

Vancleave Church of Christ

Prayer Requests and Announcements

19 February 2023

Sermon Title: Am I On the Lord's Side?

Scripture: Joshua 5:13, 14

Jerry Mobley: Returned home last week after medical procedure but still having much pain.

Luci Masseur: Luci was taken to the hospital last evening after running high fever for over 24 hours.

Kiundra Huddleson: Kiundra has been given a cancer free report! We are thankful to the Lord!

David Robinson: David has begun new treatments. David and Dianne would appreciate our prayers.

Heath Smith: Heath suffers from cancer that has spread into his bone and brain.

David Bosarge: David is having difficulties associated with severe pain due to arthritis.

Linda Kenney: Linda returned home last week from a somewhat extended stay at physical therapy.

Mrs. Mizell: She is having multiple tests run and is need of our prayers.

Sue Whatley: Sue has two damaged vertebrae and her Alzheimer's continues to increase.

Ongoing Prayers (Please see earlier Prayer Requests for details) Please be sure to update at:

vcocministry@vancleavemschurch.org

Mike Inabinette	Ingelise Myrick	Naomi Waitrous	Rick Bedwell
Murray Davidson	Susan Flurry	Frank Sentelle	Maxine Robinson
Pete Hankins	Frieda Wilson	Darlene Hannah	Paul Myrick
Ashley McGriff	Darrell McCormick	Charlotte Rashun	Zenie George
Gerardo Ranario	Dot Catchot	Sue Whatley	Andi Barrett
Virginia Dickerson	Jesse & Sharon Owens	Sandra Roberson	Gary Mitchell
Mike Kenney	Suzette Saucier		

A Word of Encouragement for the Week Ahead

Feeling a bit overwhelmed? Jesus is willing to shoulder that burden with you.

"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." (Matthew 11:29, NKJV)

ANNOUNCEMENTS / OTHER

- There is a thank you card written to our youth in the foyer from Mrs. Mizell.
- Alex Patton has returned from his recent patrol in the Atlantic and is now at home with his family, Heidi and Tavie. They are very thankful for our prayers.

"For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." (Psalms 84:11)

Have You Considered The Consequences Of Sin?

Written by Wayne Jackson of Stockton, CA, (now deceased) in a *Christian Courier* article with the above title, the author noted that “the phenomenon of ‘sin’ has wrought a terrible harvest upon this earth.” He then discussed the global, national, physical, mental, societal, spiritual and eternal consequence of sin. Concerning the latter, the late brother Jackson wrote the following and I thought it good to insert in this week’s Newsletter, especially in view of the local events taking place this week. Here is an excerpt:

If an estranged relationship with God in this life is a mental burden too horrible to contemplate, how much more anguishing is the reality of an eternal separation from the sacred Godhead, the holy angels, and the redeemed of the ages? Christ’s warnings, “depart from me” (Matthew 7:23; 25:41), carry with them a horrifying threat scarcely appreciated from our current vantage point. The fact is, eternal separation is hell!

Those who have suffered righteously will be rewarded “relief ... when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might...” (2 Thessalonians 1:7-9).

During this present era, called “time,” sandwiched between two “eternities,” even the wickedest are wonderfully blessed beyond their dulled sense of appreciation. They are privy to divinely provided sunshine and rain (Matthew 7:45), and “fruitful seasons” (Acts 14:17). God provides people everywhere with “life and breath” and a host of providential gifts (Acts 17:25). We live in bodies that have been “fearfully and wonderfully” made (Psalm 139:14), and in a universe that is “supported” and “held together” by divine power (Colossians 1:17 ASVfn; Hebrews 1:3).

It is impossible to fathom an environment without the beneficent presence of deity. Professor Edmond Hiebert noted:

“This banishment from the presence of ‘the Lord,’ the glorified Jesus, will be the very essence of eternal punishment. The result will be a ‘negative vacuum’ for them, depriving them of the Lord’s favor and all which gives meaning and blessedness to life” (1971, 292). The opposite side of that equation is—wrath, indignation, affliction, punishment, death, and destruction—though not annihilation (cf. Romans 1:18; 2:5-9; 6:21; Philippians 3:19; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; Revelation 14:10-11).

Sin is a cruel taskmaster. It robs one of much and provides him with nothing. Thomas DeWitt Talmage once wrote:

“No man becomes evil at once; but suggestion brings on indulgences; indulgence, delight; delight, consent; consent, endeavor; endeavor, practice; practice, custom; custom, excuse; excuse, defense; defense, obstinacy; obstinacy, boasting; boasting, a seared conscience and a reprobate mind” (Edwards, 1901, 527).

A Note from Your Preacher

Let us pray that we do not enter temptation this week, nor at anytime to come. DP