

### Objects Closer Than They Appear

*“Must. Go. Faster.” That’s what Dr. Ian Malcolm, played by Jeff Goldblum, says in an iconic scene from the 1993 movie Jurassic Park as he and two other characters flee in a Jeep from a rampaging tyrannosaurus. When the driver looks in the rearview mirror, he sees the raging reptile’s jaw—right above the words: “OBJECTS IN MIRROR MAY BE CLOSER THAN THEY APPEAR.”*

The scene is a masterful combination of intensity and grim humor. But sometimes the “monsters” from our past feel like they’ll never stop pursuing us. We look in the “mirror” of our lives and see mistakes looming right there, threatening to consume us with guilt or shame.

The apostle Paul understood the past’s potentially paralyzing power. He’d spent years trying to live perfectly apart from Christ, and even persecuted Christians (Philippians 3:1-9). Regret over his past could easily have crippled him.

But Paul found such beauty and power in his relationship with Christ that he was compelled to let go of his old life (vv. 8-9). That freed him to look forward in faith instead of backward in fear or regret: “One thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal” (vv. 13-14).

Our redemption in Christ has freed us to live for Him. We don’t have to let those “objects in (our) mirror” dictate our direction as we continue forward. ~Adam Holt

### Kennewick Church of Christ

3926 W. Kennewick Ave. Kennewick, WA 99336  
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Facebook page: Kennewick Church of Christ

Church Email: [kencoc@gmail.com](mailto:kencoc@gmail.com)

### Meeting times:

Sunday:

Wednesday:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00 pm

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:

Dustin McCrickard 509-579-9068

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

Attendance 05/26 68

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 05/26 \$2819.00

May 26, 2019

## Kennewick Church of Christ

### Rejoicing in God’s Revelation

“The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork. Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard” (Psalm 19:1-3).

In Psalm 19 David describes the ways in which God reveals Himself and His Will to man. First, God has revealed Himself to man by general revelation through His creation. As the opening verses above show, God has shown His glory to man through the works which He has made. As we behold a breathtaking sunrise or sunset, it is revealed to us the Almighty God made these things (Psalm 19:4-6). We are reminded of the might of God throughout nature. Although our hearts go out and our prayers are lifted up to the victims of a tornado, hurricane, or tsunami, when such events occur, our hearts are filled with awe and fear as we consider the power of God to create such forces of nature.

The works of God’s creation speak continually that there is a God which made them: “Day unto day utters speech, and night unto night reveals knowledge” (Psalm 19:2). There is nowhere on earth where people are unable to hear God revealing Himself to them through the things which He has made: “There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line has gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world” (Psalm 19:3-4). The main question for me to consider is: “Am I listening to God revealing Himself to me through His creation?”

Psalm 19 also speaks about how God has revealed Himself to us through His special revelation which is found in the Scriptures. After describing how God has revealed Himself to man through His Creation found in nature, David now turns His attention to how God has made known His Will for mankind through His Word: “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether” (Psalm 19:7-9). It is awesome to consider how God inspired 40 men to write the 66 books of the Bible over a 1500-year period without there being one contradiction in the pages of Scripture. Within the pages of God’s Word are contained the guidance we need to walk in a path which will lead to a blessed life: “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path” (Psalm 119:105).

Although God’s revealing Himself to mankind through both His Creation and His Word is a blessing He has given, we are encouraged to respond to this gift from God by eagerly pursuing God’s instructions for us: “More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb” (Psalm 19:10). God’s Word provides warnings of what not to do and guidance of what to do so that we may be blessed: “Moreover by them Your servant is warned, and in keeping them there is great reward. Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and I shall be innocent of great transgression” (Psalm 19:11-12). ~Susquehanna Valley church of Christ, Daily Devo

<b>Keep These Dates in Mind</b>	<b>June Birthdays and Anniversaries</b>	
<b>06/02</b> First Sunday Potluck 06/08 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship 06/09 Open Congregation Meeting 5:00 <b>07/07</b> First Sunday Potluck 07/13 Men's Breakfast and Fellowship 07/14 Open Congregation Meeting 5:00	Leland Davis 6/1 Henry & Mary Beth Walker 6/2 Curtis & Nadine Mohr 6/5 Fran Henniger 6/7 Rick & Jennie Freitag 6/7 Craig Bolt 6/15 Maurice Bunker 6/15 Jack & Wanda Danley 6/15	Ken & Sallie Winstead 6/17 Tera Berry 6/18 Thelma Gritzan 6/19 Jennie Freitag 6/23 Shannon Mendoza 6/30

. Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.



