

Washington church of Christ

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The Washington Messenger

Volume 3 – Number 4

January 26, 2014

Order of Services

Sunday January 26, 2014

Song Leader	Daniel Wydro
Prayer	Arnold Thompson
Preaching	Ralph Ruggiero
Lord's Supper	
Prayer for the Bread	Stan Thompson
Prayer for the Cup	Pete Ferencze
Prayer for the Collection	Bob Celentano
Assisting at the Table	Patrick Wydro
Scripture Reading	Ralph Ruggiero
Morning Closing Prayer	David Osinski
Evening Opening Prayer	Bob Wydro
Announcements	Scott Thomas

Schedule of Weekly Services

Sunday Morning Bible Classes	9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 am
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Evening Bible Classes	7:30 pm
Thursday Morning Bible Study	11:00 am

The Glory of God...

To the Chief Musician. A Psalm of David. The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, And night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language Where their voice is not heard. (Psalms 19:1-3 NKJV)

In our article last week we used the 19th Psalm to discuss how the glory of God is manifest in the perfect order of His creation. More specifically, we saw how four attributes of God enable us to place implicit trust in Him ... the infinite power of God, by whose *Words the worlds were framed* (Hebrews 11:3), His infinite wisdom made manifest in the perfection of creation (Psalms 104:24), the goodness of God in His forbearance to use is His power to destroy sinful man (2 Peter 3:9), and the unchangeableness of God in the immutability of His creation, which insures us the *He changes not* (Malachi 3:6).

These four Divine attributes are also present in the law of the Lord and are displayed by both ability and results.

It is thrilling to read of God speaking the worlds into existence, and of His word calming the turbulent seas and boisterous winds. It is also very impressive to read that the Son of God stood beside a grave in Bethany, and with the words "Lazarus, come forth", brought back to life a man who had been dead four days, (John 11:43, 44). Great power is shown in these words of God and Christ ... and, the greatest display of power in the Word of God is in the gospel, His power unto salvation, (Romans 1:16).

The Word of God has a power that is unique, in that it alone is able to save the soul...

Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. (James 1:21 NKJV)

The Bible teaches that the gospel is THE power of God unto salvation for everyone, and besides it there is no other power to accomplish that purpose.

The infinite wisdom of God is also manifested in His Word. The prophecies of ancient days, which were fulfilled at the proper time, demonstrate clearly God's words to the prophet Isaiah ...

"... For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me, Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things that are not yet done, Saying, 'My counsel shall stand, And I will do all My pleasure,'" (Isaiah 46:9-10)

Some modern critics charge that many of the prophecies were written after, rather than before, the subject events transpired. However, it is significant that no historian of the days of Christ disputes the pre-existence of these writings. Jesus stated publically ...

Then He said to them, "These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me." (Luke 24:44)

Why did not some person challenge this, and similar statements by the Lord, if there were no prophecies concerning Him? The answer is obviously that the Jews knew that these prophecies were in their law. A prediction that His own people would reject Him, that He would be numbered with the transgressors, and that He would occupy the tomb of the rich, all of which occur in one chapter, (Isaiah 53), could not be an accident, or a coincidence.

When these events actually happened nearly 800 years later, the wisdom of God in declaring *from ancient times things that are not yet done*, is evident.

We might also note the New Testament prophecies concerning the perilous times in the last days, written by inspired men some 1900 years ago, and see the wisdom of God in viewing the state of our present age from that remote date ...

But know this, that in the last days perilous times will come: For men will be lovers of themselves, lovers of money, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, unloving, unforgiving, slanderers, without self-control, brutal, despisers of good, traitors, headstrong, haughty, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (2 Timothy 3:1-4)

I'm not sure if there is a more graphic portrayal of our present day!

Then too, Jesus foretold a condition among the ranks of those who would be His followers...

And because lawlessness will abound, the love of many will grow cold. (Matthew 24:12)

There is no other way to account for these exact predictions other than the infinite wisdom of God!

God's infinite wisdom can also be seen in the fact that although enemies of the Bible have tried continually through the years to prove it false, their efforts have failed. A wisdom higher than that of finite man has given us this infallible revelation.

In, and by, the Word of God, His goodness can be seen in so many ways. The fact that God is unwilling that any person should perish is often repeated in the scriptures. The revelation of His Will, which enables man to escape this doom, is tangible evidence of His goodness.

Paul wrote of this grace ...

For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, (Titus 2:11)

In Acts 20:32, Paul states ...

"So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. (Acts 20:32)

How good God is to consider sinful man, and to instruct him in His Word!

The immutability of the Word of God calls us back to the same quality in creation, denoting the same Source. We saw an unchanging order in creation, and concluded that this immutability was for our benefit. Any earthly endeavor would be futile if the natural forces were unpredictable. Likewise, in the realm of revelation ...

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; (Psalms 19:7)

The immutable law of Jesus, (Matthew 24:35), states that faith and obedience to God's Word is necessary for Salvation, (Romans 10:10; Acts 2:38). This immutability must be recognized to extend to issues related to His church (Matthew 16:18), its worship (John 4:24), and to every phase of our Christian activity, (2 Timothy 3:17).

By doing so, we will add our declaration of the glory of God to that of creation, which moves obediently to His will.

EVENTS AND NOTES

UPCOMING EVENTS THAT WE ARE AWARE OF ARE ...

- ▲ THE NEXT MEN'S BUSINESS MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 2ND, STARTING AT 4PM.
- ▲ ADDITIONALLY, THE LADIES BIBLE STUDY IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 2ND AS WELL ... STARTING AT 4:45PM.

Our Prayer List...

For Spiritual Responsiveness – All of our wayward members

For Physical Healing – Jordan Thomas - Matt Grimaldi ...
John Baxter ... Britta Commans ... Frank Salerno ... Mary
Celentano's father ... Kathleen Wydro's mother ...

For Wisdom and Good Judgment – The Leaders of our
congregation ... the leaders of our nation

For God's Care and Good Providence – Our young people
away at college ... Our young people here at
Washington ... our members who are traveling ... the
men and women in military service ... our congregation.

The Evangelist and Teachers We Help Support – Jon Focht –
Tim Bunting – Scott Smelser – Dan Wydro