

Prayer List

Brian Carver, Marc Genua, Eleanor Green, Virgil Hale, Betty Harama, Gordon Hatcher, Amy Headrick, Dennis Hogan, Kenny Hughes, Evelyn Hunt, Magaly Orozco, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Keith Russell, Dolores Snyder, Sam Teasley, Jana Ward, Mary York

The Numbers

Attendance Sunday, November 22
 Wednesday, November 25
 Offering Sunday, November 22 \$925.00

Those Serving

Prayer Before Sunday Class Brad Green

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & First Prayer Tommy Sanders
 Songs Kevin Felker
 Sermon Brad Green
 Lord's Supper Barry Simmons
 Contribution John Bagwell
 Assisting David Snyder
 Closing Prayer Terry Hurst

Sunday Afternoon Worship

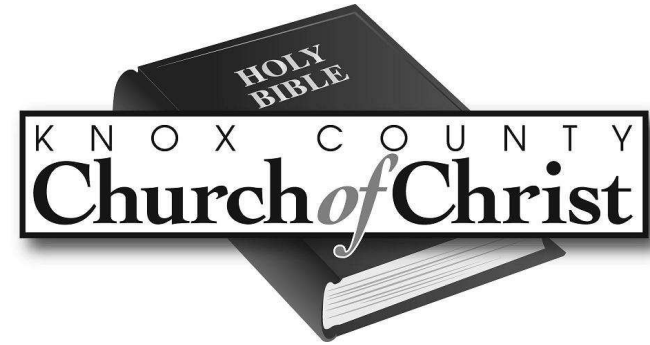
First Prayer Terry Hurst
 Songs *Singing*
 Sermon Brad Green
 Lord's Supper Barry Simmons
 Closing Prayer Donald Shipley

Wednesday Night

Songs David Snyder
 First Prayer Kevin Felker
 Devotional Charles Hatcher
 Closing Prayer John Bagwell

Knox County Church of Christ
 PO Box 22441
 Knoxville, TN 37933

November 29, 2015



<http://www.knoxcoc.com>

Meeting Location:
 130 Mabry Hood Road
 Suite 102
 Knoxville, TN 37922
 865.247.4620

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study.....9:30 AM
 Worship.....10:30 AM & 1:30 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 PM



From The Preacher's Pen

“URGENCY IN FORSAKING SIN”

[This article by Douglas Hoff appeared in the November 5, 2007 Beacon, A Publication of the Bellview Church of Christ in Pensacola, FL]

The Bible is full of many valuable lessons. A study of God's Word shows sin is dangerous, deceptive, and destructive. That is why it is important to quickly leave Satan's snare (1 Tim. 3:7; 2 Tim. 2:26). The longer a soul remains trapped in sin, the harder it is to get free of its hold. Wise people will recognize this and do their best to avoid sin in the first place. When a person has sinned, he should exercise urgency in forsaking it for his soul's sake.

The generation of Israelites that forsook Egypt and followed Moses through the wilderness reveals the true nature of sin. They had heard the voice of God at Mt. Sinai and promised to obey (Exo. 19:8; Deu. 5:22-29). However, with few exceptions, they did not. The writer of Hebrews said this about them:

Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says: *“Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness, Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years. Therefore I was angry with that generation, And said, ‘They always go astray in their heart, And they have not known My ways.’ So I swore in My wrath, ‘They shall not enter My rest.’”* Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; but exhort one another daily, while it is called *“Today,”* lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 3:7-13—NKJV).

Notice that unbelief is called evil. It leads one to depart from God. The cure for unbelief is exhortation using God's Word. The exhortations need to be frequent (even daily). The time for such reminders and encouragement is **now**—not tomorrow or the next day. Tomorrow may not come (Pro. 27:1). When listening to God's Word one **must** choose to obey or he will disobey and harden his heart.

Sin is deceptive and hardens one's heart to the outcome. Sin says, “There's no hurry!” However, staying in sin makes it harder to leave (Pro. 28:14; 29:1). It is truly amazing how often man will justify his sin. At first, he may admit it is wrong but thinks it is not too bad. In fact, the sinner often thinks he can “manage” his sin. What a lie! At that point, one has engaged in self deception and is on the way to being thoroughly ensnared by Satan. Choosing to remain in sin can dull the senses to the soul's destruction. When the heart becomes hardened, it no longer feels the pangs of a tender conscience. This is why it is so dangerous to play with sin. Eventually, one's conscience may be seared (1 Tim. 4:1-2). Searing living tissue kills the nerves so that there is no more pain felt. With no pain, there is no incentive to repent because everything seems fine. In the Scriptures hardness of heart is linked with impenitence (e.g., Rom. 2:5). Such souls are

said to be “treasuring up for yourself wrath in the day of wrath and revelation of the righteous judgment of God.” Indeed, this is a terrible condition to be in.

Not surprisingly, Jesus had a lot to say about hardness of heart. On one occasion the Lord was both angered and grieved by the hardness of hearts among the people (Mark 3:5). Even the disciples suffered from this problem. This, in turn, led them not to understand a spiritual point Jesus was making (Mark 6:52; 8:17). After the resurrection the Lord rebuked the eleven for their hardness of heart because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen (Mark 16:14).

Sadly, the hard hearted will not enter God's promised rest (heaven) because of sin and unbelief (Heb. 4:7-9). Brethren, take heed to yourselves. If you are in sin right now, get out while you still have time.

--Douglas Hoff

The Gospel Plan of Salvation

- HEAR the word of God; the Bible (Romans 10:17)
- BELIEVE the word of God and that Jesus is Lord (John 8:24; Hebrews 11:6)
- REPENT of sin (Acts 17:30)
- CONFESS that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God (Matthew 10:32-33)
- BE BAPTIZED in order to receive remission of sins (Acts 2:38); in order to have past sins washed away (Acts 22:16); in order to get into the body of Christ, the church (Romans 6:3-4; Acts 2:47); in order to be saved (Mark 16:15-16; 1 Peter 3:21)
- LIVE FAITHFULLY in accordance with God's word (1 John 1:6-9; Revelation 2:10)

Welcome Visitors

Thank you for visiting with us today. If you have any questions about anything said or done during our worship service, please feel free to ask. Also, please take a moment to fill out one of our visitor's information cards and stick around after services so that we can get to know you better.