

January 18, 2026

KENNEWICK CHURCH OF CHRIST



Sound the Alarm

“Judge not...” is one of the most misused quotes of all Scripture. This passage is seen as a trump card to end any and all moral warnings from Christians. Even some self-proclaimed Christians utter the phrase “Only God can judge me” when confronted with their sins. Of course, if they actually read Matthew 7:1-5, they would know that Christ’s argument is not a ban on all judgment, but on hypocritical judgment. In fact, verse 5 is a direct command to judge. Jesus says, “Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.”

This kind of opposition can cause honest Christians to fear the work of evangelism among their family, friends, and colleagues. You know that they aren’t living right, but if you say something, they will likely retaliate under the cover of a verse like Matthew 7 taken out of context. But, we cannot allow the fear of confrontation to keep us from warning others about the truth of God’s judgment.

In Ezekiel 33, the prophet was commanded by the Lord to deliver a message to the children of Israel. This message was both a warning to Ezekiel as much as it was a warning to Israel. God calls Ezekiel His watchman and explains his purpose and responsibility. In verses 2-5, the Lord explains that if a watchman warns his people of an attack and they choose to ignore it, their fate is in their own hands. The watchman has done his job. “But if the watchman sees the sword coming and does not blow the trumpet, and the people are not warned, and the sword comes and takes any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at the watchman’s hand” (Ezek. 33:6). If a watchman doesn’t do his job, there will be consequences.

God makes it clear in the next few verses that Ezekiel, as a man of God, has a responsibility to warn Israel of their sins. God takes no pleasure in the death of the wicked but wants them to turn and live (v. 11). So, if Ezekiel fails to confront his brethren, then he will be responsible for their condemnation.

The Christians’ responsibility to sound the alarm about the condemnation of sin cannot be taken lightly. We have been compelled by the Lord to be Christ’s watchmen. It is not optional. As Paul says in 1 Corinthians 9:16, “For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel.” And woe to us if we withhold the gospel from those who are lost in sin. “Nevertheless if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, he shall die in his iniquity; but you have delivered your soul’ (Ezek. 33:9).

~Robert Lupo

Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (Phil 2:4-7)

Keep these Dates in Mind	Birthdays and Anniversaries	
01/04 Monthly Potluck 01/10 Men's Business Meeting 01/13 Hand and Foot get together	Linda Lafferty 1/8 Norm Hubbard 1/17 Larry Moore 1/19 Michelle Staples 125 Hannah Mendoza 1/29	
Today's News	Bible Studies	
	Adult Bible Classes (Fellowship Hall) Sunday am (9:30a) – 1st Timothy Wed pm (7:00p) – Minor Prophets	Ladies Class Ladies class - Thursday 11:00 -12:30. Survey of the O.T.

For us to remember:

- **Annie Phom, Pat Lindsay, Karen McBurney, Tami Pennington, Jim Preston, Sandi Gray, Shannon Mendoza, Bill Lafferty, Linda Lafferty, Lyn Gigar, Queca Woods, Paul Mays, Shauna** (Ila Stevens granddaughter), **Jonni Marcotte, Joe Marcotte, Freddie Garza** (Danny's cousin), **Terry Brown, Lupe Mendoza, Jackson Ward** (Josh Mendoza's friend), **Tamara Zog, Pam Fox**
- **Doreen Martinez** stomach cancer
- **Jonni Marcotte** is home again and hopes that she will remain there. Give thanks that she is better
- **Joe Marcotte** as he slowly recovers from his brain embolisms
- **Carlos Soto and Chris Romero** (Boys in car crash) as they continue to heal
- **Lupe Mendoza** – Congestive Heart Failure

Date	Opening Prayer	Song Leader	Communion Thought	Lord's Supper	Closing Prayer
This week	H. Jones	L. Moore	D. Mendoza	J. Mendoza J. Wilson	G. Keever
Next Week	J. Wilson	D. Mendoza	G. Keever	K. Winstead L. Moore	J. Mendoza

Return to Joy

If you are a Christian, you are assured in scripture that you can have joy in life. In fact, it is a fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-23). The joy discussed in scripture is not derived from your status in life such as wealth, family, or job title. Instead, it comes from knowing that no matter what happens to you while you are walking the earth, Jesus has already won the war against Satan and you have a home in Heaven waiting for you if you are obedient to Him.

