**SERVICE SCHEDULE for December 6, 2020**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Buck Phillips **Prayer-** Buck Phillips

**Song Leader-** Scott Lucas **Song Leader-** Curran LaChappelle

**Communion:**

**-- Comments –** Jason LaChappelle **Comments –** Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting –** Lucian Griffing **Communion –** Connor L.

**-- Assisting –** Roger German

**-- Assisting –** Eli Hickey

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture –** Lucian Griffing

**Closing Prayer-** Dan Woodward **Closing Prayer-** Phillip Dorn

**Wednesday Night – December 4, 2020**

**First Prayer–** Lucian Griffing

**Song Leader –** Connor LaChappelle

**Invitation –** John MacQuilliam

**Closing Prayer –** Ron Bailey

**December 27 Evening Prayer & Song Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **December** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **6** | McIlvain | Take the time to police your area before you go. |
| **13** | Woodward | Cheerios and other cereals can draw ants. |

**Good Thoughts --**

**It is easier to preach ten sermons than it is to live one.**

**What if we never saw another flower bloom, because we grumbled when God sent the rain?**

**When you get to your wit's end you'll find God lives there.**

**People are funny; they want the front of the bus, the middle of the road, and the back of the church.**

**Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.**

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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**

**December 6, 2020**

***More Grave Matters***

1. What wicked king, the son of a godly king, was buried in the garden of Uzza”?

2. Where were Joseph’s bones finally buried?

3. What king was buried by his servants in the sepulchre with his forefathers in Jerusalem?

4. What leper king was buried in a special field?

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***Indulgences***

**By Jere Frost**

The Roman Catholic doctrine of indulgences is a good example of human arrogance that fancies itself to exercise the prerogatives of God. It was, as noted below, as good as a license to sin.

*The reigning pope, Leo X, needing large sums of money for the completion of St. Peter’s Church at Rome, permitted an agent named John Tetzel to go through Germany selling certificates, signed by the pope himself, purporting to bestow the pardon of all sins, not only upon the holders of the certificates, but upon friends living or dead in whose behalf they were purchased, without confession, repentance, penance, or absolution by a priest.*

*Tetzel told the people, “As soon as your coin clinks in the chest, the souls of your friends will rise out of purgatory to heaven.”* 

***Indulgences***

**Continued**

*Luther preached against Tetzel and his selling of pardons, denouncing his teaching in no measured terms.* **[The Story of the Christian Church by Hurlbut, pp. 151,152]**

 There is no way of telling how many sins were committed, without any regard to right or wrong before or after, in which the sinner felt justified. Sometimes a single act triumphs over the folly even more gloriously than the most eloquent and forceful denunciation. Here is an account of one such occasion.

*A Saxon gentleman had heard Tetzel at Leipzig, and was much shocked by his impostures. Her went to the monk and inquired if he was authorized to pardon sins in intention, or such as the applicant can intend to commit? “Assuredly,” answered Tetzel, “I have full power from the pope to do so.”*

*“Well,” returned the gentleman, “I want to take some slight revenge on one of my enemies without attempting to take his life. I will pay you ten crowns if you will give me a letter of indulgence that shall bear me harmless.”*

*Tetzel made some scruples; they struck their bargains for thirty crowns. Shortly after, the monk set out for Leipzig. The gentleman, attended by his servants, laid wait for him in a wood between Juterboch and Trebin, fell upon him, gave him a beating, and carried off the rich chest of indulgence money the inquisitor had with him.*

*Tetzel clamored against this act of violence, and brought an action before the judges. But the gentleman showed the letter signed by Tetzel himself, which exempted him beforehand from all responsibility. Duke George, who had at first been much irritated at this action, upon seeing this writing, ordered that the accused should be acquitted.* **[The History of the Reformation by D’Aubigne]**

Some doctrines carry within themselves the seeds of their own repudiation. The doctrine of Indulgences, however packaged, explained and justified, answers itself by the ridiculous behavior it allows with impunity.

***Strength***

***Then one of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, “Which is the first commandment of all?”***

Jesus answered him, ***“The first of all the commandments is: ‘Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. 30And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ This is the first commandment. And the second, like it, is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”***

Swami Shivananda, a famous swami in India, used to tell his disciples: "Kill the mind and then, and then only, can you meditate." The Christian position is ***"Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy mind"*** -- the intellectual nature; "with all thy heart" -- the physical nature. The total person is to love him -- mind, emotion, will, and strength. But the "strength" might mean the strength of all three. Some love him with the strength of the mind and the weakness of the emotion -- the intellectualist in religion; some love him with the strength of emotion and the weakness of the mind -- the sentimentalist in religion; some love him with the strength of the will and the weakness of emotion -- the man of iron who is not very approachable.

But loving God with the strength of the mind, the strength of the emotion, and the strength of the will -- that makes the truly Christian and the truly balanced and the truly strong character.



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**Answers from page 1**

1. Manasseh [2 Kings 21:18]

2. At Shechem [Joshua 24:32]

3. Ahaziah [2 Kings 9:28]

4. Uzziah [2 Chronicles 26:23]

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