

Washington church of Christ

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The Washington Messenger

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August 17, 2014

Order of Services Sunday August 17, 2014

Song Leader	Derald Sanchez
Prayer	Stan Thompson
Preaching	Bob James
Lord's Supper	
Prayer for the Bread	Dan Wydro
Prayer for the Cup	Bill Duryea
Prayer for the Collection	Brian Jeffries
Assisting at the Table	Matt Grimaldi
Morning Closing Prayer	Ralph Ruggiero
Evening Opening Prayer	Scott Thomas
Announcements	Brian Jeffries

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

God's Law Governs All...

We live in a universe in which everything is governed by the Law of God. When we look at the sun, moon, and stars and are so impressed by their beauty ... if we are not careful, we will miss the lesson that they teach us. The lesson is that they, as a part of the creation of God, are subject to His Law. So completely do they conform to His Law that our scientist and astronomers are able to chart their course, and can anticipate any change in their positions days, or even years, in advance.

Our calendars, which are composed of seven year cycles, give us the dates of the full moon, let us know when to expect an eclipse, and tell us the moment the sun will rise and set far in advance of the actual date.

These, and similar events can be predicted very accurately ... all because God has a law for these things in His creation. And, men through observation have been able to discover these laws and the perfect conformity of the sun, moon, and stars to the law of God that governs them.

David, upon viewing the wonders of God's creation exclaimed;

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained, What is man that You are mindful of him, And the son of man that You visit him? (Psalms 8:3-4 NKJV)

When we contrast the perfect order in the universe with the lawlessness of sinful man, we will also be made to marvel that God is "mindful" of the human family.

As we look upon the things that are of an earthly nature, we can see immediately that they are also subject to God's law for the universe. Agriculture is the basic industry of the earth, and we are all dependent upon the farmer for the food that sustains our physical lives. We, of course, recognize that God must send the sunshine and the rain, or the farmer's tasks would be hopeless.

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. (James 5:7 NKJV)

But the farmer must comply with God's law in order to have a successful crop. If he follows the laws of cultivating and harvesting, he will be successful, and we will continue to be blessed with this food for our physical bodies. Should a farmer fail to comply with these laws, he will be a dismal failure, and we will not gain food from his efforts.

As we look to the other areas of the natural realm, we see that each area has laws to govern it that are operative and unbreakable.

The chemist in his laboratory realizes that a minor variation in the laws of chemistry can be disastrous. The pharmacist is conscious of the fact that his disregard for the laws of medicine can change a potential cure into a deadly poison. These, and other skilled men of science, are well aware that the laws in particular areas must be **recognized** and **obeyed**. These are God's laws!

When we leave the natural realm and focus on the Spiritual, it should be equally apparent, and far more reasonable, that God has laws in this realm also which are operative and unbreakable.

The laws that govern the natural world have no eternal consequences, for one day *the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up* (2 Peter 3:10). Any mistakes a man makes by ignoring the natural, laws of God can only terminate the temporal, whereas in the spiritual realm we are concerned with the eternal.

God is concerned with His creation, and, the eternal salvation of man is of such importance to Him that long before Jesus came to die for the sins of the world He said;

For Zion's sake I will not hold My peace, And for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, Until her righteousness goes forth as brightness, And her salvation as a lamp that burns. (Isaiah 62:1 NKJV)

And, Jesus later stated the purpose of His coming in these words;

"for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost." (Luke 19:10 NKJV)

Since God would not rest until salvation was effected, and Christ left Heaven to seek and to save the lost, we can see how important the salvation of mankind is to each of them. Yet, the great majority of men for who Christ died will not admit that God has a law for their redemption, nor will they submit to the conditions in that law.

It is not uncommon to hear someone make a statement similar to, "As long as a person believes that he is right in what he does, it is alright with God."

Through the years men have advanced as many substitutes for the pardon of man's sins as there are religious groups, but their efforts are futile, for of only one way can it be said,

The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; (Psalms 19:7-8 NKJV)

God has a law of pardon that is as fixed as any law in the natural realm and this law decrees that to be saved one must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God (John 8:24; Acts 8:36, 37), repent and return from their evil way (Acts 17:31; Luke 13:3), confess their faith in Christ (Romans 10:10; Mathew 10:32), and be buried with Christ in baptism (Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12), for the remissions of sins (Acts 2:38; Acts 22:16).

We must comply with each command in the law of God, for to disregard will be spiritually fatal.

We obey the laws in the natural realm so that we might continue to live and see good days. I pray that we all may have the wisdom to submit to God's spiritual laws in humble obedience, for this is the desire of God.

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life, and may enter through the gates into the city. (Revelation 22:14 NKJV)

Our Prayer List...

For Spiritual Responsiveness – All of our wayward members

For Physical Healing – Bill Duryea's mother is back home but is still recovering ... Georgia DeLorenzo is still dealing with her illness and is at home.

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

EVENTS AND NOTES

- ⤴ OUR FIRST "MEET-UP" BIBLE STUDY WILL BE THIS COMING THURSDAY MORNING AT THE PERKIN'S RESTAURANT IN PHILLIPSBURG STARTING AT 10AM. ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE WHENEVER YOU CAN.
- ⤴ WE HAVE A NEW **ONLINE** BIBLE CORRESPONDENCE COURSE THAT IS **NOW** AVAILABLE FROM OUR WEBSITE. **CHECK IT OUT! ... INVITE THOSE YOU KNOW TO TAKE IT AND LEARN MORE ABOUT GOD AND HIS WORD!!!**
- ⤴ WE NEED A JUNIOR CLASS TEACHER FOR THE BIBLE SCHOOL TERM WHICH STARTS ON OCTOBER 5TH.
- ⤴ PLEASE KEEP YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION CURRENT ON THE WEBSITE. THE INFO IS USED TO COMMUNICATE NEWS AND EVENTS