

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved (Acts 2:16-21).

From Joel 2, Daniel 2, and Isaiah 2, we learn what Peter spoke of in Acts 2. All these things were written not only for those at the time but for us as well so that we might understand that God is deeply concerned about the salvation of humanity.

From the prophets, we can also learn about the nature of God. Without the writings of the prophets, there would be much about God that we would not be able to understand fully. For example, through the prophets, we come to understand God's love and mercy for a people who rebelled against Him over and over. Jesus said, "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, thou that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under her wings, and ye would not!" (Matthew 23:37).

From the prophets, we learn of His

patience; Joel wrote, "And rend your heart, and not your garments, And turn unto the LORD your God: For he is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness, And repenteth him of the evil" (Joel 2:13). We learn from the book of Jonah about the patience of God when dealing with Jonah and his unwillingness to obey God and preach a saving message to the people of Nineveh. So also Nahum wrote, "The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power, And will not at all acquit the wicked: The LORD hath his way in the whirlwind and in the storm, And the clouds are the dust of his feet" (Nahum 1:3). In Isaiah, the great prophet wrote these words, "For my name's sake will I defer mine anger, And for my praise will I refrain for thee, That I cut thee not off" Isaiah 48:9).

When we understand the nature of God from the prophets as He dealt with His chosen people and then make the proper application to His chosen people today, we can understand more fully why God sent His son to die on the cross of Calvary for the sins of all humanity. Those great prophets help us realize that we serve a God who loves us and is concerned about our spiritual destiny.

It is said that if you don't learn from history, you are bound to repeat it. This is true for secular history but also true of the history of God's people. By thoroughly studying the Old Testament prophets, we can learn the history of the people of God who sometimes pleased God, but more often than not, God was not pleased with them because of their rebellious ways. Let us learn not to rebel against a loving, graceful God.

ENDNOTES:

1. Jackson, Wayne, The Prophets, Christian Courier Publications, 2015, p. ii from the preface.

Bellevue Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

E-mail: jjscaggs@sbcglobal.net
2214 Bellevue Road, Dublin, GA. 31021

Feb. 11, 2024

**BELLEVUE ROAD
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
2214 Bellevue Road
Dublin, GA. 31021

www.dublincoc.com

Church Office
478-272-7515

EVANGELIST
Johnie Scaggs, Jr.
478-279-0754

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Classes.....10:00
Morning Worship11:00
Evening Worship..... 6:00
Wednesday Classes.....6:30

Free Bible Correspondence Course to all who ask. Please call us or write to us and we will help you get started.

Life is A Battle
FEAR is the ENEMY!

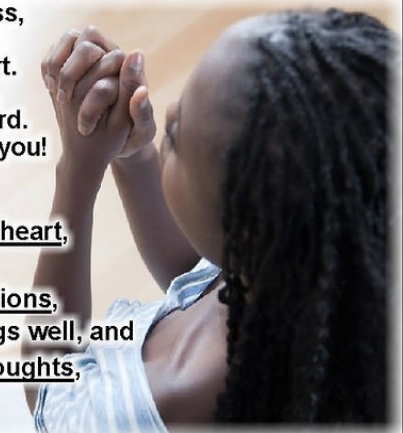
At the first sign of sickness, trouble, or turmoil, fear strikes at your heart. Fight back with your faith, by being calm in the Lord. Fear will have no hold on you!

Defend yourself ---
by being still within your heart, for Jesus is with you,
by being calm in your actions, for Jesus does all things well, and
by being quiet in your thoughts, for Jesus is in control.

The Lord has your life in His hands!
You need not be afraid.
You need only to trust Jesus.
For when you are calm in the Lord,

Fear Has No Hold On You!

Poem by Ken Pilcher, Jr. © All Rights Reserved/ www.faithclub.org



WHY STUDY THE PROPHETS?

Johnie Scaggs, Jr.

