

Morning Worship

May 5, 2019

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ ---

Worship Leader — Al Shirley

Piano — Alva Lou Schottel

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

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship

Allan/People

Scripture Reading

Leader

Hymn # 361 *We Have Come into His House* Leader/People

Worship Prayer

Allan Lane

Hymn # 282

Living for Jesus

Leader/People

Offering Prayer

Fred Kerns

Tithes and Offerings

People

Offering Music

Alva Lou Schottel

Hymn # 280

Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross Leader/People

Hymn # 281

Speak to My Heart

Leader/People

Children's Worship

(Children are dismissed)

Message

Allan Lane

Hymn # 315

Room at the Cross

Leader/People

Prayer Concerns

Allan/People

Closing Hymn # 178

He Is Lord

Leader/People

Living the Christian Life

James 4:7-17

Having just celebrated Easter we are reminded that Jesus Christ laid down His life in order for us to have life. God calls us to consider how we live for Jesus. But what kind of life are you living?

1. A Life That Forgets God? Verse 13

In his description of living the Christian life, James uses as an illustration of the attitudes, aspirations and actions of certain merchants in his day.

A. What are Goals for my life?

James is speaking about Merchants making their plans and setting goals for the coming year. They are planners, ambitious and have specific objectives in their life. They know what they are doing; know where they are going, and what they want. If you are going to be serious in business you must plan.

B. Where is God in my life?

But life isn't just about planning ahead financially. It's about knowing where you are in your relationship with God. And where God is in your life.

Is James disapproving the setting of goals or planning in our life or the desire to make money? What he is disapproving is that God is nowhere in their plans. James is reminding us of the folly of leaving God out of our plans.

Last Wednesday night during our study on heaven, Dr. Danny Akin told about the first Russian Cosmonauts who went into space and returned. One of them said when he returned from his journey in outer space, "Some people say there is a God out there, but in my travels around earth all day long I looked around and I didn't see him. I saw no God, nor angels, I don't believe in God."

But Billy Graham said that if he'd stepped out of that capsule he'd have met God instantly and he would have known that there was a God. But, he was an intellectual atheist, he said, "I do not believe that there is a God."

If there is any characteristic of the every human being it is this one thing. Deep down all think in terms of, "What I am going to do." "What I am going to be." "What I am going to have." It is, "I, I, I," and "me, me, me".

It is not wrong to plan, but it is wrong to plan without God and considering His plans. James is saying that God is not to be left out of our today or tomorrow. God is not to be left out of whatever city we may go in to, the year ahead, our buying, selling, and getting gain.

2. A Life That Faces God? Verse 14

While we often think of today and tomorrow, James thinks even further ahead. He thinks of the life that is to come. He evaluates life in the light of eternity and what follows once this life is over.

A. Life is not Predictable .

James is saying in reality, we don't know what tomorrow holds or what can happen in the future.

In 1899, Charles H. Duell, Commissioner in the U.S. Office of Patents said, "Everything that can be invented has been invented." Since then, airplanes, automobiles, manned space travel, plastics, computers, cell phones, and literally millions of other devices and products that we use and take for granted every day.

In 1988, a book was distributed to nearly every pastor in America. "88 Reasons Why Christ Will Return In 1988." Edgar Whisnant, predicted that the rapture would take place on September 11, 12, or 13th of 1988.

Many people believed the prediction. Trinity Broadcasting Network even went so far as to change their regular schedule and broadcasted selected videotapes telling non-believers what they should do if their loved ones suddenly disappeared. Over 3,000,000 million copies of that book were distributed, millions more believed it, yet it never came to pass.

There is nothing wrong with planning and preparing for tomorrow yet we never know what curve life may throw us, or what things will happen, or how things may turn out. A person can be sailing calm seas today, but stormy seas tomorrow. There could be not a cloud in the sky today, but tomorrow skies could be dark. Tomorrow is not predictable. Life is not predictable.

Some time ago, a Senate Sub-committee made the following predictions: Men will be working 22 hour weeks, 27 weeks per year and will retire by age 38. This was predicted in 1967, for the future. The year all this was to happen? 1985!

B. Life is not Permanent .

James not only speaks of the uncertainty of life, but also of its brevity. The word "vapor" is description of a mist. It is translated "smoke" in Acts 2:19. Like steam coming out of a teakettle on the stove, life at its longest is very brief.

