

THE BULLETIN—VOL 46, NUMBER 21, May 24, 2020

SERMONS THIS SUNDAY:

AM: Ethan Allen/Daryl Macon/Harvey Allen

PM: cancelled

A Warm Welcome awaits you at all our services. Come see!

WHERE TO START?

**“... cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter,
that the outside of them may be clean also” - Matthews 23:26**

**"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18
(but make sure it's the RIGHT thing!)**

West Columbia Church of Christ
1701 Augusta Road
West Columbia SC 29169
www.WestColumbiaChurchOfChrist.org

**JOIN US IN
PRACTICING
NEW TESTAMENT
CHRISTIANITY
TODAY,
COME SEE!**

SERVICES

Sunday 10 AM Bible Study
Sunday 11 AM , 6 PM Assembly
Wednesday 7 PM Bible Study
Office Phone (803) 794-5320
Nursery provided

INFORMAL BIBLE STUDY

Any Time On Request
Everyone Welcome!
Bring your friends & Bible questions

EVANGELIST

Other than the members
none at present time
Full time man wanted

BULLETIN EDITOR

Ed Kelleher
Office Phone (803) 796-8858
E-Mail: Ed@macro-inc.com



**WEST COLUMBIA
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

“every disciple that is perfect shall be as his master.” Luke 6:40b

THE CHURCH — THE KINGDOM OF GOD!

Perhaps the most commonly misunderstood aspect of the church is its identity as the kingdom of God. Many today are familiar with the word "church" as used in denominationalism, but have a poor conception of the church of the Lord, the church of the New Testament order.

For others, the church concerns premillennialism. They teach that the church is a temporary body, brought into existence only until such a time as God will establish the "kingdom" when He comes again. Our lesson now is to see the church as the eternal kingdom spoken of in the Old Testament, the message of the kingdom proclaimed in the Lord's ministry, and the church, the kingdom, in existence in the time of the apostles.

The Church In Prophecy, Daniel 2:44: In interpreting the dream of Nebuchadnezzar, God's servant, Daniel, referred to Nebuchadnezzar's own kingdom (vv. 37-38), a third kingdom having world-wide rule (v. 40), and a fourth kingdom strong as iron, breaking and crushing all in its path (v. 40).

In our text, Daniel made these points: (a) the God of heaven would set up a kingdom, (b) it would be in the days of these last-mentioned kings, and (c) it would be a permanent kingdom.

The Babylonian empire of Nebuchadnezzar was followed by the empires of Medo-Persia, Greece, and then Rome, the final one. All the events of the king's dream, including the establishment of the church, came to pass during the Roman rule. The church, the kingdom of God, was scattered throughout the world doing God's work, and has continued till this day.

The Gospel Of The Kingdom In Jesus' Ministry, Matthew 9:35-38: Here is the kingdom in the days of preparation. Both John and Jesus began their ministries with the preaching of, "...the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 3:2; 4:17). The Lord spoke continually of the coming kingdom, and prefaced many parables with the statement, "The kingdom of heaven is like unto..." Concerning the kingdom, in Mark 9:1, He stated that it would come with power, and in the lifetime of some of those hearers. Jesus was moved with compassion as He saw the scattered multitudes, noting that they were as sheep without a shepherd, that the laborers were too few in comparison with the harvest, and asking His disciples to pray for more workers.

— **Continued on page 3**

“PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER” - James 5:16

REMEMBER IN PRAYER: *Merrie Chrismus, Margaret Herring, Pat Joyner, Jan Kelleher, Gwen Pittman, Barbara and Melvin Reeder, Stephanie Rigney.*

Lord willing, the church doors will be open at 11 AM each Sunday for the worship assembly. This assembly is broadcast on Facebook and it is recorded for later viewing. Most members are participating remotely. All other meetings are canceled.

For help connecting through Facebook, please call **Connie Richbourg 413-8533**.

“And upon the first *day* of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them “ - Acts 20:7

The Bulletin is sent to an email list and posted each week on the church website. We're also **mailing** the bulletin each week to those without computer access. When you contact other members, see if they're getting the bulletin, and if not, let **Ed** know.

