

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

# 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).*

# PROGRESSION OF SIN

James 1:12-15

## INTRODUCTION:

1. What is Sin? (1 Jn. 3:4).
2. Sin of Commission (1 Jn. 5:17).
3. Sin of Omission (Jas. 4:17).

## **I. THE PROGRESSION BEGINS—DESIRE (Jas. 1:14).**

- A. Begins with Desire.
  1. Tempted - to test, to try, to tempt.
  2. Drawn away - metaphor taken from hunting / fishing.
  3. Enticed to *bait* a hook or set a trap with bait.
- B. We Are Warned (1 Jn. 2:15-17!)
  1. We can become hardened (Heb. 3:13).
  2. Sin is pleasurable, thus, the deceitfulness of sin (Heb. 11:25).
  3. Sin is covetous by its very nature (Psa. 10:3; cf. Lk. 12:16-21).

## **II. PROGRESSION TO PRACTICE—DESIRE TO ACTION (Jas. 1:15).**

- A. Progress Began with Lust (14).
- B. Now Lust is Conceived (15). “To become pregnant with desire”. Eve (Gen. 3:6); David (2 Sam. 11:2-4); Achan (Jos. 7:21); Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:18f)
- C. Temptation Does not Equal Sin (Heb. 4:15).
- D. We Have the Power to Stop the Action (Rom. 6:12-14).

## **III. THE STATE OF SIN—PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT.**

- A. Who is Your Master (Rom. 6:16; Mt. 6:24)?
  1. Apostle Paul, formerly Saul of Tarsus [murderer-Acts 7:58; 8:1; church wrecker-Acts 8:3; chief sinner-1 Tim. 1:15; conscience unaffected-Acts 23:1). What’s the point?
  2. Having lived in sin long enough, it all seemed right to him.
  3. Same thing can happen with us—sin becomes normalized.
- B. Devotion to Sin Can Only Lead to One Thing—Rom. 6:23; Ezk. 18:4).

## **IV. PREVENTING THE PROGRESS.**

- A. Develop a Working Faith.
  1. Grow your faith through study (Rom. 10:17).
  2. Faith w/o works is dead (Jas. 2:20).
  3. Live your faith unashamed (Rom. 1:16).
- B. Change the Desire in Order to Change the Practice.
  1. Proper grief/sorrow (2 Cor. 7:10).
  2. Turning to God means turn from world (Acts 26:20; 1 Thes. 1:9).
  3. Off with the old/on with the new (Eph. 4:22-24).
- C. Leaving the State of Sin (Gal. 3:27; Rom. 6:6, 17-18, 22-23).

## CONCLUSION:

1. It begins with our own natural desires which in themselves, are not sinful.
2. Satan appeals to these natural desires and we allow them first to become lust, action, which become a lifestyle and—we are living in a state of sin.
3. The only way out of sin is to stop living in sin (Acts 26:20; 2:38).

## CANCEL CULTURE

*Cancel culture* refers to the popular practice of withdrawing support for (*canceling*) public figures and companies after they have done or said something considered objectionable or offensive. *Cancel culture* is generally discussed as being performed on social media in the form of group shaming (<https://www.dictionary.com/e/pop-culture/cancel-culture/>).

To my thinking we used to call this “boycotting”. Of late, however, this practice is affecting not only companies, but also individuals and ideas. One of the reasons we are hearing so much about this now is that nearly everybody is offended by nearly everything—even God—but that’s nothing new.

Jeroboam was afraid that the people’s hearts would be turned back to the house of David and Rehoboam, the king (1 Ki. 12:27), so to *cancel* that effort, he set up golden calves; one in Dan, and the other in Bethel under the guise of it being too hard for the people to go all the way to Jerusalem to worship (1 Ki. 12:28-29). Too, he changed the day and of worship and made priests of just anybody instead of the Levites, which thing became a sin unto him (1 Ki. 12:30-32). For his efforts at *cancel culture*, Jeroboam is remembered as, “The man who made Israel to sin” (1 Ki. 14:16 *et al*).

King Herod the Great, fearing a new king would overthrow his dynasty, sought from the wise men and his own advisors where the Christ was to be born. Upon being told, “in Bethlehem of Judea” (Matt. 2:5) he ordered the wise men to find the Baby and report to him (Matt. 2:8). After realizing the wise men were not returning, he ordered that all male children from two years old and under in Bethlehem and surrounding districts to be killed (Matt. 2:16) in hopes of *cancelling* the eternal purpose of God in Christ Jesus (Eph. 3:11).

When individuals, and especially Christians, live lives in opposition and rebellion to God, are they not trying to effect *cancel culture* against God? When we support the sin of racism, are we not *cancelling* the Golden Rule (Matt. 7:12)? When we embrace the wickedness of fornication, adultery, and homosexuality, are we not *canceling* God’s ideal will for marriage (1 Cor. 7:2)? When we consent to the evil of abortion, its providers, and advocates, are we not contributing to the most egregious form of *cancel culture* by callously snuffing out these young lives (Prov. 6:16-17)? —*JK*.

**REMINDER:** “All individuals in Ohio must wear facial coverings in public at all times when . . . at an indoor location that is not a residence”. The order only requires those 10 years old or older to wear a mask” (<https://ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/site/media-center/news-and-events/covid19-update-07222020>).

Additional exclusions are posted on the foyer bulletin board.

<b>IN OUR PRAYERS:</b> Jerry & Erma Endly, Cathy Jackson, Bruce Johnson, Gary & Debbie Jones, Rick Lambert, and Flavil Miller.	<b>SHUT-INS:</b> Audrey Burns, Jack Mitchell, and Shirley Patterson.
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**FAMILY AND FRIENDS:** Nellie Bichard, Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), Carter Campbell (John and Marys Smith’s grandson), Bob & Donna Henthorn (Laura Jamiel’s parents), Collene Keister (Mo Smith’s sister), Linda Potts (Joyce Starrett’s sister-in-law), Mona Stoffer (Flavil Miller’s daughter), Mitch Vick, Bob & Marge Watson and remember to pray for one another.

**Welcome!**

**To our visitors, please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection boxes at the rear of the auditorium.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- **Norm Behrendt** is in *Southeastern Med* under observation while adjustments are made to his medication due to A-fib.
- **Rick Lambert** is improving despite “a few little set-backs” and is still quite uncomfortable but is staying positive.
- **POTTER Children’s Home** will be here the week of October 18<sup>th</sup> to collect the change cans and pick up any donations made by members.
- It is not too early to begin submitting questions for the next installment of, “Questions You Have Asked”.

**REMINDERS:**

- ✓ Remember our library.
- ✓ Let John know of any changes to our **Family & Friends** prayer list.

**TODAY’S LESSONS**

**AM:** The Progression of Sin (James 1:12-15).

**PM:** The Day of Small Things (Zech. 4:8-10).

Sun. Am Class	Sun. Worship	Sun. PM	Wed. Class	Collection
29	51	26	25	\$2074