**SERVICE SCHEDULE for September 22, 2019**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Buck Phillips **Prayer-** Jason LaChappelle

**Song Leader-** Scott Lucas **Song Leader-** Bill McIlvain

**Communion:**

**-- Comments –** Darryl Griffing **Comments –** Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock **Communion –** Roger German

**-- Assisting –** Connor LaChappelle

**-- Assisting –** Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Scripture –** Cliff Davis **Scripture –** Ron Bailey

**Closing Prayer-** Andy Fuller **Closing Prayer-** Jared Davis

**Wednesday Night – September 25, 2019**

**First Prayer–** Jared Davis Griffing

**Song Leader –** Connor LaChappelle

**Invitation –** Buck Phillips

**Closing Prayer –** Cliff Davis

**September 29 Evening Scripture & Song Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **September** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **22** | Campbell | Please Be Considerate |
| **29** | German | Clean the area around your seat before leaving |

**Good Thoughts--**

***A Matter of ‘Want-To’ -* When a person wants to do something, he looks for a way to do it. When a person wants not to do it, he looks for an excuse. -Ron Adams**

**“For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?” (Mark 8:36-37). What a tragedy it is when people live for the here and now and lose sight of eternity. How valuable is your soul? Are you prepared for eternity? – Michael Peck**

***Schedule of Services***

**Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.**

**Wi-Fi Password: church1234**

**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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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

**Deacons: Cliff Davis, Darryl Griffing, Buck Phillips**

**September 22, 2019**

***Grave Matters***

1. What prophet, after being mourned by all Israel, was buried at Ramah?

2. What rebel was buried by Joab in a great pit in the forest?

3. What king’s bones were, after his body was burned, buried at Jabesh-Gilead”?

4. What was placed over Achan’s body after the Israelites stoned him?

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***Curse And Effect***

**By Stan Cox**

***But now you yourselves are to put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy language out of your mouth. [Colossians 3:8]***

In a recent edition of the Ft. Worth Star Telegram, an article on the subject of Cursing appeared in the Life & Arts section. The article was a good example of unbiased reporting, as it just reported the societal trend of increased cursing and swearing, while not commenting on the appropriateness of the trend. I do not intend to be unbiased however, in commenting on the trend. The use of obscenity is condemned in scripture, and unworthy behavior for one who would please God.

It's undeniable that things never said in public even a generation ago have become part of our language. I don't say that common usage makes these terms appropriate, but they are in large part accepted.

***Curse And Effect***

**Continued**

Common usage does not make cursing right! Common usage is characteristic of the world, not the child of God. The Bible clearly states that we are to ***"... have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them" (Ephesians 5:11).*** Christians are to ***" ... walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15-16).***

It seems that these things are cyclical in nature. No doubt the pagans of the first century were every bit as corrupt as a people as our society seems to be today. Paul spoke of them as ***"being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them" (Romans 1:29-32).***

American society today is very much characterized by the same ungodliness. In fact, if I were not aware of the date of Paul's writing, I would think this scripture to be directly pointed to our day. Paul warned Timothy of this cycle of ungodliness, and instructed him as to how to deal with it. He said in ***2 Timothy 3:13-14, "But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of...."***

Educated people have always considered obscenity the haven of the coarse, uneducated and immoral man. It is the language of the drunken sailor, not the poet; of the tramp, not the businessman; of the lawbreaker, not the lawmaker. If that is now changing, we are saddened. However, we as Christians must refuse to be influenced by this ungodliness. We are called to a higher standard. Paul wrote to the Thessalonians, ***"Therefore we also pray always for you that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfill all the good pleasure of His goodness and the work of faith with power, that the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and you in Him, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ" (2 Thessalonians 1:11-12).***

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***Freedom, Folly, & The Internet***

**By David Maxson**

***Woe to those who devise wickedness and work evil on their beds! When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in the power of their hand. [Micah 2:1]***

A lot of the wickedness we devise in our heads stays there because we lack opportunity to fulfill the desires of our heart. We covet what is wicked, but cannot have what is wicked because we do not have access to it.

However, the number of things we cannot have is decreasing rapidly. Think of all the things we have access to with the Internet. For example, the Internet has taken the depraved world of pornography, which used to be only found on the seedy side of town, and placed it in our living rooms.

The Internet has produced more opportunity for gamblers, for thieves, for gossips. With Facebook, opportunities for infidelity have increased. A wife who is frustrated with her husband or a husband who is unhappy with his wife can easily find connections with "friends" through this medium, even reconnect with old flames from high school.

What is the solution? Certainly, there is technology out there to help guard us from some of the evils on the Internet, and of course, getting rid of the computer is always an option a Christian must consider (see Matthew 5:29-30).

But the core of the problem is what is in our hearts. The problem is not with the Internet, it only provides the opportunity for sin. Sin begins in the heart. We should begin our work there if the Internet is a problem for us. ***Create in us clean hearts, O God!***

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Samuel [1 Samuel 25:1]

2. Absalom [2 Samuel 18:17]

3. Saul’s [1 Samuel 31:12-13]

4. Heaps of stones [Joshua 8:29]

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