

Morning Worship

January 24, 2016

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Tim Waters

Piano — Marcia Hart

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Chorus # 222	"I've Come to Tell"	Tim/People
Worship Prayer		Allan Lane
Hymn # 16	"O Worship the King"	Tim/People
Responsive Reading # 692		Allan/People
Hymn # 261	"Wonderful Words of Life"	Tim/People
Chorus # 256	"Father, I Adore You"	Tim/People
Offering Prayer		Fred Kerns
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Marcia Hart
Hymn # 345	"Now I Belong to Jesus"	Tim/People
Anthem	"Hymns of Invitation Medley"	Worship Choir
Children's Worship		(No Children's Worship)
Scripture Reading		Allan/People
Message		Allan Lane
Hymn # 281	"Speak to My Heart"	Tim/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Chorus of # 571	"Let Others See Jesus in You"	Tim/People

Knowing God Exists

Psalm 19:1-11

Today we begin a series centered on looking at the tough questions of life. Our first question, "How can I know God exists", is an appropriate place to start. Every other question is meaningless if there is no God. Let's look at four areas that reveal to us that God truly exists.

1) Our Conscience tells us God Exists.

An App on my phone contains the 1828 Webster's Dictionary. What is so unique to the 1828 version is that it has Scriptural references to illustrate exactly what each word means. **Conscience** is defined as: "Internal or self-knowledge, or judgment of right and wrong; or the faculty, power or principle within us, which decides on the lawfulness or unlawfulness of our own actions and affections, and instantly approves or condemns them. Conscience is called by some writers the moral sense." The reference here is to John 8, when the woman caught in adultery was brought to Jesus. All dropped their stones and left because they were convicted by their own *conscience*.

Our Conscience Is Neither Perfect Nor Infallible. Our Conscience can be wounded by others (1 Corinthians 8:12). Our conscience can be rendered ineffective (1 Timothy 4:2). Our Conscience can be defiled (Titus 1:15). Everybody desires a clean conscience (Hebrews 9:9). People are always attempting to clean their conscience (Hebrews 10:2).

Two Reasons to Seek a Clear Conscience

1. A clear conscience is a means to bring us closer to God (Hebrews 10:22).
2. Our conscience convicts us of our sinfulness (Romans 2:14-16).

Our conscience could never bring us to righteousness (Romans 3:10). The best our conscience can do is to make us to realize our guilt, distance from God, and judgment by God. Our conscience reveals God to us in a negative sense.

2) Nature tells us God Exists.

Our text in Psalm 19 reminds us that God reveals Himself through His world, through nature (verses 1-3). Heaven declares God both day and night. Words are not needed to declare that there is a God. Natural revelation reaches every place on earth (verses 4-5). It reaches every person. Natural revelation is dominating and powerful (verse 5). It cannot be ignored. You have to respond to it.

Nobody escapes the sun (Psalm 19:6). Even if you are blind and cannot see it, you still feel the heat. Although it has no voice (verse 3), people still experience it. The story is told of a Mayan king who worshipped the sun until he realized that the sun couldn't be god because it was sometimes hidden by the clouds. It made him wonder who was god.

The heavens declare the Glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. This is present tense for us. We can receive natural revelation fresh, daily. Nature reveals God to us in a general sense, bringing us to question, "Who is God?" Thus we turn to the one source we can trust to answer that question.

3) The Bible tells us God Exists.

From its opening, the Bible focuses on the person of God. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."

The Bible is Reliable (Psalm 119:160).

The Bible and Science Understand that the Bible is not a scientific book, yet is consistent with science. It talks about the number and uniqueness of stars (Genesis 22:17, 1 Corinthians 15:41). It talks about the suspension of the earth (Job 26:7). It talks of the shape of the Earth (Isaiah 40:22). It tells of the rotation of the Earth (Amos 5:8). It tells of the Water and Weather cycles (Job 36:27-29, Ecclesiastes 1:7, Job 26:8).

The Bible and Prophecy True Prophecy comes from God.

* **The Birth of Christ** (Micah 5:2, Luke 2: 1-7). All this was predicted 800 years before it occurred.

* **The Crucifixion of Jesus** (Psalm 22:14-18, Matthew 27:35). This was prophesied over 1,000 years before it happened. Crucifixion had not yet even been thought of as a means of punishment. It came from the Romans.

In the last 100 years (and especially in the last twenty) scientists continually discover proofs that confirm the Bible's accuracy. Since these proofs support the accuracy of the text we can understand scientifically, it makes sense to trust the Bible's text that we cannot yet understand. We have over 3,000 occurrences in the Old Testament alone ascribing God as the author and making reference to Him. The Bible reveals to us what we need to know about God.

4) Jesus Reveals God to us.

* **Jesus makes God knowable to us** (John 1:18).

* **Jesus makes God's work visible to us** (John 5:19-20).

* **Jesus provides the way to know God personally** (John 14:6).

Conclusion

Knowing that He does indeed exist, the question becomes what do we do with this information about God? Your conscience tells you He exists. Creation tells you He exists. The Bible tells you He exists. Jesus tells you He exists.

And since He exists, wouldn't it be nice to know what God expects of you? The same Bible that reveals His existence ALSO reveals his desire and plan for you. Will you trust Him today?

Know What God Expects!

Philosophical Arguments

In today's sermon we approach the question of the existence of God. There are four Existential Arguments that are commonly made. Here is a summary of each. We have no excuse not to believe in Him.

