

Prayer List

Thomy Brewster, Doris Reyes Fernandez, Marc Genua, Eleanor Green, Michelle Grimm, Virgil Hale, Betty Harama, Gordon Hatcher, Dennis Hogan, Kenny Hughes, Evelyn Hunt, Juan Mandujano, Larry McCollum, Betty Miller, Magaly Orozco, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Tim Smith, John and Dolores Snyder, Richard Thompson, Jana Ward

The Numbers

Attendance Sunday, September 21 13/19/13
Wednesday, September 24 18
Offering Sunday, September 21 \$993.00

Those Serving

Prayer Before Sunday Classes David Snyder

Sunday Morning Worship

Announcements & Prayer Terry Hurst
Songs Kevin Felker
Sermon Brad Green
Lord's Supper & Contribution Barry Simmons
Assistant Levy Cox
Closing Prayer Charles Hatcher

Sunday Afternoon Worship

First Prayer Tommy Sanders
Songs David Snyder
Sermon Brad Green
Lord's Supper Barry Simmons
Closing Prayer Donald Shipley

Wednesday Night

Songs Keith Kever
First Prayer Tommy Sanders
Devotional Charles Hatcher
Closing Prayer David Snyder

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

September 28, 2014



<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.....10:30AM & 1:30 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study.....7:00 PM



From The Preacher's Pen

“SELF-DECEPTION”

[The following article was written by William Cline, and appeared in the September, 1979 Defender, a publication by the Bellview Church of Christ in Pensacola, FL]

The thirty-seventh chapter of Jeremiah brings us to the days of King Zedekiah who had been appointed over Judah by Nebuchadnezzar to reign in place of Coniah. These were troublesome days for Judah because Jerusalem had been under siege by the Chaldeans and it would not be long until the city would be destroyed. The presence of Pharaoh's army had caused the Chaldeans to withdraw and the people had flattering hopes that the siege was now over. But the word of the Lord came to them by the prophet Jeremiah saying, “*Deceive not yourselves ... for they shall not depart*”.

Jeremiah used no dark metaphors. He plainly told the people: (1) The Egyptians shall retreat; (2) The Chaldeans shall return and renew the siege with more vigor than ever; and, (3) Jerusalem shall be delivered into the hands of the Chaldeans. But people have always had a difficult time accepting the truth, especially when it did not agree with

their preconceived ideas and emotions. Thus was the case with the Jews. They simply could not see Jerusalem being destroyed, even though they were told that if the Chaldeans were defeated and had only wounded men left, even those would rise up and destroy the city for it is God's decree that the city be destroyed.

The word “yourselves” is a key word. Even Satan himself, the great deceiver, could not deceive us if we did not permit it. It is this writer’s conviction that most men are self-deceived simply because they have chosen to be. Our beliefs are often inconsistent. Our will and feelings have a great influence over us and it is a fact that not many contemplate things in the white light of truth. Thus, so far as we permit our vision to be blinded by passion or distorted by lust, we deceive ourselves.

How many who approach a problem with preconceived notions ever find the truth? We humans have a knack for expecting the facts to verify our opinions, and we contrive to make them do so by ignoring what will not agree with them and by selecting for consideration only what is favorable. Perhaps an old cliché worthy of mention is, “figures don't lie and liars figure”. One can easily trace this in the history of religious delusions.

Men are too ready to form *their creeds* according to inclination, dropping out unpleasant ideas as though there was no such thing as a standard of truth. It is sad, but true, that men go to the Bible for confirmation of their own views rather than for instruction and they only have eyes to see the text which suits their ideas. Only by adherence and submission to divine revelation can we be saved from religious, self-deception.

Self-deception is disloyal to truth. We are under

obligation to *know* the truth and *obey* the truth. Anyone who refuses to know the truth is blind and will never have spiritual sight until they change their attitude and accept the word of God.

Self-deception is also dangerous to our own souls. Facts remain unchanged regardless of the fanciful notion we may have about them. The truth will still rise up and judge us in the last day (Jn. 12:48).

Saul of Tarsus was a self-deceived man for he said, “I verily thought with myself that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26 :9). If Saul had not learned and submitted to divine revelation he would have been lost.

Jesus painted a graphic picture of the self-deceived in Matthew 7:22-23 when he said, “Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord did we not prophesy by thy name, and by thy name cast out demons, and by thy name do many mighty works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.” Only casual observation impresses us with the fact that multitudes travel the way of these poor, deceived individuals.

We are told that it is possible for a man to follow a lie so long that finally he believes that which he knew to be a lie to be the truth. Such is sad in any area of life but for one to deceive himself with regard to matters of eternal value is nothing short of ridiculous and foolish. Men need to give heed to the truth, to the facts just as they are and thereby heed the injunction given by God in the long ago when He said, “*Deceive not yourselves*”.

--*William Cline*

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.