

### God's Promises to Man?

Psalms 67 is a beautiful passage that summarizes several powerful promises concerning God's relationship with man. The chapter reads as follows:

*God be merciful to us and bless us. And cause his face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations.*

*Let the peoples praise you, O God; Let all the peoples praise you. Oh, let the nations be glad and sing, be glad and sing for joy! For You shall judge that people righteously, and govern the nations on earth.*

*Let the people praise You, O God; Let all the people praise you. Then the earth shall yield her increase; God, our own God shall bless us. And all the ends of the earth shall fear Him.*

God loves us and desires to bless us with joy, peace, mercy, salvation, daily care, and an eternal home with Him in heaven. He asks us to allow Him to govern us, through obedience to His Word. He asks that His way and His will be the basis of our walk in life and He will bless us. He will righteously judge us.

God promises that the earth will yield the things we need to sustain our life. He asks that we honor, praise, worship, fear, and respect Him.

As we study God's inspired Word, we can learn how to address every question in life. Why are we here? What is our purpose? Where are we going? God has a plan for every person in every nation. He wants us to submit to Him. He then will bless us.

Man needs God's blessings today. God's way will eliminate many of the massive problems that plague the world today. We can let God govern and bless us. He allows us to make the choice to believe and obey Him or to reject Him. We reap the consequences of our decision. ~Wayne Barrier

### Kennewick Church of Christ

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

Website: [www.Kennewickcofc.com](http://www.Kennewickcofc.com)

Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: [kenncoc@gmail.com](mailto:kenncoc@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; [cbotts@hotmail.com](mailto:cbotts@hotmail.com)

LaVern Engelke: 509-783-6479; [Vern.engelke@gmail.com](mailto:Vern.engelke@gmail.com)

#### Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449

[billgreg67@gmail.com](mailto:billgreg67@gmail.com)

Bill Gregory's office hours are from 10:00a.m. – 2:00p.m. (Please call to make sure he is in before stopping by)

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

Attendance 12/06: 34

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 12/06: \$2725.00

December 13, 2020

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



### When Did The Early Church Begin Worshipping on Sunday

It is sometimes wondered when the early church transitioned from worshipping on the Sabbath to worshipping on the first day of the week. The answer is revealed to us from the very beginning of the church.

The New Testament church was established in Acts 2. The church began and gathered for the first time on a Sunday (Pentecost was always on the first day of the week), and Scripture reveals that they "continued steadfastly" in the same doctrines and practices in which they began (Acts 2:42). They did not become Christians and members of the N.T. church in order to continue in the principles and practices of the old system of Judaism. Christ had freed them from the old; all things had become new! From the beginning, it was the first day of the week!

A summary of the New Testament evidence (cf. Ps. 119:160) reveals that the early church was assembling on the first day of the week in order to worship the Lord. The purpose of their "coming together" is plainly revealed in 1 Corinthians 11—it was "to eat the Lord's Supper" (v. 20). We have an example in Acts 20 of the church coming together for the purpose of eating the Lord's Supper, and Scripture is quick to tell us that it was "on the first day of the week" (v. 7). The day on which the early church was commanded to assemble was "the first day of the week" (not the Sabbath) (1 Cor. 16:1-2). Gathering all N.T. evidence makes it clear that God had selected the first day as "the Lord's day" (cf. Rev. 1:10).

But, what about all those passages that show Paul and others going to the synagogue on the Sabbath? Do those passages imply that God was either still requiring Sabbath day worship or at least accepting it as much as Sunday worship? There is not one verse in the New Testament that teaches or suggests that they ever were worshipping on the Sabbath in the synagogue! Paul was given "an open mic" at the synagogues on the Sabbath (cf. Acts 13:14-15), and he took advantage of and used the opportunity to preach Jesus as the Christ (cf. 9:20). He was not present to participate in or condone Jewish traditions (read the book of Galatians), but he was present to preach Christ to a people who should have been the most receptive to such a message. The burden of proof is actually on those who claim Paul was there to worship.

When did the early church stop observing the Sabbath and start worshipping on Sunday? When did they stop offering animal sacrifices? When did they stop preaching "Someone is coming"? When did they stop observing the Passover or the Day of Atonement? When did they stop approaching God through a priest? When the church was established in Acts 2, God's plan was culminated and His new law was put in force. ~David Sproule

***Whoever loves much performs much and can accomplish much  
And what is done in love is done well  
Vincent Van Gogh***

**Keep These Dates in Mind**

Since we have entered into this time of uncertainty with those in the government asking us to keep our assemblies to a minimum and to use caution and discretion as we meet, any activities that may be planned will be announced in a timely fashion a week before they are planned to happen and will be put out on the call multiplier.

