

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Feb. 13, 2021 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:03

### Bible studies

Interactive study (1:00) ..... Dave Havir

Bible study (2:00) ..... Neil McIver

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader ..... Neil McIver

Pianist ..... Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading ..... Psalm 97 and Psalm 98

Sermon ..... Dave Havir

### Quick takes

1. Very rare to cancel church service—It is the custom of our congregation to avoid canceling our church service due to inclement weather. Even with a lower attendance in the building on a specific day due to weather in our area, we still hope to serve the audience on the website.
2. Main reason for canceling church service—Our main reason for canceling a church service is the loss of electricity.
3. Adjustment to our Saturday schedule—Pastor Dave Havir has been discussing some adjustments to our Saturday schedule. Here is the contrast between our present approach and the proposed change.
  - Present schedule
    - 1:00—Interactive Bible study (building only)
    - 2:00—Presentation Bible study (building and Internet)
    - 3:00—Church service (building and Internet)
  - Proposed change
    - 1:00—Educational DVDs (building only)
    - 2:00—Interactive Bible study (building only)
    - 3:00—Church service (building and Internet)

4. Reviewing options for the future Internet presentation at 2:00 p.m.—You will notice in the previous announcement that there will be no live presentation in the church building on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. to be transmitted on the Internet at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday. Therefore, we are discussing the best way to provide a presentation for our friends who are accustomed to watching our website at that time.
5. Wednesday Bible study—Dave Havir is planning to begin a weekly Bible study in the building on Wednesdays. Anyone in the congregation will be welcome to attend. However, he is wanting this presentation to be used for our Internet audience. Will it be live-streamed and available immediately? Will it be recorded and posted for Saturday at 2:00 p.m.? Stay tuned for the answers to those two questions.
6. No interactive Bible study in the building on Feb. 27—There will be no interactive Bible study in the building on Feb. 27. See the next announcement.
7. Fellowship Club on Feb. 27—There will be a Fellowship Club on Feb. 27 discussing the book (*Take Cover: Finding Peace in God's Protection*) that Dave Havir reviewed in the Jan. 30 bulletin. Following is the schedule.
 

■ Lunch	1:00–1:20
■ Fellowship Club	1:30–2:30
■ Church service	3:00–4:00
8. Prayers for peaceful protesters—Please pray for the citizens who are maturely and responsibly exercising their right of peaceful protest.
9. Prayers for victims—Please pray for the citizens who are suffering from the criminals, mobs and thugs who are tormenting our country.
10. Reminders for attending—Here are some reminders for people who choose to attend the church service in the building.
  - We do not provide masks or gloves. If these are important to you, please bring your own.
  - We expect attendees to make good use of our spacious hall by spreading out.
11. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "Why Are Americans Naive About Evil?" by Eric Metaxas.
12. Among Friends—This week's article is "Evil Mentioned in the Pentateuch" by Dave Havir.
13. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 36 pages.

## Prayer updates

Please remember to pray for the following people who live at home but are not able to regularly attend our church service—**Sonny Rosenberger, Laura Moran, David Bonilla, Annette Payne, Ronnie Shirley and Timberly Dunnam.**

Please remember to pray for the following people who are rehabbing at Legend Oaks Nursing Home in Gladewater—**Ron Feaker, Elaine Holloway and Donna Weese.**

In the Jan. 30 bulletin, we mentioned that **Roxanna West** went to a hospital and was diagnosed as testing positive for covid and diagnosed with pneumonia. Things seemed to progress well. But, this past Monday, she went back to the hospital after being diagnosed with pneumonia in both lungs. Following are excerpts from a report on Friday from **Stan**: “Roxanna is showing improvement. Today, the doctor didn’t mention any new concerns. The respiratory therapist says she is improving. She has an increased appetite. The goal is to decrease her dependency on the oxygen system to a level for her to go home (although we currently have no set timeline). Thank you for your continuing prayers.”

