

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Hebrews 13:16

And be not fashioned according to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, and ye may prove what is the good and acceptable perfect will of God.

(Romans 12:2)

Food Pantry

The pantry is located in the room left of the library. There are sacks in the pantry room if you or someone you know is in need of any of these items. Feel free to take what you need. If you have a donation for the pantry please put it on the table in the pantry room.

Mountain States Children's Home

Remember to stock up on non-perishable supplies to bring for the children's home collection which takes place in August and March each year. Keep this work in your prayers.

Peru Ministry

Support Oscar and Anna Maria in their outreach in Peru.

And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony unto all the nations; and then shall the end come. (Matt 24:14)

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.kennewickcoc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ
Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting times:

Sunday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am
Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday:

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com
LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd and 4th Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome.

Attendance 12/03: NA

Budget \$2000.00

Contribution 12/03: 2634.25

December 10, 2017

Welcome to the Kennewick Church of Christ

A Working Knowledge of the Word of God

To live the Christian life, we need the teaching of Christ and to constantly examine ourselves to see if we are walking in the steps of our Lord Jesus. Christ not only revealed the truth to us, but He also showed us through His own life how truth is to be applied. A student may memorize the rules of mathematics, yet he may not know how to solve a problem. However, when the teacher shows how the rules are to be applied, the student will be able to solve similar problems.

Jesus demonstrated obedience when He was baptized by John the Baptist (Matthew 3:13-15). Jesus never sinned. He did not need to be baptized for the remission of sins, yet He declared that it was becoming of him to fulfill all righteousness. In so doing, He taught us obedience. Christ demonstrated His knowledge of the Scriptures when He was tempted by Satan. Each temptation that was offered was countered by the use of God's Word (Matthew 4:4,7,10).

One classic example of Christ and His living the truth is found at His crucifixion. From the cross He prayed for those who had so cruelly handled Him, saying, "Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Luke 23:34). Christ has set us an example of living in what He taught. So, we too, must live what we teach, and in order to do so we must "Study to show ourself approved unto God" (2 Timothy 2:15).

This emphasizes the importance of a working knowledge of the Word of God, and this can be gained only by applying ourselves to learn the truth. The Word of God is not studied to gain information but for translating it into our lives. In our living and teaching, Christ is the example we should follow. "He that says he abides in Him ought himself also so to walk, even as He walked" (1 John 2:6).

Jesus said, "Ye are the salt of the earth, but if salt have lost its savour, wherewith shall it be salted? It is henceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out and to be trodden under foot of men. Ye are the light of the world... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your father which is in heaven" (Matthew 5:13-16). Since our Lord not only taught, but lived what He taught, if we are to abide in Him, then we must also live what we teach. Preaching and teaching are essential to the edification of the saints, but doing is equally essential. Good teaching is excellent, but good teaching and living are supreme.

~Shan Jackson

The entirety of Christendom loves the idea of having Christ as Savior and going to heaven. However, the vast majority of this group has very little use for what Jesus actually said. These people claim to love God and worship Him, but in reality, they have made a god in their own image, one who does things the way they want. This majority that believes it has accepted Jesus as Savior have actually rejected Him because they do not do the will of the Father.

It is spelled out in no uncertain terms in Matthew 7:21-23 that to enter the kingdom of heaven, one must do the will of the Father. This is what the parable of the wise man (24-27) is all about. If we hear and act upon the words of Jesus, then we build our houses on the rock; however, if we hear and do not act upon the words of Jesus, we build houses on sand. There is no question or ambiguity here; if we wish for Jesus to be Savior, we must accept Him as Lord and submit ourselves to do his will.

~Thomas Baxley

Keep these Dates in Mind:

12/03 First Sunday Potluck (Cancelled)
 12/09 Men's breakfast and Fellowship
 12/10 Holiday Potluck
 12/10 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 12/24 Scheduled Open Cong Meeting 5:00p
 (subject to reschedule due to Christmas)
 01/07 First Sunday Potluck
 01/13 Men's breakfast and Fellowship
 01/14 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p
 01/28 Open Congregational Meeting 5:00p

Birthdays and Anniversaries for December

Holly Preston 11/29
 Connie Stecker 11/30
 Buzz Heston 12/1
 Mark Minor 12/4
 John & Christina Hopkins 12/12
 Laiken McCrickard 12/15
 Bob & Marlene Blankenship 12/20
 Bill & Linda Lafferty 12/24
 Queca Woods 12/26

With my whole heart have I sought thee: Oh let me not wander from thy commandments. Thy word have I laid up in my heart, that I might not sin against thee. (Psalm 119:10, 11)

