

DUTY ROSTER FOR MARCH 31, 2019

Usher for This Week: David Bansemer

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Stacey Durham

Scripture Reading:

Bill Duryea

Scripture:

Genesis 6:5-12

Prayer:

Louis Long

Lesson:

Ron Hunt

Waling with God

Closing Prayer:

Alex Bansemer

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Thom Steger

Scripture Reading:

Stacey Durham

Scripture:

Psalms 19:7-14

Prayer:

John Fix

Lord's Supper:

Doug Thweatt

Alex Bansemer

Chevis Webb

Wayne Baker

Lesson:

David Bansemer

Announcements:

Doug Thweatt

Closing Prayer:

Ron Dixon

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3

Song Leader: Stacey Durham

Invitation: Alex Bansemer

Closing Prayer: Wayne Baker

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

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

CREEKVIEW BULLETIN

MARCH 31, 2019

Volume 34 Number 13

"I Can't Complain"

Sometimes you ask someone how he is doing, and he answers, "I can't complain." That answer is right, for none of us should complain. Certainly, we all have problems, and some are even severe, but complaining is never constructive to anyone. Discussing problems and asking for help are good and necessary, but complaining, grumbling, and groaning simply to express displeasure and ingratitude provoke the anger of God (1Cor. 10:10; Phil. 2:14; 1Pet. 4:9). Therefore, let us come before God today without complaints, and let us worship Him with words of praise and thanksgiving.

To Our Visitors:

We are delighted to see you in our midst today. Thank you for joining us on this blessed day to offer worship, praise, and thanksgiving to our Father in heaven. May God bless you and your family.

news and notes:

- Dot Long is recovering from back surgery done on Tuesday. Please continue praying for her healing and comfort.
- Ron Hunt and David Bansemer are preaching for us today. Let's be thankful for men such as these who are willing to speak the word of God.
- Please keep these members in your prayers: Wilma Deering, Mary Ham, 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 13

Sunday - 1Corinthians 9-10
Monday - Genesis 48-50
Tuesday - 1Samuel 11-15
Wednesday - Psalms 36-38
Thursday - Job 25-26
Friday - Jeremiah 1-6
Saturday - Mark 5-6

Gospel Meetings:

Bell Road (Nashville) - Apr. 5, song service
Millersville - Apr. 5, song service
Northfield Blvd. (Murfreesboro) - Apr. 7-12
Skyview (White House) - Apr. 11-14
Warfield Blvd. (Clarksville) - Apr. 11-14
Eastside (Bowling Green) - Apr. 19, singing
Bethany (Orlinda) - Apr. 21-26

False Expectations

In 2Kings 5:1-19, we read about a man named Naaman. He was captain of the army of the king of Aram, a “great man with his master,” highly respected, and a valiant warrior. However, Naaman was a leper, which meant that he had an incurable skin disease. When he heard that there was a prophet in Israel who could heal him, he obtained permission from the king of Aram to go there. In a grand fashion befitting of such an important man, Naaman came to the house of Elisha with horses and chariots and stood at the doorway. However, Elisha did not come out to him, but instead a messenger brought Elisha’s instructions, which were, “Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh will be restored to you and you will be clean.” Consider Naaman’s response in verses 11-12:

¹¹But Naaman was furious and went away and said, “Behold, I thought, ‘He will surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place and cure the leper.’ ¹²Are not Abanah and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?” So he turned and went away in a rage.

Naaman was angry not because Elisha could not or would not heal him but because he had false expectations. He wanted to see the prophet perform a spectacular miracle rather than to wash in the despised Jordan River. His expectations nearly caused him to walk away from his only opportunity to be healed. Fortunately for Naaman, his servants convinced him to do as the messenger said, and “his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child.” After he was healed, Naaman returned to Elisha and said, “Behold now, I know that there is no God in all the earth, but in Israel.”

Like Naaman, false expectations can bring us trouble, especially when we have false expectations of God. We set ourselves up for disappointment when we think God should do something that He never said He would do. When our false expectations are not met, we become angry like Naaman, or we blame God for disappointing us. Such a response is neither reasonable nor faithful, and it will cause us to miss the blessings that God has promised by His word.

For example, it is not uncommon for people to become utterly discouraged because of hardships. It seems they expected that God would not allow them to suffer a lost job, a serious illness or injury, or

the death of a loved one. When such things happen, they are disappointed in God, yet He never promised a life free from hardships. Their false expectations were the product of their own mind and not of God’s word.

People also create false expectations concerning the Christ. This has been the case ever since He came into the world, for “the world did not know Him” (John 1:10), and “He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him” (John 1:11). Many of the Jews expected the Christ to overcome the Romans and restore Israel as a great kingdom. However, God never promised that the Christ would do so, and Jesus didn’t come to set up an earthly kingdom (John 18:36). Even Christ’s own disciples did not understand this at first and were disappointed when He was crucified (Luke 24:21). Today, premillennialists still expect for Jesus to return to earth to rule over His kingdom, but these are false expectations that are not according to God’s word (1Thess. 4:13-18; 2Pet. 3:7-14).

There are also many false expectations concerning salvation. Many people expect to be saved because they of their good deeds, but no one’s own personal righteousness will garner salvation (Luke 17:10; Rom. 3:23). Others expect to be saved because they believe in Jesus regardless of whether they obey His word. However, faith without works is dead and cannot save (Matt. 7:24-27; Jas. 1:22-25; 2:14-26). Still others expect to be saved by following religious traditions devised by men, but salvation comes only by obeying the pure gospel of Christ (Matt. 15:7-9; Rom. 1:16-17; Gal. 1:6-9; Heb. 5:9). In all of these cases, God did not create these expectations, but rather they are the product of man’s thoughts.

Therefore, it is essential to set our expectations according to God’s word. In the Scriptures, God has revealed to us the knowledge of His precious promises and the conditions by which they may be obtained through Jesus (2Pet. 1:3-4). If we ignore God’s word and expect outcomes contrary to what He has said, then we are certain to be disappointed. If we abide in His word, then our expectations will be true, and we will never be disappointed.

Stacey E. Durham