We want to share news on members in this bulletin — How they're doing and any needs they might have. Members are calling each other, which is a good thing we all should be doing! Some members don't have family they can count on for help.

Here are some who are **NOT** connected electronically and need to be checked on by phone regularly. Call them, see how they're doing and then let **Paula** know so it can get in this bulletin:

- **Trevia Parks** 673-8411, 129 Duchess Trail, Lexington 29073
- **Judy Cornelius** 606-6401, 2402 Breeze Rd, Cayce 29033
- **Pat Joyner** 807-9332, 5 Chicorana Rd, W Cola 29169
- **Margaret Herring** 926-1786, 1146 Pinecroft Dr, W Cola, 29169
- **Barbara Reeder** 834-4265, 216 Burlie Ct, Apt K, W Cola 29169

- **Ernie Richards** responded very well to treatment for COVID 19 and was expected to be out of the hospital and home by now.
- **Faye Parks** had shoulder surgery this morning for 2 tears. The surgery went well.

IMPORTANT! If you have news on members, even just to say you've contacted them and they're ok, please share it with **Paula Kennedy** by call or text to 260-2000 or by email to **KennedyPaulaM@Gmail.com**. She will summarize it on Thursdays to be included in the next bulletin.

This will greatly help maintain our fellowship during this troubled time!

**"My flesh and my heart faileth: but God is the strength of my heart,
and my portion forever." - Psalm 73:26**

"It is good to be zealous always in a good thing" -Galatians 4:18

THE CHURCH — THE KINGDOM OF GOD! —(cont. from page 1)

Entering into the villages and cities, the Lord was able to render them aid in healing their diseases and preaching the gospel of the kingdom. He was teaching the "good news" which would come to full realization in the establishment of the church, the kingdom (Matt. 16:18-19; Acts 2:47).

The Church, The Kingdom And The Colossians, Colossians 1:9-17: To these saints, members of the church, the body of Christ (Col. 1:18), Paul mentions his prayers for them, and his desire for their spiritual growth and development, and makes mention of their translation from the power of darkness, into the kingdom of Christ. Let us note our text in three parts:

1. Paul's prayer and desire for them (vv. 9-11). Being continually in prayer for them, he desired for their good that: (a) they would be filled with the knowledge of God's will, (b) they would have that knowledge with spiritual wisdom and understanding, (c) their daily lives would be pleasing unto the Lord, (d) they would be faithful in all good work, (e) they would continually increase in the knowledge of God, (f) they would be strengthened with all power, and (g) their lives would be characterized by patience, longsuffering and joy.

2. The Colossians were in the kingdom (vv. 12-13). Mentioning the thanksgiving due the Father, the apostle then refers to the work the Father has performed in them. The Father had provided that they, with all who will obey His will, should with all saints be partakers of His goodness, here called "...the inheritance...in light."

But men in sin are said, always, to be in darkness; void of light. They can only share in that goodness in light by leaving the darkness. This is what God has provided, and Paul mentions it in these words: "...the Father, who...hath delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the kingdom of the Son of his love." ASV.

3. Tribute to the Christ (vv. 14-17). We have redemption in Christ, the forgiveness of sins. Christ who is the image of God and the firstborn of all creation; Christ, the Creator of all things; Christ, the pre-existent One and the Sustainer of all things. We know, then, that Paul and the Colossians were in the kingdom, and that, nearly 2,000 years ago.

Conclusion: Daniel had prophesied that God's kingdom would be set up in the days of the Roman rulers, and also that this kingdom would be a permanent one, outlasting all earthly empires. Jesus, in His personal ministry, preached concerning the kingdom. He used the words "church" and "kingdom" interchangeably (Matt. 16:18-19). Those in the church were said to be in the kingdom (Col. 1:13). How privileged are we to be in the church, the kingdom of God!

“Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son:” - Colossians 1:13

- **W. N. Jackson**, Gospel preacher, Editor Christian Courier, Stockton, CA