However, for the Christian, the enemy works daily to steal your joy. To help you maintain your joy or even regain it when you feel like it has been lost, I encourage you to consider two foundational attitudes that will bring you back to a joyful state: humility and gratitude.

Humility

James 4:6 states that God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Then, in v. 10, you are told that if you humble yourself in the presence of the Lord, He will exalt you. Jesus humbled Himself to the point of death on the cross and you should be of that same mindset (Phil. 2:1-9). If you surrender your pride and humble yourself, you will align yourself with the mindset of Jesus, which will bring peace and allow gratitude to flow. Humility enables gratitude.

Gratitude

In 1 Thess. 5:16-18, you are told to, "Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." When I feel angry or feel like life is oppressive, I try to humble my spirit and remember the good things the Lord has done for me, things that I have directly received. That enables a state of mind in me where I can focus on God's goodness and blessings rather than the current hardship or trial I am facing. What naturally follows is gratitude, and that gratitude leads me back to joy.

If you are feeling like your joy has been stolen because trials and hardships have beaten you down, I encourage you to humble your spirit and have gratitude for the goodness of God, and watch your joy return.

Not in Return or in the First Place

Jesus. Truly, He is our perfect example in all things regarding righteous living. Consider what Peter (an eyewitness) reveals to us about the interaction of Jesus with those who mistreated Him. "When He was reviled, [Jesus] did not revile in return" (1 Pet. 2:23). Secondly, "when He suffered, He did not threaten." Of course, you expect that out of Jesus! But, Peter's point is that Jesus was "leaving us an example, that [we] should follow His steps" (2:21).

How often do people do you wrong? How often do people revile you, insult you, abuse you verbally? How often do you suffer at the maltreatment of others? It may seem impossible, but the Lord calls us to not respond in like manner, but (1) to keep on committing ourselves to our God (1 Pet. 2:23), (2) to practice the Golden Rule (Luke 6:31), and (3) to do that person right regardless (Rom. 12:17-21; Matt. 5:44).

Not only did Jesus not respond to evil with evil, but He didn't behave that way in the first place! What a lesson for us! ~David Sproule

Wednesday Night Devotional

	song leader	Devotional		song leader	Devotional
01/07	L. Moore	J. Mendoza	02/04	L. Moore	G. Keever
01/14	J. Mendoza	B. Lafferty	02/11	J. Mendoza	D. Mclaughlin
01/21	D. Mendoza	L. Moore	02/18	D. Mendoza	H. Jones
01/28	D. Mendoza	J. Wilson			

CHRISTIAN WORD SEARCH

Y R O L G X B H O D K K K S I
A T I R I P S O R C Y S E C G
S S G B S V N L E P E R A R L
G E O Y U R S Y Y V E O G I V
L L O T B M H S A E C I D P V
U T D D A O U P R L A V I T B
X S N J P D B I P P E A S U Z
F O E W T G N R F M P S C R C
Q P S R I N P I F E C I I E N
R A S Y S I V T E T S S P L M
F W D N M K T F I G A H L C I
M E P S H E P H E R D E E A L
J H Z P I H S W O L L E F R M
R Q P K W I S D O M N P B I P
N O I T C E R R U S E R X M H

WORD LIST

APOSTLES	GLORY	PEACE	SHEEP
BAPTISM	GOODNESS	PRAYER	SHEPHERD
DISCIPLE	HOLY SPIRIT	RESURRECTION	SPIRIT
FELLOWSHIP	KINGDOM	SAVIOR	TEMPLE
GIFT	MIRACLE	SCRIPTURE	WISDOM

Homemade
GIFTS MADE EASY

Kennewick Church of Christ

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Church Email: kenncoc@gmail.com

Meeting Times:

Sunday Bible Study 9:30 am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 6:00 pm

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 am

Sunday Night Worship 6:00 pm

Minister: Chase Sullins

Attendance 01/11 54 Contribution 01/11 \$3590.00