**SERVICE SCHEDULE for January 2, 2021**

**Announcements for the Week** Cliff Davis

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Hayden Thomas **Song Leader-** Curran LaChappelle

**-- Comments –** Bill McIlvain **Comments –** Connor LaChappelle

**-- Assisting –** Josiah Phillips **Communion –** Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting –** Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** John MacQuilliam

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

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

**Closing Prayer-** Ben Wofford **Closing Prayer**- Dan Woodward

**Wednesday Night – January 8, 2021**

**First Prayer–** Brandon Esque

**Song Leader** – Roger German

**Invitation –** Connor LaChappelle

**Closing Prayer –** Andy Fuller

**January 23 Evening Service** – Jason LaChappelle

**January 30 Evening Song & Prayer Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **January** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **2** | Williams | Please Be Considerate |
| **9** | Goddard | Clean the area around your seat |

**Good Thoughts –**

**If you don't like the way you were born, try being born again.**

**In the dark? Follow the Son.**

**Running low on faith? Step in for a fill-up.**

**If you can't sleep, don't count sheep, Talk to the Shepherd.**

**Men’s Meeting –**

**Ron Bailey is going to be our host on January 7. Plan to be at his home by 6PM. What better way to begin the New Year? Ron will fill everyone in regarding the particulars. Plan to bring a friend.**

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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**

**January 2, 2****021**

***People In Exile***

1. What apostle was exiled to Patmos?

2. How many years were the Israelites in Egypt?

3. What prophet was exiled in Egypt with the people of Judah?

4. What was the first instance of exile in the Bible?

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***I Am Resolved***

**By Doug Roush as shared by Andy Dobbs**

As we step into a new year, we often make resolutions to improve our life. However, if you are like the average person, many, if not all, of your resolutions will soon begin to fade into oblivion.

That’s not to say we shouldn’t make resolutions or have personal goals. Quite the contrary; it’s impossible to achieve anything if you have no target in mind. Success in any venture requires planning, preparation, and measurable, definable goals. Too often, however, we set goals for ourselves — whether we call them “New Year’s resolutions” or some other name — without any real plan for reaching them.

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***I Am Resolved***

**Continued**

Jesus taught an important lesson on this subject: ***“For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it — lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ “Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple” (Luke 14:28-33).***

The Lord’s point is that our goals are doomed to ruin if they are not supported with the necessary resources. Making a resolution, today, does me little good if tomorrow I say, “This is too hard, I think I’ll quit.” Resolutions are supported by our relentless commitment to follow through. Our commitment is supported by God’s promises and by surrounding ourselves with people who we make ourselves accountable to and who support us and encourage us to reach our goal.

***“When you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay to pay it; for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and it would be sin to you. But if you abstain from vowing, it shall not be sin to you. That which has gone from your lips you shall keep and perform, for you voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth” (Deuteronomy 23:21-23).***

Our failure to perform as we should before God is rarely, if ever, the result of inability. Instead, the failure to keep our resolution can most often be traced to our lack of commitment to that which we resolved. The Bible identifies this lack of commitment as the condition of being “double-minded.” James 1:8 reveals that a double-minded man is unstable in all his ways. The key to being single-minded is commitment. Are we committed to presenting ourselves as a living sacrifice to the glory of God? Such a commitment involves a transformation from being self-centered to being God-centered, as expressed by Jesus, ***“Not my will, but Yours be done” (Luke 22:42***).

***“I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God” (Romans 12:1-2).***

For the Christian, self-examination should be a continuous process (Galatians 6:4; 1 Corinthians 11:28; 2 Corinthians 13:5). We should set spiritual goals for ourselves, not just annually, but every day — and evaluate ourselves daily to see whether we’re progressing as we ought. May each of us resolve to, ***“walk in the light, as He is in the light!” (1 John 1:7).***

***It Is Later Than You Think***

Here is a mathematical parallel of a life span with a 24-hour day. Maybe this will cause you rather serious reflections. See what you have accomplished or left unaccomplished.

If you are 15 years old it is 8:51 AM.

If you are 20 years old it is 11:08 AM.

If you are 25 years old it is 12:25 PM.

If you are 35 years old it is 2:59 PM.

If you are 40 years old it is 4:16 PM.

If you are 45 years old it is 5:43 PM.

If you are 50 years old it is 6:50 PM.

If you are 55 years old it is 8:08 PM.

If you are 60 years old it is 10:11 PM.

If you are 70, it is approaching midnight. When the bell tolls for you at the midnight hour of death, on which side of God’s judgment seat will you stand?

What are you doing with your life?

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**Answers from page 1**

1. John [Revelation 1:9]

2. 430 years [Exodus 12:40]

3. Jeremiah [Jeremiah 43:5-7]

4. Adam & Eve were driven from the garden [Genesis 21:14]

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