

The Greatest Need in America

We've been thinking much about the state of our country. Economic woes, fear of enemies, health concerns, natural disasters, spiritual decline, and confused morality call for our attention; and we continually ask what God's will is for this country.

We are perplexed but not surprised that the fastest growing religious group in America is the group that identifies themselves as having "no religion." According to the American Religious Identification Survey taken in 2001, adults who do not subscribe to any religious identification has more than doubled from 14.3 million in 1990 to 29.4 million in 2001; their proportion has grown from just eight percent of the total in 1990 to over fourteen percent in 2001. Only 77 percent of Americans now claim to be Christians.

Many of those who claim to be Christians have convictions far different from the teaching of the New Testament. For instance, the Pew Forum recently released a survey saying that 65 percent of American Christians say that many religions can lead to eternal life, a fact that contradicts Jesus' plain statement in John 14:6 (see also Acts 4:12; Ephesians 4:4-6).

What America needs most is the gospel, the old story of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. That divine story will lead them to change their hearts and lives in repentance and to unite with Christ in baptism. The gospel will open their hearts to faith, hope, and love. ~Phil Sanders

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 10/13 NA

Budget \$2400.33

Contribution 10/13 \$2203.50

October 20, 2019

Kennewick Church of Christ



Zealous for Good Works

He was just six months from the cross when He saw the blind man whose affliction some attributed to his sins or those of his parents. Jesus seized the opportunity to show His compassion and then to teach that it is wrong to associate sickness with sin. His explanation for interrupting His plans for that day was, "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work" (John 9:4). His zeal, His devotion to doing the will of God, is so needed by many Christians today.

We need to be zealous in honoring that which is holy. When Jesus saw the desecration of the temple, He made a whip and drove out all those who had robbed that holy place of its sacredness. As His disciples watched all this take place, they remembered the words of David and knew they applied to Jesus, "The zeal for Your house has eaten Me up" (Psa. 69:9; John 2:17). In an age of complacency and secularization of all that is holy, we, too, should be consumed protecting the holy.

We need to be zealous in protecting the integrity of the church. In the closing chapters of Isaiah, the Messianic prophet saw the church (Palm Beach Lakes) clothed with garments of salvation and robes of righteousness and adorned with jewels like a bride at her wedding (61:10). He saw us as the glorious crown in the hand of Jehovah and as a royal diadem ready to be placed on the head of God! When he imagined how others might hide her beauty and dim the lamp of righteousness and salvation shining from her, he said, "For Zion's sake I will not hold my peace and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest" (62:1). O how the world would be changed if Christians were as Isaiah was for cherishing the glorious beauty of His bride. O how we all should be concerned about her integrity!

We need to be zealous in edifying the church. The church in Corinth was selfishly competing for spiritual gifts. They had elevated their own self-interests above the needs of the church. Paul said, "Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel" (1 Cor. 14:12). Christ did not shed His blood so I could put my own interest above the building up of the body of Christ. The Lord wanted them to go beyond just being zealous and to reach the level of excelling!

So what about you? Do you remember the zeal you had when you first obeyed the gospel? How does your present zeal compare to what it once was? God help us to let the zeal we have for His house, the church, consume us! ~Dan Jenkins



For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works. (Titus 2:11-14)

Keep These Dates in Mind	October Birthdays and Anniversaries		
10/12 Men's breakfast and fellowship 10/13 Open Congregational Meeting 5p 10/20 Meet & Greet Potluck with Randy Sparks 11/03 First Sunday Potluck 11/09 Men's breakfast and fellowship 11/10 Open Congregational Meeting 5p	LeRoy & Sue Pierce 10/4 Kenneth Winstead 10/6 LaVern Engelke 10/8 Mark & Sue Minor 10/9 Bill Johnson 10/18 Clarence Botts 10/22	Melinda Botts 10/25 Harvey Jones 10/25 Tom Mendoza 10/25 Norm & Phyllis Hubbard 10/29	
	Bible Studies		
Today's Speaker: Rusty Stark	Adult Bible Classes Sunday am.—Genesis Wed pm – Fruits of the Spirit/Works of the Flesh	Youth Classes Classroom Wing Teen Class - Teen Room	Ladies Class Th. 10-11:30am

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

There will be a potluck today after services. All are invited to attend and to take the opportunity to meet Rusty and his wife.

There will be a funeral service for Julie Davis, daughter of Leland and Marilyn, at 2:00pm. It will be held at the Kennewick Seventh Day Adventist Church, 7105 W 10th Ave, Kennewick



¹³Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.

¹⁶Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. (James 5:13, 14, 16)

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)

The Purpose of Life

Life is a precious gift from God. It is God who "forms the spirit of man within him" (Zechariah 12:1), and it is to God that our spirits return after death (Ecclesiastes 12:7). Consequently, it would seem that men ought to use their lives to please God. But rather than striving to "seek the Lord" (Acts 17:27), men often expend their energies in other ventures.

Some, for example, act as if their purpose in life is to gain physical wealth. And to that end they focus all of their efforts. Those who struggle in this area should be reminded of several basic Biblical truths: 1) "One's life does not consist in the abundance of things he possesses" (Luke 12:15); 2) Christians ought to "lay up for [themselves] treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal" (Matthew 6:20); and 3) "The love of money is a root of all kinds of evil" (1 Timothy 6:10). Life's purpose is not to amass earthly wealth.

Others act as if their purpose in life is to maintain their physical health. While it should be granted that our bodies are important to God (1 Corinthians 6:19), and that "bodily exercise profits a little" (1 Timothy 4:8), it must be remembered that at the longest, our lives are but brief (James 4:14). For this reason, we must make sure that we do not become so consumed with caring for our bodies that we lose focus upon God.

Still others act as if the purpose of life is to experience pleasure. This, too, misses the point of our existence. Our purpose is to "Fear God and keep His commandments. For this is man's all" (Ecclesiastes 12:13). ~Chad Ramsey



We Are at War

"Mr. Vice President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Senate and the House of Representatives: yesterday, December 7th, 1941—a date which will live in infamy—the United States of America was suddenly and deliberately attacked by naval and air forces of the Empire of Japan."

President Roosevelt's words still echo in our nation's heart. While most of us were not yet born in 1941, the repetition of Roosevelt's opening statement to Congress has left an indelible imprint on the American soul. We can still hear the cadence of his voice, the measured determination that stirred a nation to action.

The United States was ill prepared for war. In spite of the aggression of Japan in the Pacific and of Germany in Europe, America was indifferent and complacent. A shocking wake-up call came with Pearl Harbor. The nation was at war.

I can understand the pacifists who through accommodation and appeasement kept America out of the Second World War until it was almost too late. Cautious people want peace, not bloodshed. The temptation is always to get along and to go along, even with the most egregious evil.

There is a lesson Christians must learn about the need for spiritual warfare. Ephesians 6:10-12 calls us to be prepared for battle:

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

There is a spiritual battle going on, and we must never compromise with evil. God calls His people to engage the enemy on every front.

Conflict is never pleasant, but complacency and indifference chart a dangerous course. Our Lord calls us to victory. He does not call us to accommodation with sin. ~Gregory Alan Tidwell