

FEBRUARY 5, 2023

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.....6:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY:

Bible Classes.....6:00 p.m.

Minister, John Keith

(304) 266-9027

WELCOME!

We invite you to all of our services.

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

“IN CHRIST WE HAVE REDEMPTION FOUND”

INTRODUCTION: Eph. 1:3-7

1. Grand theme of the Bible: “The redemption of man, to the glorification of God, through the person and work of Jesus Christ”.
2. When Jesus said, “Behold my hands” (Lk. 24:39), He wanted them to see the love He had. The print of the nails verified the price paid for human redemption (cf. Jn. 8:34).

I. OLD TESTAMENT PICTURES & DEFINING TERMS.

- A. Bondage: a captive condition w/ labour-servitude implied. We must understand bondage to understand and appreciate redemption.
 1. The Israelites while in Egypt (Exo. 6:6).
 2. The depressed condition during the exile (Ezra 9:8; Neh. 5:18; cf. Exo. 1:10-12).
- B. Redeem /Redemption: to release from a captive condition upon payment of a ransom.
 1. “Salvation”, “redemption”, and “deliverance” closely related terms.
 2. Of slaves bought back (Lev. 25:24-28), “to act as kinsman” (Ru. 4:1-8).
- C. Ransom: the price paid for slaves.

II. IN BONDAGE TO SIN.

- A. Man’s enslavement.
 1. Man was created in the likeness of God (Gen. 1:26), therefore,
 - a. Man has intellect; the freedom to make choices (Josh. 24:15).
 - b. Man is not God; he will make wrong choices (Rom. 3:23).
 2. Once we choose **to** sin, we become servants **of** sin (Rom. 6:16)?
- B. Man’s Separation.
 1. Sin separates us from God (Isa. 59:2).
 2. To reverse that separation, we must be restored, or, redeemed to God.
 - a. The redeeming quality does not reside within man: (Rom. 7:18).
 - b. Animal sacrifices of OT law could not redeem us: (Heb. 10:1).
 3. When we learn the Truth and desire to terminate our servitude to Satan, we desire the greatest change the world has ever known, but we need the ransom to be paid.

III. IN CHRIST WE HAVE REDEMPTION FOUND.

- A. Good News! It has been paid in full.
 1. Christ paid the price (1 Cor. 6:20).
 2. Christ obtained eternal redemption for us (Heb. 9:11-12).
 3. Christ redeemed us with His blood (1 Pet. 1:18,19).
 4. Christ redeemed us to God (Rev. 5:9).
- B. Only when we come to Christ on His terms can we be included in the thanksgiving of the Apostle Paul (Rom. 6:17-18; 3-6).

LEFT BEHIND? (2)

Among the fallacies which the *Left Behinders* attempt to force into their rapture theory is a *secret* coming of Christ to snatch away His saints from among the wicked. Additionally, it is alleged by this theory that Christ will then set up His kingdom on Earth, in Jerusalem, to reign for a thousand years.

In the premillennial scheme, there needs to be more than one Second Coming of Christ which is an absurd notion since the Bible says that when Christ does return for the second and final time that, “the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up” (2 Peter 3:10). The Apostle Paul debunked this false theory of a secret, Second Advent, and multiple resurrections before it was even in the minds of Premillennialists when he penned these inspired words:

But I do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning those who have fallen asleep, lest you sorrow as others who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who sleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore comfort one another with these words (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

According to Paul, the return of the Lord will be very noticeable. In verse 16 we read of a “shout”, “voice of an archangel”, and “the trumpet of God”— does this sound like a secret return? Then, the dead in Christ will rise first! They won’t be left out of the resurrection (much less, left behind), they will go prior to the saints who are living at that time. After the resurrection of the deceased ones, the Christians who are yet living shall then be received into the clouds by Christ. This will happen “in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed” (1 Cor. 15:57).

And where will the living saints meet Christ? In Jerusalem? No! Verse 17 says the resurrected ones will “meet the Lord in the air”. There is not one passage in all of Holy Writ that so much as hints of Christ ever again setting foot upon the earth.

We see from 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 that 1) no one will be left out, nor left behind. 2) Christ’s return will be visible and audible; not secret. 3) Christ will receive the saints in the air—not in Jerusalem; 4) There is no literal 1,000-year interval between alleged multiple resurrections—*JK*.

Welcome! To our visitors!

We are thankful for your presence. Please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.

AM Bible Study: Colossians 3:1f.

AM Lesson: Redemption In Christ (Ephesians 1-3-7).

PM Lesson: Daniel in the Lion's Den (Daniel 6:18-23).

Wednesday Bible Study: Revelation 11:4.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Twila Cunningham** is scheduled for knee replacement surgery in the morning.
- **Randy Yost** is recovering from hernia surgery.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ Our *Spring Gospel Meeting* will be May 21-25 with **Phil Grear**.

IN OUR PRAYERS: Diann Bachmann, Betsy Cook, Erma Endly, Mike & Karen Grove, Cathy Jackson, Bruce & Kim Johnson, Gary Jones, Rick Lambert, Jody Main, Carol Mitchell, Bev Singleton, Linda Steele, Helena Tewksbury, Jean Whitley, and Randy Yost.

SHUT-INS:
Debbie Jones,
Nancy Love,

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Weston Boulet (great-grandson of Shirley Patterson), **Betty Cox** (Diann Bachmann's sister), **Melanie Harper**, **T.J. Hart**, **Trudy Kerby**, **Colleen Kiester** (Mo Smith's sister), **Bob Main** (Bill Main's brother), **Linda Potts** (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), **Kellie Price** (Richard Mayo's cousin), **Addy Reed**, **Rodney Reeves** (Erica Cunningham's father), **John Rockhold**, the U.S.A., **Ukraine** and remember to pray for **one another**.

AM STUDY	SUNDAY AM	SUNDAY PM	WED. STUDY	GIVING (\$2,460)
35	64	32	28	\$1999

LIAR, LIAR? SINNER, SINNER?

Have you ever lied? Few would say, "No". Those who did would face skepticism. There is a big difference between occasionally lying and being a liar no one can trust. Similarly, no one, not even faithful Christians, can truthfully say, "I have never sinned" (1 John 1:8,10). However, sinner no longer characterizes who we are (1 John 3:4-6. We are saints, forgiven, redeemed.—Cecil May Jr.