**SERVICE SCHEDULE for April 9, 2023**

**Announcements for the Week** Darryl Griffing

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

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

**-- Comments** – Ben Wofford **Comments** – Andy Fuller

**-- Assisting –** Andy Fuller **Communion** – Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting** – Brandon Esque

**-- Assisting –** Ron Bailey

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Scripture –** Ernesto Almazan **Scripture** – Ron Bailey

**Closing Prayer-** Dan Woodward **Closing Prayer**- Curran LaChappelle

**Wednesday Night – April 12, 2023**

**First Prayer–** Bill McIlvain

**Song Leader** – Eli Hickey

**Invitation –** Andy Fuller

**Closing Prayer –** Brandon Esque

**April 23 Evening Service –** Darryl Griffing

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **April** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **9** | MacQuilliam | Please Be Considerate |
| **16** | Tucker | Clean the area around your seat |

**Memory Verse – John 4:24**

**God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.**

**Good Thoughts –**

**Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live…” [John 11:25] Jesus does not merely say that he will bring about the resurrection or that he will be the cause of the resurrection (both of which are true), but something much stronger: I am the resurrection and the life. Resurrection from the dead and genuine eternal life in fellowship with God are so closely tied to Jesus that they are embodied in him and can be found only in relationship to him.**

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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 Elders@covingtonchurchofchrist.com**

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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**April 9, 2****023**

***Who Made These Statements?***

1. If I am a man of God, let fire come down from heaven, and consume your and your fifty.

2. Do you still retain your integrity? Curse God and die.

3. It was a true report that I heard in my own land of your acts and of your wisdom.

4. Why is your countenance sad, seeing you are not sick? This is nothing else but sorrow of heart.

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***Not An Annual Event***

**By Edwin Crozier**

The night Jesus was betrayed, He gathered His 12 closest disciples in an upper room. Together they ate the Passover, remembering the great deliverance of their ancestors from Egyptian bondage. While in the midst of this Old Covenant memorial, Jesus instituted a memorial for His New Covenant. This was called it the Lord’s Supper in 1 Corinthians 11:20.

According to Luke 22:19-20, Jesus took bread and fruit of the vine. He told the disciples to eat the bread because it was His flesh given for them. He told them to drink the juice because it was the new covenant in His blood. He said they were to eat the bread and drink the juice in remembrance of Him.

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***Not An Annual Event***

**Continued**

It was a new memorial for a new covenant. Of course, they weren’t actually participating in the memorial itself because they had nothing yet to remember. Jesus hadn’t yet given His body or shed His blood. Jesus was simply showing them what they were to do when the New Covenant was established. When they actually took the Supper, it would be in memory of Jesus.

When did they actually take the Supper? According to Acts 20:7, the disciples gathered together to break bread on the first day of the week. I can’t help but notice that Paul was in a hurry to get to Jerusalem (Acts 20:16), however, he apparently arrived in Troas on a Monday and waited to meet with the church there for seven days until they gathered to take the Supper.

If Paul was in such a hurry, why didn’t he just gather the disciples together earlier in the week to take the Supper? They were waiting for the first day of the week to partake in the New Covenant Memorial.

In 1 Corinthians 11:20, the Corinthian church was rebuked because when they were gathering together they were eating their own supper instead of the Lord’s. (By the way, this demonstrates the Lord’s Supper is not a meal to assuage hunger, but a memorial to honor Jesus.) They were not eating the Lord’s Supper when they came together.

When did they come together? 1 Corinthians 16:2 demonstrates the Corinthian church was meeting on Sundays. The church was to collect funds for the needy saints in Jerusalem so when Paul arrived he would not have to collect funds. They were clearly gathering every first day of the week. When they came together, they were supposed to be eating the Lord’s Supper.

Jesus wants us not only to remember His death but to memorialize it. However, unlike the Old Testament Passover, His memorial is not an annual observance but a weekly one. On the Lord’s Day, we gather to eat the Lord’s Supper, to remember, to rejoice, to refresh. *Let’s not weaken this with an annual celebration.* Let’s strengthen it by following the example established in the New Testament. If we are eating the Lord’s Supper, let it be the Lord’s Day; if it is the Lord’s Day, let us eat the Lord’s Supper.

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***Darkness***

**By David Maxson**

***And when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. [Mark 15:33]***

We're not told why there was darkness for three hours. It is clear, however, that this darkness was supernatural since the brightest sunlight would be during these early afternoon hours.

What could God be communicating through this darkness? It's possible that it symbolized God's judgment. The ninth plague in Egypt was three days of darkness (Exodus 10:21-23). Darkness was often connected with judgment in scripture (Isaiah 13:9-13; Joel 2:30-31; 3:14-15; Matthew 24:29-30).

The difference here is that the One being judged was innocent. He was bearing our judgment on the cross, the punishment that we deserved. Perhaps it is significant that after these three hours of darkness we hear Jesus cry out, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

***Alas! and did my Savior bleed! And did my Savior die?***

***Would he devote that sacred head For such a worm as I.***

***Was it for crimes that I had done, He groaned upon the tree?***

***Amazing pity! grace unknown! And love beyond degree!***

***Well might the sun in darkness hide, And shut his glories in;***

***When Christ the mighty Maker died For man the creature's sin.***

***But drops of grief can ne'er repay The debt of love I owe:***

***Here, Lord, I give myself away, 'Tis all that I can do.***

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Elijah [2 Kings 1:10]

2. Job’s wife [Job 2:9]

3. The Queen of Sheba [1 Kings 10:6]

4. Artaxerxes [Nehemiah 2:2]

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