

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

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**Preachers: Kevin Rutherford
Mike Glenn**



“The churches of Christ salute you” Rom. 16:16

A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

JANUARY 30, 2022

NATURAL CALAMITY

It is very important for us to take a look at the world around us and think about it in terms of the will of God. As we do so, certain questions are going to come to mind regarding the nature of the creation in which we live, such as “why does God allow natural calamities to take place?” In discussing this question we want to make sure that we do not in any way trivialize natural calamities. The pain, sorrow, and suffering caused by natural calamities can at times be too intense to describe in human language. This is a very serious matter and we will approach it as such.

A strong wind destroyed the house in which Job’s children had gathered. Job did not understand why that happened. He thought God had caused this to happen. In the initial stages of Job’s suffering, he resigned himself to the reality of the loss and worshipped God. Job also suffered financial collapse, and painful physical illness in addition to his grief. All of this led him to a terrible state in which his misery caused him to long for death even while demanding God give him an answer for his suffering. When God spoke to Him, God asked a series of questions designed to make two main points to Job. Those are, God is all-knowing and God is all-powerful. God understands everything with perfect wisdom and knowledge. Also, He can do anything He chooses to do and will always act in perfect holiness and justice. God’s response to Job shows us we must be very careful to show proper reverence and respect for God’s holy, perfect, and sovereign will as we discuss questions such as this. God’s response to Job also shows us such questions are complex, and the answers may not be obviously evident, or fully revealed to us. However, there may be some clues God has given us to help us understand some of the answer.

Natural calamities occur because of the nature of this earth and the manner in which it functions. There are physical laws of nature created by God to govern this universe which allow the universe to function in the exact way that suits His perfectly holy and just purposes.

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That includes provision for soul-building, through the humbling and often devastating effects of natural calamities. Such can turn the thoughts of some people toward God even as it sometimes sharpens spiritual focus.

What we do know is that this world is different from the beautiful garden in which God first placed man. Man lost that garden because of his decision to rebel against God. Rebelling against the perfectly pure and holy nature of God and his inherently authoritative will has dramatic and severe consequences. For their sin, the first couple were removed from the garden and the earth changed. No longer would the fruits and vegetables come naturally through the soil and easily as they did in the garden. Life became much more difficult after sin was introduced into this world. Sin is the choice made and the action taken that is a transgression of the law of God. It is man exercising his free-will in a negative and destructive way.

The conditions of the world changed even more dramatically when the flood came upon the earth. Peter's language in 2 Peter 3 indicates a clear distinction between the way the world was before the flood as compared to the way it was after the flood. Both the descriptions of the flood in Genesis 6-9 and the geological evidence and implications indicate a tremendous change in the nature of the earth as a result of the flood. It is very likely the natural calamities that occur today are the effects of changes in the earth caused by the flood. So why did God send the flood? Because the population of the earth, excepting only Noah and his family, had completely turned away from God. They had exercised their God given free-will for evil. Their thoughts were continually wicked and the earth became filled with violence. God gave them one hundred and twenty years to change but they refused. They had reached a point of no return so God started again. But, in the process He changed the world. Perhaps, some of those changes in the world that now lead to natural calamities were designed by God to prevent the population of the earth from becoming as profoundly arrogant, thoroughly wicked, and intensely violent as it was in the days before the flood.

God has created man in His image. Though we may not fully understand all that is involved in that statement, the fact that man is a spirit being of free-moral agency may be a part of being created in the image of God. Man being created with the ability to choose how to live his life gives man the ability to do what is right, and the ability to engage in evil. **Daniel Lee**, the son of Kevin and Darla Lee, who were members here years ago before moving, is still in the hospital. He has Covid pneumonia and has blood coming from his lung. It's very serious and he may even have to have a lung transplant. Daniel as a wife and young daughter. Prayers are requested.

With the choice to do what is right there are positive consequences, and yet with the choice to do what is evil there are negative consequences. The dramatic changes in the earth caused by the flood led to the natural calamities the world is subjected to, and the flood is

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2022

Jan. 31 - Matt. 20:17-34
Feb. 1 - Matt. 21:1-22
Feb. 2 - Matt. 21:23-46



Feb. 3 - Matt. 22:1-22
Feb. 4 - Matt. 22:23-46
Feb. 5 - Matt. 23:1-22

OUR SICK

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Teresa Brown's mother, Carley Hauser, Nikki Santiago, Gene Ruark, David Queen, Jack Piper, Annie Burns and Lori Spencer, Lauren's friend - Sandy, Sandy Smith, Beverly Allred, Eddie Manor, Johnny Allen, D. J. Harrison, Ronnie Knost, Elwood Flinchum, Mary Ellen Dull, Kathy and Wayne Hutchins.

Todd tested positive for Covid today (1-28-22). So far the symptoms are just coughing. Danna tested negative. They will be quarantined for the next several days.

Mary Ellen Dull has not been feeling well for the several days. Please pray for her.

David Queen has come down with a bad cold and cough at this time. (He does not have COVID.) Please remember him in your prayers.

