

PRAYERS

Butch and Chris – Chris' surgery is scheduled for March 20th. She also has been suffering from a kidney stone.

Wilma (Anita's Sister) – Is back home after rehab.

Zev Napier (Carmen's grandson) – Suffering from Mono but is much better.

Mark (Linda's family) – Making good progress in rehab.

Chance – She will have dialysis three times a week. She is back in Aberdeen.

Linda McBrayer – Fell and hit her head on Wednesday. She was hospitalized but is out now and doing better.

Congregation News

Pot Luck is next Sunday. Bring a dish to share and enjoy the fellowship. Plan to stay for the afternoon singing at 1PM.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: The man who is afraid of criticism will end up doing nothing.

Those Privileged to Serve

Sunday Morning Service:

3/11/18

3/18/18

Bible Class	Paul Darling	Tom Bright
Announcements	Tom Bright	Paul Darling
Song Leader	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Opening Prayer	Paul Darling	Paul Darling
Lord's Supper	Colby Crawford	Tom Bright
Scripture Reading	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford
Sermon	Tom Bright	Colby Crawford

Bible Classes

Sunday Morning

Wednesday Evening

Adult	Paul Darling	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March 12	Paul Darling
March 15	Mason McBrayer

Building Cleanup

McBrayer

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Bulletin Submissions

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by

Friday night to: tlbj@sbcglobal.net

Aberdeen church of Christ

March 11, 2018

"BETTER THINGS" IN THE BOOK OF HEBREWS

The comparative adjective "better" is found nineteen times in the New Testament. It is interesting that thirteen of those times it is found in the book of **Hebrews**. The inspired writer's purpose in the book of **Hebrews** is to show that while the promises and covenants of God mediated through Moses were good, they were but a shadow compared to the reality of Christ and His better way. Here are some of the "better things" in the book of **Hebrews**:

1. Christ is so much better than the angels **(1:4)**.
2. The things that belong to our salvation are better **(6:9)**.
3. The Christian hope is better **(7:19)**.
4. The new covenant (or testament) is better **(7:22; 8:6)**.
5. The promises of Christ are better **(8:6)**.
6. The sacrifice of Christ is better **(9:23)**.
7. Our heavenly possession is better **(10:34)**.
8. The country for which we yearn is better **(10:34)**.
9. The life of the resurrection is better **(11:35)**.
10. What God has provided for us is better **(11:40)**.
11. The blood of Jesus is better **(12:24)**.

The book of **Hebrews** is certainly a powerful "word of exhortation" **(13:22)**, that undoubtedly brought about "diligence unto the fullness of hope even to the end" **(6:11)** in its readers who "hold fast the confession of our hope that it waver not" **(10:23)**. Those disciples were encouraged not to be among "them that shrink back unto perdition; but of them that have faith unto the saving of the soul" **(10:39)**.

Aren't you glad for all these better things that are found in the book of **Hebrews**? What God provided for those early Christians, He has also provided for us.

It's Just a little Thing – Can't we agree to disagree?

I have heard such a phrase relating to many things, one time it was used to refer to the "little thing" of creation vs evolution. Sadly, many in the world have taken the so-called science of evolution as fact. Some (even in the church) seek to modify it and speak of God being the creator, but insist He used the process of evolution ("theistic evolution" is the phrase they use). But is this after all just a "little thing"?

In Genesis 1:1-31 we find the creation account from God. It is clear that the creation was not an evolutionary process, but was done in 6 literal days. Notice that each day of creation had a morning and evening (vs 5, 8, 13, 19, 23, 31) and each day is noted by a numeral (first day, etc), which always in the Hebrew language denotes a 24 hour day. With that in mind, consider a couple of questions:

(1) If God wanted to communicate that He was speaking with days as we know them, what else could He have done to emphasize it? It is clear that God claims to have created all things in 6 literal 24 hour days. The same is abundantly clear in Exodus 20:11 where the creation days are used as a pattern for the six days of labor and one day of rest (the Sabbath day).

(2) Now, if we are to trust in the promises of God, how can we do so if He DID lie about creation? For example Paul writes to assure Titus of the "hope of eternal life" we have and bases this on the fact that "God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began" (1:2)!

Consider another passage in the Psalms that explains the importance of creation by God, and also explains more about the horrors of the world we live in and how it relates to this "little thing" of creation being rejected. *By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast. The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect. The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD; and the people whom he hath chosen for his own inheritance.* (Psalm 33:6-12)

The context of this Psalm is that of praise as one considers the power, might and promises of God. But look again at what is attributed to God in these few verses – "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made ... he spake,

, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast." Remember Genesis 1? In the creation account we read nine times in relation to His creative powers that "He said." But some ask, "So what... what does it matter?" Look again at Psalm 33. In the midst of proclaiming that God created all things by His power, the Psalmist makes other important proclamations:

- Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him (8)
- The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of His heart to all generations (11)

Is it any wonder why society – why individuals – act the way they do when they reject the mighty power of the God of creation? Is it any wonder that men's hearts are filled with anything and everything other than the thoughts of God?! After all, He is not really "the Creator", He was just kind of over a natural scientific process set in motion by natural forces. These are the real power – evolution is the real "god" in all of this. In Romans 1:20-24 we are told further the consequences of this rejection of God as the Creator.

...the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: Because that, when they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things. Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness...

Let's not allow the world with its so-called science (and that is what it is!), lead us to deny the great power of God and bring Him down to our level (and thus allow us to enter the uncleanness of the world!). Let's realize that "He spake and it was done" and thus stand in awe of Him!

Welcome to our Assembly. . .

Whether you are a first time visitor or a long time member of this congregation, we are happy to have you with us this morning. For those visiting, please make yourself comfortable. A good deal of information about this church and its activities can be found on this sheet. We encourage and invite anyone interested to participate in the activities offered throughout the week. If you have any questions about the facilities, our worship service, or want more information about the church, feel free to ask anyone present. Someone will be glad to help you!