

Today's Order of Worship

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Josh Berryhill

Opening Prayer: Charles Berryhill

On the Table: Head - Billy Box
Servers - Greg Lowery
David Key
Ralph Burleson

Closing Prayer: Eddie Dickinson

Preparing the Lord's Supper Deborah Box

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 / Eddy Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Minister: Greg Lowery

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Evil Surrounds Us



*The
Brilliant
Beacon*



During Times Like These

By Rodney Nulph

Living in a world filled with uncertainty is like trying to stand in a pool of quicksand, and many are sinking under its pull. COVID-19 has brought a new type of uncertainty and uneasiness to our communities. Almost everyone, in some way, is feeling the effects of this terrible virus. Americans are affected from a shortage of many daily necessities (toilet paper, hand sanitizers, etc.) to increased unemployment as well as store and school closings. Getting through such times, for most, is a great challenge. How can a person possibly pillow his head at night during times like these? Where can we turn amid such uncertainty? Christians can turn to God’s Word in general and Psalm 91 in particular. Would you, Dear Reader, take just a couple minutes to read Psalm 91 and consider some helpful observations from it?

Firstly, God is our **shadow** (vs. 1). “He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.” When we consider the nature of a shadow, we learn that a shadow is over us and far beyond the spot where we currently find ourselves. As humans, we cannot know for sure what lies ahead of the here and now. What will tomorrow bring? Will I suffer sickness, disease or failure? What a metaphor for the God we serve! God sees more than we can ever see, and God knows more than we can ever know. We can rest easy, even during trying times, knowing that God is our shadow, covering us with His love and mercy!

Secondly, God is our **shelter** (vs. 2). “I will say of the Lord, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust”. Where can we go to avoid life’s problems and defeats? No matter where we go upon this earth, we are not completely “covered” or “quarantined” from earth’s struggles! However, when we climb into the Almighty, His sheltering care stops all of this world’s fears. The idea portrayed here is of a garrison or an impenetrable fort where those who are inside find security and safety. What a metaphor for God Almighty. Ultimately, outside forces will never hurt those who are truly “in God”! “God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble”!

Thirdly, God is our **Savior** (vs. 3). “Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, and from the noisome pestilence.” Given the current crisis in our nation regarding COVID-19, it appears as though this verse was just penned. However, no matter the problem, pestilence or pain, God is the only deliverer on Whom we can truly

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

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

Patty Berryhill: having problems with a hernia, please pray that the doctors can help her with this problem

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

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

Felicia Berryhill: she is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that she will be able to receive the right medical treatment to help her

Angie Ganey Gardner: breast cancer surgery went well and is waiting learn the next course of treatment, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

David Warren: he is fighting cancer, please be praying that his cancer will be defeated

Janet Spann: has severe COPD and other health problems, please keep her and her family in your prayers

Tommy Housh: diagnosed with bladder cancer, please pray that they will be able to successfully defeat this cancer

Ren Garrison (Donna Martin’s Nephew): is still dealing with an issue concerning his heart, please be praying that this issue will be dealt with successfully

Jack Willis (Meg Rutledge’s Father) is fighting cancer, please keep him and his family in your prayers

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

THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please pray that she will improve

Ruth Addison: recovering from recent illness, please pray that she will regain her strength

Nelle Fraizer (Lellie’s Sister); she has some ongoing health problems

Winfred York: is at home and has been placed under hospice care, please continue to pray for him and Mrs. Vertie

Celia Grace Hamlett (3 year old): diagnosed with a very rare genetic disease, let us pray that doctors will be able to help her

Vernalen Avery: she recently received a pacemaker, please pray that this will help her

Please continue to pray for the families of Dan Treas and Harold Pendley, as their families continue to grieve from the loss of their loved ones

Carolyn Caudle: recovering from recent fall, please pray that she has no problems as she recovers

Upcoming Events

June 21st – 25th

Gospel Meeting (Dorian Flynn)
[No Fellowship Meals During Meeting]

count. Our nation is currently seeking a vaccine and an antidote for the terrible coronavirus. While I hope that there are advances in the medical field regarding such, vaccines, hospitals, medical professionals and all other human deliverers are not the real answer. God is the only One that can truly deliver mankind. Praise Him for being our Savior!

