**SERVICE SCHEDULE for August 29, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Darryl Griffins

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Darryl Griffing **Prayer-** Darryl Griffing

**Song Leader-** Connor LaChappelle **Song Leader-** Various

**-- Comments –** Buck Phillips **Comments –** Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Andy Fuller **Communion –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Cliff Davis

**-- Assisting –** Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting –** Eli Hickey

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture –** Connor & TBD

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

**Wednesday Night – September 1, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Phillip Dorn

**Song Leader –** Buck Phillips

**Invitation –** Curran LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer –** Cliff Davis

**August 29 Evening Song & Scripture Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **August** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **29** | Shacklock | Please Be Considerate |
| **Sept. 5** | Goddard | Clean the area around your seat |

**Good Thoughts**

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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**

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



**9441 Bypass, P.O. Box 768, Covington, GA30015 --- [770] 787-1119**

**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**August 29, 2****021**

***Violent People***

1. Who threw a javelin at David?

2. What apostle was almost done in by forty men waiting to ambush him a Jerusalem?

3. Who drew the army of Ai out of the city while another group ambushed the city and destroyed it?

4. What son of Abraham was supposed to have been against everyone, and everyone against him?

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***When Do You Plan To Die?***

**By Andy Diestelkamp**

When do you plan to die? ***"The days of our lives are seventy years; and if by reason of strength they are eighty years" (Psalm 90:10).*** Even in contemplating a full lifespan it seems that life is "soon cut off, and we fly away." Thus, we are admonished to learn "to number our days that we may gain a heart of wisdom" (vs. 12).

When it is suggested that we number our days, it is not a call to literally attempt to figure out how long we will live but to soberly contemplate the brevity of life. ***"Lord, make me to know my end, and what is the measure of my days that I may know how frail I am. Indeed, You have made my days as handbreadths, and my age is nothing before You. Certainly every man at his best state is but a vapor" (Psalm 39:4,5).***

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***When Do You Plan To Die?***

**Continued**

Whether 16 or 96, you are frail. Your age is nothing compared to eternity. The young and strong and rich and happy often mistakenly think that they must first become old or weak or poor or sad before they die. This is not so! Yes, the old must die; but, as is known all too well, so might the young. As Job coldly observed, ***"They lie down alike in the dust, and worms cover them" (Job 21:26).***

***"It is better to go to the house of mourning than to go to the house of feasting, for that is the end of all men; and the living will take it to heart" (Ecclesiastes 7:2).*** In other words, the time you spend at a funeral is better spent than the time you spend at a party. A funeral reminds the attendees of the common end for all of us, and that can be profitable to think about.

Those who will take the reality of death to heart will be the better for it. Indeed, ***"The heart of the wise is in the house of mourning, but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth" (Ecclesiastes 7:4).*** When you pick up your daily newspaper, you will be much better served by reading the obituaries than by reading the comics. It is the wise who give sober consideration to the end of all men; fools don't. Fools insulate themselves from the reality of death, drown themselves in pleasure, and distract themselves with vain things and thus find themselves totally unprepared to meet their Maker.

Contrary to evolutionary theories, life is more than just a physical cycle. Life has design, purpose, morality, hope, and love. Our Creator, God Almighty, has a greater plan than just a vicious cycle that ends with death.

While the carnally-minded concern themselves with their legacies and how they will be remembered by their families and fellow man, the spiritually minded are only concerned with being remembered by God. It is for this reason that we are admonished to remember our Creator in the days of our youth before the difficult days come when we lose our abilities and our zest for life (Ecclesiastes 12:1-8).

 Unfortunately, some people seem to think that remembering God is for the retirement years. Many are only interested in giving God their leftovers--a few hours per week or perhaps a few dollars per week. We squeeze Him into our lives after we have done what we want to do, foolishly forgetting that our life is a vapor and we have no guarantees beyond the present (James 4:13,14).

Death and the grave have long been the tools of Satan. With these he has intimidated and captured humans with no hope of escape...until Jesus. Jesus lives. He was dead, but now He is alive forevermore. He has the keys of Hades and death (Revelation 1:18). Therefore, those who confess that Jesus is the Christ, are able, with boldness, to march right up to the very gates of death and be victorious (Matthew 16:16-18).

It is those who have been baptized into Jesus Christ's death who will certainly be raised with Him (Romans 6:3-5). It is these that can confidently cry out, ***"O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory?" because of the victory over sin and death that Jesus has graciously given us (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).*** We know that ***"whether we live or die, we are the Lord's" (Romans 14:8)*** and that death cannot separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:38,39). Therefore, we magnify Christ in our bodies whether by life or death and can honestly say with the apostle Paul, ***"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain" (Philippians 1:20,21).***

Now is the time to plan to lay up treasure in heaven (Matthew 6:19-21). The riches of this world are too uncertain (1 Timothy 6:17) and our bodies are too frail to spend any more of our time selfishly pursuing the passing pleasures of sin (1 Peter 4:3; Hebrews 11:25). We are going to return to dust and our spirits to God. Therefore, we are admonished to fear God and keep His commandments because there will be a day of judgment (Ecclesiastes 12:7,13,14).

In view of the obvious reality that none of us has any idea how much more time he has left on this earth, it becomes foolish for us to neglect our commitment to the One who has the power to lift us out of the grave***. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58).***

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Saul [1 Samuel 18:11]

2. Paul [Acts 23:21-23]

3. Joshua [Joshua 8:12-22]

4. Ishmael [Genesis 16:12]

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