**SERVICE SCHEDULE for December 4, 2022**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Eli Hickey **Song Leader-** Jason LaChappelle

**-- Comments –** Curran LaChappelle **Comments –** Ben Wofford

**-- Assisting –** Brandon Esque **Communion –** Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting –** Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Ron Bailey

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Scripture –** Ben Wofford **Scripture –** Ron Bailey

**Closing Prayer-** Mark Tally **Closing Prayer**- Curran LaChappelle

**Wednesday Night – December 7, 2022**

**First Prayer–** Brandon Esque

**Song Leader** – Josiah Phillips

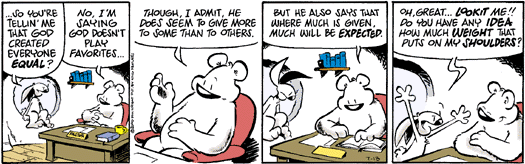
**Invitation –** Darryl Griffing

**Closing Prayer –** Dan Woodward

**December 27 Evening End of Year Prayer Service**

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **December** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **4** | Fuller | Please Be Considerate |
| **11** | Esque | Clean the area around your seat |



**God doesn't call the qualified; He qualifies the called.**

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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)

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



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**December 4, 2****022**

***We 4 Kings***

1. What wise king made an alliance with Egypt when he married the pharaoh’s daughter?

2. What Egyptian king gave refuge to Jeroboam when he fled from Solomon?

3. What king had a strange dream about an enormous, fruitful tree that was suddenly chopped down with only a dry stump left?

4. What king of Judah was constantly at war with King Jeroboam of Israel?

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***Be Sober This Christmas***

**By Edwin Crozier**

The Christmas season is upon us. It is a time for parties and gatherings. Our neighbors will invite us over. Our co-workers will get together. Many will take this as an opportunity to get drunk. Regrettably, too many Christians argue about the line of drunkenness. The question we should be asking is not, “When am I drunk?” but rather, “When am I sober?”

Even some Christians will use this season as a reason to try a little, at least in moderation. With that in mind, I want to share with you some passages of Scripture from the ESV.

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***Be Sober This Christmas***

**Continued**

* ***For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.—Romans 12:3***
* ***So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and sober…But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.— 1 Thessalonians 5:6, 8***
* ***Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled…Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things.— 1 Timothy 3:2, 11***
* ***As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.— 2 Timothy 4:5***
* ***Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love and in steadfastness.—Titus 2:2***
* ***Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded...— 1 Peter 1:13***
* ***The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.— 1 Peter 4:7***
* ***Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.— 2 Peter 5:8 3***

Not to mention the fact that several times these same scriptures say we should be self-controlled. Since the first thing alcohol attacks is self-control, we again should ask, “When am I best able to control myself?”

God’s reason for sobriety is that we need to have our full mental faculties open to His will and guidance if we wish to defeat the devil. Why would we compromise that just to fit in with society or to have a good time?

This Christmas season, I encourage you not to avoid drunkenness. Rather, I encourage you to maintain a positive sobriety. Keep your faculties about you completely. Don’t even start the path of alcohol’s control and loss of sobriety. Think clearly and stay on the Lord’s side.

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***Do You Want To Be Healed?***

**By David Maxson**

***One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be healed?" [John 5:5-6]***

"Do you want to be healed?" That seems like a silly question to ask a paralyzed man, but Jesus never asked questions for no purpose. It is a valid question.

Jesus knows there are a lot of us who are sick and don't really want to be cured. We are living a self-destructive lifestyle. We continue to make the same foolish decisions over and over again. Jesus will not give us anything against our will. He would say, ***"He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"*** He never forced anyone to follow him. Jesus is shepherd not a cowboy. Cowboys drive. Shepherds lead.

"Do you want to be healed?"

Jesus knows there are a lot of us who are sick but we don't think we're sick. He is a doctor but he will not force the prescription on us. Jesus is the Great Physician, but he only heals those who come to him wanting help. ***"Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." (Luke 5:31-32)***

"Do you want to be healed?"

*Lord God, we hear the question your Son is asking us. Help us to see our true condition and the selfish choices that have made us this way. Give us grace that we might be healed.*

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Solomon[1 Kings 3:1]

2. Shishak [1 Kings 11:40]

3. Nebuchadnezzar [Daniel 4:10-18]

4. Abijam or Abijah [1 Kings 15:6]

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