Fourthly, God is our **shield** (vs. 4). “He shall cover thee with His feathers, and under His wings shalt thou trust: His truth shall be thy shield and buckler.” Mankind is daily seeking to be “covered” and “protected” from the horrific virus that has flooded our world. Dear Reader, there is simply no human invention that can completely and wholly cover us and protect us from this pandemic or any other worldly problem that we may face. However, God as our shield gives us the protection for which we long and for which we wait. Resting in God deflects the enemies of fear and doubt during these uncertain times! God’s defense is on every front and no aspect is beyond His infinite reach!

Now notice carefully the result that comes to those who have God as their **shadow, shelter, Savior and shield.**

Thou shalt not be afraid for the terror by night; nor for the arrow that flieth by day; Nor for the pestilence that walketh in darkness; nor for the destruction that wasteth at noonday. A thousand shall fall at thy side, and ten thousand at thy right hand; but it shall not come nigh thee. Only with thine eyes shalt thou behold and see the reward of the wicked. Because thou hast made the Lord, which is my refuge, even the most High, thy habitation; There shall no evil befall thee, neither shall any plague come nigh thy dwelling. For he shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways. They shall bear thee up in their hands, lest thou dash thy foot against a stone. Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder: the young lion and the dragon shalt thou trample under feet. Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name. He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him. With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation. (Psalm 91:5-16)

While I am completely aware of the fact that COVID-19 may take my life and may take the lives of many whom I love, the truth of the matter is that if COVID-19 does not take my life, unless the Lord returns first, something will eventually take my life on this earth. Dear Readers, our strength is not in this life but rather in the life to come. I know that if I completely trust in God and obey His commands, one day my life will end here, and I will be escorted into a much better place! God is the real answer to COVID-19 as well as any other problem this world can bestow upon us. Serve God faithfully all of the days of your life and trust in Him completely, especially during times like these!

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

Come Home

By Thomas Baxley

Christians have the responsibility of choosing to be a lifelong follower of God. There are examples in the New Testament of people who at one time chose to be followers of Jesus, but at some point, they drifted from that path and chose different gods. Those are negative and seemingly hopeless choices. However, there is the possibility of coming home to God.

Throughout both testaments of the Bible, some people made poor choices, but there are also examples of people learning from their mistakes and coming back to God. For instance, the prodigal son willingly left his father’s house for the far country, but when that choice fell apart, he went home. Hoping to be made a servant, nevertheless, his father reinstated him as a son (Luke 15:22-24).

Likewise, after Peter denied Jesus three times, hope was not lost for Peter. He repented and played a major role in the early days of the church. Consider also that when Simon the Sorcerer wanted to buy the ability to confer the Holy Spirit, Peter and John told him he needed to repent (Acts 8:22).

Wherever you are and whatever you’ve done, as long as you live, you have the chance to come home to God. He is waiting. Come home.

Obtained at: www.gospelgazette.com

Be Afraid. Be Very Afraid

Denny Petrillo

I don’t remember from where that line came—“Be afraid. Be very afraid,” but I do remember this. It was said to someone who was blissfully unaware of the terrible danger that lurked ahead.

Solomon, in Proverbs 1:7, penned that we should “fear God.” This is a powerful word, and in the Greek Septuagint is the word phobos (which then becomes “phobia” in English). While some think the word means “respect,” it actually is a lot more than this. There are other words in Hebrew that convey the idea of respect.

Actually, the word means “fright, to be terrified, to be afraid.” In Exodus 20 when the Israelites were surrounding Mt. Sinai, God showed His awesome presence through thunder, lightning, earthquakes and a powerful voice. It scared the Israelites greatly, which is exactly what God wanted to happen. He said He did this on purpose—to teach them to fear so that they might obey.

Jesus equally taught that we should not fear man but most certainly should fear God (Matthew 10:28). He said that we should fear God because of the power He possesses over our lives and our souls. Literally, no one else has that power.

So, what does God hope to accomplish by getting us to fear Him? Why did Solomon say this is the “beginning” of knowledge? If we don’t fear the teacher, we’ll not fear His teachings. There is a great day of Judgment coming. It is a “terrifying thing to fall into the hands of the living God” (Hebrews 10:31). If we disregarded His teachings, because we did not fear the teacher, we will find ourselves facing an angry God (Romans 2:6).

The “beginning,” then, is to fear God. Recognize He is great and that you are not. Recognize that He has all knowledge and you don’t. Sit at his feet and learn from Him. That is clearly the best starting point for everyone.

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