**SERVICE SCHEDULE for August 1, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Philips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Connor LaChappelle **Song Leader-** Roger German

**-- Comments –** Ben Wofford **Comments –** Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Andy Fuller **Communion –** Darryl Griffing

**-- Assisting –** Cliff Davis

**-- Assisting –** Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting –** Eli Hickey

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture –** Connor LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer-** Ron Bailey **Closing Prayer-** Dan Woodward

**Wednesday Night – August 4, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Darryl Griffing

**Song Leader –** Bill McIlvain

**Invitation –** Eli Hickey

**Closing Prayer –** Dan Woodward

**June 29 Evening Song & Scripture Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **August** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **1** | German | Please Be Considerate |
| **8** | Johnson | Clean the area around your seat |

**Good Thoughts**

**Give God what's right -- not what's left.**

**A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.**

**He who kneels before God can stand before anyone.**

**Don't put a question mark where God puts a period.**

**God makes sure we understand that He is not beholden to us. When God gave the Israelites the Promised Land, gave them Jericho, and delivered the Midianites into their hand, the Israelites had to do something in each case.**

**Yet we are told that this was done by faith (Hebrews 11:30). We are saved by his mercy, but we are still required to do something in order to have access to that mercy.**

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***Schedule of Services***

**Sunday: 9 a.m., 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Wednesday: 7:00 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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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**August 1, 2****021**

***Trivia***

1. Whose name means ‘red”?

2. What color were the cords on the tassels the Israelites were commanded to put on their garments?

3. What Sea was parted by a wind from God?

4. What book mentions making robes white by washing them in blood?

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***The Agony Of The Cross***

**By N. Furgeson**

Sometimes we hear sermons describing the horrible physical aspects of the crucifixion of Jesus. I recall one very vivid sermon years ago. My young niece was in the assembly, and her comment was, “That sermon didn’t make me love Jesus anymore; it just made me sick at my stomach.”

Perhaps the well-meaning preacher should have put his emphasis in a different place. Although the physical agony of death on a cross was horrendous, the gospels do not emphasize that physical aspect. Crucifixion was indeed a terrible ordeal, but Jesus was not the only person ever to suffer death in this way. Yet His death was quite different from the others. Perhaps we should emphasize what made it so different.

***The Agony Of The Cross***

**Continued**

Jesus knew what was going to happen to Him. He knew the physical agony He would have to endure. But more to the point, He also knew the spiritual agony He would face. Why did He do it? ***John 13:1*** tells us that***, knowing His time had come, “he now showed them the full extent of his love”***.

Just what was that spiritual agony? ***Second Corinthians 5:21*** tells us: ***“God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.”*** Jesus was perfect. He had never sinned. He didn’t know what it felt like to have a guilty conscience or to know any sin in His life because He had never done anything wrong. However, He knew that He would take upon Himself the sins of the world. He dreaded that even more than the physical pain He must endure.

On the cross Jesus cried out: “***My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46)***. He was quoting Psalm 22, which begins with those words. Yet, as the psalm continues, we see that God does not forsake His own. Verse 24 assures us: ***“For he has not despised or disdained the suffering of the afflicted one; he has not hidden his face from him but has listened to his cry for help.”*** Although God had not forsaken Jesus, our sins came between Him and God, and that made it seem that God had forsaken Him.

***Romans 8:38-39*** also assures us that God did not forsake Jesus on the cross. ***“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*** If nothing can separate us from God’s love, then surely nothing could separate God’s beloved Son from His father’s love. God did not forsake Jesus on the cross; it was our sins that made Jesus feel forsaken. God still loved His only begotten son, but Jesus could not perceive that love because something had come between Him and His father – something was blocking the flow of that love. It was our sins – yours and mine and everyone else’s.

In the same way, our sins separate us from God. Jesus keenly felt the separation from His father because He had never before experienced the agony that sin causes. Because He experienced this result of sin, He knows exactly how we feel when our lives are darkened by it. However, His agony was much worse than ours because He took on Himself the sins of all humanity – the sins of Attila the Hun, Adolf Hitler and every one of us. He who had never known sin became sin so that we could be forgiven of our sins and become the righteousness of God.

Some people try to say that because Jesus was God, He could not suffer. However, because He was God, He suffered even more. On the cross, the holy, blameless, perfect Jesus became sin. From the heights of the bliss of heaven, He descended into the depths of our sins.

The physical pain Jesus endured was horrible, but the spiritual pain was much worse. And that is the difference between His crucifixion and any other. Those who did not take upon themselves the sins of others suffered only for their own sins.

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***Neutrality***

**By Ron Adams**

To Stand Against Nothing Is to Stand FOR Nothing! --The trend to view every activity as right and nothing as wrong is a one-way ticket to ruin. It’s also a flagrant act of hypocrisy. Outrageous acts of terror, murder, kidnaping, rape, etc., should be condemned with a vengeance.

What has been done is to expand what is acceptable under the guise of “diversity”. Don’t buy into the “no blame game”! Don’t be taken in by such foolishness so as to engage in what is self-destructing and God-forbidden. ***“The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like . . .” [Galatians 5:19-21]***

Stand for something! ***So then, brothers, stand firm and hold to the teachings we passed on to you, whether by word of mouth or by letter. [2 Thessalonians 2:15].***

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Edom (Esau’s other name) [Genesis 25:30]

2. Blue [Numbers 15:38]

3. The Red Sea [Exodus 25:5]

4. The blood of the Lamb makes them clean [Revelation 7:14]

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