

Vancleave Church of Christ

Sermon Title: What Time Is It?

Scripture: Ecclesiastes 3:1, 11

Prayer Requests and Announcements

September 25, 2023

Frank Sentelle: He has upcoming back surgery scheduled for 25 September. Prayers are welcomed.

Maci Perry: She is recovering from a recent kidney infection. Further diagnosis to be determined.

Pamela Maxwell: Daughter of Weldon and Toni McAdams, back surgery planned in early October.

Denise Kilcrease: She had a recent biopsy and is now awaiting results. Continue to pray for her.

Elsie Ashcraft: She is facing many struggles and needs our earnest prayers especially at this time.

Terry Kiekhafer: He is in the hospital with heart issues. Please pray for Terry. He is Scott's brother.

Lesley Brown: She received an "all clear" on her annual checkup and is thankful for our prayers.

Lexi Gruich : She has been suffering with flu-like symptoms and is need of our prayers.

Ongoing Prayer Requests

Please be sure to give an update on these at: vcocministry@vancleavemschurch.org

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|
| Mary Stipler | Jeff Jellum | Edwina White | Susan Flurry |
| Becky Tarvin | Earl Kenney | Linda Kenney | Tommy Webb |
| Terry Thornton | Larry Ishee | Cheryl Solla | Timmy Barton |
| Bonnie Halcome | Grady Weston | Judy Stutts | Rita Newburn |
| Berkley Smith | Scott Mcollough | Pete Hankins | Rick Bedwell |
| Wayne Girod | Lanette Girod | Helen Siebel | |

A Word of Encouragement for the Week Ahead

"The main thing is to keep the main thing the main thing"

Stephen Covey, attributed

"The steadfast of mind You will keep in perfect peace, Because he trusts in You." (Isaiah 26:3)

Announcements / Other:

- *Eastern Shore Church of Christ* hosting their 8th Annual Ladies Day with Rebecca Horn of *University Church of Christ*, Montgomery, Alabama. Theme: "Believe, Belong, Be Changed" Saturday, September 30th 2023 (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM). See Flier for details.
- *Meridian Street Church of Christ*, gospel meeting begins today **September 24th-28th**, please see flier on Front Foyer Table for service times.
- *East Side Church of Christ*, gospel meeting begins today **September 24th-27th**, please see flier on Front Foyer Table for service times.
- We plan to host a **Gospel Meeting, October 15th – 17th**. Brother David Looney will speak. Please pray for this event, spread the word and, if possible be in attendance! This year's theme: "Security in The Storms of Life." See the flier on the foyer for more details!
- Please continue to pray for and support our mission works in Guyana, India, and Guam as well as the good works at Gulf Coast Bible Camp.
- **Food Pantry items needed: Instant Grits, Instant Oatmeal, Pancake Mix, Pancake Syrup.**

Our Local Mailing Address:

11101 Highway 57, Vancleave, MS 39565

Phone: 228-826-4949 / email: vcocministry@vancleavemschurch.org

Website URL: www.vancleavemschurch.org

The Bible's Measurements: 3 x 15 x 4 x 4

By Hugh Fulford, via House to House Heart to Heart, Vol. 28 No. 3

The Bible covers three major epochs (large time frames, sometimes referred to as dispensations) of God's dealings with mankind.

- A. The Patriarchal Age, in which the fathers (patriarchs) of families ruled (from Adam to Moses).
- B. The Jewish Age, in which the Law of Moses governed the Hebrew/Israelite/Jewish people (from Moses to the death of Christ).
- C. The Christian Age, in which the New Testament sets forth the will of God for all mankind (from the day of Pentecost [Acts 2] until the end of the world).

Thus, the Christian Age is spoken of as "these last days" (see Hebrews 1:1–2).

The Bible covers fifteen periods (smaller time frames) of God's dealings with mankind: from the Antediluvian (Pre-Flood) period (from the creation to the worldwide flood) all the way to the Early Church period (from the establishment of the church in Acts 2 to the close of the New Testament). In reading the Bible, it is important to know in which of the above epochs (dispensations) and time periods one is reading.

The Old Testament consists of four major sections:

- A. Law (5 books: Genesis–Deuteronomy)
- B. History (12 books: Joshua–Esther)
- C. Wisdom Literature/Poetry (5 books: Job–Song of Solomon)
- D. Prophecy (17 books: Isaiah–Malachi)

The New Testament consists of four major sections:

- A. Life of Christ (4 books: Matthew–John)
- B. History of the Early Church (1 book: Acts of the Apostles)
- C. Letters to Christians (21 books: Romans–Jude)
- D. Prophecy/The Ultimate Victory of God's People (1 book: Revelation)

The Bible is not a self-help book designed to make its readers healthy, wealthy, happy, or successful (though within its overarching purpose there are broad principles that contribute to these matters). It is not a book of "codes" and "prophecies" as to when the second coming of Christ will occur and the world will end. Neither is the Bible a disjointed book of disconnected and unrelated documents.

Rather, it is a book that gradually and systematically, from beginning to end, sets forth God's grand scheme of human redemption from the time of its conception in the mind of God before the foundation of the world (Titus 1:1–3; 2 Timothy 1:8–11; Romans 16:25–27), through its being made known by Christ, the gospel, the church, and the New Testament (Ephesians 3:1–12; 1 Corinthians 2:1–13), to its ultimate fruition as the redeemed of heaven receive "the end of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:9).