**SERVICE SCHEDULE for July 2, 2023**

**Announcements for the Week** Buck Phillips

**Morning Service Evening Service**

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

**Song Leader-** Jason LaChappelle **Song Leader**- Josiah Phillips

**-- Comments** – Ron Bailey **Comments** – Darryl Griffing

**-- Assisting –** Mark Tally **Communion** – Phillip Dorn

**-- Assisting** – Dean Shacklock

**-- Assisting –** Cliff Davis

**-- Assisting –** Jared Davis

**-- Scripture –** Josiah Phillips **Scripture** – Ron Bailey

**Closing Prayer-** Dan Woodward **Closing Prayer**- Dan Woodward

**Wednesday Night – July 5, 2023**

**First Prayer–** Brandon Esque

**Song Leader** – Josiah Phillips

**Invitation –** Cliff Davis

**Closing Prayer –** Ron Bailey

**July 23 Evening Service –** Cliff Davis

**Upcoming Assignments**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **July** | **Communion** | **Cleaning** |
| **2** | Wofford | Please Be Considerate |
| **8** | LaChappelle | Clean the area around your seat |

**Memory Verse – 1 Peter 4:8-9**

**And above all things have fervent love for one another for love will cover a multitude of sins. Be hospitable to one another without grumbling.**

**Not Too Early to Prepare –**

**How many of you can remember the last time we hosted a Gospel Meeting? We are way past due. For this reason, we have invited one of the preachers we are supporting to come to Covington in September. Many of you may have heard about Nolan Glove. Now we will have a chance to hear lessons from him.**

**Make every effort to attend this series of scriptural lessons and be sure to bring your friends.**

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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**

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



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**Elders: Jason LaChappelle, Bill McIlvain**

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

**July 2, 2****023**

***Horns Of The Altar***

1. Who constructed the first altar covered with gold?

2. What patriarch built an altar after he arrived in Canaan for the first time?

3. Where did Paul see an altar inscribed “To an Unknown God”?

4. Who had a vision of the souls of the martyrs underneath the altar?

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***God Blessed The Seventh Day***

**By Bryan Matthew Dockens**

Following six days of creation by God, it is recorded, ***“Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished. And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made” (Genesis 2:1-3).***

Without controversy, the Almighty blessed and sanctified the seventh day as a day of rest. Not as well understood, however, is that He told no one about it for thousands of years.

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***God Blessed The Seventh Day***

**Continued**

When Israel was repatriated following foreign captivity and correct worship was restored, the Levites praised Jehovah, saying, ***“You made known to them Your holy Sabbath, and commanded them precepts, statutes, and laws, by the hand of Moses your servant” (Nehemiah 9:14).*** It was by Moses that God informed Israel of the Sabbath. Until then, nothing about the seventh day was known to be special.

Prior to entering the Promised Land, ***“Moses called all Israel and said to them: ‘Hear, O Israel, the statutes and judgments which I speak in your hearing today, that you may learn them and be careful to observe them. Jehovah our God made a covenant with us in Horeb. Jehovah did not make this covenant with our fathers, but with us, those who are here today, all of us who are alive” (Deuteronomy 5:1-3).*** After this introduction, Moses reiterated the Ten Commandments, including, ***“Observe the Sabbath day, to keep it holy, as Jehovah commanded you” (Deuteronomy 5:12).*** The Law that held the seventh day to be a holy day of rest was part of a covenant not previously revealed.

Clearly, Sabbath keeping was not part of God’s will for man from the beginning. That being so, it should come as no surprise that Sabbath keeping is not part of God’s will for man until the end.

The Covenant that contained Sabbath law is no more. The Hebrew writer, having quoted Jeremiah’s prophecy of a New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34), explained, “***In that He says, ‘A new covenant,’ He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away” (Hebrews 8:13).***  The Bible declares, “***Christ is the end of the law” (Romans 10:4).*** He is its end, not for having abolished it, but for having fulfilled it (Matthew 5:17-18).

The Law of Moses came to an end with the death of Christ, for “***the handwriting of requirements that was against us, which was contrary to us… He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross” (Colossians 2:14).*** Whereas Jesus died on the cross to live again, the Old Testament died there and stayed there, never to be resurrected. As His crucifixion brought the death of the First Covenant, so it also ushered in the New, ***“For where there is a testament, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament is in force after men are dead, since it has no power at all while the testator lives” (Hebrews 9:16-17).***

The New Testament nowhere instructs men now living to keep the Sabbath. To insist on Sabbath keeping today would amount to transgressing, that is: going too far, and therefore ***“not abiding in the doctrine of Christ” (2nd John 9)***, being without God.

The word “Sabbath” means “rest”, and the rest now promised to Christians is a rest not yet received. “***There remains therefore a rest for the people of God. For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His” (Hebrews 4:9-10).*** Only when this life is over, with all its attendant works ceased, may the people of God enter their permanent and heavenly rest.

***Put On Top Of The List***

**By David Maxson**

***If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself, and glorify him at once. [John 13:32]***

Most mornings we begin with a "to do" list in our heads: go to the store, drop the kids off at school, clean the bathrooms, finish that report, visit that client, catch up on email, etc.

Lists are good. They give us focus. They motivate us to achieve and accomplish. They get us out of bed in the morning. It's good to compile "to do" lists, but there's a better way to start each day. Why not begin by asking, "How can I glorify God today?"

That may not seem like much, but meditating on that simple thought will change us. When we begin the day that way we're no longer just going to the store, we're looking for a way to honor God while we are there. Even if it's simply in the courtesy we show to the checkout clerk, our purpose for going to the store has been transformed. We're no longer just carting kids around here and there; we've got a purpose in doing that. We're serving the Lord.

Ordinary, routine tasks take on new meaning when we put God in the middle of them. We're doing much more than just checking off a "to do" list. We're putting a smile on our Father's face.

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**Answers from page 1**

1. Solomon [1 Kings 6:20]

2. Abraham [Genesis 12:7]

3. Athens [Acts 17:23]

4. John [Revelation 6:9]

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