

**SERVICE SCHEDULE for January 5, 2014**

**Announcements for the Week** John Paul Baker  
**Morning Service**  
**Prayer-** Phillip Dorn  
**Song Leader-** Andy Dobbs  
**Communion:**  
 -- **Comments** – Doug Davidson  
 -- **Assisting** – Matt Fuller  
 -- **Assisting** – Darryl Griffing  
 -- **Assisting** – Jay Dobbs  
 -- **Assisting** – Dean Shacklock  
 -- **Scripture** – Curran LaChappelle  
**Closing Prayer-** David Fuller  
**Evening Service**  
**Prayer-** Andy Dobbs  
**Song Leader-** Dan Buselmeier  
**Comments** – Trey Irvin  
**Communion** – Phillip Dorn  
**Scripture** – Cliff Davis  
**Closing Prayer-** Don Casper  
**Wednesday Night – January 8, 2014**  
**First Prayer-** Bill McIlvain  
**Song Leader** – Andy Dobbs  
**Invitation** – Marshall Irvin  
**Closing Prayer** – Cliff Davis  
**January 19 Evening Sermon** – Jason LaChappelle

**Upcoming Assignments**

January	Communion	Cleaning
12	Stone	Davidson_Hudson_Stone_Dennev_Shepherd
19	German	Dobbs_Bailey_Fuller_LaChappelle_Shacklock

**Preaching Changes**

Bill & Theresa are planning to be in Florida on the 19<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. Andy Dobbs will have the morning Lesson and Jason LaChappelle will be speaking at the evening service. Bill is expected to be back by the 26<sup>th</sup> and he will present both lessons on that day.

**Ladies Bible Study**

The ladies have a bible class scheduled for the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. They meet here at the church building @ 7:00PM. Maybe some of you have made a resolution to spend more time in service. This is a good time to start.

*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](mailto:Preacher@covingtonchurchofchrist.com)

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# Covington Church of Christ

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Elders: Dan Buselmeier, Andy Dobbs, Bill McIlvain

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

Marshall Irvin, Jason LaChappelle

January 5, 2014

*Sorcerers, Witches & So Forth*

1. Who amazed the people of Samaria with his conjuring tricks?
2. Who told Saul that rebellion was as bad as witchcraft?
3. Who called on magicians to interpret his dreams about cattle?
4. What names does the New Testament give to the magicians in Pharaoh's court in the time of Moses?



*Foolishness OF Man's Wisdom*

By Alan Smith

Mensa is an organization whose members have an IQ of 140 or higher. A few years ago, there was a Mensa convention in San Francisco, and several members lunched at a local cafe. While dining, they discovered that their saltshaker contained pepper and their peppershaker was full of salt.

How could they swap the contents of the bottles without spilling, and using only the implements at hand? Clearly this was a job for Mensa! The group debated and presented ideas, and finally came up with a brilliant solution involving a napkin, a straw, and an empty saucer. They called the waitress over to dazzle her with their solution.



## *Foolishness OF Man's Wisdom*

Continued

"Ma'am", they said, "we couldn't help but notice that the peppershaker contains salt and the saltshaker...."

"Oh", the waitress interrupted, "Sorry about that". She unscrewed the caps of both bottles and switched them.

We live in a world, like the Greek culture of the first century, which prides itself on being "wise". We have achieved so much in the area of technology. We've set up a space station that orbits the earth. We've visited the moon. We've taken close-up pictures of Mars. We feel confident that we are able to figure out the answer to almost every problem that is presented to us if we work on it long enough.

And yet, like the Greek culture of the first century, our own culture – which takes such pride in its own wisdom – seems unable to understand that which is truly wise. Solving the great problem of mankind doesn't involve eliminating poverty, preventing global warming, or even making world peace possible. No, those who are "wise" in this world seem blind to what the world's biggest problem is: our separation from God. And those with less earthly wisdom are often more open to God's solution to that problem, which is centered in the cross of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit puts it this way:

*“For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written: 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise; the intelligence of the intelligent I will frustrate.' Where is the wise man? Where is the scholar? Where is the philosopher of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not know him, God was pleased through the foolishness of what was preached to save those who believe. Jews demand miraculous signs and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than man's wisdom, and the weakness of God is stronger than man's strength” (1st Corinthians 1:18-25)*

The "foolishness" of God truly is wiser than man's wisdom! Be reminded of that the next time you see salt and pepper shakers.



## *Our Motives*

By David Maxson

*Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the heavens, and let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be dispersed over the face of the whole earth." [Genesis 11:4]*



This story used to confuse me. Why did God get so upset with the people of Babel? Why did He punish them when all they were doing was making a tower?

I realize now that this was more than just a tower. It was human pride and disobedience. There were two stated reasons for building this tower. First they wanted to "make a name" for themselves. That was pride.

Second, they wanted to prevent dispersion. That was blatant disobedience. God had told them to fill the earth (Genesis 1:28; 9:1). Because of fear they sought to find safety in staying together. Their disobedience stemmed from a lack of faith.

What is your tower? How are you trying to make a name for yourself? Is it through possessions? Is it through a career or a hobby? Is it through children or grandchildren? Any of these blessings can become tools that we use to promote our own pride.

Maybe your tower is more about your fear. Are you trusting in God's blessings more than God Himself? Are you neglecting God's commandments in order to hold onto His blessings?



### Answers from page 1

1. Simon the Sorcerer [Acts 8:9]
2. Samuel [1 Samuel 15:23]
3. Pharaoh [Genesis 41:8]
4. Jannes and Jambres [2 Timothy 3:8]

