We may logically and

truthfully reason certain facts about God through creation (Psa. 19:1). Logically, it is understood that a watch has a maker, a house has a builder, and a computer has a designer. The Bible states: *“For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God”* (Heb. 3:4). There is sufficient evidence in the natural world for a valid conclusion of the existence of God. The Hebrew writer states: *“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for; the evidence of things not seen”* (Heb. 11:1). Belief or faith is predicated upon evidence. While we were not present in the beginning and did not see with our eyes the actual creation of the world, the proof in nature and testimony of the Scriptures give us essential information upon which to base our faith. Paul affirms that man is without excuse in denying the existence of God because sufficient evidence is before us (Rom. 1:18-20).

We Can Know The Bible Is The Word Of God. To build upon this premise is to affirm the Bible’s inspiration. Paul writes, *“All scripture is given by inspiration of God...”* (II Tim. 3:16). Approximately 2,500 times, the Bible declares it’s inspiration through phrases like: *“The word of the Lord came unto me saying”* (257), *“God spake unto me”* (13), *“And the Lord said unto him”* (221), etc. The aforesaid statements verify the Bible’s inspiration. One cannot discount the internal evidence of the Holy Scriptures when it conveys historical, geographical, scientific, philosophical, and medical references. The Bible does not claim to be a book of history, science or medicine, but when such references appear, it does so with extraordinary accuracy. Since the Bible is the inspired, inerrant word of God, it follows that it alone is our authority for all that we practice in religion. Peter would charge every man, *“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God”* (I Peter 4:11). The evidence is sufficient to cause one to accept the fact that the Bible is God’s word. The Bible is here and no one doubts its existence. The Bible is beyond the reach of human authorship. It unapologetically condemns too many things which the world by nature holds dear. The only conclusion that can be reasonably made is that it is indeed God’s inspired word.

We Can Understand The Bible Alike. If we could not understand the Bible, then God failed in His mission to deliver an inspired document conveying the message intended for mankind. If we cannot understand the Bible it is of no value to the human family. The critics of this marvelous book claim it is egotistical to assert we can know the truth. Jesus states unequivocally, *“If ye abide in my word then are ye my disciples, and ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free”* (John 8:31-32). Jesus’ words are unmistakable that men and women can know the truth. The truth is not a restricted message for the intellectual or academia, but universal for all (Matt. 28:19-20; 11:28-30).

- BTH

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 5/18 B.C.: 26 Daily Bible Readers: 11
Chapters Read: 302 Worship: 50 Wednesday: 30

Family News and Notes

Jan Keen is continuing her cancer treatments and has just learned she is now also diabetic. **Sandra Hedgepeth** is now at home. **John McDougle, Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Carole Pearson**, Dave Carver’s cousin is still recuperating from a stroke. **Margaret Langston** is in Carolina Inn. **Gwen Jennen** is having health problems. **Carlton Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** dad, is in hospice care and not doing well. **Barbara Norris** is also struggling with her health and had a successful heart procedure on last week. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers. **Melany Hatcher** is on a brief trip to Texas and Alabama to see family in those states, she will be back in Fayetteville for about one more week before heading back to Manado, Indonesia. I will be going to Indonesia next month. June 23 - July 8. Also remember: **Margaret Langston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry & Melany Hatcher, Frances Salaz, Linda Hernandez, and the Davis family.**

Bible Reading Plan

May 25	May 26	May 27	May 28	May 29	May 30	May 31
2 Sa 22-24	1 Ki 1	1 Ki 2-3	1 Ki 4-5	1 Ki 6-7	1 Ki 8-9	1 Ki 10-11
2 Cor 1	2 Cor 2	2 Cor 3	2 Cor 4	2 Cor 5	2 Cor 6	2 Cor 7

Events

Congregation Fellowship: Memorial Day, May 26th at Namika Harley residence @ 1pm.

