

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Chevis Webb

Scripture Reading:

Bailey Steger
Isaiah 55:1-5

Prayer:
Thom Steger

Lesson:
Kevin Hayes

Closing Prayer:
Alex Bansemer

Wednesday, December 4
Song Leader: Thom Steger
Invitation: Jim Stubblefield
Prayer: Chevis Webb

Lord's Supper Preparation
December: Fix
January: Dixon

Change Sign Message:
December:
January: Durham

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
John Fix

Scripture Reading:

Bill Duryea
Isaiah 55:6-11

Prayer:
Louis Long

Lord's Supper:
Doug Thweatt
Al Cotten
Gary Sells
Jim Barton

Lesson:
David Bansemer

Title:
Song Service - Invitation

Announcements:
Ron Dixon

Closing Prayer:
Chris Huffines

Usher for This Week:
Ron Hunt

Creekview *BULLETIN*

Be the One

After Jesus healed ten lepers, only one came back to give thanks (Luke 17:11-19). Even if nine out of ten of the people around you fail to give thanks to God, may you always be the one who remembers Him.

To Our Visitors:
Welcome to our services. We assemble to worship God in spirit and truth (John 4:24) and to edify one another (Col. 3:16; 1 Cor. 14:26; Heb. 10:24-25) Thanks for joining us in these blessed purposes today.

DECEMBER

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2019

VOL. 34
NUM. 48



SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM
BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM
WORSHIP: 11:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY 7:00 PM

Worse Than Sodom

Sodom and Gomorrah were places of such immeasurable evil and sin that God utterly destroyed both cities (Gen. 19). In those cities were all types of wickedness, including the predominant sin of homosexuality. Their sinfulness was so complete that not even ten righteous souls could be found there, for which God would have spared the cities.

With that event of God's wrath, Sodom and Gomorrah became synonymous with sin and judgment. The writers of the Scriptures often made references to these cities in their efforts to illustrate the wickedness and destinies of those who sinned against God (Deut. 29:23; 32:32; Isa. 1:9-10; 3:9; Jer. 23:14; Lam. 4:6; Ezek. 16:46-63; 2 Pet. 2:6). Comparisons were made between Sodom and sinful nations, cities, and individuals that stood in opposition to God.

Jesus also made such comparisons, but He identified wickedness that exceeded even that of Sodom. In particular, Matthew records that Jesus sent out His twelve apostles with very specific instructions. He told them to go and preach the message, "The kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 10:7). He empowered them to perform miracles of healing, raising of the dead, cleansing of lepers, and casting out of demons (Matt. 10:8). For any city that rejected the apostles, Jesus said, "It shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment, than for that city" (Matt. 10:15). Likewise, Jesus said of the city of Capernaum, which had rejected Him and His message, "You shall descend to Hades; for if the miracles had occurred in Sodom which occurred in you, it would have remained to this day. Nevertheless, I say to you, that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for you" (Matt. 11 :23-24).

We must appreciate the gravity of the Lord's words in these passages. For the cities that Jesus identified, their offense was considered worse than that of Sodom. If Sodom's sins were so grave that the wrath of God destroyed the city from the earth, then what punishment must await those who have committed the offenses of Capernaum?

Exactly what did Capernaum do that deserved such a stern rebuke? The answer is that the people rejected the Son of God and His message. This is the offense that the Lord declared to be less tolerable than the reprehensible sins of Sodom. When those cities rejected the apostles of Jesus, they rejected Him, for the apostles spoke by the authority of Jesus

as well as the Father and the Spirit (Matt. 10:20; Luke 10:16).

Could there be anything worse than rejecting the Son of God? He is the Almighty (Rev. 1 :8), the Preeminent One (Col. 1:15-18), the fullness of God (Col. 1:19; 2:9), and the One through whom all things were made (John 1:1-3). He is the revelation of grace and truth (John 1:17), the declaration of God to mankind (John 1:18), and the greatest extension of God's love to the world (John 3:16). He is the One who allowed the shedding of His own innocent blood so that we, being guilty of sin, could live in His glory for eternity (John 17:24). Who is man to reject Him?

So then, considering the glory, grace, and love of the Lord, can we not still rightly say that to reject the Lord Jesus is worse than the sins of Sodom? Indeed, it is, and the punishment of those who reject Him is a fearful thought. Therefore, let us hear His word and accept it so that we may receive the benefit of salvation and life with the Lord for eternity.

Stacey E. Durham

ELDERS:

Ron Dixon
John Fix
Stacey Durham

DEACONS:

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Kevin Hayes
Thom Steger
Doug Thweatt

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Stacey Durham

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news & notes

- A signup sheet for preparing the Lord's Supper in 2020 has been posted on the bulletin board.
- The **teacher schedule** for next year's classes is posted on the bulletin board. If you need to change your assignment, please see Stacey Durham.
- Please keep the following members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, and Kay Lanius. Also remember Wayne Wright, Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry, and the Fix's son-in-law Jody Baize.

reading plan

Sunday - 1John 1-3
Monday - Deut. 20-22
Tuesday - Nehemiah 1-4
Wednesday - Ps. 137-139
Thursday - Eccl. 11-12
Friday - Malachi
Saturday - Acts 19-20

meetings

Eastside - Dec. 20*

*song service