Prayer List

Thomy Brewster, Doris Reyes Fernandez, Donna Fowler, Marc Genua, Eleanor Green, Mike Grigg, Gordon Hatcher, Juan Mandujano, Larry McCollum, Betty Miller, Magaly Orozco, Early Phillips, Chris Ragle, Norma Ragle, Ronald Russell, Barry Simmons, Tim Smith, Dolores Snyder, Sheila Sollars, Jana Ward

• Mary Lynn McAleer (a friend of the Simmons) will be returning to M. D. Anderson in Houston for more treatments after cancer was found in her lymph nodes.

The Numbers

Attendance	Sunday, January Wednesday, Jan	uary 8 15
Offering Sunday, January 5 Those Serving		
0		
Prayer Before Sunday Classes Keith Keever		
Sunday Morning Worship		
Announcements & Prayer		Terry Hurst
Songs		Kevin Felker
Sermon		Brad Green
Lord's Supper & Contribution		Barry Simmons
Assistant		Levy Cox
Closing Prayer		David Snyder
Sunday Afternoon Worship		
First Prayer	•	Charles Hatcher
Songs		David Snyder
Sermon		Brad Green
Lord's Supper		Barry Simmons
Closing Pray	er	Tommy Sanders
Wednesday Night		
Songs	v c	Keith Keever
First Prayer		Kevin Felker
Devotional		Tommy Sanders
Closing Prayer		Terry Hurst

Knox County Church of Christ PO Box 22441 Knoxville, TN 37933



January 12, 2014

http://www.knoxcoc.com

Meeting Location:

130 Mabry Hood Road Suite 102 Knoxville, TN 37922 865.247.4620

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study......9:30 AM Worship.....10:30AM & 1:30 PM

Wednesday Bible Study......7:00 PM

From The Preacher's Pen "The Oracles of God"

[The following article is written by brother Paul Vaughn and appeared in the December 29, 2008 issue of the Beacon, a publication of the Bellview Church of Christ.]

The history of the Israelite people is one of peaks and valleys. They had blessings beyond measure from God and at times served Him faithfully, yet they often failed by revolting from God and worshipping idols. It was during a time of great wickedness that Jeremiah was called to deliver God's message to the inhabitants of Judah and Jerusalem. It was Jeremiah who foretold of the destruction of Jerusalem and the deportation of the Jews to Babylon (Jer. 16:10-13).

The message Jeremiah spoke to the Israelites was not his own, but the oracles of God. "Then the Lord put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the Lord said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth" (1:9). If the people rejected the words of Jeremiah, they were rejecting the Words of God. This is exactly what they did, so God deported them to Babylon for seventy years of captivity. "And this whole land shall be a desolation, *and* an astonishment; and these nations shall serve the king of Babylon seventy years" (25:11).

Speaking the utterances, oracles, of God did not put Jeremiah in favor with the people. There was a conspiracy against his life.

But I was like a lamb or an ox that is brought to the slaughter; and I knew not that they had devised devices against me, *saying*, Let us destroy the tree with the fruit thereof, and let us cut him off from the land of the living, that his name may be no more remembered (11:19). The men of Anathoth desired to kill Jeremiah so his name would be forgotten, but it is their names that have vanished in history.

Jeremiah was obligated, legally bound, to speak the words that God gave him. There is no less an obligation to us in speaking the "oracles of God." Peter said:

If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen (1 Pet. 4:11).

In matters of religion, one must speak the words God has given in the Scriptures. When man faithfully reveals the oracles God has given in the Book of Books, the Bible, God is glorified, honored, exalted, hallowed, and revered.

As in Jeremiah's time, when God's Word is proclaimed today, people often fail to respond. Resentment and hostility for the message can cause hatred of the messenger. Bitterness toward the message does not lessen the obligation of the messenger to faithfully communicate the oracles of God. This was the attitude of Jeremiah and must be the conviction of Christians. Even in the face of death, one is committed to trust in God and "teach no other doctrine" (1 Tim. 1:3).

During Isaiah's day the attitude was one of rebellion. The people did not desire truth, the oracles of God, so they sought out men who would speak lies and deceit. God said:

That this *is* a rebellious people, lying children, children *that* will not hear the law of the Lord: Which say to the seers, See

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not; and to the prophets, Prophesy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophesy deceits (Isa. 30:9-10).

Sadly, this is the norm for many today concerning God's Word. They seek men who speak pleasing things to the ear and entertain them with false religion, making believe that all is good. These are teachers with charisma who use the Bible as an ornament to beguile and destroy the souls of men, all because there is no love for the oracles of God.

Let everyone prepare their heart to receive and follow the utterances that God has given us in His Word, the Bible.

-- Raul Waughn

Our Location

We meet in Suite 102 of Four Seasons Village, at 130 Mabry Hood Road in Knoxville, TN. Coming from Kingston Pike, we are on the right just past Chili's. Come and visit with us!

