

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

May 14, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:09

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Jerry Thompson

Presentation study—2:00 Jim Johns
(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Reg Killingley

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Matthew 7:21–29

Sermon Jim Johns

Quick takes

1. Guest speaker today—The congregation welcomes Jim and Sue Johns from Pennsylvania. Today, Dr. Johns will be giving the presentation Bible study at 2:00 and the sermon during the 3:00 church service.
2. Thank you—The congregation thanks David and Melodee Eishen, who provided the food for the congregation (and guests) in conjunction with our two guest speakers last week.
3. Thank you—The congregation thanks the individuals for organizing the weekly Sabbath treats. The individuals who spend most of the time serving the congregation in this manner are Joyce Coleman, Linda Avey, Linda Cartwright and Lisa Smith.
4. Opportunity to serve—Since we don't want to wear out the individuals who organize the weekly Sabbath treats, Dave Havir is asking other members of the congregation to help with this important project.
5. Wednesday-night Bible study on May 18—Dave Havir is scheduled to give "Evil and Wickedness—Part 2." (Last week, he covered evil and wickedness as mentioned in the Pentateuch. This week, he plans to cover evil and wickedness as mentioned in the Psalms.) Everyone is invited.

6. Community function in the building on Thursday, May 19—This coming Thursday evening, the Big Sandy Booster Club will be having a catered meal in the building. The club is expecting a large crowd. We tell you this for two reasons.
 - First, please give the Booster Club privacy in the building that evening.
 - Second, if you want to help Ron Avey and Dave Havir with any small serving projects that evening, please see Mr. Avey.
7. Board nominations continue today—The process for board nominations continues today. (This is a reminder that the yearly nominations occur in May and the election occurs in June.)
8. Feast housing in Destin—Since the Pelican finally (after all these years) raised the cost of its rooms, some people may want to consider other venues for housing. Ami Ison of the congregation in Decaturville, Tenn., offered to help. She recommends Emerald Coast by Owner (emeraldcoastbyowner.com.) If you want advice, feel free to call her at (731) 614-2635.
9. Feast housing in North Myrtle Beach—A block of rooms will be held for us until Sept. 8, 2022. However, we recommend you book early. (Information is on our website and on our Information Table.)
10. Edifying the Body—This week’s article is “Leftist Threat to Freedom: Control, Coerce and Censor” by Wilfred McClay.
11. Among Friends—This week’s article is “Evil and Wickedness in the Pentateuch” by Dave Havir.
12. Eye on the World—This week’s “Eye on the World” is 34 pages. (This edition has nine articles and 194 headlines.)

Prayer updates

In the last bulletin in which we had prayer updates (April 30), we mentioned that the kidney stone for **Timberly Dunnam** began moving again—which created much pain. She reports that the pain has unfortunately continued.

Following are excerpts from an update by **Becky Bonilla** about her husband, **David Bonilla**: “He received his new hearing aids, which are rechargeable, so no batteries needed. His right ear is much worse due to the last stroke—only God can heal it. He is still not able to walk without assistance. His speech is still not the best, but some better. Our prayers to all.”

In the April 22 bulletin, we mentioned that **Pat O’Neil** of Tyler was diagnosed with a large mass in the right-front brain lobe. Mr. O’Neil had surgery at M.D. Anderson, and the surgeon reported that he was able to remove 97 percent of the brain tumor. The current plan is to receive radiation for four to six weeks.

In the April 22 bulletin, we mentioned that **Tom McKeown** of Big Sandy was dealing with an intestinal blockage. Since then, we have learned that he has been diagnosed with cancer and is receiving in-home hospice care.

New prayer requests

Klaus Rothe of Bloomington, Ind. (friend of **Dixon** and **Linda Cartwright**), is an avid and experienced cyclist. He was involved in a bicycle accident this week. At first we were concerned that he may have been hit by a car, but we learned that he was going down a steep hill with a group. (We do not know if another biker bumped him.) The result was a broken collarbone, some broken ribs and a split pelvis. No surgery was necessary. He was able to get up on his own and to get into a wheelchair. He was scheduled to go home before the weekend. His doctor said it would take eight weeks to heal. (For the record, his helmet saved him, as evidenced by its three large dents.) He and his wife, **Robin**, appreciate your prayers.

Sonny Parsons of Big Sandy died on May 12. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Illegal harassment at residences

A copy of the law titled “Chapter 73—Obstruction of Justice; Sec. 1507—Picketing or parading” is posted at govinfo.gov. Following is a copy of that particular section.

“Whoever, with the intent of interfering with, obstructing, or impeding the administration of justice, or with the intent of influencing any judge, juror, witness, or court officer, in the discharge of his duty, pickets or parades in or near a building housing a court of the United States, or in or near a building or residence occupied or used by such judge, juror, witness, or court officer, or with such intent uses any sound-truck or similar device or resorts to any other demonstration in or near any such building or residence, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both. Nothing in this section shall interfere with or prevent the exercise by any court of the United States of its power to punish for contempt.”

Scriptures to consider

Ezekiel 9:4—“And the LORD said to him, ‘Go through the midst of the city, through the midst of Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and cry over all the abominations that are done within it.’”

Ezekiel 22:30—“So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.”

Ezekiel 34:5—“So they were scattered because there was no shepherd; and they became food for all the beasts of the field when they were scattered.”

Thought for the week

Retired and under new management: See spouse for details.

Evil and Wickedness 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 May 14, 2022.

By **Dave Havir**

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Evil and Wickedness—Part 1.” The focus of this study was about evil and wickedness in the Pentateuch.

Knowledge of good and evil

The first mention of evil is found in Genesis 2. The first references involve 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 2:16-17—“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 3:4-5—“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.’”

Serpent was deceptive

Think about the serpent’s comments for a minute. We know that the serpent was deceptive—John 8:44 and 2 Corinthians 11:3.

Consider this question: Doesn’t God want His children to know the difference between good and evil?

Notice some instructive verses—1 Kings 3:9, Isaiah 7:15 and Hebrews 5:12-14.

So what was the problem?

Timing was the problem

In Genesis 3, God explained the problem.

Genesis 3:22-23—“Then the LORD God said, ‘Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil. And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of

life, and eat, and live forever’—therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken.”

God certainly wanted Adam and Eve to live forever—but not at that time and not in that specific scenario.

■ Matthew 4:10

■ Hebrews 5:7-8

How early does evil arrive?

Are babies created with evil? If not, how quickly does evil arrive?

■ Genesis 1:31—Everything that God made was very good.

■ Genesis 6:5—God saw the wickedness of people—that the intent of the heart was evil.

■ Genesis 8:31—The imagination of man’s heart is evil from his youth.

A few other scriptures

■ Genesis 18:23-25—Abraham asked God if He would destroy the righteous with the wicked.

■ Genesis 50:15-18—Joseph’s brothers worried that Joseph would repay them for the evil they did to him.

■ Genesis 50:19-20—Joseph said: “You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good.”

■ Leviticus 18:17—Uncovering the nakedness of people is wickedness.

■ Numbers 14:26-27—God asked: “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me?”

■ Deuteronomy 19:15-19—Concerning the punishment against a false witness, God said: “So you shall put away the evil from among you.”

■ Deuteronomy 22:22—Concerning the punishment for adultery, God said: “So you shall put away the evil from Israel.”

■ Deuteronomy 30:15, 20—God set life, death, good and evil before them—and He wanted them to choose life.