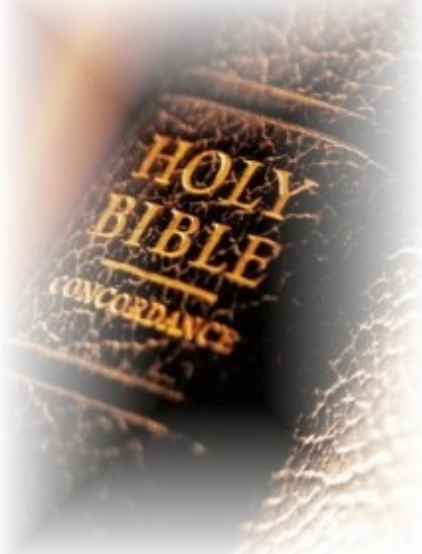


The Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, TX



SUNDAY
JULY 13, 2014

BELLAIRE
church of Christ
8001 South Rice Ave
P.O. Box 1029
Bellaire, Texas 77402
www.bellairechurchofchrist.org

Schedule of Services

SUNDAY:
9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study
5:00 PM Worship

WEDNESDAY:
7:30 PM Study and
Devotional

UPCOMING MEETING:

Ralph Walker
October 23-26

“Trust in the Lord...”

"Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and do not lean on your own understanding." Proverbs 3:5 It is difficult at times to fully trust in God and His will. It was for the ancient heroes in the Bible as well. A man praised for his faith in Hebrews 11:8-19 is an example. Abraham (then Abram) received a promise from God that his descendants would be many (Genesis 12:1-7). Following this, Abram journeys into Egypt. We are told that Sarai, his wife, is a beautiful woman. Pharaoh takes notice of Sarai and desires her for himself. Abram tells Pharaoh that Sarai is his sister. This is a partial truth-Sarai is indeed Abram's half-sister (Genesis 20:12). Abram does not tell Pharaoh this in the context of being informative. Abram's motive is self-preservation (12:12) and compels Sarai to go along with the story. Pharaoh is angered when he discovers he was deceived and boots them out of Egypt.

God may have seen a need to reinforce His promise (15:1-6). The Scripture clearly states that Abram believes God (15:6). However, Abram and Sarai take things into their own hands again in chapter 16. Instead of letting the descendants come through their marriage, they decide that they need to fulfill God's plan by having Abram lay with Sarai's handmaiden Hagar. It seems the Lord recognizes further clarification is needed.

He reiterates the promise with more clarity in chapter 17, including a name change for Abram and Sarai. They are told that Sarah will have a son herself by Abraham and his name will be Isaac.

A situation similar to that of chapter 12 occurs in chapter 20. Abraham tells King Abimelech that Sarah is his sister, again the motive not to be informative, but clearly out of fear (20:11). Abimelech is upset about the deception, as Abraham nearly caused punishment from God to come upon Abimelech. Finally, in Genesis 21, the promise comes to fruition.

Abraham should have known that God would keep His promise. Why would Abraham fear his own death by Pharaoh and Abimelech? Obviously, the Lord would not permit a third party to kill Abraham before he had the promised descendant. Today in our walk with God, we can become impatient about answers to prayers, physical and spiritual growth, or even about the promise of Christ coming again to relieve us from the trials of this world. Perhaps we should remember Psalms 46:10: "Cease striving and know that I am God." The Hebrew for "cease" is to be still or relax. Relax and wait on God's will to come, don't allow Satan an opportunity to hurt you because impatience overpowered your faith.

Tim Martin- edited

Morning Lesson

"My Own Understanding"

Steve Garrett

Evening Lesson

"Tortured Scriptures"

Jack Smith

News and Notes:

Please keep the following members in mind who have difficulty being with us due to prolonged illness: **Dee Boyd, Doris Norman, Billie Glitch, and Don Hurd.**

Health issues are about normal for us. We had a "new" family here last Sunday with visits to MD Anderson. Please keep praying for those with serious problems. Jan Cooper is scheduled for surgery early in August. Keep her and Richard in your prayers.

Dee Boyd is scheduled to move to New York in a week or two. Please pray for her. This is a big move for her. Houston has been her home for a long, long time.

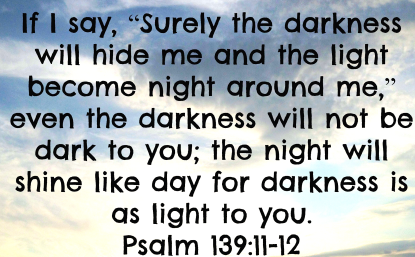
The Kimbrough family will be out of town this weekend. Most likely others as well. Summer travels are exciting, but can be dangerous. Please be safe.

I Will

Psalm 9: 1 "I will praise you, O LORD, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonders. 2 I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

I am convinced that so much of our experience of life is based on our intentions. When we start a day with determination to praise God with all of our hearts, tell of His wonders and rejoice in Him, we will still encounter--as David did--enemies and difficulties. Our purposes, however, will enable us to put our problems in proper perspective.

Knowing that our Maker loves us and takes care of us enables us to overcome when it seems we are sinking. When you feel you are sinking, read Philippians. Paul may have looked sunk to the world but rejoiced in God's provisions in the midst of his troubles.



If I say, "Surely the darkness will hide me and the light become night around me," even the darkness will not be dark to you; the night will shine like day for darkness is as light to you.
Psalm 139:11-12

ASSIGNMENTS

MORNING SERVICE

Announcements - M. Mann
Hymn Director - L. Williams
Scripture Reading - 2 Tim 1 10-11
Scripture Reader - T. Walker
Opening Prayer - J. Carithers
Closing Prayer - M. Mann

EVENING SERVICE

Hymn Director - M. Krueger
Opening Prayer - J. Martinez
Closing Prayer - M. Mann

EVANGELIST

Jack Smith
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Mark Mann
Matt Miles
Mike Pharris
Jack Smith

BIBLE CLASSES

Psalms - Room 107-109
James & Hebrews - Room 102
Bible Geography - Room 204
Graded classes for children