

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

April 20, 2019 • 2:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:51

Welcome to our guests

Members of the Church of God Big Sandy welcome all guests as we worship on the first day of Unleavened Bread. Here is the schedule for today.

- 2:00 p.m. Bible study by Dave Havir
Teen class by Martha McIver
- 3:00 Church service with Jim Johns speaking
- 4:00 Potluck meal

Order of service

Song leader	Daniel Botha
Pianist	Dixon Cartwright
Offertory	Piano solo
Sermon	Jim Johns

Quick takes

1. Thank you—Thank you to Ron and Linda Avey and to everyone else who helped at the service Thursday night commemorating the suffering and death of our Lord—picturing the night He was betrayed.
2. Remembering Christ's death yesterday—Dave Havir hopes that many of you were able to remember Christ's death yesterday at 3:00 p.m. (based upon noting the night of His betrayal on Thursday night).
3. Remember Monday night—When you pictured Christ dying yesterday at 3:00 p.m., three days and three nights from Friday evening would be Monday (April 22) evening. Dave Havir hopes that you will individually remember events about Christ's resurrection.
4. Welcome to our guest speaker today—The congregation welcomes Jim and Sue Johns from Harrisburg, Pa. Dr. Johns is scheduled to give the sermon in the church service.

5. Seventh day of Unleavened Bread—The congregation will be observing the seventh day of Unleavened Bread (combined with the Church of God International) with the following schedule.
 - Friday, April 26
 - 1:00—Bible study—Dave Havir
 - 2:00—Church service—Larry Watkins
 - 3:00—Potluck meal
6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Free to Be a Servant" by Lenny Cacchio.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "Reaction to Grace" by Dave Havir.
8. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 11 pages.

New prayer requests

On Wednesday, **Elaine Holloway** (who continues to rehab at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater) went to the hospital to have some kidney stones removed. She returned home the same day. She is in Room 109.

Mary Beth Philp of the local United congregation fell and fractured her left elbow.

Helen Patterson of the local community died on April 13. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Angelica Marie Hillegas (age 31) of the local community died on April 14. Please remember her fiancé **James** and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Saved by grace

Before the commemoration of the suffering and death of Christ, we focused upon God's grace.

- Ephesians 2:8-9—saved by grace
- Titus 3:4-7—justified by His grace

Reaction to grace

After the commemoration of the suffering and death of Christ (as we observe the Days of Unleavened Bread), we focus upon our Father's expectations of us.

- Ephesians 2:10—since saved, good works
- Titus 3:8—since justified, good works
- Romans 6:1-2—since saved by grace, should we sin?
- Matthew 5:14-16—good works to glorify Father
- Matthew 19:17—keep the Commandments
- Matthew 19:21—give to the poor
- Matthew 22:36-40—two great Commandments

Scriptures about three days and three nights

John 2:18-22—So the Jews answered and said to Him, “What sign do You show to us, since You do these things?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” Then the Jews said, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and will You raise it up in three days?” But He was speaking of the temple of His body. Therefore, when He had risen from the dead, His disciples remembered that He had said this to them; and they believed the Scripture and the word which Jesus had said.

Matthew 12:39-40—But He answered and said to them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks after a sign, and no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”

Luke 23:54—That day was the Preparation, and the Sabbath [John 19:31, an annual sabbath on Thursday] drew near.

John 19:31— Therefore, because it was the Preparation Day, that the bodies should not remain on the cross on the Sabbath (for that Sabbath was a high day), the Jews asked Pilate that their legs might be broken, and that they might be taken away.

Luke 23:56—Then they returned and prepared spices and fragrant oils. And they rested on the [weekly] Sabbath according to the commandment.

Matthew 27:62-64—On the next day, which followed the Day of Preparation, the chief priests and Pharisees gathered together to Pilate, saying, “Sir, we remember, while He was still alive, how that deceiver said, ‘After three days I will rise.’ Therefore command that the tomb be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say to the people, ‘He has risen from the dead.’ So the last deception will be worse than the first.”

Scriptures about Christ’s resurrection

Peter (left column) and Paul (right column) discussed the resurrection of Christ.

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| ■ Acts 2:22-36 | ■ Acts 13:16-41 |
| ■ Acts 3:12-18 | ■ Acts 17:2-3 |
| ■ Acts 3:26 | ■ Acts 17:18 |
| ■ Acts 4:2 | ■ Acts 28:23-31 |
| ■ Acts 4:10 | ■ Romans 4:24-25 |
| ■ Acts 4:33 | ■ Romans 6:3-6 |
| ■ Acts 5:30-31 | ■ Romans 8:11 |
| ■ Acts 10:34-43 | ■ Romans 8:34 |
| ■ 1 Peter 1:3-5 | ■ 1 Corinthians 6:14 |
| ■ 1 Peter 1:18-21 | ■ 1 Corinthians 15:12-23 |
| ■ 1 Peter 3:21-22 | ■ 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 |
| | ■ 2 Corinthians 4:14 |
| | ■ Ephesians 1:20-23 |
| | ■ Philippians 3:10 |
| | ■ Colossians 2:12 |

“Reaction to Grace”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of April 20, 2019.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—As many Church of God congregations approach the spring feast days, I began a series of six articles discussing principles that can be rehearsed at this time of year.

Here is the list of articles in this series that have been written so far.

- March 23—“Overview of Passover in Book of Exodus.”
- March 30—“The Night in Which He Was Betrayed.”
- April 6—“Do This in Remembrance of Me.”
- April 13—“Are You Worthy?”
- April 20—“Reaction to Grace”

Acknowledging God’s grace

Although a disciple finds it comforting to remember God’s grace every day of his life, the spring feast days are a clear reminder about the importance of God’s grace.

Do you remember the three powerful events mentioned in Philippians 3:10? (Allow me to rearrange the three events in chronological order.)

- The fellowship of His sufferings
- Being conformed to His death
- Knowing the power of His resurrection

Disciples can clearly see that this time of the year is a powerful reminder about the grace of God.

■ The commemoration of the suffering and death of our Lord (picturing the night in which He was betrayed) with New Testament symbols is a celebration of tremendous grace.

■ The personal reflection upon the Lord’s death on the next day at 3:00 p.m. is an introspective reminder about God’s wonderful mercy.

■ The personal reflection about the resurrection of our Lord (three days and three nights later) is an additional opportunity for God’s spectacular grace to flood the minds and hearts of disciples.

Does grace endorse sin?

The apostle Paul realized that some people allowed the concept of grace to influence them to endorse sin. He wrote about this phenomenon in the book of Romans.

- Romans 6:1-2
- Romans 6:15

What should we do?

I believe that the lesson for disciples “before” the commemoration of the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord is about grace.

I believe that the lesson for disciples “after” the commemoration of the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord is about the reaction to grace.

The Father’s expectations

■ Ephesians 2:8-9 mentioned being saved by grace.

■ Ephesians 2:10 mentioned a proper reaction to grace—“good works.”

■ Titus 3:4-7 mentioned being justified by grace.

■ Titus 3:8 mentioned a proper reaction to grace—“good works.”

While I believe that it is ridiculous for disciples to argue about the subject of God’s grace, it is understandable for people to form different interpretations about the Heavenly Father’s expectations of His children. (Discussing differences can be healthy. Arguing, debating and fighting can be a colossal waste of time.)

Days of Unleavened Bread

The spring feast days are a yearly reminder about the suffering, death and resurrection of our Lord. Thank God for truth about God’s grace.

As you observe the Days of Unleavened Bread, allow that appreciation for God’s grace to remind you about the various expectations that your Heavenly Father has of you.