

SUNDAY DECEMBER 18, 2016

the

Reminder

The weekly newsletter of the church of Christ in Bellaire, Texas

Where is the Promise of His Coming?

“. . . knowing this first: that scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lusts, and saying, ‘Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation’” (2 Peter 3:3,4).

FAITH MEANS BELIEVING THAT THE LORD IS TELLING THE TRUTH WHEN HE TALKS ABOUT THINGS THAT WE CANNOT VERIFY AT THE MOMENT. Faith is not “blind faith,” for it is based on solid evidence of the Lord’s proven trustworthiness, but nevertheless, faith is faith. It is trust. It is confidence. And one of the principal things the Lord asks us to have confidence in is His second coming.

Peter wrote that there would be “scoffers” who would deny that the Lord would come back or that the world would come to an end at His coming. To scoff is to “mock or treat with derision.” The scoffers Peter spoke of would ridicule the very idea of such things happening as the Lord promised. They would laugh at it.

And this scorning of the Lord’s promise would result from a “uniformitarian” view of history: the view that history always continues uniformly. They would say that if a thing hasn’t happened after all these years, then it’s not going to happen: “Where is the promise of His coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation.” But one-of-a-kind events do take place sometimes, and Peter points to one of the most dramatic: the flood in Noah’s day. Those who scoff at the Lord’s coming make the same mistake that Noah’s neighbors made when they laughed at the improbability of the flood.

But mockery is hard to bear, so Peter prepared his readers for it. By the time 2 Peter was written, enough time had elapsed since the Lord’s ascension that many, even among the faithful, would have been wondering what was happening. “He promised that He would come back. Where is He?” they might have said. Two thousand years later, we need to hear Peter’s reassurance even more than they. “Beloved, do not forget this one thing, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness” (2 Peter 3:8,9). To forget the faithfulness of God is exceedingly foolish.

“God is the God of promise. He keeps His word, even when that seems impossible; even when the circumstances seem to point to the opposite” (Colin Urquhart).

By: Gary Henry

Bellaire

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Volume XXXVI

Who Are We?

A group of God’s children, striving to maintain the organization, doctrine and worship as taught in the New Testament.

Schedule of Services

Sunday:
9:30 AM Worship
11:00 AM Bible Study

Wednesday:
7:30 PM Bible Study

“I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with garments of salvation” Isaiah 61:10

Number 51

SERVICE

Welcome – D. Broadwell
Hymn Director – M. Krueger
Opening Prayer– J. Tom
Morning Lesson – S. Garrett
Communion Talk – B. Haley
Announcements – M. Mann
Closing Prayer – D. Haley

EVANGELISTS

Daniel Broadwell
Steve Garrett

ELDERS

Brian Haley
Mark Mann
Mike Pharris

DEACONS

Scott Clanton
David Davila
Dan Kimbrough
Jesse Knapp
Alex Morolez
Gregory Williams

BIBLE CLASSES

Wisdom Literature

- Daniel Broadwell

Sermon on the Mount

- Harrison Banks
- Robert McDonald

Graded classes for children

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Email: danieljady@gmail.com

If it had not been the LORD who
was on our side—
 let Israel now say—
if it had not been the LORD who
was on our side
 when people rose up against
us,
then they would have swallowed
us up alive,
 when their anger was kindled
against us;
then the flood would have swept
us away,
 the torrent would have
gone over us;
then over us would have gone
 the raging waters.
Blessed be the LORD,
 who has not given us
 as prey to their teeth!
We have escaped like a bird
 from the snare of the fowlers;
the snare is broken,
 and we have escaped!
Our help is in the name of
the LORD,
 who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124

NEWS AND NOTES

Continue praying for those of
our number who have on-
going health issues. **Bob
Stark, Deb Haley, Janice
Kimbrough, Jan Cooper,
Curby Stech, Laura
Claburn, Don Hurd, Fran
Spencer, and Johnny
Martinez.**

Jan and Richard Cooper
will be leaving Monday to
travel to Illinois. They plan to
be back around mid-January.
Pray for them and their loved
ones.

David Davila is at home
recovering from heart surgery.
Continue to pray and
encourage David and Zonia.

Please pray for strength,
healing and perseverance as
Pat Butler continues to battle
cancer.

Terri and Lenny Sams are
planning to return to Alabama
Monday so she can be home.
Please pray for safe travels
and continue to pray for
healing and comfort.

Sermon Title Today:
Born to Die