

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

8999 Lasater Road
Clemmons, North Carolina 27012
Telephone 336-766-6078

www.warnerschapelchurchofChrist.org

**Preachers: Kevin V. Rutherford
Mike Glenn**



"The churches of Christ salute you" Rom. 16:16

A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

December 20, 2020

VANITY

King Solomon lived on this earth almost three thousand years ago. Yet, when one reads what Solomon wrote in the book of Ecclesiastes we can find some important lessons that are just as applicable today as they were in ancient times.

When Solomon turned away from God he became very depressed. It is hard to imagine the young man who was so dedicated to God at the beginning of his reign turning away from God as he did. But it was the pagan wives who led him astray. It is hard to imagine the one so youthful, energetic and strong as described in the Song of Solomon, becoming one who was so tired, discouraged, and depressed as described in the book of Ecclesiastes. But, Solomon lost his way, at least for a time.

Chapters one and two of Ecclesiastes introduce the situation for us. Solomon is known for his wisdom, wealth, wine, and women. He took whatever he wanted, and did whatever he saw fit to do. No man had the power to stop him. But he could find no lasting satisfaction and purpose in all of that. He said, "Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them. I did not withhold from my heart any pleasure, for my heart rejoiced in all my labor; and this was my reward from all my labor. Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done and on the labor in which I had toiled; and indeed it was all vanity and grasping for the wind. There was no profit under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 2:10-11). Temporary joy followed by a depressing recognition that it was all in vain, was all that Solomon gained from his wealth.

Solomon considered death. He thought about how death comes upon rich and poor, powerful and weak. As it happens to the fool, it happens to the wise. All die. Further he said what is now, will someday be forgotten so a wise man dies in the same way as a fool. Solomon said, "Therefore I hated life because what was done under the sun was distressing to me, for all is vanity and grasping for the wind (Ecclesiastes 2:17). Solomon's depression is further

indicated in statements such as, “I hated all my labor” (Ecc. 2:18), “I despaired of all the labor” (Ecc. 2:20), “all his days are sorrowful and his work is burdensome” (Ecc. 2:23), etc.

Toward the end of the book, Solomon begins to talk about “days of darkness” (Ecc. 11:8). That is the expression he uses for old age. Solomon encourages the young to enjoy their youth but he also encourages them to “Remember now your Creator in the days of your youth, before the difficult days come” (Ecc. 12:1). The difficult days being another reference to old age. Solomon then begins to describe old age in poetic fashion. He refers to difficulty seeing, losing teeth, the back bending, legs weakening, trouble hearing, and difficult sleeping. Soon the body goes back to earth and the spirit goes back to God.

All of this would be vanity apart from God. All of this would be depressing and discouraging apart from God. But, with God we know that He will help us through the difficult times we face in life. With God we know the best is yet to come in eternal life. With God we have confidence, peace, contentment, trust, steady joy, and firm hope. Solomon concludes his philosophical meanderings by cutting it short at the end and just telling us the conclusion of the whole matter. “Fear God and keep His commandments, for this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment including every secret thing, whether good or evil” (Ecc. 12:13-14). The beauty of it all is that if we will remember the Creator by fearing Him and keeping His commandments we will have happier lives and we will live with the hope of eternal life.

Solomon became greatly depressed when he turned away from God and began to seek satisfaction in the things of the world. So much of the world is vanity. But, there is purpose and meaning in serving God. There is no vanity in serving God. There is always hope in serving God. Hope for escape from that which truly is vain in life. Hope for rest from those things in life which hurt us and weary us. Hope for eternal life in a body that will never get old and will never die. With God there is purpose, meaning, hope, and contentment. Without God there is depression, discouragement and despair. Turn to God for purpose. Trust in God for hope. God is the answer.

~Kevin Rutherford

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2020

December 21 - Revelation 12
December 22 - Revelation 13
December 23 - Revelation 14
December 24 - Revelation 15



December 25 - Revelation 16
December 26 - Revelation 17
December 27 - Revelation 18

OUR SICK

Please Remember in Your Prayers

Please continue to keep the following in your prayers:

Elwood Flinchum, Abby Little, Kathy and Wayne Hutchins, Steve and Ernestine Martin, Don Jackson, Sandy Smith, Mike & Dora Lungren, Larry Hayes, Melvin Sapp, Caleb Massey, Terry Wood, Laurie Courtemanche, Edith Allen, Debbie & Gene Southern, Steve & Ernestine Martin, Martha Kee, and Gaye Ruark.

Debbie Southern has come down with pneumonia following her illness with the Covid-19 infection. Please continue in keeping her in your prayers.

Sandy Smith is now at home. Please continue to remember her with prayers and cards. Correction of her address: It is: 243 Olde Vineyard Ct., Winston-Salem, NC 27104.

Ernestine Martin was moved to ACCORDIUS Health at Clemmons, 3509 Clemmons Road recently for possible rehab for two weeks. A decision about what is next will need to be made for her situation following her two-week stay at Accordius.