Tony Campolo, that remarkable Christian communicator, told about the Baptist Church of which he was the associate pastor in Philadelphia. During one of their annual student services, after a few students had spoken, the Pastor began his sermon in a shocking manner. He said, "Young people, you may not think you are going to die, but you are. One of these days, they'll take you to the cemetery, drop you in a hole, throw some dirt on your face, and go back to the church and eat potato salad."

We do not know what tomorrow holds and furthermore, we don't even know if we will be here tomorrow. That's why Solomon said what he did in Proverbs 27:1. I plan on being around here tomorrow. I am sure that each of you has no plans to check out of life today. Yet, we have no guarantee that we have a tomorrow.

Peter Marshall, the congressional chaplain, told the Arabic fable of a merchant in Baghdad that sent his servant to the market. When he returned it was obvious that he was deeply disturbed. He said to his master, "Down in the marketplace I was jostled by someone in the crowd. When I turned I saw that it was Death that jostled me. He looked at me and made a threatening gesture. Please lend me a horse that I might hasten to Samarra and hide there so Death cannot find me." The merchant loaned him a horse and the servant galloped away as fast as he could. Later the merchant went to the marketplace and saw Death standing there in the crowd. He walked over to him and said, "Why did you frighten my servant this morning? Why did you make a threatening gesture?" Death replied, "That was not a threatening gesture. I was only startled and surprised. I was astonished to see him in Baghdad for I have an appointment with him tonight in Samarra."

Death has an appointment with each of us and we know not when. We do not know what tomorrow holds and we don't even know if we have a tomorrow. It is folly to leave God out of our life and one day we will have to face God. There is more to life than this life. There is the life to come and in that life we have an appointment to meet God.

3. A Life That Follows God? Verses 15-17

A. According to God's will.

A life that follows God is one that is lived According to God's Will. What tomorrow holds is all up to God. He is the one in charge of our tomorrows.

B. Accepting of God's will.

A life that follows God is one that is lived Acceptant of God's Will. Our attitude ought to be, "If the Lord will." Describing these merchants James describes them as boasters of what they were going to do.

Conclusion:

There's an intriguing encounter that took place in the main train station of inner Austria, back in the early 1930's. A well-dressed businessman got off the train and was walking through the lobby, when an alcoholic beggar stopped him and asked for just enough money for one more meal. The businessman said he usually did not respond to such requests, but he would this time on one condition.

He said, "Tell me, how has an intelligent-looking person, as you appear to be, allowed yourself to get into these straights?"

With that the beggar turned red in the face with anger and responded, "Listen, if you had happen to you what has happened to me, you wouldn't be asking that question. You would be exactly where I am.... I was one of several children. My mother died when I was young. My father was an abusive and very cruel man. The state finally took my brothers and my sisters and me away from him and put us in an orphanage. During World War I a battle raged around the orphanage, the building caught fire, and I had to flee into the night. I have never seen any of my family since. I don't know whether they are alive or they are dead. It's been that way all my life. Every time I get on my feet, something knocks me down. If you had happen to you what's happened to me, you would be standing in these very shoes."

The businessman said, "It's interesting that you should say that, because as you tell your story, it does, in fact, parallel my own." Shocked that their stories were so closely related, they began to talk more fully and discovered that they were in fact brothers, separated years before and now, mysteriously, their lives had intersected.

"Why is it that some humans respond so differently to the same circumstances?" Two individuals who had the same genetic background, who had much the same things happen to them, and yet, while one had allowed those circumstances to crush him to the ground, the other had somehow used events that went against him as energy to move forward.

George Buttrick gets at the same question with a different metaphor: "Why is it, do you suppose, that the same sun melts the wax and hardens the clay?" Two people look on exactly the same landscape; one pair of eyes gravitates to the lowest and grimmest; the other pair, for some reason, reaches up to the highest and the best. Why is it that we respond so differently to the same set of circumstances?

Respond to Christ's Life!

What's God Up to in Your Life?

It took 200 years to build and 700 years later work continues to be done to correct the errors in construction. The building will probably still topple despite efforts to save it. Though it is world famous, it has gained attention not for its beauty but for its flawed construction. Today it is off limits to people, and is considered a safety hazard. Of course, you probably know I'm speaking of the Leaning Tower of Pisa. The tower leans because of an error in the foundation.

