**SERVICE SCHEDULE for June 7, 2020**

**Announcements for the Week** Cliff Davis

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Cliff Davis **Prayer-** Darryl Griffing

**Song Leader-** Brandon Esque **Song Leader-** Cliff Davis

**-- Comments –** Mark Tally **Comments –** Brandon Esque

-- **Assisting –** TBD **Communion –** Connor L.

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** TBD

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Scripture –** Connor LaChappelle **Scripture –** Jared Davis

**Closing Prayer-** Buck Phillips **Closing Prayer-** Mark Tally

**Wednesday Night – June 10, 2020**

**First Prayer–** Mark Tally

**Song Leader –** Connor LaChappelle

**Invitation –** Cliff Davis

**Closing Prayer –** Eli Hickey

**June 24 Evening Service – Darryl Griffing**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **June** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **7** | McIlvain | Take the time to police your area before you go. |
| **14** | Woodward | Volunteers are needed to pull weeds on the bank |

**COVID-19 Aftermath**

**Most of our brethren are returning to worship with the group in the auditorium. The Elders and Deacons will be meeting to discuss when the bible classes for the younger ones will resume. It is unfortunate that Family Bible Week will not happen as planned, but we are going to attempt to have a Family Bible Week in the fall of this year.**

**Be sure to tell your friends to study & worship with us on Facebook. You can find the link on our homepage.**

[**www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com**](http://www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com)

**Live connection starting 9AM. CALL (678) 701-5124 Enter PIN: 1234**

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***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**

**Visit us on the web: www.covingtonchurchofchrist.com**



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**June 7, 2020**

***Can You Find It In The Old Testament?***

1. “Cursed is every one that hangs on a tree” Galatians 3:13

2. “The man that does them shall live in them” Galatians 3:12

3. “And he has put all things under his feet” Ephesians 1:22

4. “And he came and preached peace to you which were afar off, and to them that were nigh” Ephesians 2:17

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***Glory To The Reader or The Writer?***

**By David Diestelkamp**

The fruit fly has long been the mainstay of biomedical research. An article in Newsweek lauds the scientific breakthrough of reading "almost all of the chemical letters--165 million of them--that make up its DNA." It is called "an impressive technical feat in its own right."

My marvel at the technological accomplishments of man falls far short of my awe for the One who took nothing and made all that man is discovering. The science of man is simply reading what God has written. And we are still in the primary reader stage at that --humans have almost 20 times more DNA than fruit flies!

***"I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well" (Psalm 139:14).***

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***In Defense of the Box***

**By David Diestelkamp**

Popular vernacular calls ideas which break with the norm, "thinking outside the box." Some aspects of considering the abnormal or new can be challenging, even refreshing. It can be an exercise which tests flexibility and open-mindedness.

The Bible is a book for thinkers: ***"Consider the lilies" (Matthew 6:28);*** ***"Meditate on these things" (1 Timothy 4:15); "Think on these things" (Philippians 4:8).*** We cannot think our way to heaven, but we *can and must* understand God's communication as to how to receive His grace. Whether we need to think "outside the box" to be saved depends on what the box is.

If the box is the religion and teaching of men, then we are going to have to break free of it in our thinking and actions. It is usually difficult and painful to see when something we believe or a religion we are part of is not dependent wholly on God's Word. Our thinking stays inside the box of false religion when we argue based on things like sincerity, good works accomplished, and the number of those who are involved. Jesus, Himself, said there will be many like these to whom He will say, ***"I never knew you; depart from Me" (Matthew 7:22-23).*** Thinking outside the philosophies and theologies of man is healthy and necessary in order to think inside the right box.

The modern concept of "thinking outside the box" is probably asking us to do more than simply be open-minded or shake off error. I suspect we are being taught not to ever box our thinking. Put another way, it is being advocated that truth is not absolute and therefore we should not be bound by any concept or standard.

This is precisely why some have become so "open-minded" that it seems that their brains have fallen out. They accept no standards, no one is wrong, everyone is right, there are no restrictions, etc. It doesn't matter if you point out that they accept contradicting positions; they are simply viewing things in their own way.

Like it or not, God's revealed truth is a box. It contains specific understandable information and it is our job to comprehend the original meaning as intended by God. This information is our standard (2 Timothy 3:16-17) -- a "box," within which we must live to be pleasing to our God.

Thinking outside this box usurps God's position. There is nothing outside of God's box but speculation, uncertainty, presumption, and error.

Lust for something new, or more, has turned the hearts of many away from God's ancient word. The challenge is to channel this desire into a search of the "***depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God" (Romans 11:33)*** as revealed in His word. We haven't mastered "thinking inside the box" when it comes to God's word. Why would we think we have any business outside His box?

***Secularizing What God Has Done***

**By David Diestelkamp**

Many things which God has done can be studied from a non-religious perspective. God's law can be compared to other legal systems. God's creation can be examined and tested as purely natural elements and processes. However, in an attempt to make some things of God more palatable to our humanistic society, some are yielding to the temptation to secularize what God has done.

The controversy over displaying the ten commandments on public property has caused some to present the commandments as a symbol of the foundation on which our nation was built, a historical symbol of law, and a historical rather than religious display. Although the ten commandments have undoubtedly had historical and secular effects, it is an injustice to divorce them from religion, and especially to separate them from their source--God! This is a threat to all scripture.

The debate over the teaching of evolution and creation in the schools is taking a similar secular turn in an attempt to be less offensive to the humanists. The argument from intelligent design dates back at least to Romans 1:20, but some "Fundamentalists" are now pushing an "intelligent design" curriculum in public schools where the name and nature of the Designer are unspecified. Although this approach is not offensive to those who believe life came to earth from aliens, the mainstream scientific community sees it as a stealthy attempt to teach creationism in the schools.

What are the ten commandments without Old Testament Scripture and God? What is "intelligent design" without God our Designer and Creator? His words are historical foundations, but much more. His works leave marks of intelligent design, but much more. We have enough trouble getting people to fully accept the God of revelation without saying His works weren't done by Him and His words weren't inspired by Him. While the motive of acceptability is understandable, truth is never served by error, or even partial truth.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. [Deuteronomy 21:23]

2. [Leviticus 18:5]

3. [Psalm 8:6]

4. [Isaiah 57:19]

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