**Issues (ongoing):** Karen McBurney, Shirley Childers, Kaleb McCrickard, Marji Lindholm, The Johnson family, Marilyn Davis, Randy Hargus, Eunice Petros, Tami Pennington, Amanda McCrickard's parents, Karen McBurney's father, Leland And Marilyn's daughter, Don and Sherri Blackwell.

**Harland Aldrich** passed from this life last week. Keep the family in your prayers as they go through this time of sorrow.

He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

### **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)

### **Preaching to Itching Ears**

In 2 Tim. 4:13 Paul warns Timothy that people will get to the point where they will not endure sound doctrine. Even during the time of this writing, the tide was already beginning to turn toward this very end. In fact, from the very beginning, people have disliked hearing the truth when it convicted them of their sins. But, it seems today as never before, that people have decided that sound preaching and teaching is not needed; they have even decided that it is wrong! Just as Paul warned, people today as well as those people who lived in the same days that Paul lived in will not endure sound preaching.

It never ceases to amaze me how people will willingly embrace any kind of false teaching, yet, they will never give the truth a second look. There seems to be an all-consuming desire on the part of some people to replace the word of God with situation ethics. The idea is being put forth that the Bible way is not good enough anymore and they, like the Ford Motor Company, think that they "have a better idea." No matter how sincere and honest these people may seem to be, the fact remains that they are seeking to destroy our faith in the word of God. This evil cancer has even found its way into the church of our Lord. It seems to be becoming more and more difficult to find people who are willing to hear the true word of God preached. This is just one more symptom of the thing which Paul warned Timothy against. Paul went on to say in the same passage that, "...they will heap unto themselves teachers having itching ears." There is a movement among some brethren toward this very thing. The idea seems to be that you cannot preach the Bible as God had it written. These brethren say that you must learn to make the word of God more appealing to the people who are listening. This is a very wonderful idea, however, by the time you get through making it appealing to them, it is no longer recognizable as being the word of God. Christ said, "if ye love me, keep my commands." If we are going to call ourselves Christians, why don't we abide by what our Savior commanded? We must be very careful not to ever allow ourselves to be caught up in this "new" gospel of situation ethics. Without an audience to hear these false teachings, then these things would never get started.

Try as some people might, they just simply cannot improve on God's plan. The truth always remains constant no matter what may happen or who dislikes it. The word of God is truth and it will not be changed by these people who "itching ears" can't stand to hear it. The word of God will stand forever. Someone may ask the question, "what can be done about the problem?" The apostle Paul himself gave the answer to this question in 2 Tim. 4:5. He simply gave Timothy the instructions to "Preach the Word." No matter what we do, there will always be those who are so willing to hear "smooth things." We must endeavor to remain steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the works of the Lord. In this day and age when very little importance is placed on the word of God, we, as Christians, must stand together as a bulwark against the worldliness that is forever seeking to consume all of us. We must stand without bending, with a Bible in our hands and a "thus saith the Lord," on our lips. We must warn people of the consequences of their sins and always seek to turn them from these false teaching and return them unto the Lord. Brethren, we must be strong. Together we must stand against these false teachers and stand for the truth! We must let people know exactly where we stand. Each of us must make the decision that Joshua made in the long ago, he said, "Choose ye this day who ye will serve..." We must decide whether we are going to serve God or if we are going to follow after the teachings of men. There is no way that we can allow ourselves to be aligned with the false teachers and those who have itching ears and still be pleasing to God. Psalms 1:1 says, "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the council of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." ~Larry C. Harrison