When we think about a building we most often assess its value by its shape, size, beauty, and even usefulness. Rarely do we think first about a building's foundation or think about how important it is to its value. Yet, it really is the most important part of the building. The structural soundness and thus the value of a building are determined by its foundation.

The same could be said about the church. It is vitally important that we revisit often the foundational purposes of the church. I believe that the church can never function properly until we understand, and undertake its purposes as designed by the Master Builder, the Chief Cornerstone, Who is the Lord Jesus Christ.

Why does the church exist? Why are we called by God to be a part of the Church of Jesus Christ, and more specifically, this particular church? One reason can be expressed in the word "glorify." The church (Calvary Baptist Church) exists to "glorify." To "glorify" means to "render honor" or to "magnify." The purpose of the church is to render, that is, give glory to God. How are we to that?

God is glorified when **The Savior Is Magnified**. In one familiar statement John the Baptist sums up his ministry and I believe gives us a great definition of glorifying God: "He must

increase. I must decrease." To glorify God is to enlarge, to exalt, and to magnify. The church and Christians are to glorify God. We glorify God when we magnify His Son and our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ.

God is glorified when **The Self Is Minimized**. The church is not about me and not about you. It's about Him. It's not about looking at me but looking at Jesus. It's not about following me but following Jesus. I'm afraid sometimes so much of what is done at many churches is for self-edification and self-gratification. If that's the case, then it can't be about "glorification." The church is really not even about the church. It's about Christ.

God is glorified when there is **Singleness of Mind**. Read what Roman 15:5-6 tells us. God cannot be honored or glorified where there is division, disunity and disarray. We must listen to the words of the precious, powerful prayer of our Lord Jesus before His death in John 17:20-23. His desire was that we might be one in order that the world will know that Jesus was sent by the Father. I don't know of many things that are more dishonoring to God and more blasphemous of His name and that does more harm to the Kingdom cause than for a church to be at odds. God can't be glorified in those situations. God is glorified when we behave as people that have been purchased by the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Let's glorify God by loving each other, by respecting each other, and by cooperating with each other to do His work.

God is glorified when the **Scripture Is Modeled**. We were reminded last Sunday at the SJBA Semi-Annual meeting of Acts 2:42, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread and in prayers." The early church where God was moving, and working was a church that modeled the Scripture. They met continually studying it, teaching it, and being taught it, and then they modeled the Scripture. The church in which God is glorified is not only a Bible preaching church but it is a Bible living church (1 Peter 2:12).

God is glorified when the **Spirit Is Minded**. Jesus spoke of the coming Holy Spirit in John 16:14. The work of the Holy Spirit is to witness of Christ, to glorify Him. If we are mindful of the Holy Spirit, then we will glorify Christ (Ephesians 5:18-19). We are commanded to be filled with the Spirit, to be beneath His control. That results in glorifying Christ.

God is glorified when **Saints Are Multiplied**. When people come to know the Lord, God is glorified. That is the fulfilment of the great commission, that we go, and preach the word, baptizing, and making disciples.

We as a church exist to glorify God. We do this by pointing people to Christ, by magnifying Him, by preaching the word, by obeying the word, by being filled with His Spirit. Is your life about self or the Savior? Is it about gratification or glorification?

A few years ago a preacher was impressed by God to design a business card that had a picture of hell on the front with the words "GET OUT OF HELL FREE." On the back he placed Salvation Scriptures. One afternoon while driving to work the Lord spoke to him, instructing him to get off the highway at his regular exit but instead to turn left and not right (which would have taken him to work.) He was obedient to God, turned left, and came to a convenience store where he felt God prompting him to go inside. When he got inside, there was a young man who was very intoxicated. The Lord told him to give the man one of the cards he had made, so he obeyed. As soon as the man looked at the card, it had a sobering effect on him. Tears filled his eyes and he said, "I used to go to church and served the LORD, but I quit going." After they visited a few moments, the preacher assessed the man was in no shape to drive and offered to take him home. When they arrived at the man's driveway they had prayer, and the man asked the Lord for forgiveness. Soon he was back in church and following the Lord again.

If we want to be a church where God is glorified, we must be willing to do whatever God asks, even if it's something out of the ordinary. What is God up to in your life? Mark 10:27 tells us "Jesus looked at them and said, 'There are some things that people cannot do, but God can do anything.'"

