

Privileged to Serve

Morning Worship

Announcements: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Opening Prayer: Kyle Pool

Lord's Table:
Presiding: Ben Grant

Assisting: David Inman
Luka Herrera

Sermon: Byran Hatcher

Closing P.: Tyler Christian

Those serving Wednesday

Teacher: Byran Hatcher

Announcements: Byran Hatcher

Devotional: Julius Cook

Song Leader: Chad Futrell

Closing Prayer: Cam Christian

Pantry Item
Big Can Chicken

Sermon Notes

Psalm 56

I. *God Is* _____

II. *God Is* _____

III. *God Is* _____

August 30, 2026

Welcome!

Cape Fear
Church of Christ

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Fayetteville, NC
28304

Phone:
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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

Volume 54 Issue 8

The Cape Fear Crier

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

Knowledge or Ignorance? (Cont'd)

Sin is a violation of God's will. It is a transgression of the Law of God. First John 3:4 says, *“Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for sin is the transgression of the law.”* It matters not whether one is aware of the Law of God. Ignorance of the Law is not an excuse. God's law is still God's law. One breaks that law whether they know it or not. Ignorance of the law does not change that. We can be guilty of speeding and never know we were driving over the limit until we're pulled over and given a ticket. Pleading ignorance does not change the fact that we were breaking the law. Small children have no knowledge of the law of gravity. They do not realize that violating that law can bring about serious injury and even death. But when they fall from a high place, they are not spared from injury because they were ignorant of the law of gravity.

Second, *we are also responsible for the SOULS OF OTHERS.*

Elders will give an answer regarding the church members under their watch and care. Hebrews 13:17 tells every member of a local congregation, *“Obey them that have the rule over you, and submit yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account, that they may do it with joy, and not with grief: for that is unprofitable for you.”* What a weighty responsibility is incumbent upon elders because they have the obligation to watch for members' souls. An elder is not qualified to be an elder if he is ignorant of his duty. This requires that he know God's Word and is able to teach it to others (I Tim 3:2-6).

Preachers, likewise, will give an account as to whether they have discharged their responsibility. Paul told the elders of the church at Ephesus, *“...I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house, Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. ... Wherefore I take you to record this day, that I am pure from the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God”* (Acts 20:20-21,26,27). Paul also wrote to Timothy

saying, *“Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine”* (II Tim. 4:2). Preachers cannot carry out their task of reproving, rebuking and exhorting if they are ignorant of God’s will. Sadly, many are ignorant by choice because they choose to travel the way of the masses.

Isaiah told of conditions in his day of those who had the charge to proclaim God’s will to the people. *“His watchmen are blind: they are all ignorant, they are all dumb dogs, they cannot bark; sleeping, lying down, loving to slumber”* (Isa. 56:10).

I cannot imagine preachers choosing to go along with the flow — to deliberately choose to not know the “right ways of the Lord” and then proclaim it to both the people of the world and the people of God. But, church members also are to be blamed and will be held accountable because they want it to be so. Isaiah was told, *“Now go, write it before them in a table, and note it in a book, that it may be for the time to come for ever and ever: That this is a rebellious people, lying children, children that will not hear the law of the LORD: Which say to the seers, See not; and to the prophets, Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits”* (Isa. 30:8-10). Practically the same thing is said to Timothy by the apostle Paul. *“For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables”* (II Tim. 4:3-4).

Every church member bears responsibility toward others. It is required of all of us to be a positive influence for the Lord’s cause. Will we stand before the Lord one day in judgment and hear someone say, “You saw me from day to day and knew I was astray, yet you never mentioned Him to me?” When we see people hungry, thirsty, naked, sick, or in prison and we do nothing to help and assist them, we are not doing what the Lord has commanded us to do. We are to have a heart of compassion and tenderness. When Jesus *“...saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd”* (Matt. 9:36).

Jesus tells us that we are His people and, as such, our light will shine. Our good deeds toward our fellow man will be observed. God will be glorified. *“Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven”* (Matt. 5:13-16).

(To Be Cont’d)

By the Numbers

Weekly Attendance for 8/23	B.C.: 32	Daily Bible Readers: 10
Chapters Read: 351	Worship: 59	Wednesday: 39

Family News and Notes

Melany Hatcher passed away early Monday morning. Her memorial service is this Saturday at 1pm. **Margaret Mosley** remains in rehab. **Troy Miles’** grandmother is not doing well. Jennifer’s coworker, **Nicole Jones**, is going through chemotherapy and family struggles, but has received some good news about her diagnosis. Gloria Frye’s daughter, **Kathy Taylor**, is enduring extreme pain with multiple health issues. **Joseph Brown**, Cookie’s brother, has had seizures. **Barbara Norris, Jeanette Freshley’s** mother, is struggling with her health; also, her sister, **Elizabeth Cremeans**, needs our prayers. **Linda Jenkins’** son, **Shannon**, is struggling with mental health issues. **John McDougale, Geraldine Harrington’s** uncle, is not doing well. **Kim Perkins’** parents need prayers, and the family is experiencing significant stress. Also remember: **Linda Boston, Vicky Carver, Wade & Sandra Hedgepeth, Barry Hatcher, Phil & Kathie Byrd, Margaret Mosley, Linda Hernandez, Ellen Brantley**, and the **Davis** family.

Bible Reading Plan

Aug 30	Aug 31	Sep 1	Sep 2	Sep 3	Sep 4	Sep 5
P 1147-50	P 1151-56	P 1157-61	P 1161-64	P 1164-70	P 1170-74	P 1174-78

Events

Fall Quarter: Begins September 6.
Memorial Service: for Melany Hatcher, September 5 @ the church building at 1pm.
Gospel Meeting: at Rockingham C of C, September 20-23.

