

December 8, 2019

CHURCH *of* CHRIST



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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SUNDAY:

Bible Classes.....9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship.....10:30 a.m.
Evening Worship.....6:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....7 p.m.

Minister, John Keith
(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We of the Cambridge church of Christ
invite you to all our services.

"...the churches of Christ salute you" (Romans 16:16).

“WE’VE BEEN ROBBED!”

Isaiah 42:21-22

INTRODUCTION:

1. Satan, the master thief, is robbing many homes of things which they might not suspect and it is a real tragedy.
2. We need to search our homes now to see if we are being robbed.

I. IS MY HOME ROBBED OF THE BIBLE?

- A. “Oh, But I have a Bible” (Jas. 1:22-25).
- B. No doubt we have other kinds of reading material in our homes.
- C. Houses robbed of the Bible will be where the inhabitants stumble and fall.
 1. There will be ignorance instead of understanding (Psa. 119:130).
 2. There will be uncertainty instead of certainty (2 Tim. 1:12).
 3. There will be doubt instead of faith (1 Cor. 5:7).
 4. There will be confusion instead of peace (2 Cor. 13:11).
 5. There will be weakness instead of strength (2 Cor. 12:9).
 6. There will be trust in man instead of reliance upon God (2 Cor. 1:9).

II. HAS YOUR HOME BEEN ROBBED OF FAMILY WORSHIP TIME?

- A. Families seldom even sit down together to eat, much less spend time in prayer and devotion.
- B. Why, they don’t even have time or interest to thank God at mealtime for the continual providence of God. God is the giver of good gifts (cf. Jas. 1:17).
- C. Homes are robbed of communication with God.

III. HAS YOUR HOME BEEN ROBBED OF THE LORD’S DAY?

- A. Christ arose (Mt. 28:5-6).
- B. Christ met w/ His disciples after the resurrection (Jn. 20:19).
- C. Church established; Christian age inaugurated (Acts 2).
- D. Early disciple gathered to break bread (Acts 20:7)
- E. In a robbed house, the Lord’s Day is viewed as nothing special.

IV. HOUSES ARE ROBBED OF DISCIPLINE BY PARENTS (Eph. 6:1f).

V. HOW DO WE PREVENT OUR HOMES FROM BEING ROBBED?

- A. We need a good security system
- B. That is why God has given us rules and commandments.

CONCLUSION:

1. The home robbed by Satan is one in which values are utterly confused and/or lacking.
 - A. An abundance of material things; but poor in spiritual things
 - B. “Fun” will be a cheap substitute for “joy”.
 - C. Gratification replaces self-denial
 - D. Praise of men is chosen over the praise of God (cf. Jn. 12:43).
2. Occupants of the robbed house will “major in minors”.
 - A. Christ wants to be included in your house (Rev. 3:20).
 - B. He will give you real peace, real purpose, and real direction (Jn. 10:10).

“HERMAN WHO?”

I borrowed the title for this article from a chapter in brother Dan Kessinger’s book, *A Cloak of Malice*, to introduce a subject that we all know something about but might not know what it is called.

Hermeneutics is the “science of interpreting an author’s language”¹. Therefore, biblical hermeneutics is the science of interpreting the Holy Scriptures. Whenever we read something it is natural that we interpret it with consideration to the type of literature it is. For instance, we typically do not read a dictionary in the same way we would read a novel. Nor would we read a recipe in the same way we would read a letter from someone. We apply the hermeneutic it calls for.

We do a similar thing with spoken communication. Body language and variances in voice tone and volume enter in to how we interpret the messages received from the speaker. Unfortunately, we can hear neither the divine nor the human authors of the Bible, so we must rely on recognized interpretive methods (hermeneutics) to understand it.

There are some things in the Bible that are quite easily understood. In Genesis, “God said to Noah . . . Make thee an ark of gopher wood” (6:13-14). Do you think Noah had any trouble understanding what God wanted? Do you think that Noah spent hours or days trying to find God’s hidden meaning in that command? Did God really mean for Noah to build an ark, or was that some kind of euphemism for God’s real intention? Any serious student of the Bible will answer, “No” to these questions.

Since, however, the Bible contains commands for you and me, how do we know which commands we are to obey, and which ones are not intended for us? Well, in our study of Scripture we must apply a proper biblical hermeneutic. How do we know that we are not supposed to be building an ark? The answer is in Genesis 6:13.

When we hold to a *biblical hermeneutic*, we understand that God is the author of the Bible and that He intended for His word to be read, understood, believed, and obeyed. Therefore, the things that the human writers wrote—without error—under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, were exactly what God intended to say to His creation. The writer’s intentions were not to misdirect or confuse the readers².

While the Bible, for the most part, is easily understandable (with a little work and a few tools available to us), there are “some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction” (2 Pet. 3:16). More on this very important topic later, God willing.—JK.

¹ Terry, Milton S. *Biblical Hermeneutics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, N.d.

² This paragraph adapted from; Stevens, Steve. *Hold Fast to the Biblical Hermeneutic*: Ohio Valley Lectureship, 2006.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Jerry & Erma Endly, Cathy Jackson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Kathy Mayo, and Flavil Miller.

SHUT-INS: Pat Behrendt, Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, Shirley Patterson and Marge Rothwell

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: **Nellie Bichard, Alec Blake** (grandson of Wilma Roe), **Weston Boulet**, (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Larry Chips** (friend of the Starrett's, **Dan Doudna** (Wilma Roe's relative), **Bob & Patty Eddy, Tom Eddy** (Betsy Cook's brother), **Carmie Green** (Flavil Miller's sister), **Herb Hamilton** (friend of the Starrett's), **Bob & Donna Henthorn** (Laura Jamiel's parents), **Collene Keister**, (Mo Smith's sister), **Les McCollum** (friend of Deb McGath), **Erica Rich, Shirley Roe, Mona Stoffer** (Flavil Miller's daughter), **Mitch Vick, Bob & Marge Watson, Kedra Wyatt** and remember to pray for **one another**.

We encourage our visitors to fill out one of the blue cards and place it in the collection plate.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Jody Main** had surgery this past week to implant a neuro-stimulator in her back.
- **Shirley Patterson** is in Southeastern Med.
- **Evangelist, Wirt Cook** passed away this past week. He one of the founders of the W.Va. School of Preaching.
- **Business Meeting** this evening at 5:30 for the men of the congregation.

REMINDERS:

- ✓ **WORDWATCHER** will meet tomorrow.
- ✓ **Don't forget about our library;** Brendyn Herald has assembled many good volumes for us to be able to check out. They are in the basement in the last room on the right.

TODAY'S LESSONS

AM: "We've Been Robbed!" (Isa. 42:21-22).

PM: Avoiding Spiritual Complacency (Jer. 6:14-15).

<i>Bible Class</i>	<i>Sun. AM</i>	<i>Sun. PM</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Wed.</i>
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