It was announced last Lord's Day that **Lois Allen** would be undergoing surgery to remove a growth on her nose this past Monday. The tissue was diagnosed benign and she is at home doing well. Please keep her in your prayers.

D.J. Harrison was scheduled to have knee replacement surgery on December 16th. Unfortunately, she began running a fever on the 16th and the surgery was postponed to a later date. Please keep her in your prayers.

Also, the Harrison's daughter, **Tammy Jones**, has had her neck surgery delayed until sometime in January due to the large number of people that have Covid and the hospital is overcrowded at this time.

Please pray for **Caleb Massey** (2 year old son of Clayton's first cousin). He has now completed is fourth round of Chemo. He is currently at home but was having a tough day this past week dealing with the effects of the Chemo and the cancer.

Please pray for Grandmother, **Lorene Murphy**. She has been admitted to FMC with Covid-19. She is 91 years young and has COPD. Keeping you all in our prayers—thanks and love, Lorie and Thomas Rose.

Jesse Kollar's son, **Eden**, is having some health issues that doctors can't seem to pinpoint the cause. Please pray for answers and healing. If you haven't met Jesse, she is a member of the church who has been attending services in the Annex.



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.

REMINDER

January 7 - "Journey through the Bible" class begins for the Ladies. Instructor: Teresa Glenn.

January 7 - "Developing Leadership practices that work" class begins for the men or ladies. Instructor: Mike Glenn.

HOUSE TO HOUSE

HTH involves congregations throughout the United States and beyond in evangelism. Each week we will highlight a participating congregation and solicit prayers for their work. This will bless them and introduce churches for you to visit in your travels.

This Week's Focus:

Mullins church of Christ in South Carolina

This week join us in praying for success for the Mullins church of Christ.

Mullins church of Christ in Mullins, SC has been in the HTH program for three months. So far, they have mailed 1350 HTH into their community of 5190 homes.

Their preacher, Arthur Gill, began working with the congregation in April of 2019. The Mullins church of Christ has about 20 members. Brother Gill asks for prayers as the church tries to grow during this pandemic. He also asks for prayers for continued personal knowledge, wisdom, and spiritual development.

Please pray for them today. Pray that their HTH mailings will produce prospects for salvation and for them to have success in leading these members of their community to become members of the kingdom of heaven.

Thank you for taking time to pray for the kingdom (James 5:16).



SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

FOR DECEMBER, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY -

Sunday, December 6 & Wednesday, December 9 - Todd Hinson
Sunday, December 13 & Wednesday, December 16 - Tim Allen
Sunday, December 20 & Wednesday, December 23 - Gene Southern
Sunday, December 27 & Wednesday, December 30 - Gene Southern

CLOSING PRAYER TO BE CHOSEN BY YOU PRIOR TO SERVICE BEGINNING ALONG WITH MAKING SURE ALL MEN SCHEDULED ARE REMINDED OF THEIR ASSIGNMENTS.

COMMUNION FOR DECEMBER: - Mike Glenn

OPENING PRAYERS FOR DECEMBER:

SUNDAY - a.m.

December 6 - Allan Knight

December 13 - Wayne Allen

December 20 - Carl Cooper

December 27 - Nathan Roy

SUNDAY - p.m.

Dec. 6 - Bob Tesh

Dec. 13 - Mark Minor

Dec. 20 - Brad Hoots

Dec. 27 - Don Minor

WEDNESDAY

December 9 - David Queen

December 16 - D.C. Mock

December 23 - Clayton Workman

December 30 - Charley Belch

SONG LEADERS FOR DECEMBER:

SUNDAY - a.m.

December 6 - Wayne Allen

December 13 - Clayton Workman

December 20 - Roger Allen

December 27 - Charley Belch

SUNDAY - p.m.

Dec. 6 - Wayne Allen

Dec. 13 - Clayton Workman

Dec. 20 - Roger Allen

Dec. 27 - Charley Belch

WEDNESDAY

Dec. 9 - Clayton Workman

Dec. 16 - Wayne Allen

Dec. 23 - Charley Belch

Dec. 30 - Roger Allen

SECURITY AND USHERS FOR MAIN BUILDING SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY.

NOTE: BE AT BUILDING BY 10:05 ON SUNDAY AND 6:25 ON WEDNESDAY TO SET OUT TABLES, THERMOMETERS, MASKS AND HAND SANITIZER EARLY. PEOPLE START ARRIVING ABOUT THAT TIME.

MAIN BUILDING: Ed O'Shields and Richard Hamann

ANNEX BUILDING: Tony Minor

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE DURING THIS TIME OF NEED

IF YOU SHOULD BE UNABLE TO SERVE AS CALLED UPON, PLEASE FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE.

"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
Jason Allen
Jody Everett

Gene Southern
Shawn Thomason
Mark Roy
Adam Warner
Jacob Woodbury