

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:
Nate Durham

Scripture Reading:
Bailey Steger
Psalm 51:1-9

Prayer:
Chevis Webb

Lesson:
Aaron Bain

Closing Prayer:
Ron Dixon

Wednesday, February 3

Song Leader:
Alex Bansemer

Invitation:
Nate Durham

Prayer:
John Fix

Lord's Supper Preparation
January: Durham
February: Long

11:00 AM

Song Leader:
Andrew Durham

Scripture Reading:
TBD
Psalm 51:10-19

Prayer:
Louis Long

Lord's Supper:
Chris Huffines
Nate Durham

Lesson:
Aaron Bain

Announcements:
Jim Stubblefield

Closing Prayer:
Ron Hunt

Usher for This Week:
Doug Thweatt

Creekview *BULLETIN*

Loving God's House

"I love the habitation of Thy house and the place where Thy glory dwells" (Ps. 26:8). For us, this means loving the Lord's church, for the church is the household of God (1Tim. 3:15). Let us be thankful to come into the Lord's beloved house today.

To Our Visitors

We commend you for your concern regarding the things of the Lord, which is evident by your presence with us today. We hope that you find the services to be edifying to your soul and glorifying to God. Thank you for being a part of this blessed effort.

JANUARY

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SERVICE TIMES

SUNDAYS:

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

WEDNESDAYS:

BIBLE STUDY: 7:00 PM

Sorrow, Self-Loathing, and Humility

Sorrow over sin can be overwhelming. When a sinner realizes the gravity of his offense against Almighty God, it is devastating. It may even cause him to question his own existence, asking, "Why am I this way? Why have I failed so miserably?"

Such sorrow will lead to one of two possible outcomes. The outcome God desires is stated in 2Corinthians 7:10, which says, "For the sorrow that is according to the will of God produces a repentance without regret, leading to salvation." The other outcome is also stated in that same verse: "The sorrow of the world produces death." This second outcome is contrary to God's will, for He is "not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance" (2Pet. 3:9).

If a sinner chooses the outcome that is according to God's will, then sorrow has had its desired effect and may be cast aside. By forgiving sin, God has removed the source of sorrow so that joy should take its place. David wrote, "How blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered!" (Ps. 32:1). For this reason and others, Christians should be the happiest people on earth.

Why then do Christians sometimes return to wallow in miserable sorrow as if they were not forgiven? Why is it as if they are still burdened with the sins that Jesus has taken upon Himself?

Perhaps we sometimes mistake self-loathing for humility. Self-loathing is an attitude of being less than worthless. A self-loather thinks it would have been good "if he had not been born" as the Lord said about Judas (Matt. 26:24). This is the kind of thinking that leads men to take their own lives as Judas did, but it is by no means humility.

Humility is in fact an accurate opinion of oneself. Paul wrote, "For through the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith" (Rom. 12:3). He was writing specifically about assessing one's gifts and abilities, but the principle is general. Humility is thinking of ourselves with "sound judgment," which we obtain from the word of God.

Sound judgment teaches us to think of ourselves as "unworthy servants" even if we do everything right (Luke 17:10). This is not a prescription for self-loathing, but rather it is an accurate assessment of our service to God. Indeed, He is not profited by our service, but He is pleased by it. In this we should be delighted, for it is a great honor to be "sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work" (2Tim. 2:21).

Sound judgment also constrains us to place the needs of others above our own. We are taught, "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves" (Phil. 2:3). Jesus Himself is the greatest example of this humble attitude, for He sacrificed Himself for the will of His Father and the salvation of the world (Phil. 2:5-8). Even though He is more important than all of us, He put our needs above His own. That is what humility does.

So then, let us have this sound judgment. When we sin, we offend God, which should cause us to have great sorrow. That sorrow should move us to seek the "repentance that leads to life" (Acts 11:18). When we have received forgiveness in Christ, let us not continue in sorrow, but rather let us rejoice for what we have received. Like Paul, let us remember our past sins and retain the lessons we have learned (1Tim. 1:12-17), but let us not engage in self-loathing. Instead, let us serve God and one another with both humility and joy. This is God's will for us in Christ Jesus.

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- Aaron Bain will be preaching both sermons for us today.
- Please pray for Shirley Smith. Her condition prevents her from being with us and requires her to live with her daughter.
- Please also pray for the following members: Barbara Atkins, Jeri Baker, Shirley Buchanon, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, and Kay Lanus. Also remember Jody Baize, Mishae Nevils, Wayne Wright, Dot Long's sister Melissa, and Pat Ridings' brother.

reading plan

Sunday - Romans 9-10
Monday - Genesis 16-19
Tuesday - Joshua 21-24
Wednesday - Psalms 12-14
Thursday - Job 9-10
Friday - Isaiah 23-28
Saturday - Matthew 11-13

meetings

None to announce