

The Question is . . .Who's to Blame?

We read in the papers and hear on the air of killing and stealing and crime everywhere. We sigh and say, as we notice the trend, this young generation – where will it all end?

But can we be sure that it's their fault alone, that maybe a part of it isn't our own? Are we less guilty, who place in their way, too many things that lead them astray?

Too many books not fit to read, too much evil in what they hear said, Too many children encouraged to roam, too many parents who won't stay home.

Kids don't make the movies, they don't write the books; they don't paint pictures of gangsters and crooks.

They don't make the movies, they don't run the bars, they don't make the laws and they don't sell the cars.

They don't peddle the drugs that addle the brain - that's all done by older folks, greedy for gain. Delinquent teenagers – oh how we condemn the sins of the nation and blame it on them.

By the laws of the blameless the Savior made known – who is there among us to cast the first stone. For in so many cases, it's sad, but it's true, the title DELIQUENT fits older folks, too! ~Unknown

Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336
509-783-4013

Website: www.Kennewickcofc.com

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: kencoc@gmail.com

Meeting Times::

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Elders:

Clarence Botts: 509-521-3344; ccbotts@hotmail.com

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; Vern.engelke@gmail.com

Minister:

Open Congregational meeting – 2nd Sunday at 5:00 pm. All are welcome

Attendance 08/25 70

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 08/25 \$3407.86

September 01, 2019

**Kennewick
Church of Christ**



There's no Better Comfort Than God's Comfort

Too often when we are reading the Bible, there are words, phrases and clauses that we just run right over without stopping to consider, dwell and meditate. An example is found in a relative clause that Paul used in 2 Corinthians 7:6. The point that Paul is making in the passage is that Titus had brought good (i.e., comforting) news about the church in Corinth. But the passage does not say that Titus “comforted” Paul, but “God...comforted.” Now, I want you to focus on the four words used as a relative clause between the word “God” and the word “comforted.”

Paul drops this little nugget and keeps right on going. Let's stop and unwrap it for a moment, for we are informed that we serve a God, “who comforts the downcast.” Or, as the NASB translates it, “who comforts the depressed.” This letter began by calling our God, “...the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, who comforts (present tense, continually) us in all our tribulation [affliction, NASB; troubles, NIV]” (1:3-4). Did you see the word “all” used twice? When we are downcast or depressed, our God of all comfort comforts us! How does He do that?

God's presence is a constant comfort! David wrote, “Where can I flee from Your presence?” (Psa. 139:7). A child of God learns that no matter where he finds himself, “Even there Your hand shall lead me, and Your right hand shall hold me” (139:10)! It doesn't get any better than that! God is omnipresent! That comforts me when I'm depressed!

God's knowledge is a constant comfort! David wrote, “O Lord, You have searched me and known me. You know...You understand...You comprehend...You know it altogether” (139:1-4). God knows everything that I have faced, am facing or will face! When I've lost a loved one, when a friend has hurt me, when I've suffered a major financial loss, when my health is failing, when I'm lonely, my God knows! God is omniscient! That comforts me when I'm depressed!

God's ability is a constant comfort! David wrote, “You formed...knitted...embroidered” (139:13-15). Knowing that God was so intricately capable of so much in my life even before I was born, how capable is He in my life right now? “Marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well” (v. 14). “My God is so big, so strong and so mighty! There's nothing my God cannot do!” (cf. Eph. 3:20-21; Mark 10:27). God is omnipotent! That comforts me when I'm depressed!

God's Word comforts (Rom. 15:4)! God's promises comfort (1 Thess. 4:13-18)! God's people comfort (2 Cor. 1:3-7; 1 Th. 5:14)! When I'm around God's Word, His promises and His people, my God comforts me, even when I'm depressed! ~David Sproule



“But I say to you who hear; love your enemies, do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you and pray for those who spitefully use you. To him who strikes you on the one cheek, offer the other also. And from him who takes away your cloak, do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who asks of you. And from him who takes away your goods do not ask them back. And just as you want men to do to you, you also do to them likewise.” (Luke 6:27-31)

Keep These Dates in Mind	September Birthdays and Anniversaries		
09/01 First Sunday Potluck 09/08 Open Congregational Meeting 5p 09/14 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship 10/06 First Sunday Potluck 10/12 Men's breakfast and fellowship 10/13 Open Congregational Meeting 5p	Craig & Debbie Bolt 9/1 Jack Danley 9/18 LaVeda Brumfield 9/22		
Today's Speaker: Clarence Botts Speakers scheduled for this month: 9/1 – Clarence Botts 9/8 – Al Lindsay 9/15 – Tom Mendoza 9/22 – Joe Botts 9/29 – Leonard Peters	Bible Studies		
	Adult Bible Classes Sunday am.–Genesis Wed pm – Shadows & Types in the O.T.	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Th. 10-11:30am Resumes 9/12/2019

**Blessed
are the pure
in heart for
they shall
see God**

We Need More Like Amos

I have recently been telling myself that if I ever have a son, I'm going to name 'him Amos. If there was ever a man of God on this earth, Amos was that man. The Tekoan herdsman had a commission from God to leave his homeland (Judah, the Southern kingdom) and go preach the word of the Lord to a wicked, rebellious, materialistic people -Israel (the Northern kingdom). He pulled no punches; he did not "avoid the issues." Amos told the idolatrous, worldly Israelites what they needed to hear. There was no "fear of the brethren" in this man.

