**SERVICE SCHEDULE for September 12, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Cliff Davis

**Morning Service Evening Service**

**Prayer-** Cliff Davis **Prayer-** Cliff Davis

**Song Leader-** Scott Lucas **Song Leader-** Buck Phillips

**-- Comments –** Eli Hickey **Comments –** Connor L

**-- Assisting –** Connor LaChappelle **Communion –** Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Buck Phillips

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Scripture –** Phillip Dorn **Scripture –** Dan Woodward

**Closing Prayer-** John MacQuilliam **Closing Prayer-** Phillip Dorn

**Wednesday Night – September 15, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Curran LaChappelle

**Song Leader –** Ben Wofford

**Invitation –** Connor LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer –** Cliff Davis

**September 26 Evening Service –** Marshall Irvin

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **September** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **12** | Turner | Please Be Considerate |
| **19** | MacQuilliam | Clean the area around your seat |

**Good Thoughts**

**"I Did It My Way" is the theme of the crowd, the anthem of hell. Christ is not one of many ways to approach God, nor is He the best of several ways; He is the only way-the way, the truth, the life." John 14:6**

**Everyone thought the junk dealer a fool for buying over a ton of old switches at an auction. The junk dealer, and no one else, knew that the switches had gold contacts. Removing them yielded a fortune. -God sees worth in us that no one else can see.**

**Most people want to serve God, but only in an advisory capacity.**

***I asked God to give me happiness; God said no. He said he gives blessings; happiness is up to me. –Vic Pentz***

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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**



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**September 12, 2****021**

***Blowing In The Wind***

1. What food did God bring to the Israelites by using a wind?

2. In Job, which directional wind punishes the land with its heat?

3. Who did God send a wind to dry up flood waters?

4. What kind of woman is as hard to restrain as the wind itself?

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***The Unbeliever's Psalm***

**Author Unknown**

*“I have no Shepherd, I constantly want.  Discontentedly I graze in parched fields; I can find no water to quench my thirst.  My soul is weary: I wander in the paths of sinfulness, seeking pleasure.  When I walk in the darkness of danger and death, I am afraid; I am all alone.*

*No power or principle gives me comfort.  There is no nourishment to strengthen me against my enemies.  There is no ointment for my head.*

*My life is empty.  Even though God’s goodness and mercy have been available all the days of my life, I shall be banished from the house of the Lord forever.”*

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***Faithfulness Is Indispensable***

**By Steven F Deaton**

A common theory among many denominations is that once you are saved, you are always saved. Many also believe that a generally good life is enough to go to heaven; sort of if the good outweighs the bad then heaven will be your home. Both of these concepts are false.

Partial fidelity is not accepted in most areas of our lives. If a wife told her husband she would be faithful most of the time, would he be happy? Could she make her case by pointing out that she is in their bed 250 nights of the year, but in other men’s only 115? The “good” would outweigh the “bad”. Would the husband accept the argument, once married always married?

What about an employer? Can an employee claim once employed, always employed? Would the boss be happy if the worker showed up most of the time? Are we to believe that “once hired never fired” regardless of work ethic, performance, behavior, or attitude, would be permitted or work?

You get the point – and so do people who believe in once saved always saved. Yet, they lose their reasoning ability when it comes to their souls. They cannot understand that God expects faithfulness and will not tolerate “cheating” on Him.

Peter said, ***“Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure” (2 Peter 1:10).*** He said this after admonishing Christians to grow **(2 Peter 1:5-7).** The child of God who has heard the word, believed, confessed Jesus as Christ, repented of sins, and been baptized has just begun service to God; it is not completed the moment it begins.

The indisputable fact of indispensable faithfulness is seen in the makeup of the New Testament. There are four books that primarily establish faith in Christ. The writings that follow these, Acts through Revelation are directed at Christians for the purpose of keeping them on track in their service to God. If salvation is secured and cannot be lost after becoming a Christian, then why did the Holy Spirit invest so much into producing the Acts, the epistles, and the ‘Apocalypse?

Further, if we are saved never to fall, why are there repeated admonitions and warnings about falling? Paul said, ***“Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall” (1 Corinthians 10:12)***. Referring to Israel’s unfaithfulness, the Hebrew writer said, ***“Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience” (Hebrews 4:11).***

In fact, Israel is a great illustration. God sent them a deliverer in the person of Moses. He persuaded them to leave their bondage. They were baptized in crossing the Red Sea, coming under the leadership of Moses and breaking away from Pharaoh. They saw the “salvation of the Lord” **(Exodus 14:13).** They rejoiced on the other side of the sea **(Exodus 15).** Yet, they still had to cross a desert to get to the Promised Land. They had to labor and fight to enter it. Some did not enter because of their unfaithfulness to the Lord. So, too, we must realize that milk and honey will only come after we cross the desert of life.

Finally, there were those who had fallen from grace in the New Testament. Simon was in sin and separated from God after becoming a Christian **(Acts 8:18-24).** Some of the Galatians were severed from Christ **(Galatians 5:1-4).** And, Peter addressed those who had escaped corruption only to return to it, ending up worse than they started **(2 Peter 2:18-22).**

If all of this is not enough to convince a person that faithfulness is indispensable then there may be hope for them, but not by being a Christian. Rather, their hope will rest on the fact that God will not hold the mentally deficient accountable on the Day of Judgment. The truth is plain about it, let us accept it and teach it. ***And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lost heart. [Galatians 6:9]***

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Quails [Numbers 11:31]

2. South [Job 37:17]

3. Noah [Genesis 8:1]

4. A nagging wife [Proverbs 27:16]

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