God Bless You!
Bro. Allan ☺

Opportunities For Service

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

Sunday, May 5, 2019

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Fred Kerns, Don Sharp, Dillon Burgess, Ken Nice,

Alternate: LeRoy Bush

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Monday, May 6

Mission Trip Meeting 7:00pm at the Mission Center

Wednesday, May 8

Prayer Warriors10:00 am

Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Sunday, May 12, 2019

Happy Mother's Day!

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: LeRoy Bush, Gary Yarbrough, Ken Nice, Don Sharp

Alternate: Joe Coats

No Evening Worship

Wednesday, May 15

Prayer/Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Up-Coming Events

May 6 — Mission Trip Meeting 7:00 pm Mission Center

May 12 — Mother's Day

June 3-7 — Youth Camp

June 11-16—SJBA Mission Trip to Yankton, South Dakota

First meeting—May 6, 7 pm @ Mission Center

June 21 & 22 — Intro to Camping for Children grades 1-3

July 15-19 — Children's Camp

GROW Team

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

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Sunday Night

We will be having Sunday evening service tonight. Please plan to attend for a time of fellowship and inspiration.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We will begin a new study entitled “Unseen, But Certain” by Dr. Danny Akin. We’ve covered topics such as Demons, and Hell, and now we’ll focus on Heaven. Our prayer time is also important. Please come as we pray for the direction of our church.

Thanks for supporting the Food Kitchen Ministry

We have done this ministry for several years and it is still effective. But we could use more servants! Is God calling you to serve in this area? Pray about it!

Youth Camp...

is June 3-7. We have forms available in the office. There are openings for guys and gals if anyone is interested. Also, coaches are needed. Please pray about how you can serve.

Children’s Camp ...

...forms will be
available soon.

**Children’s Camp is
July 15-19.**

Campers must have completed the 4th—6th grades.

Associational Youth and Adult Mission Trip

June 11-16, 2019

First meeting—

May 6, 7 pm

Mother’s Day

Next Sunday,

May 12, 2019

For the Record-

Attendance: April 28, 2019

Sunday School.....23
Visitors..... 3
Total.....26
Contacts Made..... 7
Morning Worship..... 42
Sunday Night.....N/A
Children's Worship6
Wednesday Night7

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget \$ 2,286.39
Offering Received ... \$ 1,522.00
Long Family – April.. \$ 50.00
Annie Armstrong \$ 1,725.00

Offering Received by Mail:**May Counting Team:**

Bill Schottel and John Lewis

May Van Driver:

Joe Coats and/or
Rodney Swymeler
Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a
ride.

May Member Birthdays:

03... Vicki Long
11... Hannah Schottel
17... Arlette Duty
20... Pam Eldredge
20... Erin Molloy
20... Mike Green

May Anniversaries

Russ and Nancy McCamy
May 22, 1982

Prayer Requests ...

Mike Green—Knee Surgery recovery
Lillie Williams—strength & recovery
Dottie Wildberger—recovery
Jim Winans—at home
Gary Hurst—cancer
Alice Coats—elbow
Nellie Reynolds

Susie Long—Alice Coat’s Sister
Swymeller’s Grandsons
Jack and Flo Conard
Shirley Wilson—strength and recovery
Sandy and Stanley Wilson
Ruth Anne Bush—healing
Sharri Duty—Jerry Garcia
Linda Huff—PTL! Cancer free!
Marcia and Don Hart—blessings
Arlette Duty—strength
Peggy & Gary Fewins—Peggy’s health
Donna and Bill Dunn—health
Karissa and Matt Long and family
Stephanie & Jason Terpack
Rosella Davis—Flo Conard’s sister
Mary Sharp’s brother-in-law Jim
Bill Clinton—Don and Mae’s son
Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo’s daughter
Zella Davis —Doris Richardson’s sister
Doris Richardson June Fritchle
The Waters Family Elmer Mayse
Betty Campbell Kevin Duty
Ann Riddle Tim Izer
Keon McKahan
Jozy Winans Kenny Duty
Pat Means Buddy Means
Bill & Juanita Debbie Sands
Pat Puckett Curtis Conard
Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane
Carolyn Houts Seth Long
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service Women and Men
Terrorism in our world

Today’s Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
