

SCHEDULED TO SERVE MARCH 17:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: **B. CAMPBELL**
 SONG DIRECTOR: am **B. CAMPBELL**
 pm **Ju. RICE**
 PRAYER: am **D. GOFF**
 pm **D. MELOTT**
 READING: **H. JUNG**
 WAIT ON TABLE **J. RICE**
S. HOOD
 SERVE CONGREGATION **C. STEWART**
De. HOOD
 CLOSING PRAYER: am. **JR. DAUGHERTY**
 pm **Da. HOOD**

Wednesday Invitation: March 13, 2024
Bruce Grim

PREPARE COMMUNION—March 2024
Mary Jung

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday

Bible Study 9:45 a.m.
 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Evening Worship 6:30 p.m.

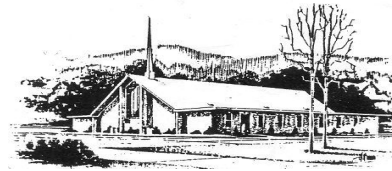
Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE RECORD:

Bible Study	35
AM Worship	52
PM Worship	30
Wednesday	29

Week of
 March 3



Bridge Street
Church of Christ
 1139 S. Bridge Street - PO Box 292
 New Martinsville WV 26155

March 10, 2024

MESSENGER

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

Throughout the book of Proverbs, we read an evident contrast between *wisdom* and *foolishness*. The wisdom described in the book comes from above, and those who follow and live according to these godly instructions are righteous. On the contrary, those who reject the way of godly wisdom will, without doubt, find themselves engaged in worldly wickedness.

Despite their rejection of godly wisdom, wicked people often prosper in life. They may appear to be better off than the righteous ones. Not only that, but the apparent prosperity and success of the wicked often seem to come at the expense of the righteous.

This sense of injustice is not something new. The wise man who wrote the biblical Book of Proverbs already noticed and lamented that often those who reject the wisdom that is from above seem to escape the negative consequences of their sin, laziness, wastefulness, ignorance, etc. In fact, we can read: "My son, eat honey, for it is good, Yes, the honey from the comb is sweet to your taste; Know that wisdom is thus for your soul; If you find it, then there will be a future, and your hope will not be cut off. Do not lie in wait, O wicked man, against the dwelling of the righteous; Do not destroy his resting place; For a righteous man falls seven times, and rises again, but the wicked stumble in time of calamity. Do not rejoice when your enemy falls, and do not let your heart be glad when he stumbles; Or the LORD will see it and be displeased, and turn His anger away from him. Do not fret because of evildoers or be envious of the wicked; For there will be no future for the evil man; The lamp of the wicked will be put out" (Prov. 24:13-20).

The righteous who lives according to godly wisdom has hope for the future. Therefore, rather than getting discouraged about his own current situation (or the one of the wicked), Solomon indicates certain things to do and not to do. Let us consider his points and see what we can learn from them.

Pursue Wisdom (vv. 13-14). Obtaining wisdom provides hope for something better—either in this life or (most especially) in the life to come. Therefore, rather than following the ways of the wicked, we need to pursue wisdom so that we can enjoy God's blessings. Paul reminded Timothy that the word of God is able to give "the wisdom that leads to salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus" (2 Tim. 3:15).

Keep Getting Back Up (vv. 15-16). Though the wicked often take advantage of the righteous and elevate himself, Solomon warned the wicked that this was ultimately futile. This is because when the righteous person falls, he has reasons to keep getting back up. "Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised" (Heb. 10:35-36).

Do Not Gloat Over Your Enemies (vv. 17-18). The righteous person, despite the mistreatment that he may have receive from the wicked one, is not to rejoice in this. God told the prophet Ezekiel: "Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord God, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his wicked way and live'" (Ezek. 33:11). We are to have the same attitude as the Lord. He is "not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance" (2 Peter 3:9).

Do Not Envy the Wicked (vv. 19-20). The wise man echoed the counsel of the psalmist: "Do not fret because of evildoers, be not envious toward wrongdoers. For they will wither quickly like the grass and fade like the green herb. Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness" (Ps. 37:1-3).

While the wicked may seem to prosper in the short term, we must look beyond whatever present conditions exist. There is hope for the future if we will follow God's word and live righteous lives before Him. Regardless of what may happen in this life, let us continue to pursue the wisdom of God and persevere through whatever trials we may have to face. In the end, we can be assured that "there will be a future" for us (Prov. 24:14).

