

SERVICE SCHEDULE for September 15, 2013

Announcements for the Week Andy Fuller
Morning Service
Prayer- Mark Jones
Song Leader- Jason LaChappelle
Communion:
 -- **Comments** – Doug Davidson
 -- **Assisting** – Mark Jones
 -- **Assisting** – Matt Fuller
 -- **Assisting** – Curran LaChappelle
 -- **Assisting** – Todd Hudson
Scripture– Justin Carr
Closing Prayer- Jay Dobbs
Evening Service
Prayer- Darryl Griffing
Song Leader- Dan Buselmeier
Comments – Andy Fuller
Serving – Phillip Dorn
Scripture – Connor LaChappelle
Closing Prayer- John Paul Baker
Wednesday Night – September 18, 2013
First Prayer– Marshall Irvin
Song Leader – Russ Sollars
Invitation – Matt Fuller
Closing Prayer – Darryl Griffing
Sunday Evening September 29 – Congregational Prayer Service

Upcoming Assignments

September	Communion	Cleaning
22	Griffing	Dorn, Williams, Irvin, Griffing
29	LaChappelle	Foxworthy, German, Jones, Stewart

After a summer hiatus, the Ladies Bible Study will commence tomorrow, Monday September 16, at 7PM.

The Elders and Deacons will be meeting on Sunday, September 29, at 3:30 to address congregational matters. Please forward all prayer requests to one of these men in conjunction with the Service on Sunday evening.

Service

“Power is to be used in the service of others and only secondarily, if at all, for the benefit of oneself.” — Duane Elmer



Schedule of Services

Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:30 p.m.

This bulletin is published weekly. Edited by Bill McIlvain.

Send any articles for the bulletin to Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com

Covington Church of Christ

9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA30015 --- [770] 787-1119

Elders: Dan Buselmeier, Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain

Deacons: John Paul Baker, Doug Davidson, Andy Fuller,

Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

September 15, 2013

Peter & Paul

1. What miraculous occurrence delivered Paul and Silas from prison in Philippi?
2. What part of Peter was supposed to produce healings?
3. What dangerous creature did not affect Paul when it bit him?
4. How many times was Peter delivered from prison by an angel?



Mortality

By Greg Litmer

Within the last month I have known of several people who have passed from this life. They include a 27-year-old young woman, a 42-year-old young man who seemed to have been the picture of health, and a 78-year-old woman to whom I was very close. A fellow preacher and acquaintance of mine has been battling one affliction after another, each one potentially fatal. If he recovers sufficiently to return home, who knows how much like his former self he will be? An older preacher passed away leaving his wife with a mountain of debt, no life insurance, and a severely autistic 25-year-old daughter for whom she must now care alone. It appears that the only constant about life is change.



Mortality

Continued

I sometimes find myself contemplating the reality of my own mortality. If the Lord wills, by the end of this month I will be 59 years old. For many that doesn't sound very old at all; for others it does. I know that my doctor now speaks of tests that I need to have done "at my age." I know that she now pokes and prods places and things that she did not used to and she has actually told me that I am "no spring chicken" anymore. What is a "spring chicken" anyway? Are baby chicks generally born in the spring?

Mortality is a fact but a difficult thing to wrap one's mind around. Being born is a guarantee that we will die, unless the Lord returns before that occurs. We are told in *Hebrews 10:27*, "*And inasmuch as it is appointed for men to die once and after this comes judgment...*" I watch friends, relatives, acquaintances, and brothers and sisters in Christ pass from this life at all different ages and for all sorts of different reasons, and I know that we have but a short time to live on this earth. I know that there is not one of us promised another minute. James wrote, "*Come now, you who say, Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, and spend a year there and engage in business and make a profit. Yet you do not know what your life will be like tomorrow. You are just a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away. Instead, you ought to say, If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that*" (*James 4:13-15*).

At the risk of sounding morbid, Vicky and I will be watching some old sitcom on TV Land and suddenly realize that all of those people who were so popular and seemed so important and successful are now dead. The greatest and most influential figures of history, individuals who changed the course of the world, are but a period on the page of the great book of time. It is time to change the course of this article and get to the point for I find myself perched on the precipice of waxing eloquently on the profundity of death (I love words!).

If I truly believed that this life was all that there was and being of the turn of mind that I am, I am not sure that I could handle what would then be the absolute futility of my own mortality. To appear upon this earth with whatever degree of influence and fame I might have, only to be gone, would be unbearable. I say this because all of the good I had done, all of those I had influenced, would also simply pass from this earth.

With each passing generation my influence and the memory of me would simply diminish a little more. Entire empires have been built upon the shoulders of one man and where are those empires now?

I am not the only one to recognize the futility of life if there is no spiritual reality to sustain us. Paul wrote in *1 Corinthians 15:19*, "*If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.*" Indeed, I believe the primary point of the book of Ecclesiastes is to teach us that life is pointless and devoid of meaning if it is lived without a realization of the reality of God. That realization can lead us to only one conclusion and it is expressed by Solomon in the final chapter of that book in verse 13, "The conclusion, when all has been heard, is: fear God and keep His commandments, because this applies to every person."

Our entire existence on this earth is bound by time, and everything we may accomplish of an earthly nature is, because of that very nature, also bound by time and destined to decay. However, there is a realm that is not bound by time. Peter wrote of it in *2 Peter 3:8*, "*But do not let this one fact escape your notice, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like one day.*" It is the consequences of what we do in the physical realm in the realm not bounded by time that truly matter.

If I live my life as a faithful Christian I have an inheritance promised to me that is "imperishable and undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven..." If I have a hand in leading someone to Christ and God gives the increase there has been nothing futile about my life here. I will continue on eternally rewarded and any that I have helped to follow the same path will do so as well.

Empires rise and fall; fame and fortune are fleeting. Being a Christian enables me to peer into the realm not bounded by time and to know that there really is meaning to my life here.



Answers from page 1

1. An earthquake [Acts 16:25-33]
2. His shadow [Acts 5:15-16]
3. A viper [Acts 28:3-6]
4. Twice [Acts 5:17-29 and Acts 12:1-7]

