

DUTY ROSTER FOR MARCH 10, 2019

Usher for This Week: John Fix

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Alex Bansemer

Scripture Reading:

Chevis Webb

Scripture:

1 John 2:22-23

Prayer:

Al Cotten

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

The Religion of Islam

Closing Prayer:

David Bansemer

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Andrew Durham

Scripture Reading:

Jim Stubblefield

Scripture:

Psalm 119:89-96

Prayer:

Ron Dixon

Lord's Supper:

Thom Steger

David Bansemer

Wayne Baker

Gary Sells

Lesson:

Stacey Durham

God's Word is Settled in

Heaven

Announcements:

Doug Thweatt

Closing Prayer:

Ron Hunt

LORD'S SUPPER PREPARATION

March: Long
April: Steger

SIGN MESSAGE CHANGING

March: Wright
April: Steger

Elders: Ron Dixon, John Fix, Stacey Durham Deacons: David Bansemer, Kevin Hayes, Thom Steger, Doug Thweatt
Preacher and Editor: Stacey Durham

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Song Leader: David Bansemer
Invitation: Thom Steger
Closing Prayer: TBD

Creekview church of Christ
930 Long Hollow Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066
615-452-8212

Service Times:
Sundays 9:00 AM Worship
10:00 AM Bible Study
11:00 AM Worship
Wednesdays 7:00 PM Bible Study

creekviewchurchofchrist.com

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

MARCH 10, 2019

Volume 34 Number 10

Our Heavenly Father Understands

Do you have problems? Do you suffer from pain, grief, loneliness, fear, or trouble? If so, then you need to take these things to God in prayer. Peter wrote, "Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time, casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you" (1Pet. 5:6-7). In God, you will find a sympathetic ear and a helpful hand. No matter what your problem is, our heavenly Father understands.

To Our Visitors:

Welcome to Creekview. We are thankful that you have come to worship with us today, and we hope that you find everything we say and do to be according to God's word. Please allow us to get to know you, and come back again whenever you have opportunity.

news and notes:

- Jim Cook passed away last Monday, and the funeral was last Wednesday. Let us offer our sympathy and prayers for Kay and the family.
- Dot Long is scheduled for back surgery on March 26. Please pray for her comfort and recovery.
- Please remember these members in your prayers: Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, Ron Hunt, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Pat Ridings, and Bessie Short. Also remember Peggy Bailey's daughter Sherry and Dot Long's sister Melissa.

52 Week Reading Plan: Week 10

Sunday - 1 Corinthians 3-4
Monday - Genesis 36-39
Tuesday - Ruth
Wednesday - Psalms 27-29
Thursday - Job 19-20
Friday - Isaiah 51-55
Saturday - Matthew 26-28

Gospel Meetings:

Eastside (Bowling Green) - Mar. 15, song service
Cason Lane (Murfreesboro) - Mar. 16-17
Broadmoor (Nashville) - Mar. 17-22
Eastside (Bowling Green) - Mar. 24-27

Psalm 73

Psalm 73 is written from the perspective of a man who was about to make a big mistake. He had become envious of people who were arrogant and wicked. He saw that their lives were pleasant and easy, and he wished that he could be like them. He observed in verses 4-5,

⁴For there are no pains in their death, and their body is fat.

⁵They are not in trouble as other men, nor are they plagued like mankind.

Things were so good for these men that even death was easy for them. In verse 12, he directs the reader to take a good look at these men, saying, "Behold, these are the wicked; and always at ease, they have increased their wealth."

In contrast to these happy, prosperous, and trouble-free wicked men, this man's life was hard. He said in verses 13-14:

¹³Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure and washed my hands in innocence;

¹⁴For I have been stricken all day long and chastened every morning.

He saw that these wicked men seemed to be rewarded for their sins, while he seemed to be penalized for doing what was right. They even mocked God and got away with it, saying, "How does God know? And is there knowledge with the Most High?" (v. 11). How were they being allowed to prosper while he was suffering? Why didn't God punish them?

As he contemplated these things, his "feet came close to stumbling" and his "steps had almost slipped" (v. 2). He was ready to give up his pure and innocent ways. After all, what good was it for him to live right and suffer while other men lived in sin and prospered? Why not abandon his faithfulness to God and join the other side so he could live the good life, too?

Then, he had a breakthrough in his understanding. His perspective had been all wrong, but then he saw the truth. Notice verses 16-17:

¹⁶When I pondered to understand this, it was troublesome in my sight

¹⁷Until I came into the sanctuary of God; then I perceived their end.

In the "sanctuary of God," the life of the wicked didn't look as inviting to him as it had before. Whereas he had only considered the present

condition of the wicked previously, now he "perceived their end." They would be "cast...down to destruction," "destroyed in a moment," and "utterly swept away by sudden terrors" (vv. 18-19). Seeing the truth, he wanted no part of their ways.

With this, his outlook had changed. When he was envious and bitter over the good fortunes of the wicked, he was pierced like a senseless and ignorant beast that went for the bait and got caught in the trap. Now God took him by the right hand to lead him away from the trap of riches and ease. The Lord guided him by His counsel so that he could be received into something much better: His magnificent glory.

At last, he came to the best part. He not only perceived the end of the wicked, but he also perceived his own end if he continued to live in purity and innocence. Notice his address to God in verses 25-28:

²⁵Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth.

²⁶My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

²⁷For, behold, those who are far from You will perish; You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to You.

²⁸But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord God my refuge, that I may tell of all Your works.

What lessons should we take away from Psalm 73? There are many. First, do not envy the wicked and do not join them. They may have many good things on earth, but their end is always destruction. Next, find a perspective on truth in the "sanctuary of God." Today, that sanctuary is the church, which is the "pillar and support of the truth" (1Tim. 3:15). Furthermore, take guidance from the counsel of God's word. By doing so, you take hold of God's hand and allow Him to lead you to glory. Finally, find your "portion forever" in God. Even if you have nothing on earth, you are rich when you have God in heaven. Indeed, the nearness of God is your good, so make the Lord God your refuge.

Stacey E. Durham