

The Elephant Foot Effect (Con't)

Standing in the room with it for five minutes would lead to a relatively quick death. Thirty seconds near it would cause dizziness and fatigue. Two minutes of exposure and your cells would begin to hemorrhage. Four minutes would cause vomiting, diarrhea, and fever. Five minutes and you would have just days to live. How close can we get to sin?

In any form, sin is deadly. It doesn't matter the size or shape of it. Eve just ate some fruit. She was hungry. She deserved to eat (Gen. 3:6). The problem was she had been commanded not to eat of that fruit. All Lot's wife did was look at something the wrong way. She just looked back (Gen. 19:26). Her home was being destroyed, people she knew were dying. Who would blame her? She had been commanded not to look back. All Uzzah did was touch the ark of the covenant (1 Chr. 13:9-10). It looked like it was going to tip, so he steadied the ark. It makes sense. Anybody would do the same thing, right? God had commanded him not to touch it. Sin is deadly. Sin is a breaking of the law in any form (1 John 3:4).

We need to be careful. The psalmist wrote about the dangers of walking, standing, and sitting with those that would lead us down the path of sin (Psa. 1:1). Paul, after completing the list of the works of the flesh wrote, "I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:21). People are always looking for way to get close to the edge, wondering how far is too far. We must draw a line where the Bible does. We can look to no other source as a guide to keep us on the right path. That's why the psalmist wrote, "How blessed is the man who does not walk in the counsel of the wicked, Nor stand in the path of sinners, Nor sit in the seat of scoffers! But his delight is in the law of the LORD, And in His law he meditates day and night... For the LORD knows the way of the righteous, But the way of the wicked will perish" (Psa. 1:1-2). We must stay on the right path and stay away from sin. ~Josh Blackmer (Edited)

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 01/31: 37

Budget \$2484.00

Contribution: 01/31: \$2174.00

February 07, 2021

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



Are We Keeping the World Out of the Church?

South Florida has a ground water issue that not many other places in the U.S. deal with—the salinization of fresh water aquifers. Since 1985, there has been an increase in the salinity of the Biscayne Aquifer. In that time, there has been a 12-17% decrease in available freshwater. There are many factors, one of those is the amount of fresh water pumped out. If it is not replaced, it leaves room for salt water to seep in if the aquifer is inside the saltwater intrusion line. It is a threat to the purity of our water. There is a similar threat to the church.

We are here in this world and we are charged to keep the church "without spot or wrinkle" (Eph. 5:27). What are we allowing to seep into the church? The world around us is far from holy. The United States is seemingly more and more polarized on issues. Many are getting a steady diet of half-truths and politicized information, all of which drives a larger wedge between neighbors. While in the recent past we may have been able to talk about these differences and still be civil, even friendly, it seems like that ability is also slipping away. Is that also seeping into the church?

To keep the influences of the world around us out we must stand on the truth of God's word. There is a lot of information out there that is being spun in every direction. The church should not be a place where that happens. "I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth" (1 Tim. 3:15). Filling our hearts up with His truth should leave little room for the deception that is in the world. "Your word I have treasured in my heart, that I may not sin against You" (Psa. 119:11).

To keep the influences of the world around us out of the church we must strive for unity. It is what Christ prayed for (John 17:21-22). It was what Paul prescribed for the churches (1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:3). "Make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others" (Phil. 2:2-4). Do your part to maintain unity in the church (Rom. 12:18).

Lastly, to keep the influences out we must labor in love. "Beyond all these things put on love, which is the perfect bond of unity" (Col. 3:14). Love looks for the best in others and keeps no record of wrongs (1 Cor. 13:4-7). We will need all of these and more for the church to keep the world out. ~Josh Blackmer

The Importance of Thinking Before you Speak

Is it:

True Helpful Inspiring Necessary Kind

Keep These Dates in Mind	February Birthdays and Anniversaries		
<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>	Gary Koci 2/1 Leland & Marilyn Davis 2/8 Ron Stephens 2/14 Linda Bills 2/14 Joe Botts 2/15 Al Lindsay 2/16 Wanda Danley 2/16 Jim Preston 2/22		Josh Mendoza 2/27 Stephanie Leger 2/28
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

There is a potluck today after worship services. Please stay and fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ and take part in much needed fellowship between Christians.

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declare the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth, it shall not return empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. (Isaiah 55:8-11)

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 Changeless in a Changing World

Wow! There is a lot that is changing around us! Changes are taking place in our government, with our leaders and our system of laws. Changes are taking place in our culture, with what is considered appropriate and what is tolerated. What was once considered a God-fearing nation (to some extent) now seems like a God-hating nation. Changes are taking place in our homes, in our schools, in our jobs, in everything around us. All of these changes sure create an abiding sense of instability and insecurity. Is there anything that can ground us and secure us and keep us calm in the midst of chaos? Consider this.

God doesn't change. "I am the Lord, I do not change" (Mal. 3:6). "There is no variation or shadow of turning" with God (Jas. 1:17). "His purpose is unchangeable" (Heb. 6:17).

Jesus doesn't change. "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" (Heb. 13:8). "Like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail" (Heb. 1:12). Jesus is "Him who is and who was and who is to come" (Rev. 1:4).

The Bible doesn't change. "Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away" (Matt. 24:35). "The word of God...lives and abides forever...All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, but the word of the Lord endures forever" (1 Pet. 1:23-25). "Contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). "You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it" (Deut. 4:2).

God's plan for man's redemption doesn't change. "You are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, which is not another" (Gal. 1:6-7). "For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ" (1 Cor. 3:11). "Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved" (Acts 4:12). "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6).

God's expectations of mankind don't change. "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven" (Matt. 7:21). "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man's all" ([Ecc. 12:13](#)).

With so much changing around us, let us be thankful for, focused on, devoted to and sharing those eternal things of God which do not change. ~David Sproule

Praise the Lord, from the earth, you great sea creatures and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and mist, stormy wind fulfilling his word! Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Beasts and livestock, creeping things and flying birds! Kings of earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth! Young men and maidens together; old men and children! Let them praise the name of the Lord for his name alone is exalted; his majesty is above the earth and heaven. (Ps. 148:7-13)

The Elephant Foot Effect

In April 1986, the explosion of reactor four at the Chernobyl powerplant sent a four-million-pound lid from the reactor core through the roof of the plant and belched out 400 times more radiation than the nuclear blast at Hiroshima. Over 350,000 pounds of uranium melted down and ate through the containment shield. It ate through 6 feet of reinforced concrete. The radioactive lava flowed through basement pipes and pooled in steam corridors until it cooled enough to be stopped in the basement of reactor four. This material, called corium, is some of the most dangerous on the planet, but also very rare. It is only formed in a nuclear meltdown. In December 1986, workers found what has now been dubbed the elephant's foot. It is a two-ton wrinkled mass of corium in the basement of the reactor. It is extremely dangerous. (Continued on back)