

Look At My God

Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" (Is. 40:9)

The 40th chapter of Isaiah has some breathtaking views of our God. We can see a God of might and power, but who tenderly tends for his flock like a shepherd. We behold a God who can measure the waters in the hollow of his hand, and the heavens with a span, and yet he stoops down to give power to the faint and strength to the one who has no might.

The gods of this world are presented in this chapter and throughout the rest of Isaiah as lifeless and powerless. We are reminded of our own weak and feeble nature as well. We are like grass whose beauty is transient. The word of our God, though, endures forever.

I'm convinced that if we could see things more clearly (and Isaiah is showing us things as they really are), that we would be much more excited about evangelism. We are good news tellers (i.e. evangelists). We have found the real thing! We have something solid. We have something that lasts. Our God is the answer. He is the reason for our being. He is our purpose for living. He gives everything and everyone meaning and hope and peace and joy.

If we'll climb the mountain and see God as Isaiah is describing him for us, then maybe evangelism won't seem so forced and awkward. It will feel spontaneous and natural.

We might even climb a mountain and shout it out: "Look at my God!" David Maxson

Kennewick Church of Christ

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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

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

Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449

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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 07/19 NA

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution 07/19 \$2359.00

July 26, 2020

Kennewick Church of Christ

Worship Pleasing to God

Jesus in his encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well, said, "But the hour cometh and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the father seeketh such to worship Him.. That hour is the "here and now" and that saying applies to his followers this day. This saying encompasses two distinct parts. The first is "in spirit" and involves our attitude and our commitment in His service. If our heart is not in the proper "frame of mind", then we will not be able to worship in "spirit" as we are instructed. Paul spoke to this when he wrote: "For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do show the Lord's death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread and drink this cup of the Lord unworthily shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many are sick among you and many sleep" (1 Cor. 11:25-30).

And then there is the "in truth" which relates to how well worship follows the acceptable pattern. We have been incorporating five items in worship from early days and have scriptures for why we do. We Sing (Ephesians. 5:19, Col. 3:16). We Pray (Acts 1:14, 24; James 5:16; 1 Pet. 3:12; Jude 1:20). We Study (2 Tim. 2:15; Heb. 5:12-13; 1 Peter 2:2). We Commune (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor 11:23-30) and we Give (1 Cor 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7).

From the very beginning there have been those who thought there was a better way. Jeremiah spoke to this in Jeremiah 10:23 when he wrote, "O Lord I know that the way of man walketh to direct himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." The writer of Proverbs said, "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12).

God has always demanded that His people follow that which He has instructed. Jesus gave us two warnings that many seem to totally ignore. In Matthew 7:21 Jesus said, "Not everyone that sayeth unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter unto the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in Heaven." And in John 12:18 He said, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath none that judgeth him, the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day."

Are we listening? ~ Denver Thomas

³Blessed are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.⁴Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted.

⁵Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. ⁶Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be satisfied. ⁷Blessed are the merciful for they shall receive mercy ⁸Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.

⁹Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. ¹⁰Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. (Matt. 5:3-11)

Keep These Dates in Mind	July Birthdays and Anniversaries	
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.	Kael Botts 7/3 Marilyn Davis 7/15 Danny & Shannon Mendoza 7/22 Alec Minor 7/22 Jim & Holly Preston 7/22 Dorothy Bryan 7/27	Sarah Mendoza 7/28 Ila Stephens 7/28

Please come and join us in our worship to God. We will be studying Matthew on Sunday Mornings and Ephesians on Sunday night,
Please be respectful of those who need to wear masks and practice social distancing because of health issues in their family.

Bible Studies

Adult Bible Classes Sunday am – O.T. Wed pm – Acts 13-28 (Paul's Journeys)	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Cancelled until further notice
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Issues (ongoing): Karen McBurney, Shirley Childers, Marji Lindholm, Marilyn Davis, Eunice Petros, Tami Pennington, Helen Pierce, Lupe Mendoza, Panzy Caywood

- Jack Danley** – is doing well and has returned to work this week
- Sandy Gray** – her numbers had improved enough that Sandy no longer needed to have the surgery and it has been postponed indefinitely
- Bill Henniger** – Fran and Bill and still deciding on whether they will move into Brookdale. Bill is doing better, on dialysis three times a week and still has a wound that has to heal.
- Pat Lindsay** – is still recovering and gaining strength day by day
- Bill and Bonnie Johnson** – Bonnie is still struggling trying to take care of Bill. We should do what we can to encourage her and help her through this trying time.

We received a note from **Austin and Kennadie McCrickard** that said he had accepted a position as Outreach Minister in Tecumseh, OK. Keep them in your prayers as they their work there.

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)

In Awe of the Sovereignty of God

"Woe to Assyria, the rod of My anger and the staff in whose hand is My indignation. I will send him against an ungodly nation, and against the people of My wrath I will give him charge, to seize the spoil, to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Yet he does not mean so, nor does his heart think so; but it is in his heart to destroy and cut off not a few nations" (Isaiah 10:5-7).

In Isaiah's time, the nation of Assyria was threatening the southern kingdom of Judah and was about to take over the northern kingdom of Israel. God was allowing the nation of Assyria to do this as a means of punishing His people for their continual unfaithfulness to Him (Isaiah 9:8-21).

Yet, Assyria never considered the fact God was using them to accomplish this act of judgment upon His people. Instead, they the Assyrians were filled with arrogance as they boasted: "By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom, for I am prudent; also, I have removed the boundaries of the people, and have robbed their treasuries; so, I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man" (Isaiah 10:13). I absolutely love God's response to their arrogance: "Shall the ax boast itself against him who chops with it? Or shall the saw exalt itself against him who saws with it? As if a rod could wield itself against those who lift it up, or as if a staff could lift up, as if it were not wood!" (Isaiah 10:15). As a result, after God had used Assyria to accomplish His judgments upon His people, God would judge Assyria and punish them for their arrogance and cruelty (Isaiah 10:16-19).

However, even more important than God's sovereignty regarding the kingdoms of the world, is His sovereignty regarding the spiritual needs of man. God was going to accomplish something even greater than just putting the king of Assyria in his proper place. He was going to send His Son to be their ruler, not over just the physical kingdom of Israel with limited boundaries on this earth, but a spiritual kingdom, the church, which would reach throughout the world: "For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of His government and peace there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this" (Isaiah 9:6-7; cf. John 18:36; Colossians 1:13).

God's Son, Jesus Christ, would spring forth as a Branch that would grow out of the tree of Israel which had been cut down by the Assyrians (Isaiah 11:1-9). At that time, God would provide a way for His people Israel and all nations to come to Him just as God had delivered Israel in the past from the Egyptians: "And in that day there shall be a Root of Jesse, Who shall stand as a banner to the people; for the Gentiles shall seek Him, and His resting place shall be glorious" (Isaiah 11:10).

As I consider God's sovereignty in both the physical world and in the spiritual realm, it brings great peace to my heart. I don't have to let the politics of this nation or the troubles throughout this world weigh me down. Spiritually, I don't have to worry how God can save one with a lot of faults like me. I can trust in God and remember He is in control. Daily Devo, Suquehanna Church of Christ

"So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak to serve the Lord in Spirit and in Truth. They knew the hour set aside for meeting and were present on time. Thk, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God" (James 1:19-20).