

MARCH 26, 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)

FAITH OF JOSEPH

INTRODUCTION: Hebrews 11:22

1. Joseph secured the promise from his brethren that when God delivered them from Egypt and restored them to the Promised land, that they would take his bones w/ them (Gen. 50:22-26).
2. How could Joseph know this? Let's look at the life of Joseph and see.

I. JOSEPH IN THE PIT (Gen. 37:2-11).

- A. Two-fold Family Issues:
 1. Jacob showed favoritism.
 2. Brothers showed detestation.
- B. The Brother's Conspiracy.
- C. Stage Set for Rest of Joseph's Life.
 1. Reduced to property-livestock—being now sold twice.
 2. How would he react?

II. JOSEPH IS PROVEN AND PROMOTED (Gen. 39:).

- A. Purchased by Potiphar and prospers because God w/ him.
- B. Promoted To Head of Potiphar's Household.
- C. Propositioned by Potiphar's Wife.

III. JOSEPH IN PRISON (GEN. 39:20—40:36).

- A. Joseph is imprisoned and God shows him favor—he is promoted to caretaker.
- B. Joseph interprets dreams for the king's former butler and baker (w/ God's help).
- C. After 2 yrs, Pharaoh had dreams and could not figure them out.
- D. Joseph. interprets His Dreams (w/ God's help-v. 16) and gives his advice.

IV. JOSEPH IN POWER (Gen. 41:37—50:20).

- A. Appointed Governor of Egypt, 2nd only to Pharaoh.
 1. Given responsibility to prepare for coming famine.
 2. Given a wife.
 3. Works for the next 7 years of plenty.
- B. Joseph's brothers come seeking food to survive the famine.
 1. Will he get even? Put them in prison? Enslave them?
 2. No! he will not. Why? See; Gen. 45:1-5. Joseph makes it known to them that it was God all along who put him in a position to someday save them (Gen. 50:20).

CONCLUSION:

1. Joseph's faith was vital in every stage of his life.
2. He never let God out of his life, mind, body, or soul—regardless of circumstances.
3. God blessed Joseph in every stage of his life and used him to preserve his family.
4. Joseph looked ahead to God, fulfilling all his promises to coming generations, just as God had taken care of him.
5. Joseph faced life and death because God was his life. God ruled, guided, and used his life as an instrument to do good. He will use your life if you give it to him. Will you do it now?

AN ANGRY SOCIETY.

As one reads the Bible it is not long into the history of mankind do we first encounter the deadly effects of anger and bitterness in the human race. Cain, the son of Adam and Eve, becomes jealous of his younger brother Abel and “*rose up. . . and slew him*” (Gen. 4:8). The world’s first family had to deal with the tragic results of what happens when one allows his own unchecked anger and bitterness to do his thinking for him.

Sadly not much has changed in the past 6 or 7 thousand years as such anger has destroyed marriages, families, churches, and souls. Is it getting worse, or do we just hear about it more? Perhaps both!

I suppose I should pause here and clarify something. “Anger” which prompts sinful behavior is not really “anger”; it’s actually “madness”. Anger is not inherently sinful and is justified many times. Jesus became angry with the hypocrites which He encountered (Mark 3:5). I am referring to the one who refuses to control their anger and lashes out verbally and/or physically, spewing verbal vitriol, throwing things, hitting things, etc.

It does seem that our society is finding more and more *reasons* to become angry. Everything is racist, homophobic, misogynistic, or whatever. At the same time it seems that less emphasis is placed upon learning to control anger and dealing with disappointments. In many instances instead of teaching people to cope, officials are prescribing *dope*. Any number of chemical pharmaceuticals are being prescribed to dull and retard erratic impulses. This, of course, is not to say that there are not legitimate conditions which require medication; I’m not talking about that.

What I am talking about are adults and youngsters who find it easier to sinfully vent every disappointment and perceived injustice rather than to confront the situation maturely and rationally. We do not have to “fly off at the handle” every time something makes us angry. With every temptation we face, God provides a way of escape (1 Cor. 10:13). And there will be instances that do excite our anger but we have to *learn* how to control and mitigate it. Paul wrote, “*Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger*” (Eph. 4:26 ESV). This is not simply good advice; this is a divine necessary from an inspired apostle.

Even if we have been wronged or treated unfairly we have to control our anger. Jesus did! If anyone had justification for throwing an all-out fit and flying into a rage, it would have been our Lord. But what does the Bible say about how Jesus handled things? “*Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly*” (1 Peter 2:21-23 ESV).—*JK*

Welcome!

We are thankful for your presence. To our visitors, please fill out one of the blue cards and place it in one the collection plates.

AM Bible Study: Colossians 4:5f.

AM: The Faith of Joseph (Hebrews 11:22)

PM: What Doth the Lord Require (Micah 6:6-8)?

Wednesday Bible Study: Revelation 12:12f

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Hayden Douglas** is scheduled for shoulder surgery April 5th
- Our sympathy to **Mo Smith** and family at the passing of his sister, Coleen Kiester. Services are this afternoon in St. Marys, WV.
- Prayers requested for **Conrad Schultz**, the employer of Linda Steele's son. He has cancer and is waiting for a further biopsy.
- **Trudy Kerby** (friend of John and Tina Keith's) is recovering from graft- surgery to close a hole in her esophagus.

REMINDERS:

- ❖ **April 2**—*Potter Children's Home* commodity and change can pick-up
- ❖ **May 21-25**—Our *Gospel Meeting* with **Phil Grear**. Potluck on 21st
- ❖ **Oct. 7**—*Men's Encouragement Day* here with **Roger Rush**.
- ❖ **Several area events are posted on the bulletin board.**

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**, **Linda Potts** (Joyce Starrett's sister-in-law), **Kellie Price** (Richard Mayo's cousin), **Addy Reed**, **Rodney Reeves** (Erica Cunningham's father), **John Rockhold**, **Leatha Warner** (Erma Endly's daughter-in-law), the **U.S.A.**, **Ukraine** and remember to pray for **one another**.

AM STUDY	SUNDAY AM	SUNDAY PM	WED. STUDY	GIVING (\$2,460)
36	58	33	26	\$1,886