Bible Studies:

Adult Class -
 Fellowship Hall
 (S) –Epistles of Peter
 (W) – Romans

Youth Classes -
 Classroom Wing
 Ladies Class –
 Fellowship Hall
 Thursday 10:00a - 11:30a



Health Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Bob Childers, Amanda McCrickard, Kaleb McCrickard, Savannah and Christian Johnson (friends of the McCrickards, daughter suffering from mitochondrial disease), Christy Hickman, Joshua Hickman, Vern Mast, Sue Aldrich

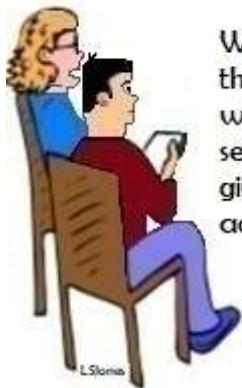
Bill Johnson has returned home

Sue Aldrich is still being treated for congestive heart failure and will most likely be sent to rehab when she is released

Kaleb McCrickard is preparing for a tonsillectomy on December 19. Please keep the family in your prayers as they prepare themselves and Kaleb for the upcoming procedure, made more difficult due to his autism.

Mary Beth Walker as she travels this week

Our Spring Lectureship is planned for April 11-15. Put it on your schedule and plan to invite a friend.



When I start thinking that God doesn't care what I do, he usually sends something to give me an attitude adjustment

Komedy Korner

The angels beckon me
 from heaven's
 open door
 And I can't feel
 at home
 in this world
 anymore

Zephaniah

The world seems to be falling apart. There is war, killing, and being killed. We are not even safe in our own country. Religion has fallen on hard times. It seems that even those who, at one time, sought to follow the path of God have turned their backs on that pattern and are worshiping just like everyone else in the country. The number of people who truly want to serve God and follow His pattern seems to be shrinking more and more by the day.

This description I have given you might describe our own times. But it could also describe the times of mankind and God's people for the last three thousand years (or more). This is exactly what was going on during the days of the so-called minor prophet Zephaniah.

Zephaniah is one of the shortest, one of the most "minor" of the minor prophets, having only 53 verses. You might say it is a summary, a shorter version, of any one of the major prophets.

Observe God's anger and what He says He will do to Jerusalem and Judah. God is so angry with His people: notice His words:

"I will completely remove" (1:2) and "I will remove" (twice in verse 3). The same verb is also found in 3:11. Observe how comprehensive this removal is: "all things from the face of the earth" (vs. 2), "man and beast, birds, fish" (vs. 3). These two verses call to mind the destruction of the world through the flood of Noah. It's almost as if God is predicting another worldwide global catastrophe.

He further says, "I will cut off" (vs. 3), and "I will stretch out My hand" (vs. 4). We see here in verse 4 that the target of God's wrath is primarily His own people – "Judah" and "inhabitants of Jerusalem."

Why? Because:

1. The Jews have diluted the Word of God. They have not kept it pure and have mixed it in with worship from other religions (1:4,5)
2. This syncretism is also evident in what they were wearing (1:8) and what they were practicing (1:9).
3. From a moral perspective, they were guilty of fraud and violence (1:9).
4. We see in 3:3-4 that this perversion of God's worship reaches all the way to the leadership, prophets, priests, and judges.
5. The Jews would reply, "Well, that's not a 'salvation issue'. That is, God is not really concerned about these sorts of things" (1:12). The matter they were overlooking, and that so many people overlook today, is that if God specifies, He expects obedience. This is an attitude of gambling on God's indifference.
6. The Jews refused to change their behavior, ignoring the preaching of other prophets as well as Zephaniah (3:2,7).

We see in 1:7 the first command God gives Israel: Be silent. Be respectful. Be filled with awe. Until we humbly acknowledge the nature of the God of heaven, we will not look at sin and the world from the right perspective and understand that God's decree or law of coming wrath and judgment is going to take place. The day of God's anger will come – twice Zephaniah warns.

So (2:3), Seek the Lord. Be humble. Carry out His ordinances, His commandments. Seek righteousness that comes through God's commandments. Seek humility. In that way, when the dark day of God's anger comes, you will be hidden in the safety of God's grace.

Zephaniah is still a relevant message for us today because man has not changed. He still wants to do his own thing, and he still thinks that God could not care less what he does. Yet, God has not changed either. He is still holy, and He still demands righteousness on the part of man. We still need to seek the Lord. Be humble. Keep His commandments. Seek righteousness.