Bonnie Landreth Update: Bonnie Landreth has been very sick with pneumonia and confined to home and bed for the last three weeks. She is slowly recovering and is very weak. Also, she is scheduled for a total right shoulder replacement on Tues., Feb.15 at Clemmons Medical Center. She will be inpatient for 2 nights. Recovery will be very slow and painful. Please ask for prayers on her behalf. She is enduring a very difficult time right now. Thank you!

Darren McBrayer would like to ask for prayers from the church, I have been struggling with some things. I would like prayers for whole-hearted strength and focus on God. Thanks.

Russell Queen, David and Gale Queen's son has become ill with Rheumatoid Arthritis and Pulmonary Fibrosis recently. His address is 1401 Kendalwood Drive, Kernersville, NC 27284. Please keep him in your prayers.

Please keep our niece, **Dianna Walker,** in your prayers, she is in the hospital in serious condition. --Doris Cooper.

Prayers are requested for **Rose Whitt** (Andy's sister). She has the COVID Virus.

Shiela Landman, is in the Ladies Zoom class on Thursdays. She came down with COVID and is in the hospital. She lost her husband to COVID about 3 weeks ago. Prayers are requested.

Brian Weaver came home from the hospital This past Tues. with tear-filled eyes. I send my thanks and I know this family is incredibly grateful for all the cards and most especially your prayers. Thank you so much. - Kathleen Warner.

Help is needed in preparing meals for Jack Piper. If you can help, please get with Mindy Santiago.

Welcome

WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7:00 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY.

AREA EVENTS:

March 5 - *Ladies Day at Cary church of Christ on March 5th. Theme: "How to Train Your Dragon" More information in next week's bulletin.*

March 12 - *21st Annual Carolina Men's Fellowship at Gold Hill Rd. church of Christ in South Carolina. More information in next week's bulletin.*

OUR SICK... Continued

Prayers are requested for **Tim & Lisa Voyles.** They are Robbie Santiago's father and mother-in-law. Both are hospitalized with COVID in Illinois. His mother-in-law has been released from the hospital and his father-in-law is in the hospital but getting better.

Todd O'Neal, a friend of Allan and Jessica Knight was scheduled to have surgery for Diverticulitis on this past Friday. Please remember him in your prayers.

Daniel Lee, the son of Kevin and Darla Lee, who were members here years ago before moving, is still in the hospital. He has Covid pneumonia and has blood coming from his lung. It's very serious and he may even have to have a lung transplant. Daniel as a wife and young daughter. Prayers are requested.

Diane Barger has had some good news from the scans taken that do not show any signs of anything problematic. She will have surgery on Feb. 10th and Chemotherapy for 3 months. Continue to keep her in your prayers.

Gene Southern announced last Sunday that he would post cards with addresses he has of the many sick that would be happy to receive your cards.

Congratulations To:

Jake and Leandria Thomason who are expecting a baby in July.

SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS
JANUARY, 2022

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY: GENE SOUTHERN

COMMUNION FOR JANUARY: JOHNNY SPILLMAN

DEVOTIONS:

SCRIPTURE

Jan. 2 - Wayne Allen
Jan. 9 - Mark Minor
Jan. 16 - Andy Santiago
Jan. 23 - Rodney Brown
Jan. 30 - Johnny Spillman

SONG LEADER

Nathan Roy
Charley Belch
Steve Tesh
Gene Southern
Justin Little

PRAYER

Todd Hinson
Mark Roy
Kevin Rutherford
David Moore
Mike Glenn

OPENING PRAYERS FOR JANUARY:

SUNDAY A.M.

Jan. 2 - Allen Knight
Jan. 9 - Justin Little
Jan. 16 - D. C. Mock
Jan. 23 - Jason Allen
Jan. 30 - Al Lawson

SUNDAY P.M.

Jan. 2 - Wayne Allen
Jan. 9 - Brad Hoots
Jan. 16 - David Moore
Jan. 23 - Mark Minor
Jan. 30 - Mark Roy

WEDNESDAY

Jan. 5 - Adam Warner
Jan. 12 - Todd Hinson
Jan. 19 - Carl Cooper
Jan. 26 - Rodney Brown

SECURITY AND GREETING: MARK ROY AND RJ LANDRY

PLEASE OPEN BUILDING BY 10:30 A.M., 5:40 P.M., AND WEDNESDAY BY 6:40 P.M.

SONG LEADERS FOR JANUARY:

SUNDAY A.M.

Jan. 2 - Wayne Allen
Jan. 9 - Roger Allen
Jan. 16 - Gene Southern
Jan. 23 - Charley Belch

SUNDAY P.M.

Jan. 2 - Wayne Allen
Jan. 9 - Roger Allen
Jan. 16 - Gene Southern
Jan. 23 - Charley Belch

WEDNESDAY

Jan. 5 - Charley Belch
Jan. 12 - Clayton Workman
Jan. 19 - Wayne Allen
Jan. 26 - Roger Allen

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“GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE” at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8
SEARCH PROGRAM - Sunday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. on Cable 68

WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST
8999 LASATER ROAD
CLEMMONS, NC 27012

ELDERS

Tim Allen
Todd Hinson
Steve Tesh
Andy Santiago

DEACONS

Randy Warner
Keith Warner
Mark Minor
Jody Everett
Gene Southern
Shawn Thomason
Mark Roy
Adam Warner