God had taken care of the children of Abraham, especially blessing them (Amos 2:9-10; 3:1-2). But under Jeroboam II, the nation had expanded, and prosperity abounded. The people had gotten rich (3:151 4:2-3; 6:4), and because of that, they were worldly and did not want God's Word. They "commanded the prophets, saying, Prophecy not" (2:12). As in the days of Isaiah, they did not want "right things;" they wanted "smooth things" (Isa. 30: 10). What an uncanny parallel to the world and the church today: Our people are so entangled with the affairs of this life -pleasure, sports, money, sex, etc. -that time for God is at a minimum. Temptations so surround us and bombard us that we get frustrated and give in too often to those temptations. The answer to worldliness today is the same Amos gave to the people of his day: "Seek the Lord, and ye shall live. ...seek good, and not evil, that ye may live: and so the Lord, the God of hosts, shall-be with you....hate the evil and love the good and establish judgment (justice) in the gate" (Amos 5:6, 14-15). There is hope yet for us; but the choice is ours (Josh. 24:15), and no amount of excuse-making will spare us from the wrath of God.

"Woe to them that are at ease in Zion... that lie upon beds of ivory... (Amos 6:1,4). There has probably never been a richer, more prosperous nation than America. And that richness is also in the church. We obtain anything and everything we want. And whatsoever our eyes desire, we keep not from them (Eccles. 2:10). Worldliness has reared its ugly head in the church so much that we are comfortable, we are at ease in our plush, fine buildings and we do not want the "boat rocked" by some "fire breathing" preacher who talks about the justice of God. Too many preachers "divine for money...and Say Is not the Lord among us? None evil can come upon us" (Micah 3:11). Don't count on it. "Therefore shall Zion for your sake ,be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps" (Micah 3:12). Brethren, when are we going to learn that God Means what he says, and he is as much a God of justice (2 Thess. 1:6) as he is a God of love. And God's justice demands punishment for the sins of the unrighteous. What have we become? --do we now accept the Calvinist doctrine of "once saved, always saved"? "I punched my ticket at baptism, now I can relax in a pew and slide into heaven" --is this what we now believe? Whence cometh the idea that God will stomach such nonsense? Hear the Lord through his preachers "I hate, I despise your feast days, and I will not smell in your solemn assemblies. Though ye offer me burnt offerings and your meat offerings, I will not accept them: neither will I regard the peace offerings of your fat beasts. Take thou away-from me the noise of the songs" (Amos 5:21-23). Their worship was not pleasing to God; indeed, it was just so much "noise" in his ears. We have people today who are flourishing; nonchalantly and inactively, in their "houses of ivory" (3:15), involved in sins that would cause the heathen to mock and blush (2:9), and "God's prophets" of today are still telling Amos "O thou seer, go, flee thee away" into another land "and there eat bread, and prophesy there" (Amos 7:12). Why? Because ".the land is" no longer able .to bear his word! (7:10) Brethren, we will not escape the Lord God (5:19). "Prepare to meet thy God, O Israel" (4:12).

Where are the Amoses today that will fearlessly proclaim what the people need to hear? They aren't preaching in pulpits that avoid the sins of the people, and condone ungodliness and rebellion from others. They aren't preaching in the pulpits that shout "We need to preach more love and grace, and remember that, regardless of the sin, these are still our brethren, God's children." Indeed, they are. And to whom did Amos prophesy -God's children. They aren't preaching in the pulpits that compromise and "backslap" that say "you believe what you want to and I'll believe what I want to and we will all get along just fine." The Amoses of today are like the Amos in the Bible -they realize that sin is wrong, and if unrepented of (in other words, stopped), God will come in justice (Amos 2:13-16; 3:1-8; 3:11,15; 4:2-3; 12-13; 5:16-17; et al.). We need to quit overlooking, excusing, and justifying our sins and the sins of the world, and return to godly preaching, and godly living, as true Christians ought. As one man well said "If you are going to be a Christian, act like it!"

Yes, brethren, we need a few more like Amos: Let us humbly and sincerely pray that God will send us some more like Amos. A few more who will say AND DO like Micaiah "As the Lord liveth, what the Lord saith unto me, that will I speak" (1 Kings 22:14). "Let justice run down as waters, and righteousness as a mighty stream" (Amos 5:24). ~ Mark K. Lewis

Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Shirley Childers, Marji Lindholm, Marilyn Davis, Eunice Petros, Tami Pennington, Karen McBurney's father and brother, .

Norm Goldsmith's memorial will be held at mueller's on September 5th at 11:00am.

There is a sign up sheet for food afterward the service.

Prayers were requested for **Loretta Slettene** who is have trouble with her feet.

Keep **Fran Henniger** in your prayers as she has been struggling with health issues this week.

Jim Preston as he is dealing with the infection in his knee.

Lupe Mendoza as she is facing uncertainty about cancer at this time.

Joe and Katie Botts as they begin their married life together.



Therefore do not worry about tomorrow for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own troubles.

Our Ministries

Mountain States Children's Home

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world. (James 1:27)

Peru Ministry – Oscar and Anna Maria in Peru

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the son and of the Holy Spirit

Food Pantry - Our food pantry is located in the small room next to the library.

"Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed." (Proverbs 19:17)

Austin and Kennadie McCrickard – Bear Valley Bible Institute

"And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-12)