

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Billy Box

Opening Prayer: Eddie Dickinson

On the Table: Head - Greg Lowery
Servers - Josh Berryhill
Bradley Box
Ralph Burleson

Closing Prayer: David Key

Preparing the Lord's Supper Linda Lawrence

Weekly Service Times

Sunday

Bible Study	10:00 am
Morning Worship	10:45 am
Evening Worship	5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study	7:00 pm
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Visit Our Website

www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org

Elders: Leonard Key / David Key
Billy Box / Eddie Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

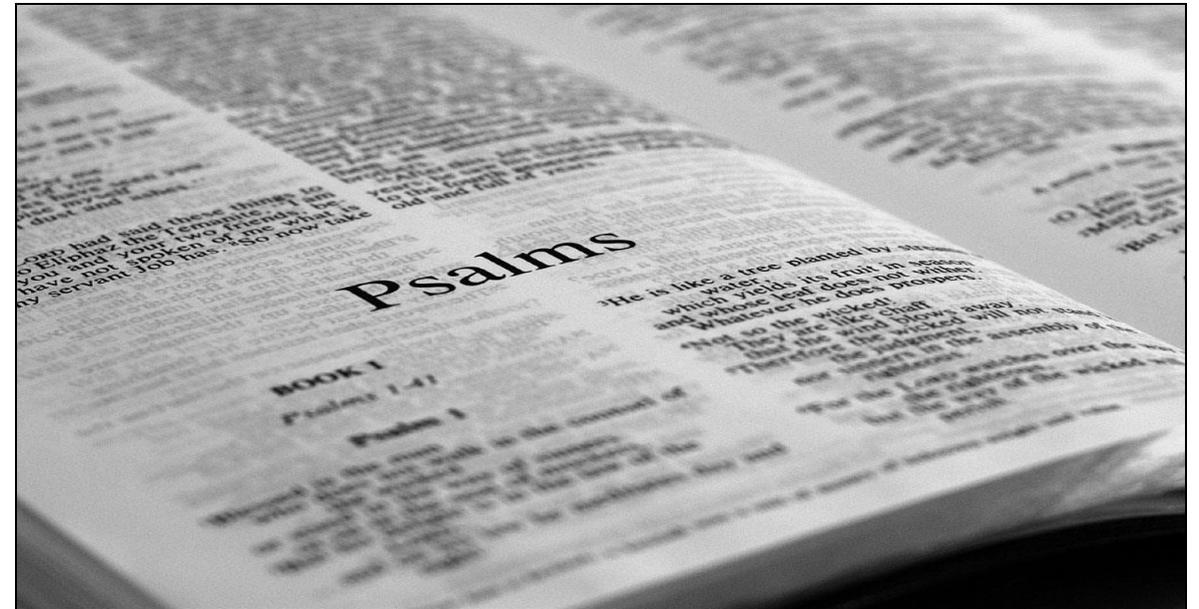
Minister: Greg Lowery

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King of Kings



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



Hosea 3:5 – “David’s” Reign in the Latter Days

By Wayne Jackson

Every Old Testament book, to some extent, focuses upon the coming of Christ. This is no less true of the book of Hosea. Hosea was a prophet of God who spoke to the northern kingdom of Israel during the reign of Jeroboam II. His personal life was marred by tragedy in that his wife became unfaithful. But in spite of that infidelity, he took her back.

In the providence of God, this circumstance turned out to be a teaching tool by which the prophet would urge unfaithful Israel (fornicating with paganism) to return to Jehovah.

In chapter 3, Hosea declares that the people of Israel will suffer as a consequence of their rebellion. They will be without a king and without a worship system. The narrative predicts the dark days of captivity, which was accomplished by the Assyrian invasion in 721 B.C.

Note, however, this “ray of light” after the storm:
 “... afterward shall the children of Israel return, and seek Jehovah their God, and David their king, shall come forth with fear unto Jehovah and to his goodness in the latter days” (Hosea 3:5).

Consider these important elements of the passage.

1. The prophecy is to be fulfilled in “the latter days,” i.e., in the Christian dispensation (cf. Joel 2:28ff; Acts 2:16, 17).
2. The children of Israel will return to God. Both “Israel” and the “return” are spiritual, not political. This has to do with the church, not a millennial reign from Palestine.
3. The king will be “David,” i.e., David’s seed, the Messiah.
4. This new Israel will both reverence Jehovah, and be recipients of His goodness.

Thus, underline the following words in verse 5, and enter the appropriately corresponding terms: “Latter days” — Christian age; “David” — Messiah; “Israel” — the church.

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Sister} is in the nursing home in Guin, pray for her she has some ongoing health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

April Tidwell Dawson: she has recently been diagnosed with stomach cancer; please be praying that this cancer will be defeated with successful treatments

Angie Ganey Gardner: fighting against breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Ruth Addison: ongoing health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Glynda Long: she is fighting stage 4 colon cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Don Lawrence: is recovering from a recent stroke, please be praying that there will be no long term complications or any further problems

Celia Grace Hamlett, daughter of Gary and Kassie Hamlett, was diagnosed with MLD(Metachromatic Leukodystrophy); planning on gene replacement treatment; please pray that these treatments will be successful.

