

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Scripture Reading:

Prayer:

Lesson:

Title:

Closing Prayer:

Wednesday, June 24

Song Leader:

Invitation:

Prayer:

Lord's Supper Preparation

June: Ridings

July: Steger

10:00 AM

Song Leader:

John Fix

Scripture Reading:

Ron Dixon

Matthew 23:1-12

Prayer:

Kevin Hayes

Lord's Supper:

Nate Durham

Chris Huffines

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

Title:

Modern-Day Pharisees

Announcements:

Stacey Durham

Closing Prayer:

Thom Steger

Usher for This Week:

Creekview *BULLETIN*

A Good Start

Worshiping together on the first day of the week sets the tone for the rest of the week as we center our hearts upon God, His grace and mercy, and His will for us. Let us make today a good start to a week spent in the service of the Lord.

Streaming Services

Our worship service will be streamed live Sunday morning at 10AM on the Facebook page of the church. The live stream will begin a few minutes early so that viewers can connect.

JUNE

21

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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

WORSHIP: 9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY: 10:00 AM

WORSHIP: 10:00 AM

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

Lawlessness

Recently in the city of Seattle, protesters took over an area of downtown and declared it to be an “autonomous zone.” “Autonomous” means self-governing or subject to its own laws. However, this so-called autonomous area of Seattle is subject to no laws. Instead, it is a place of lawlessness. The occupiers of this area are living in defiance of the governing authorities who make and execute the laws of the city, state, and nation.

To be lawless is to be without law, to violate law, to be ignorant of law, or to disregard law. A lawless person is not concerned about whether his actions are lawful, for he has contempt for the law. In Scripture, lawlessness is presented as a diametric opposite to righteousness in passages such as Romans 6:19, 2Corinthians 6:14, and Hebrews 1:9. In 1John 3:4, the Scripture shows that lawlessness is synonymous with sin, for “sin is lawlessness.”

Unlike officials in the city of Seattle, the Lord Jesus will not tolerate lawlessness in His kingdom. In Matthew 13:41-42, Jesus said, “The Son of Man will send forth His angels, and they will gather out of His kingdom all stumbling blocks, and those who commit lawlessness, and will throw them into the furnace of fire; in that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” According to Jesus, lawless behavior not only disqualifies a person from God’s kingdom, but it also destines him for punishment.

Specifically, Jesus does not tolerate lawlessness with regard to the will of His Father. God’s will is the law of the kingdom of heaven, which is abundantly clear in the Lord’s message from Matthew 7:21-23:

²¹“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. ²²Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ ²³And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”

Here Jesus explains that calling Him “Lord” is not an automatic pass into His kingdom. Instead, one must submit to the authority of Jesus as He administers His Father’s will, which is what it means for Him to be Lord (Matt. 28:18). Those who simply do their own will and then falsely label it with Jesus’ name will be dismissed from His presence. He “never knew” them because they were lawless, meaning that they acted without His authority.

Lawlessness not only prevents rebellious souls from entering the kingdom of heaven, but it also affects those who live by God’s laws. For example, as Lot lived among the Sodomites, he “felt his righteous soul tormented day after day by their lawless deeds” (2Pet. 2:8). His own family was severely affected by that lawless environment, and in the end, he lost everything except his two

daughters, who themselves were corrupted. Such spiritual torment can wear upon a righteous person and eventually break him. Jesus recognized this danger but also counselled endurance in Matthew 24:12-13:

¹²“Because lawlessness is increased, most people’s love will grow cold.

¹³But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved.”

Thankfully, Jesus has made salvation possible for those who endure lawlessness and those who repent of their lawlessness. In Romans 4:7, the apostle Paul quotes David from Psalm 32:1 and writes, “Blessed are those whose lawless deeds have been forgiven, and whose sins have been covered.” In Titus 2:14, Paul declares that Jesus sacrificed Himself “to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.” Therefore, let us seek salvation from our own lawlessness through Jesus, help lawless souls to find that salvation also, and endure the lawlessness of this world until the end.

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- Beginning on Sunday, **June 28**, we will resume our full schedule of services. From that day forward, we will assemble on Sunday at 9, 10, and 11 AM, and on Wednesday at 7 PM.
- Please keep the following members in your prayers: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Laurie Polchek, and Lana Richardson. Also pray for Jody Baize, Tommy Lanius, Wayne Wright, and Dot Long’s sister Melissa.

reading plan

Sunday - Ephesians 4-6
Monday - Leviticus 4-6
Tuesday - 1Kings 14-18
Wednesday - Psalms 72-74
Thursday - Proverbs 5-6
Friday - Ezekiel 7-12
Saturday - Luke 13-14

meetings

None to announce