**SERVICE SCHEDULE for September 26, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Roger German **Song Leader-** Curran L.

**-- Comments –** Andy Fuller **Comments –** Connor L.

**-- Assisting –** Curran LaChappelle **Communion –** Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting –**Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Scripture –** Mark Tally **Scripture –** Dean Shacklock

**Closing Prayer-** Ben Wofford **Closing Prayer-** Phillip Dorn

**Wednesday Night – September 29, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Roger German

**Song Leader –** Eli Hickey

**Invitation –** Andy Fuller

**Closing Prayer –** Dan Woodward

**September 26 Evening Service –** Marshall Irvin

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **September** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **26** | McIlvain | Please Be Considerate |
| **Oct 3** | Shepherd | Clean the area around your seat |

**In Memory –**

**Our dear sister, Annie Woodward has passed from this temporal world into the eternal. In 2017 she and Dan moved from Alexandria, LA to be with her extended family. All of us count if a privilege to have her with us in the final chapter of her life.**

**She loved to teach the young ones and spent countless hours preparing for them. The last class she taught was on the fall of Jericho and what a presentation it was! Rhett & Kayla will always remember that class. Annie’s wonderful imagination and sense of humor will be sorely missed by all of us in her church family.**

**If all goes as planned, a memorial service will be held here at the building on October 2nd at noon. Plan to go to the Dorn’s immediately following.**

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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**

**September 26, 2****021**

***More Extremes***

1. What is the biggest creature mentioned in the Bible?

2. What is the smallest creature mentioned in the Bible?

3. What word, the name of Isaiah’s son, is the longest word in the Bible?

4. What is the longest chapter in the Bible?

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***The Days of Our Years***

**By Fanning Yeater Tant, 1955**

***“The days of our years are threescore and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.” (Psalm 90:10) “What is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time, and then vanishes away.” (James 4:14).***

These quotations from the Bible bring sharply into focus the brevity of human life. No man can read such words with any degree of comprehension without realizing how swift and how certain is the approach of death for every one of us.

All our earthly hopes, ambitions, plans and dreams will finally come to rest for centuries after we have returned to the elements. How futile and how silly to think we can build anything that will endure.

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***The Days Of Our Years***

**Continued**

As I write these lines I sit beneath the shade of a mighty Douglas fir, whose towering summit seems to reach into the very heavens. Its age I can only guess; but I am certain there is not a man living on earth today who was alive when this tree began to grow. Only a few hours south of here are the giant redwoods of California, some of which were growing when Abraham left Ur of the Chaldees, and many of which were old, old trees when Jesus wept in Gethsemane. Amid such awesome works of God, frail man seems insignificant indeed.

Yet I shall live after the tallest tree shall have long since crumbled and decayed. For by God’s grace my life is not limited to the few fleeting, uncertain and often miserable years of earth. The “days of my years” may be very few, but the length of my life is beyond measure. I live for eternity, not for time. The God I serve is a God of the living, not of the dead.

How then can I ignore God? How can I put him out of my life? Close my ears to his commandments? Disregard his word and his will? What is the thinking of the man who can stupidly bargain for this life at the cost of this eternal life? ***“For what shall a man be profited if he shall gain the whole world, and forfeit his life? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his life?” (Matthew 16:26)*** It is eternally true that “a man’s life consists not in the abundance of the things which he possesses.” To such a man God once said *“Thou fool, this night is thy soul required of thee; and the things which thou hast prepared, whose shall they be?”* And Jesus added his own comment to that in the statement. ***“So is he that lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.” (Luke 12:21)***

It is a calm, bright day in late summer as these lines are written. The beautiful Willamette Valley stretches before me in seemingly endless miles. The rumbling log trucks, each with its burden of three or four giant logs, roll endlessly on the roads below. The Valley is peaceful and quiet under a perfect summer day in Oregon. Yet every person here living is headed toward the inevitable Day of Judgment. We shall all stand in the presence of that eternal judge, and each of us shall be judged “out of the things which are written in the books.” The faithful Christian, the cynic, the scoffer, the deceitful worker, the misguided zealot, the ignorant savage shall each receive his due portion. The final reckoning cannot be evaded; it cannot be avoided; it cannot be delayed. We shall be judged.

In view of the brevity of life, and the certainty of judgment, what manner of persons ought we to be?  ***“Seeing that these things are thus all to be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy living and godliness, looking for and earnestly desiring the coming of the day of God….” [2 Peter 3:7-14]*** Are the words used by Peter to impress us with our responsibility and our accountability.

God’s plan for the redemption of the soul is simple. By the sacrifice of Christ, He has made it possible for me to escape the awful punishment which is the due recompense for my sin. Believing in Christ, I turn in penitence from sin, and am buried through baptism “unto the remission of” all sins. This brings me unto covenant relationship with God, makes me a citizen of this kingdom. It is then my task to live each day in the consciousness of that relationship, to “walk worthy of the calling” wherewith I have been called.

Business ventures, family troubles, political upheavals, personal problems – how trivial! There is one problem, and only one, before every one of us - to live a life that is pleasing to God. Whether that life is lived in riches or in poverty, in political freedom or in chains and slavery, in domestic felicity or in misery and loneliness, is relatively unimportant. Whether one receives the adulation and praise of men or their contempt and animosity matters little. If one walks with the Lord, in the full assurance of his favor, neither the flattery of friends nor the hatred of foes will count for much. The days of our years are so few, so filled with duties and labors, that we should waste little time in thinking whether our actions are pleasing to men or not. Do they please God? That is the one and only question to be considered. If yes, then with confidence we can press on; if no, then we should tremble with terror until the situation is changed.

“What is your life”? Consider it; then let God’s will rule your heart, and God’s word direct your ways.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. The whale [Genesis 1:21]

2. The gnat [Matthew 23:24]

3. Maher-shalal-hash-baz [Isaiah 8:1]

4. Psalm 119 with 176 verses

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