

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

July 9, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:29

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dave Havar
Presentation study—2:00 Dave Havar
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Reg Killingley
Pianist Dixon Cartwright
Scripture reading Ecclesiastes 4:1–16
Sermon Dave Havar

Quick takes

1. Please remember to pray for the following people who are not able to regularly attend our church service.
 - Mickey Ashcraft
 - David and Becky Bonilla
 - Timberly Dunnam
 - Elaine Holloway
 - Annette Payne
 - Ruth Roe
 - Sonny Rosenberger
 - Ronnie Shirley
 - Elaine Townsend
 - Donna Weese
2. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.
 - July 16 Mark Weiss and Morris Foster
 - July 30 Blake Silverstein
 - Aug. 20 Wynn Skelton
3. Board meeting tomorrow at 4:00 p.m.—There is a board meeting tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. in the building. Everyone is welcome.
4. Wednesday-night Bible study on July 13—Dave Havar is scheduled to continue his series about Hebrews 11.
5. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "The Continuing Importance of Thomas Sowell" by Jason L. Riley.
6. Among Friends—This week's article is "Hebrews 11:13–16" by Dave Havar.
7. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 38 pages. (This edition has eight articles and 204 headlines.)

Prayer updates

Timberly Dunnam reports that she is being helped by the treatment for her back and by the exercises she has incorporated. But she still has to deal with the periodic pain from the vein stone. **Dave Havir** admits that he was expecting the vein stone to pass (like a kidney stone often does). But Mr. Havir is learning a little bit how the two diagnoses are different. Timberly and her family appreciate your prayers.

Please pray that the lungs of **Meghan Searer** continue to get stronger.

In the June 18 bulletin, we mentioned that **Karen Welborn** was regaining her strength from a surgical procedure she had on June 6. (We reported at the time in the bulletin that she had returned to work on June 13.) She continues to work a full schedule—even though her energy level has not completely returned. She and **Doyle** appreciate your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Linda Avey** had fallen, was diagnosed with two fractured ribs and was anticipating a typical recovery for the ribs. However, she and **Ron** are wanting to discover the reason for her recent falls. Last Wednesday, Mrs. Avey went to a doctor and is scheduled for an MRI and an MRA on this coming Tuesday. The Aveys appreciate your prayers.

In the March bulletin, we mentioned that **Roger Daniels** had a ruptured appendix a few weeks earlier. The recovery period has taken time, but we can give you this update: "All has healed after the appendectomy, and no further surgery needed at this time. While still dealing with some imbalance, he no longer has to use a cane. He has gained some hearing back, and doctors are hopeful he will gain more." Roger and **Linda** appreciate the prayers and the notes of encouragement.

New prayer requests

Doris Penney of Carbonear, Nfld., Canada, has been diagnosed with lung cancer, bone cancer and breast cancer (reportedly at the stage-IV level).

Jeff Orsburn of Big Sandy died on July 4. Please remember his wife, **Kathryn**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Scriptures to consider

Exodus 25:8—"And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them."

Exodus 29:45—"I will dwell among the children of Israel and will be their God."

Leviticus 26:11-12—"I will set My tabernacle among you, and My soul shall not abhor you. I will walk among you and be your God, and you shall be My people."

John 2:19-21—"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."

1 Corinthians 3:16-17—“Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.”

2 Corinthians 6:14-18—“Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever? And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said: ‘I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be their God, and they shall be My people.’ Therefore ‘Come out from among them and be separate,’ says the Lord. ‘Do not touch what is unclean, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters,’ says the Lord Almighty.”

Ephesians 2:19-22—“Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.”

1 Peter 2:5—“You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

Revelation 21:1-4—“Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, ‘Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God.’ And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Thought for the week

“Imagine being upset that innocent babies with beating hearts cannot be as easily and efficiently destroyed as previously occurred.”

Hebrews 11:13-16

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 July 9, 2022.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with my series about Hebrews 11. This installment was a presentation titled “Hebrews 11:13-16.” I want to share some of my comments in this article.

Three main ideas of verse 13

Hebrews 11:13—“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off were assured of them, embraced them and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.”

Notice the three main ideas.

Did not receive the promises

■ Hebrews 11 mentioned some positive behavior of 10 people (Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses and Rahab)—and they did *not* receive the promises.

■ Hebrews 11 listed six people (Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David and Samuel) without listing some positive behavior—and they did *not* receive the promises.

■ Hebrews 11 mentioned the prophets in general—and they did *not* receive the promises.

Acts 2:29—“Men and brethren, let me speak freely to you of the patriarch David, that he is both dead and buried, and his tomb is with us to this day.”

Acts 2:34—“For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he says himself: ‘The LORD said to my Lord, “Sit at My right hand.”’”

Hebrews 11:39-40—“And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.”

Saw promises, embraced promises

Notice a few examples of the concept of “see—desire—do.”

Here are examples of “see—desire—do” in the area of sins.

■ Genesis 3:6—Eve saw the food—desirable—she ate.

■ Joshua 7:21—Achan saw the spoils—coveted—he took them.

■ 2 Samuel 11:2-4—David saw the naked woman—inquired about her—he took her.

■ Acts 8:18-19—Simon saw the laying on of hands—wanted that power—he offered to buy it.

Here are examples of “see—desire—do” in the area of obedience.

■ Matthew 13:44—They saw the treasure—focused on the treasure—bought the field.

■ Matthew 13:45-46—They saw the pearl—focused on the pearl—bought the pearl.

■ Hebrews 11:13—They saw the promises—embraced the promises—became strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Strangers and pilgrims

1 Peter 2:11-12—“Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul, having your conduct honorable among the Gentiles, that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may, by your good works which they observe, glorify God in the day of visitation.”

Sought a homeland

Hebrews 11:14—“For those who say such things declare plainly that they seek a homeland.”

Colossians 3:1—“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.”

Not consumed with previous country

Hebrews 11:15—“And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.”

■ Exodus 16:1-3—The children of Israel looked back.

■ Luke 17:32—Lot’s wife looked back.

■ 2 Peter 2:20-22—It is not good when those who have escaped the world become entangled again.

Prepared a city for them

Hebrews 11:16—“But now they desire a better, that is, a heavenly country. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared a city for them.”

■ Exodus 25:8—God gave instructions for them to build a tabernacle so He could dwell among them.

■ Exodus 29:42-44—God planned the tabernacle to meet with the people—because He wanted to dwell among them.

■ Leviticus 26:11-12—God put His tabernacles among them, because He was their God and He wanted them to be His people.

■ Hebrews 12:22—He talked to them about the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.

■ Revelation 21:1-3—He talked to His children about a new heaven, a new earth and the holy city (New Jerusalem)—mentioning that He would dwell with them and be their God.