

**SERVICE SCHEDULE for December 21, 2014**

<b>Announcements for the Week</b>	Jason LaChappelle
<b>Morning Service</b>	<b>Evening Service</b>
<b>Prayer-</b> Dan Buselmeier	<b>Prayer-</b> Mike Shepherd
<b>Song Leader-</b> Doug Davidson	<b>Song Leader-</b> John Paul Baker
<b>Communion:</b>	
-- <b>Comments</b> – Josh Hudson	<b>Comments</b> – Andy Fuller
-- <b>Assisting</b> – Cliff Davis	<b>Communion</b> – Kevin Criswell
-- <b>Assisting</b> – Darryl Griffing	
-- <b>Assisting</b> – Dean Shacklock	
-- <b>Assisting</b> – Connor LaChappelle	
-- <b>Scripture</b> – Curran LaChappelle	<b>Scripture</b> – Andy Fuller
<b>Closing Prayer-</b> Don Casper	<b>Closing Prayer-</b> Marshall Foxworthy
<b><u>Wednesday Night – December 24, 2014</u></b>	
<b>First Prayer-</b> David Johnson	
<b>Song Leader</b> – Various	
<b>Invitation</b> – Trey Irvin	
<b>Closing Prayer</b> – Phillip Dorn	
<b>December 28 Evening Prayer Service</b>	

**Upcoming Assignments**

December	Communion	Cleaning
21	Goddard	Dorn, Irvin, Williams, Griffing
Jan 4	Foxworthy	Johnson, Baker, Goddard, Land

**Ladies Bible Class --**

The ladies bible class meets on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 7PM. Next Scheduled meeting is Monday, January 4, 2015 here at the building.

**Words To Ponder --**

“When you look at the past without God’s eyes, you subject yourself to deception. The past no longer exists and God doesn’t linger there. However, Satan will show you whatever you want to see and believe, so you will be trapped in an emotion that cannot communicate truth, beyond what you want to remember.” — Shannon L. Alder



*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)

Visit us on the web: [www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com](http://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

December 21, 2014

*Horses & Horsemen*

1. What king had twelve thousand cavalry horses?
2. What king took his household manager out to look for grass for the royal horses?
3. What two prophets were separated by horses of fire?
4. What queen had her blood spattered on King Jehu’s horses?



*The Nicolaitans*

By Mike Riley

In Revelation 2:6 &15, we read about the “deeds” and the “doctrine” of the Nicolaitans. Just who were the Nicolaitans, what were their deeds, and what was their doctrine?

The word, “Nicolaitans” means “destruction of people”. They were a sect or party of evil influence in early Christianity, especially in the seven churches of Asia (Revelation 1:11). Their apostate doctrine was similar to that of Balaam, “*who taught Balak to cast a stumbling block before the children of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols, and to commit fornication*” (Revelation 2:14-15; cf. Numbers 22-25; 2 Peter 2:15-16; Jude 1:11).



## The Nicolaitans

Continued

Their intent was not only to commit the immoral excesses of the heathen, in direction opposition to the decree of the church given in Acts 15:20,29, but they also engaged in the orgies of idolatrous feasts. They seemingly brought the impurities of those feasts into the meetings of the early first century church. They are described like the false prophets in 2 Peter 2:1.

While not much is known regarding the Nicolaitans, we do know that the church at Ephesus “hated the deeds of the Nicolaitans” (Revelation 2:6), and that the church in Pergamum had taken a compromising position toward their apostate teaching (Revelation 2:12-15). To accept the teachings of Balaam or the Nicolaitans was a practice condemned by our Lord (Revelation 2:6,15-16). In fact, any idolatrous practice is condemned in the Bible and is to be avoided at all costs (cf. 1 Samuel 15:23; 1 Corinthians 10:14; Gal. 5:19-20; Ephesians 5:5; Colossians 3:5).



## What The Tempest Can Teach Us

By Gary Henry

*“And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, ‘Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?’” (Mark 4:37-38).*

Most of us are too quick to charge God with doing nothing. When He doesn’t do what we wish or what we expect, we jump to some fairly irreverent conclusions: “God doesn’t care that I’m suffering” or “God has let me down” or “God has rewarded me poorly for all the years that I’ve served Him”. But surely we can think on a higher level than these thoughts.

At times, God does not help us until our need has grown greater. In the story of Jesus’ calming of the storm on the Sea of Galilee, the disciples were too quick to assume that Jesus didn’t “care” that they were “perishing”. But they weren’t

perishing, at least not yet. Jesus would have taken action when the time was right; meanwhile the disciples should have hung on. So we need to learn the lesson of the tempest: we should let God decide when the situation has grown dangerous enough to warrant His action.

At other times, we can’t recognize God’s help until our need has grown greater. We’re often hindered by pride and self-sufficiency from seeing God’s help, and so we may have to “hit bottom” before we open our eyes to what has been there all along.

Elijah is a wonderful study in the dynamics of discouragement. Fleeing the murderous intent of Queen Jezebel, he fled to the desert, fearing that he was all alone in the world. If God had “cared” about Elijah, wouldn’t He have relieved Elijah’s depression? No, it was only when Elijah’s depression had worsened that he was prepared to hear the “still small voice” of God’s help.

So has God been helping you with your problems? Be careful what you say. If it seems that He has not, He may be waiting until a bit more is in danger of being lost than what you think is at stake right now. He may be saying, “Trust me. I will act when the time is right.” But even now, God may be helping you more than you realize. Are you receiving His “manna” every morning, but it doesn’t seem very appetizing or nourishing? Well, you won’t appreciate it until you’ve grown hungrier than you are right now.

*“God does not leave us comfortless, but we have to be in dire need of comfort to know the truth of his promise” (Peter Marshall).*



### Answers from page 1

1. Solomon [1 Kings 4:26]
2. Ahab [1 Kings 18:5]
3. Elijah and Elisha [2 Kings 2:11]
4. Jezebel [2 Kings 9:33]