Cosmological Argument (Argument from Creation). The creation itself testifies that God exists. This world didn't come into existence by itself. The Law of Causation states that everything that begins to exist must have a cause. Nothing exists without a cause. The universe began to exist therefore the universe must have a cause. The cause of the universe must transcend the universe and have great power. The Bible tells us that Yahweh is the Great Uncaused Cause behind the universe (Gen.1:1). Not only did He create the universe and everything in it but He sustains it by the word of His power (Heb.1:3).

Teleological Argument (Argument from Design). The design of the universe is so complex that it could not have possibly happened by chance. Since all design implies there is a designer then the universe must have a supremely intelligent being who designed it. The complexity of God's creation is stunning. Psalm 19:1 says, "The heavens declare the glory of God and the firmament shows his handiwork." Think about this for a moment. In response to the complexity of creation Sir Fredrick Hoyle stated, "The universe arising from nothing is like a tornado sweeping through a junkyard and forming a 747."

The Axiological Argument (Moral Argument). Since all men are aware of an objective moral law, then there must be a supreme moral Law giver. This is evidenced by the fact the humans tend to hold the same things to be morally abhorrent (i.e., rape, murder, molestation, torture, etc). Every human being has a conscience that tells them what is morally right and wrong. The existence of the conscience proves there is a God.

The Argument from Human Experience. This argument states that the things we experience as human beings prove there is a God. Things like love, sacrifice and beauty. How do we have any concept of beauty if there is no God? Personally, I believe that this is one of the most powerful evidences. Naturalism teaches the survival of the fittest. So if Naturalism is true how do we account for love and sacrifice? How do we account for people who risk their lives to save others? Love and sacrifice exists because God exists. What about all of those whose lives have been changed? The apostle Paul was a radical terrorist. He killed other Christians. Yet his life was completely and totally changed. How do we explain that except for God? How do we explain that people are drug addicts, alcoholics, and the like, and then their lives are transformed? God must be real because He changes lives. How do we explain the existence and growth of the church if God doesn't exist? For 2,000 years the church has been attacked and assaulted and many have tried to destroy it, but it is alive and well and growing. How do you explain that if there is no God?

God Bless You!
Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, January 24, 2016

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough, Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Luncheon and—Business Meeting at Noon

No Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Monday, January 25

SJBA Listening Session...10:00 am Frederick Boulevard Baptist Church

Wednesday, January 27

Prayer Warriors..... 10:00 am

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study 6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, January 28

W Team.....6:30 pm

Sunday, January 31, 2016

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough, Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Monday, February 1

Food Kitchen.....5:30 pm

Tuesday, February 2

Ground Hog Day!

Wednesday, February 3

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, February 4

G Team.....6:30 pm

Up-Coming Events.....

January 25 — SJBA Listening Session 10 am at Frederick Blvd.

January 31 — January Bible Study— 2 Corinthians, at Noon

February 1 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm

February 2 — Groundhog Day

February 4-5 — Missouri State Evangelism/Discipleship Conf.

February 10 — Prayer Warriors 10 am

February 12 — Abraham Lincoln's Birthday

February 14 — Valentines Day

February 15 — Presidents Day

February 21 — Food Pantry Collection Day

February 22 — George Washington's Birthday

February 25 — Patee Park Food Pantry

February 28 — Diversicare 2:30 pm

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

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Sunday Nights

We will not have Sunday Evening Service here tonight. Watch the weekly schedule to know when we will meet during the month of January.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We will meet this Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Prayer matters!

Luncheon and—Business Meeting
Today, January 24, at Noon

Please plan to attend and fellowship with us as we share a meal and also conduct the business of the church.

Thank You

Thank you for being in our mom's life.

The Family of Lois Pace

SJBA Listening Sessions

Plan to attend a listening session for the Association. These are helpful in the search for a new Associational Missionary. We have one last opportunity.

Jan. 25 — Frederick Boulevard Baptist
10:00 am

Food Pantry

Today, January 24, is our collection day for Patee Park Food Pantry. You may donate monetarily or you may place your canned or boxed goods in the hallway basket any time.

Diversicare
Today, January 24, 2016
at 2:30 pm

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

Financial Statements are Ready

Linda Dotson, our recording secretary, has prepared the financial statements for 2015. If there are any questions let us know. We will be glad to help.

Food Kitchen

We will serve Monday, February 1, at 5:30 pm. Please feel free to join us as we show the love of Christ and minister to those in need.

For the Record-

Attendance: January 17, 2016

Sunday School.....	
Visitors.....	
Total.....	
Contacts Made.....	
Morning Worship.....	
Children's Worship	
Sunday Night	
Wednesday Night	16

(Activities were cancelled due to weather.)

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget..... \$ 2,040.52

Offering Received... \$

(Activities were cancelled due to weather.)

Offering Received by Mail:

January Counting Team:

John Lewis and Bill Schottel

January Van Driver:

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747

before 8 am if you need a ride.

January Member Birthdays:

01... Carol Helean

01... Marcia Hart

16... Sue Higgins

19... Juanita Haskins

22....Eric Thompson

24....Aubrey McCamy

25... Gary Higgins

27... Gary Yarbrough

28... Donna Dunn

29... Sharon Waters

January Anniversaries

Allan and Ellen Lane

Married January 2, 1983

Philip and Kelsey Lane

Married January 3, 2009

Prayer Requests ...

Alicia McKinnon—healing

Joyce Izer—Pray for healing

LoLeta Middleton—eye infection

Bill Schottel—healing

Maxine and George Ferbert

—Maxine's biopsy on lung

Betty Anslinger—upcoming surgery

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...