

Always in Control

Does anything get by our God? Does anything happen to catch Him off guard or threaten to defeat him? Of course, the answer is, "No." When we hurt or get swallowed up in circumstances beyond our control, it is real easy to think that this got past God's control as well, but nothing could be further from the truth.

He feeds the animals, dresses the grass and runs the heavens. He supplies all His creation with everything it needs all the time. He neither sleeps nor is weary; He is not distracted, preoccupied or enfeebled. He sees everything, is everything and knows all. How can anything get past Him? The answer is, "It can't."

Does God use trouble and trials for our eternal benefit? Oh yes, He always has and will continue to use them as we have need (Romans 8:28). However, will these situations ever get out of His control? Never. How could they? He's got the whole world in his hands. *"The earth belongs to the Lord, and all it's fullness, the world and those who dwell therein"* (Psalm 24:1). ~Terry Wheeler

It was prophesied in the Old Testament that someone would come as a prophet and prepare the way for Christ. He is called "Elijah" in Malachi 4:5-6. The New Testament records that John the Baptist came "in the spirit and power of Elijah" (Luke 1:17). Jesus said plainly of John. *"And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come"* (Matthew 11:14). Elijah had been a fiery prophet of the Old Testament. He challenged Israel, in a time of overwhelming idolatry, to be faithful to the Lord. In the New Testament, John did not mince any words. His message was not soft and mealy-mouthed but rather a bold and firm, **"Repent"** (Matthew 3:2). The day is passed for divinely inspired prophets, but Bible study might lead teachers to conclude that the best message for a culture sometimes is simply, **"Repent."** (Robison's Rubies, The Voice of Truth International, v106)

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

Minister:

Bill Gregory (360)710-0449
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 02/21: 35

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 02/21: 2820.10

February 28, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



An Eternal Warranty

Most people want to know about the warranty when they buy something of significant value. Will it Last? What will the company's response be if something goes wrong, if it needs adjusting or if some kind of repair is required? I remember years ago when the government changed the conditions of a lifetime warranty to be rephrased as a limited lifetime warranty. It didn't sound quite the same as it had previously. However, if the company that makes a product goes out of business, the warranty usually is gone as well.

It reminds me of something my dad told me years ago. "A promise is only as good as the one making it." Warranties are only good as long as companies honor them or stay in business to honor them. In like manner, a person's word is only as good as the integrity of the person. It's easy to make promises but something else to fulfill them. Many times, excuses follow promises, or the person who made the promise conveniently disappears.

Aren't you glad our God is faithful in His promises? What promises He makes to us! Peter reminds us how wonderful they are. "By these He has given us very great and precious promises, so that through them you may share in the divine nature, escaping the corruption that is in the world because of evil desires" (2 Peter 1:4). Just thinking of what He promised us should cheer any heart. He has promised to be with us always (Matthew 28:20). He has promised us eternal life (1 John 2:25). He has promised His help and strength through the course of our lives (2 Thessalonians 3:3). He promises never to allow us to be tempted beyond our ability to resist (1 Corinthians 10:13). He promises that Heaven will far exceed any suffering we endure here and now (Romans 8:18). How many more could we mention? In all of them, God will be true to do what he has said.

What confidence should this give us in living the Christian life! Since we know God will do all He said, we should be highly motivated to do our best for Him. With every expression of love His promises show us, our love should be returned in offering ourselves to Him (1 John 4:19). We should not let Satan rob us of our joy, substituting fear and doubt in place of God's promises. We can take heart because Christ has overcome the world (John 16:33), and we share His victory (1 Corinthians 15:57).

We may not know whether earthly promises will stand, but we should never doubt the promises of God. Rejoice in His love, His help, His hope and His salvation. None of these will ever fail. *"Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, His love is eternal"* (Psalm 136:1). ~Robert Johnson

Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are his; and He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding. He reveals deep and secret things: he knows what is in the darkness, and light dwells with Him. (Daniel 2:20-23)

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.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sammie Engelke 3/7
Tom & Thelma Gritzan 3/14
Doris Pennington 3/15
Faye Henry 3/17
Pansy Caywood 3/20
Fran Gregory 3/20
Lucy Larsen 3/23

Bible Studies

Adult Bible Classes

Sunday a - Judges
Sunday p - Romans
Wed p - John

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 Michael Stimson



In Our Prayers

Jim Preston continues to struggle with his migraines keep him in your prayers as he struggles with the pain and tries to find ways to control them.

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, character; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

For when we were still without strength in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him. For if when we were enemies we were reconciled to God through the death of His Son, much more, having been reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. (Romans 5:1-10)

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 Faith to knock down Walls

How often do you come across challenges in your life that appear too difficult to overcome? Do you find yourself being overwhelmed by the obstacle you face or do you place your faith in God to help you surmount this obstacle in your path by trusting in His power and in His grace?

After the children of Israel cross the Jordan River and enter the Promised Land under the new leadership of Joshua, the first city they come to attack is the city of Jericho. The city appears well suited to be defended and to be difficult to destroy because of its huge city walls. The children of Israel do not attack this well seemingly well-fortified city with catapults or cannons. Instead, they attack it by their faith in God. They follow exactly what God tells them to do by marching around the city once a day for 6 days (Joshua 6:1-14). Then on the 7th day they march around the city 7 times, the priests blow the trumpets and the people shout (Joshua 6:15-20). The walls fall flat!

Israel then took the city. It was a great triumph for Israel. It was not won by them having a mighty army with powerful weapons. It was won by their placing their faith in God's power: "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they were encircled for seven days" (Hebrews 11:30).

As followers of Christ, we all face walls or barriers in our lives that challenge us in our pilgrimage on this earth. The wall we face may be a physical or health problem that challenges us. We may have a broken relationship with another person and we may feel there is a barrier that is separating us from that person. We may be struggling with committing a particular sin over and over again in our lives and feel like we are facing a wall we simply can't break through to overcome it.

These walls need to be torn down. They are torn down by placing our faith in God and surrendering our will to His Will that He may be glorified. We may not understand how God can tear down this wall or barrier with which we are facing. The challenge is for us to completely place our faith in God and to glorify Him by our actions and let God worry about how He will destroy the wall we are facing.

An example of the need of faith in our lives is seen with Jesus and His disciples. During His ministry on earth, Jesus had given his disciples the ability to cast out demons (Matthew 10:1). However, on one occasion there was a particular difficult case of demon possession they could not solve. "Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, 'Why could we not cast it out?' So, Jesus said to them, 'Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you. However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.'" (Matthew 17:19-21).

I am not advocating that Christians can cast out demons today. However, what the above verses show us is that some "walls" require a lot more faith to tear down. There needs to be some time devoted to prayer and fasting in order to develop the faith to tear down these walls. Are there walls in your life that you need God's help to tear down? Devote some time to prayer and fasting. Today, I will rejoice that God gives me the faith to tear down walls! ~ Daily Devo, Susquehanna Valley Church of Christ