Paolo Di Luca

God's Plan for Man's Salvation

"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Acts 16:30

The Gospel Must be **HEARD**

Rom. 10:17 John 8:32

The Gospel Must be **BELIEVED**

John 8:24 Mark 16:16

Sins Must be **REPENTED OF**

Luke 13:3, 5 Acts 2:38

Christ Must be **CONFESSED**

Matt. 10:32-33 Rom. 10:10

There Must Be **BAPTISM**

(Immersion) for the Remission of Sins

Acts 2:38 1 Peter 3:21

There Must Be **CHRISTIAN**

GROWTH and **FAITHFULNESS**

1 Peter 2:2 Rev. 2:10

2 Peter 3:18

MESSENGER

**Bridge Street
 Church of Christ**

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Paolo Di Luca

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WELCOME

We are honored to have you with us today. Please return this evening (6:30) and Wednesday evening (7:00) for our mid-week Bible Study.

If you have any questions about what we do during worship, we invite you to speak with our minister. His name and contact information is on the back of today's bulletin.



Power Country 99.5 FM(radio)--7:30 am
WTRF 7(TV)- Wheeling, WV--6:30am
WTOV 9(TV)- Steubenville, OH--10:00am

"Spiritual And Religious"
March 17, 2024

SCRIPTURE READING March 10--16, 2024

Sunday, March 10--Joshua 1--2
Monday, March 11--Joshua 3--4
Tuesday, March 12--Joshua 5--8
Wed., March 13--Joshua 9--12
Thursday, March 14--Joshua 13--16
Friday, March 15--Joshua 17--20
Saturday, March 16--Joshua 21--24

KEEP IN PRAYER

Family:

Joyce Campbell--Multiple Sclerosis
Rona Grimm
Clair Twyman
Danny Goff & family
Wilbur Dawson
Joyce Greathouse
Bill Caputo
Janelle Antill & family
Tony Williams
Ed Ford
Lorene Eddy
Tom & Bonnie Foster
Sandra Reed

Friends:

Sean Klug--Health issues
Glendora Ellas (Cumberledge's niece)
Lucille Haught (Carla Haught's mother)
Kim Haught (Carla Haught's sister/health issues)
Carl Haught (Carla Haught's father)
Terry Varner
Julie Philips (friend of Bruce & Carmen Grim)
Lorene Eddy's son, Danny
Cindy Di Luca's brother, Mike Inman
Scott Johnson (Sandy Geho's brother)
Byron Henbest (Potter Children's Home)
David Hamilton (Potter Children's Home)
Jeff Harris--Chemo treatments
Nursing Home Residents
Janice Graham--J. Campbell's sister
Zack Lamp--Sue Skinner's nephew

**MARK YOU CALENDARS:
SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH
MOVIE/DISCUSSION/PIZZA AT 2 PM**



"You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have."
--Corrie Ten Boom--

5 THINGS TO REMEMBER DURING DIFFICULT TIMES

We are living in fearful and uncertain times. Due to the different events that are happening, many people are afraid and pessimistic about the future. How are we to cope with this fearful feeling? What are some of the things that God wants us to keep in our minds during this trying time?

1. God is in control.
 - He continues to be sovereign (*Ps 135:6; .47:2-8; Dan. 4:34-35*).
 - This reality should comfort Christians in tough times (*Rev. 17:14*).
 - Job needed to be reminded of this during his time of suffering (*Job 38-39*).
2. God sees everything.
 - God sees everything going on in the world right now (*Ps. 139:7-12; Heb. 4:13*).
 - God sees our faith and fears. He is aware of what is going on in the lives of His people.
3. God is faithful.
 - God is always trustworthy and reliable (*Deut. 7:9; Ps. 89:8; Heb. 10:23*).
 - A great case study of the faithfulness of God is found in the story of Abraham. God made several significant promises to Abraham, and He was faithful to each one (*Gen. 12:1-3*).
4. God is worthy of glory.
 - God is always deserving of praise, reverence, and the highest level of adoration (*1 Cor. 10:31; Gal. 1:5*).
 - Nothing in the world will change the facts about God! Nothing does change how we should respond to the awesomeness of God.
5. God loves you.
 - God continues to provide for us each day (*Ps. 145:15-16*).
 - God demonstrated His love for us at the highest level by providing a cure for our sin through His Son (*John 3:16; Rom. 5:8-10*).

Remembering these things should motivate us to . . .

- ❖ Trust God to continue taking care of us (*Prov. 3:5-8*).
- ❖ Take comfort and lean on the Lord during all times (*1 Peter 5:6-7*).
- ❖ Keep our faith high in the promises of God (*Matt. 28:20; Heb. 13:5*).
- ❖ Continue glorifying God (*1 Cor. 10:31*).
- ❖ Be thankful (*Col. 4:2*).