

WORSHIP *SCHEDULE*

9:00 AM

Song Leader:

Scripture Reading:

Prayer:

Lesson:

Title:

Closing Prayer:

Wednesday, April 29

Song Leader:

Invitation:

Prayer:

Lord's Supper Preparation

April: Stubblefield

May: Duryea

11:00 AM

Song Leader:

Scripture Reading:

Prayer:

Lord's Supper:

Lesson:
Stacey Durham

Title:
Thinking Like Jesus
Lesson 5 – Thinking About
Worship

Announcements:

Closing Prayer:

Usher for This Week:

Creekview

BULLETIN

Stand Firm

Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved (Phil. 4:1).

Sermon Online:

A sermon will be presented live online Sunday morning at 11AM on the Facebook page of Stacey Durham. The live stream will begin with a song about five minutes early.



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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

The World Keeps Changing, but God Does Not

The present crisis due to the pandemic of COVID-19 demonstrates how quickly the world around us can change. Who could have predicted on January 1, 2020, that the within a few weeks most of the world would be locked down in dread fear? Due to one virus, the world seemed to change almost overnight, and many plans for this year were ruined. Some things will likely never be the same again. So goes the world.

The transient, fleeting ways of the world are a stark contrast to our unchangeable God. His very name, Jehovah, means "I am" and indicates His unwavering nature (Ex. 3:13-14). With Him, there is "no variation or shifting shadow" (Jas. 1:17). He is not affected or influenced by changes in this temporal world, for He is eternal. He says of Himself, "I, the LORD, do not change" (Mal. 3:6). In the same way, Jesus Christ, God's own Son, "is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8). He is the Word who has been God since the beginning, the one through which all things were made (John 1:1-3), the one who came in the flesh and died on a cross for our salvation (Phil. 2:6-8), and the one who will judge all souls at the end of time (2Cor. 5:10). Throughout eternity, He does not change.

Our unchangeable God also has an unchangeable message. The Lord Jesus said Himself, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will not pass away" (Matt. 24:35). Indeed, the "living and enduring word of God" is imperishable (1Pet. 1:23) and is unlike flesh that perishes according to 1Peter 1:24-25 (a quotation of Isaiah 40:6-8):

²⁴For, "All flesh is like grass, and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers, and the flower falls off, ²⁵but the word of the Lord endures forever." And this is the word which was preached to you.

The word that has been preached to us is the gospel of Christ, which, like Christ Himself, does not change. The same gospel that was preached by the apostles almost two thousand years ago is the gospel that is preserved in the Scriptures today. Centuries of time have not altered God's message of salvation.

Knowing the unchangeable nature of God and the ever-changing ways of this world, the only wise course is to build our lives upon God and His unchanging word. None of us know what changes will come to this world, and we do not even know what our lives will be like tomorrow (Jas. 4:14), but we know that God's promises will endure. For this reason, Jesus said that those who hear His word and act upon it are like a wise man who built his house upon a rock. The rock is a symbol of the Lord and His immovable word, and those who are founded upon it will stand firm in times of trouble. Conversely, those who

fail to act upon the word of God will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The sand represents the unstable, unreliable, and constantly changing world, and those who build upon it will surely fall when trouble comes (Matt. 7:24-27).

If the events of the last few months can teach us anything, then it is that mankind knows and controls so little. The people with the most power, authority, and knowledge change their explanations, recommendations, and orders concerning the coronavirus almost daily. They may be doing the best they can, but their best efforts prove how futile man's power really is. If such times prove how little man really knows, why then would we ever take man's word above God's word? Let us therefore heed the unalterable word of God and trust in Him who changes not. Lord willing and with His help, we will get through this soon.

Stacey E. Durham

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news & notes

- We are hopeful of returning to our assemblies this month. For now, we are still awaiting guidelines from the state.
- Please pray for the following members: Barbara Atkins, Shirley Buchanan, Kay Cook, Donella Jones, Kay Lanius, Louis Long, Laurie Polcheck, and Noah White. Also pray for Jody Baize, Katy Hunt, Alta Lanius, Wayne Wright, and Dot Long's sister Melissa.
- Also remember Kelly Hayes, Becky Hunt, and Brianna Owen, who work in healthcare.

reading plan

Sunday - 2Corinthians 4-5
Monday - Exodus 17-20
Tuesday - 2Samuel 5-9
Wednesday - Psalms 51-53
Thursday - Job 35-36
Friday - Jeremiah 27-31
Saturday - Mark 15-16

meetings

None to announce