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Stan West** tested positive for covid and pneumonia. He reports that he was released back into the public yesterday, but he worked from home.

In the Dec. 19 bulletin, we mentioned that **Mike Kennebeck** of a local Church of God congregation was scheduled for double-bypass surgery, and, in the Dec. 26 bulletin, we mentioned that the surgery was postponed after he was diagnosed with covid. This past Tuesday, he was finally able to have the double-bypass surgery. During the surgery, the doctor also repaired a main artery.

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Della Worden** was scheduled to go to a hospital in Houston for tests (including blood work, a brain scan and a CT scan). That trip was postponed at the last minute.

## New prayer requests

On Monday, **Shirley Spearman** sent a prayer request concerning her daughter **Cassandra**. Following are excerpts: “Cassandra is probably going to have her leg amputated. She had hurt her heel and it became infected so she had to have surgery on it. She was in the hospital for two weeks and got out Friday [Feb. 5]. She fell on Sunday [Feb. 7] and broke her foot. Now she’s back in there. She needs prayers for the physical problem and for her mental state.” On Thursday, Cassandra went into surgery (after she was disconnected from dialysis). **Dave Havar** asked Mrs. Spearman if this surgery involved an amputation. Mrs. Spearman replied: “That’s correct. Mentally, she didn’t take the news very well.” Mr. Havar replied: “That news broke my heart.” The family appreciates your prayers.

**Catherine Goss** (a 6-year-old girl in California) fell outside her after-school care center and sustained fractures of both the radius and ulna of her left arm.

**David Hope** of Tulsa, Okla., fell and broke his shoulder in two places.

**Leon Avery** of Tulsa, Okla., requests prayer after he fell and injured both ankles, resulting in serious infections of both ankles. He is undergoing treatment with antibiotics. He is also experiencing a recurrence of pain from a previous accident that fractured his spine.

**Shirley Heitmann** of Cane Beds, Ariz. (mother of **Mike Kennebeck**), died on Feb. 12. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## “Evil Mentioned in the Pentateuch”

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 Feb. 13, 2021.

**By Dave Havir**

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—Religious people who consider themselves children of God are extremely appreciative of the grace that our Heavenly Father bestows upon them. They realize that they are saved by grace and that the Eternal Father has expectations of them.

Therefore, the children of God seek to understand the concept of evil. I will begin a series of short articles to discuss the concept of evil from the Bible.

This article is about evil mentioned in the Pentateuch.

### **Knowledge of good and evil**

The first mention of evil is found in Genesis 2. The first references are involving the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

**Genesis 2:9**—“And out of the ground the LORD God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.”

**Genesis 2:15-17**—“Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, ‘Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’”

**Genesis 3:1-5**—“Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said to the woman, ‘Has God indeed said, “You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?”’ And the woman said to the serpent, ‘We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, “You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.”’ Then the serpent said to the woman, ‘You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.’”

### **How early?**

Religious people often ask when evil arrives into the life of a person. Are babies created with evil? If not, how quickly does evil arrive?

**Genesis 1:31**—“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

**Genesis 6:5**—“Then the LORD saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.”

**Genesis 8:21**—“And the LORD smelled a soothing aroma. Then the LORD said in His heart, ‘I will never again curse the ground for man’s sake, although the imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth; nor will I again destroy every living thing as I have done.’”

### **Evil against people**

The Bible has many examples of people practicing evil against other people. One of the famous examples in the Bible is the account of Joseph and his brothers.

■ **Genesis 37:19-20**—Joseph’s brothers discussed killing him.

■ **Genesis 37:26-27**—The brothers sold him to the Ishmaelites.

Later, the brothers were worried that Joseph would get revenge upon them. Joseph’s response is one of the most important messages in the Bible.

**Genesis 50:19-20**—“Joseph said to them, ‘Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.’”

### **Making a choice**

The Bible shows God’s desire for people to choose good and to avoid evil.

**Deuteronomy 20:15, 19**—“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil . . . I call heaven and earth as witnesses today against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live.”