

### Blaming Someone Else For Our Mistakes

Have you ever made a mistake (even just a small one) and then tried to point out the shortcoming of someone else in what was happening, in an effort to deflect the blame from yourself and even diminish the mistake that you made? I think this is almost a natural reaction for some (read **Genesis 3:12-13**). “Well, he shouldn’t have said what he said.” “Well, she should have been clearer in the information she gave me.”

One of the hardest things to do is to admit wrongdoing. Sometimes it can be for little things: “I’m sorry. I looked at the wrong message. It was from someone else. I shouldn’t have said what I did to you.” Sometimes it can be for big things: “Lord, I have sinned. While it would be easy for me to blame others, the choice for my actions was all mine. Please forgive me.”

It is a sign of spiritual maturity for a Christian to accept responsibility for their actions and to direct blame for mistakes to himself (even if it’s a small, seemingly insignificant matter). David had to learn to do that the hard way (**Psa. 51**).

~David Sproule

**For just as the body is one, and has many members, and all the members of the body though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greek, slaves or free – and, all were made to drink of one Spirit. For the body does not consist of one member, but of many.**

(1 **Corinthians 12:12-14**)

#### Kennewick Church of Christ

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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; [ccbotts@hotmail.com](mailto:ccbotts@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)

Attendance 04/04: 39

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 04/04: \$2140.00

April 11, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



### Overwhelmingly Conquers

According to Pew Research Center, government restrictions on religion around the world have reached an all-time high. This is nothing new. The people of God have always faced oppressive governments and groups of peoples. Consider these passages.

“But remember the former days, when, after being enlightened, you endured a great conflict of sufferings, partly by being made a public spectacle through reproaches and tribulations, and partly by becoming sharers with those who were so treated. For you showed sympathy to the prisoners and accepted joyfully the seizure of your property, knowing that you have for yourselves a better possession and a lasting one. Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very little while, he who is coming will, and will not delay. But My righteous one shall live by faith; and if he shrinks back, My soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul” (Heb. 10:32-39).

“What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things? Who will bring a charge against God’s elect? God is the one who justifies; who is the one who condemns? Christ Jesus is He who died, yes, rather who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? Just as it is written, ‘For your sake we are being put to death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered.’ But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom 8:31-39).

The writer of Hebrews and Paul’s encouragement in Romans dovetail into one another. They paint a picture of a people with God as their Lord and already victors of this life and the life to come. We are not to “shrink back” for we “overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.” The tide of popular opinion that tolerated Godly values has shifted. The government that supported Godly values is gone. We must choose this day whom we will serve. Days will come when it will be more inconvenient to be called a Christian. ~J. Blackmer

**When he had torn Israel from the house of David, they made Jeroboam the son of Nebat king. And Jeroboam drove Israel from following the Lord and made them commit great sin. The people of Israel walked in all the sins that Jeroboam did. They did not depart from them until the Lord removed Israel out of his sight, as he had spoken by all his servants the prophets. So Israel was exiled from their own land to Assyria until this day. (2 Kings 17:21-23).**

<b>Keep These Dates in Mind</b>	<b>April Birthdays and Anniversaries</b>		
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	Avi Botts 4/3 Joe Wilson 4/10 Al & Pat Lindsay 4/12 Naomi McCown 4/15 LaVerne & Sammie Engelke 4/18 Leroy Pierce 4/22 Eunice Petross 4/25		James Lindholm 4/26 Jim Henry 4/28
<b>Bible Studies</b>			
<b>Adult Bible Classes</b> Sunday a - Judges Sunday p - Romans Wed p - John	<b>Youth Classes</b> Classroom Wing <b>Teen Class</b> - Teen Room	<b>Ladies Class</b> Thursday 10:00 a	
<b>Ongoing Health issues:</b> 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 Michael Stimson, Jim Preston			



**In Our Prayers**

**Judy Ward** was in the hospital this week with heart fibrillation and has ask for prayers.  
**Helen Pierce** wanted to tell the congregation that she misses us and is taking care of a grandchild.  
**Sally and Ken Winstead** asked for prayers as Ken is to undergo back surgery. Let's keep them in prayer as he goes through this major surgery.  
 There will be a baby Shower for **Naomi and Addison McCown** on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Church building at 1:00p. RSVP to Fran Henniger, so they know how many plan to attend. She is registered at Amazon.  
 There will be a potluck today after worship in the fellowship hall. Please plan to attend.

**Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation?(Heb. 2:1-3a)**

**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 Judgments of the Lord Are True and Righteous Altogether**

After centuries of forsaking God, the northern kingdom of Israel now endures God's judgment. The nation of Assyria captures the land of Israel and the people of Israel are taken captive to a foreign land (2 Kings 17:4-6). God's longsuffering with the southern kingdom of Judah would continue, but a couple of centuries after the fall of Israel, the nation of Judah would also face God's judgment.

Why did this judgment of God occur? "For so it was that the children of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, who had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt; and they had feared other gods, and had walked in the statutes of the nations whom the Lord had cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made" (2 Kings 17:7-8). Israel had walked according to the nations and not according to God.

What had God done to help His people avoid such a terrible judgment upon themselves? "...the Lord testified against Israel and against Judah, by all of His prophets, every seer, saying, "Turn from your evil ways, and keep My commandments and My statutes, according to all the law which I commanded your fathers, and which I sent to you by My servants the prophets.' Nevertheless, they would not hear, but stiffened their necks, like the necks of their fathers, who did not believe in the Lord their God" (2 Kings 17:13-14). Through His servants, the prophets, God had pleaded with His people to turn from their evil ways!

After such a long period of trying to encourage His people to repent, the time had finally come for God to execute His judgment. "Therefore, the Lord was very angry with Israel, and removed them from His sight; there was none left but the tribe of Judah alone" (2 Kings 17:18). In order to be a just God, there has to come a time when God executes His justice!

As I read the 17th chapter of the book of kings which describes God's judgment on Israel, it is interesting the lengthy explanation of why God had brought this judgment on His people. Verses 7 through 23 of this chapter provide the details of why God allowed another nation, more wicked than His own people, to overtake the Promised Land and lead his people away captive. Why did God dedicate all these verses to explaining why He brought such judgment on His people? I believe it is to show that God's judgments and true and righteous altogether.

Today, I rejoice that God is a just God. He shows no favoritism in His judgments. He isn't influenced by bribes. He is more than fair in His judgments. As He considers His judgments, He extends His grace and mercy to those who seek it by repentance. He is longsuffering hoping that people repent. He sends His messengers to warn people they need to repent. Praise God that His judgments and true and righteous altogether!

~Susquehanna Valley Church of Christ