The prophets were God’s spokespersons for His chosen people. They would speak forth the word of God. Sometimes they spoke of future things to pass, while at other times, they may have spoken of items from the past. Then there were times when they spoke of things at the present time for their age. From all these efforts on the part of the prophets, we can learn great truths about the events of their lives and then make the proper application to our time. Wayne Jackson wrote: “The Bible student who neglects a study of the prophets does a great disservice to his own development of faith. More study needs to be given to these ancient scribes of divine revelation and their literary productions.” 1

God used many different means by which He revealed His will to the prophets for the children of Israel. At times He spoke with a voice, Exodus 24:4; Isaiah 38:4. On one occasion, He wrote on a wall, Daniel 5:5. He wrote the ten commandments Exodus 31:18. Miracles were often used when He would demonstrate His great power, Exodus 3:2; Daniel 6:22; Joshua 6:20, etc. He spoke by dreams and visions, Daniel 2:1; Genesis 37, 40; Hosea 12:10. But, the one central theme that runs through all the Old Testament, including the words of the prophets, is “the salvation of mankind through the blood of Jesus Christ, the son of God.”

Paul wrote, “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope” (Romans 15:4). Paul was writing about those Old Testament prophets of God. The Hebrews writer wrote, “GOD, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets” (Hebrews 1:1). The prophet’s purpose was to reveal the word of God to humanity under the Old Testament Law. Peter wrote, “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost” (2 Peter 1:21). Although they wrote for the time at hand, there is much good which we can gain from studying their lives and what they revealed about God and His will.

The one major topic of the prophets is “the coming of the Messiah.” Throughout their writing, we are introduced to the coming of the son of God to save humanity from their sins. The New Testament makes several references to the fulfillment of scriptures that were spoken by the prophets. For example, Jesus said, “...Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of man shall be accomplished” (Luke 8:31). He also said, “...These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me” (Luke 24:44). In Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost when Peter and the other apostles were preaching things concerning the kingdom and the death of Jesus they were accused by some as being “full of new wine” (Acts 2:13). To which Peter said,

FAMILY MATTERS

ONGOING HEALTH PROBLEMS

SICK:

Pat Joiner, Leslie Guevara, Letha Angst, Gracie Pope, Michael Baugh, Melba Wilkins, Brenda Rogers, Jackie Flowers, June Breazeale, Sharon Joiner’s mother, James Parlor, and Gail Brown, Jeff’s brother wife. Please pray for Tim Franks, friend of Jeff Brown’s and his cousin Jan Moses. Martha Stewart still needs our prayers. Keep the Jenkins family in your prayers. Coby Gay is in the hospital with pneumonia.

LOCAL NEWS

PANTRY ITEMS FOR THE WEEK:

When buying items for the Pantry, try to buy canned goods that have a top on them that can be opened without a can opener.

Vegetables of all kinds

MEN’S BUSINESS MEETING:

Next Sunday at 4:00 pm will be the men’s business meeting.

MONTHLY SINGING:

Our monthly singing is next Sunday night.

AREA-WIDE SINGING:

The area-wide singing will be at Jeffersonville today at 3:00 pm.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARY FOR THE MONTH OF Feb.

- Les & Vivian Foster2/18/1967
- Paul Foster2/10/1970
- Austin Hinson2/5/2011
- Sharon Joiner2/21/1950
- Roy Scaggs2/23/1988
- Wayne & Flora Shepherd2/16/1979

Jim Dearman and the TV program “Good News Today” airs on Macon TV every Sunday morning at 6:30 A.M. on WGXA-ABCTV16 both on Cox Cable and over the regular airwaves and may be picked up on an antenna. You can even download an app and see the programs any time you wish. See the website at <http://gnttv.org/> and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Good-News-Today-TV>.

SHUT-IN:

Sonny Teagle, Mary Harris
Crystal Pierce

Welcome to the Bellevue Road Church of Christ. If you are a visitor, you are our honored guest. Please sign the guest book in the foyer.