Sandy Gray has volunteered to put out an informational email during the week to update the church of immediate prayer needs or information that needs to be disseminated before/in-between our scheduled meeting times. If you wish to be on this list, please contact her and give her your email information.

**December Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Mark Minor 12/4  
Sandi Gray 12/14  
Bill Gregory 12/14  
Kyle McCowen 12/19  
Bill & Linda Lafferty 12/24

*The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new*  
*Socrates*

**Bible Studies**

**Adult Bible Classes**

Sunday a - O.T.  
Sunday p -James  
Wed p -Thessalonians

**Youth Classes**

Classroom Wing  
**Teen Class** -  
Teen Room

**Ladies Class**

Thursday 10:00 a

**Ongoing Health issues:** Pansy Caywood, Shirley Childers, Marilyn Davis, Sandy Gray, Fran Henniger, Linda Lafferty, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Lupe Mendoza, Shannon Mendoza,, Tami Pennington, Eunice Petros, Helen Pierce, Bill & Linda Lafferty's daughter-in-law, Michael Stimson



In Our Prayers

**Lupe Mendoza** had her scan week before last, and it showed a spot on her neck. The surgeon's office called her and wanted to get a biopsy as soon as possible. That has been scheduled for Monday (12/14).

**Jonni (Crow) Marcotte's** open heart surgery is scheduled for 12/14.

**Fran Henniger's** kidney stone removal is scheduled for 12/17.

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**Save us O Lord our God, and gather us from among the nations, that we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.**

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen!" Praise the Lord! (Psalm 106:47)**

**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)

**The Difference Christ Made**

Bret Hart is the author of a delightful short story, "The Luck of Roaring Camp", which tells of the birth of a baby boy in a rough frontier mining town of the 1880's. The mother died in childbirth, and as there were no other women in the camp, the care of the child fell to the rough miners. A startling change came over the once dissipated town: drinking, gambling, and swearing were curtailed as the hardened miners grew tender in their concern for the child's welfare. What had once been a den of vice and violence became a model community. The arrival of the child made a dramatic difference on the life of the little town. About two thousand years ago, another baby boy was born — in a small Judean village — and the world has never been the same since! Think of the impact the birth of Christ has had! What a difference His coming has made! The pivotal point of history is the incarnation of God in Jesus Christ. Let us consider some of the differences that His coming has made:

**He raised the status of women** - Before Christ, the exploitation and abuse of women was the rule. Women were often subordinated to a state of drudgery hardly better than slavery. They were regarded as chattels to be bought and sold like cattle. The condition of women before Christ can be gauged by looking at their treatment in parts of the world where the teachings of Christianity are not generally accepted. Christ revolutionized the status of women. No movement in history has done as much for women as Christianity! The modern Feminist Movement is in reality a return to exploitation because it repudiates the Christian principles that have been the very basis for the gains women have made!

**He raised the level of morality and decency** - Christ came into a world which had been brutalized by sin. The apostle Paul paints an alarming picture of the depravity of the first century world in Romans 1:24-31. To a world steeped in murder, sensuality, immorality, and perversion, Jesus brought a better way. He did what the moralists and philosophers could not do — He died for sin so men and women might be cleansed of it (2 Corinthians 5:21). Tragically, it seems that the modern world is determined to turn from Christ to embrace the same pagan vices that spelt ruin for ancient society! As Batsell Barrett Baxter has commented: "Christ is the best hope for mankind... Without Christ our homes go to pieces and our personal lives become confused, empty, and despairing. Without Christ society is doomed.

**He raised the hopes and aspirations of mankind** - Jesus came because men were hopeless and helpless (Ephesians 2:12; Romans 5:6). Men knew they were sinners and yet were helpless to do anything about it. So God did something about it! He sent His only begotten Son to ransom men from sin (John 3:16). The hope of the world lies in the fact that Jesus tasted death for every man (Hebrews 2:9). He brings hope to those who obey Him (Hebrews 5:8,9). He changed the world by bringing people something to live for — something to die for — something to hope for! Jesus made a difference! He is still making a difference today! He came to a world seething with hate, depravity, lust, fear, and despair, and He brought love, forgiveness, self-control, faith, and hope. He turned the world upside down. He can make a real difference in your life if you are willing to let Him! ~Bobby Dockery

**But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful even as your Father is merciful. (Luke 6:35)**