Pam Braden: she is dealing with some ongoing health problems, please pray that those working with her can help her

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Myra Miles: recent Bone Marrow Biopsy was good , please continue to keep her in your prayers

Guy Weeks: is undergoing cancer treatments, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Farrah Garrison: is recovering from recent surgery, please pray that there will be no complications

Sandy Markham: is recovering from knee surgery, please pray that she makes a complete recovery

Maddie Bishop (young girl South Haleyville) diagnosed with stage 4 Ewing sarcoma, please pray for her and her family and that treatments can defeat this caner

Billy Lee Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother} he is in renal failure, is back at the nursing home in Guin, please be praying for him and the staff caring for him

Timmy Weeks: he is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that he will receive treatments that can restore his health

Kristen Eddy: she is recovering from knee surgery, please pray that she will have a successful recovery

Hagen Dickinson: he is recovering from jaw surgery, please pray that it heals properly and that he has no complications

The Tragedy of Pontius Pilate

By Wayne Jackson

Pontius Pilate has been enshrined forever in the cowards’ Hall of Shame. Though he knew the charges against Jesus Christ were void of substance, because of his spineless politicisim, he delivered the Son of God over to the rebellious Jews for crucifixion (see Mt. 27:15-26; Mk. 15:6-15; Lk. 23:13-25; Jn. 18:39-19:15).

Were it not for the narratives of the New Testament, this graceless soul would scarcely be remembered at all. The historical narratives regarding him are scant. Aside from the New Testament records (where he is mentioned about twenty times — including parallels), he is briefly mentioned by Philo, a Jewish philosopher who lived in Alexandria (c. 25 B.C. — A.D. 45).

Flavius Josephus (c. A.D. 37 — 100), the Jewish historian who witnessed the Roman invasion of Palestine, also took note of him, as did Tacitus, a Roman historian (c. A.D. 55 — 120). Tacitus simply said that “Christus, from whom [the Christians] derived their name, was executed at the hands of the procurator Pontius Pilate in the reign of Tiberius Caesar” (Annals 15.44).

But both Philo and Josephus paint a very stark portrait of the Roman ruler. Pilate is characterized as oppressive, greedy, stubborn, and cruel. Philo specifically catalogs “his venality, his violence, his thefts, his assaults, his abusive behavior, his frequent executions of untried prisoners, and his endless savage ferocity” (Gaium 302), though some claim Philo exaggerated the matter. Nonetheless, Pilate did antagonize the Jews and they hated him (though they would later use him for the implementation of their own evil designs).

For example, he introduced into the city of Jerusalem certain ensigns that contained the image of Caesar, an act that infuriated the Hebrews because they considered the overture to be heathenish (Antiquities 18.3.1; Wars 2.9.2-3). Further, three different coins minted by Pilate have been found by archaeologists. They depict pagan symbols, again reflecting his disdain for the Jewish conscience.

Luke mentions an episode wherein Pilate, on one occasion, slaughtered some Galilean Jews, as they worshipped, mingling their own blood with that of their sacrifices (Lk. 13:1-3). Although this specific incident is not mentioned elsewhere, it certainly harmonizes with the testimony of secular history. Pilate truly was a brute — in spite of the fact that some scholars have attempted his historical rehabilitation. When the ruler placed the placard on the cross, just above Jesus' head — This is Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews — it was intended to be a cutting insult to the Hebrew people, to the effect, “Behold, your crucified (criminal) king!”

In A.D. 26, Pilate assumed the role of procurator of Judea on behalf of the Roman government, which office he remained in for about ten years. The term procurator is a generic designation for a Roman ruler, suggesting one who administers finances. Another title he had, now known from an extra-biblical source, is praefectus, a military designation suggesting a commander over a band of soldiers (500 to 1,000). This was a sort of imperial police force. There is no conflict between these titles.

Pilate was an inept ruler, constantly getting into trouble with the Roman authorities whom he attempted to placate. Ultimately, he was deposed and recalled to Rome (c. A.D. 36). According to a 4th century A.D. historian, Eusebius, he finally “fell into such calamities that he was forced to become his own murderer” (Ecclesiastical History 2.7).

There is an interesting footnote to this story. In 1961 at Caesarea, an inscription mentioning Pilate's name was discovered (the first of its kind). A free translation is as follows: “The Tiberieum [a temple dedicated to the worship of Tiberius] of the Caesareans Pontius Pilate Praefect of Judea has given.” The inscription illustrates how the Judean governor bowed and scraped before Caesar, and thus it harmonizes beautifully with the New Testament account that casts him in a similar light (see Jn. 19:12). The sustained corroboration of Bible history by means of archeological discovery is faith-building indeed.

The later tradition that Pilate became convinced of the divine nature of Jesus, and so may be regarded as having become a Christian (Tertullian, Apology 5 and 21), is given little credence by modern scholars.

Pilate was a tragic historical figure. He was a providential instrument in the divine plan that assured that Jesus would be declared “innocent” (Jn. 18:38; 19:5-6), though he suffered as a felon — on our behalf! (cf. 2 Cor. 5:21).

Thanks be to God for his unspeakable gift (2 Cor. 9:15).

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The King of the Jews

Not only King of the Jews, but King of our Lives



The **APPOINTED** King
Micah 5:2

The **ANNOINTED** King
Hebrews 1:8-9

The **ASSAULTED** King
John 19:1-3

The **ASCENDED** King
Acts 5:30-32

The **ACCLAIMED** King
Revelation 19:11-16

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