

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

June 18, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 8:28

Bible studies

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

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Ron Avey
Pianist Bea Gusner
Scripture reading Ecclesiastes 2:1–26
Sermon Dave Havir

Quick takes

1. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation—Terry McAdams on June 25 and Richard Crow on July 2.
2. Wednesday-night Bible study on June 22—Everyone is invited.
3. Board election continues today—During the nomination phase in May, the congregation selected three individuals (Reg Killingley, Neil McIver and Kemmer Pfund) to be considered for two spots on the board.
4. Edifying the Body—This week's article is “How Does God Use Evil?” by Dave Havir.
5. Among Friends—This week's article is “Evil and Wickedness in New Testament” by Dave Havir.
6. Eye on the World—This week's “Eye on the World” is 34 pages. (This edition has four articles and 328 headlines.)

Prayer updates

Timberly Dunnam continues to have difficult days, so she appreciates your prayers.
David and **Becky Bonilla** appreciate your prayers.

In April, we mentioned that **Meghan Searer** was dealing with double pneumonia. While she has recovered from that specific diagnosis, please pray that her lungs continue to get stronger.

Karen Welborn (who had a surgical procedure on June 6 that resulted in some unexpected bleeding) appreciates all the prayers that helped her recovery. She returned back to work each day this week.

As was mentioned last week, **Bennie West** (son of **Shirley West** and brother of **Stan West**) was scheduled for surgery involving skin cancer last Wednesday. The family reports that the surgery went well. The doctor removed all the cancer and did not need to graft skin.

In the Dec. 12, 2020, bulletin, we mentioned that **Tim Roe** of Ore City (son of **Ruth Roe**) was dealing with a bone disease and with pain in his joints (including knees and shoulder) and his back. He continues to deal with a degenerative bone disease, problems with his joints and a fractured disk in his lower back. He is presently not able to drive long distances, but he does go into town to pick up items. Occasionally, Mrs. Roe takes items to him. Mr. Havir reminded Mrs. Roe that some of us would either drive her up there or would make deliveries for her. Tim and his mother appreciate your prayers.

In the May 28 bulletin, we mentioned that **Karl Wilson** of Tyler had been treated for a blocked bile duct and also had his gallbladder removed. While he is feeling better, his recovery has been progressing slowly.

In the May 28 bulletin, we mentioned that **Ron Crank** of Kansas City, Mo., had been diagnosed with a collapsed esophagus. Following are excerpts from an update: "His collapsed esophagus is still his major problem. He cannot swallow and has been put on a feeding tube. He is down from 250 pounds to 129 pounds."

New prayer requests

Judy Knight of the Fort Worth area has been diagnosed with cancer and has been having challenges with the chemo treatments. (She and her husband, **Chuck**, oversee a small congregation over there. **Dave Havir** is scheduled to help them out by speaking over there next Saturday.)

John Monahan of Tonganoxie, Kan. (who previously dealt with prostate cancer), was recently diagnosed with two brain tumors. An operation removed one of the tumors, and he is anticipating chemo and radiation treatments to deal with the other tumor.

Gary and **Sandy Proffitt** of Camden, Mo., died on June 6 from carbon-monoxide poisoning in their home. Their funeral was last Thursday. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Thought for the week

"Never laugh at your spouse's choices. You are one of them."

How Does God Use Evil?

This article is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of June 18, 2022.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our recent Bible studies on Wednesday night, I just concluded a six-part series about “Evil and Wickedness.” After each study, I wrote a short article in the “Among Friends” section of our website.

At this time, I want to write this short article (for the “Edifying the Body” section of our website) to remind my friends how a righteous God uses evil.

God claimed to create evil

James mentioned God and evil.

James 1:13—“Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.”

The prophet Isaiah quoted God as saying that He created evil (translated “evil” in the King James Version and translated “calamity” in the New King James Version).

Isaiah 45:7—“I form the light and create darkness, I make peace and create evil; I, the LORD, do all these things.”

Job’s two trials

The book of Job shows how God initiated two major trials for Job but allowed Satan to provide the evil details.

- God initiated the first trial (Job 1:8).

- Satan suggested some details.

Job 1:11—“But now, stretch out Your hand and touch all that he has, and he will surely curse You to Your face!”

- God approved the details but put limitations on Satan.

Job 1:12—“And the LORD said to Satan, ‘Behold, all that he has is in your power; only do not lay a hand on his person.’ So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD.”

- God initiated the second trial (Job 2:3).

- Satan suggested some details.

Job 2:4-5—“So Satan answered the LORD and said, ‘Skin for skin! Yes, all that

a man has he will give for his life. But stretch out Your hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will surely curse You to Your face!’”

- God approved the details but put limitations on Satan.

Job 2:6—“And the LORD said to Satan, ‘Behold, he is in your hand, but spare his life.’”

Fall of Ahab

The book of 1 Kings shows how God initiated the fall of Ahab but allowed a spirit to provide the evil details.

- God determined that Ahab would fall at Ramoth Gilead—but he listened to suggestions about the details of how it would occur.

1 Kings 22:20—“And the LORD said, ‘Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?’ So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner.”

- A spirit suggested that he would make it happen.

1 Kings 22:21—“Then a spirit came forward and stood before the LORD, and said, ‘I will persuade him.’”

- God asked for details, heard the details, approved the details and gave him permission to proceed with his plan.

1 Kings 22:22—“The LORD said to him, ‘In what way?’ So he said, ‘I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.’ And the LORD said, ‘You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.’”

- God used a lying spirit to accomplish His goal.

1 Kings 22:23—“Therefore look! The LORD has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the LORD has declared disaster against you.”

Explaining today’s evil

I hope that these Old Testament scriptures can help you to deal with the evil encompassing our globe today. Please remember that faith, hope and love can help us in these evil times.

Evil and Wickedness in New Testament

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbigandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of June 18, 2022.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Evil and Wickedness—Part 6.” The focus of this study was about evil and wickedness in the remaining books of the New Testament (Acts, James, Peter, John, Jude and Revelation).

Various categories

Notice some of the various categories where the subjects of evil and wickedness could be placed.

- The evil one—1 John 2:13-14, 1 John 3:12 and 1 John 5:18-19.

- Evil spirits—Acts 19:12-16.

- Evaluating behavior—James 1:13, James 2:4, 2 John 10-11, 3 John 11 and Revelation 2:2.

- Lay aside all evil speaking—James 3:8, James 3:16, James 4:11 and 1 Peter 2:1.

- Avoid speaking evil of leaders—Acts 23:1-5, Exodus 22:28, 1 Peter 2:13-14 and Jude 1:8-11.

- People speaking evil about you—1 Peter 2:12, 1 Peter 3:9-12, 1 Peter 3:16-17, 1 Peter 4:4 and 1 Peter 4:15.

Be slow to avoid

2 John 1:9-11—“Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son. If anyone comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into your house nor greet him; for he who greets him shares in his evil deeds.”

Do you avoid greeting people who have a different view from yours about the doctrine of Christ?

Do you avoid greeting a person of the Hindu religion, Buddhist religion, Muslim religion or Jewish religion?

Do you avoid greeting a person of the Christian religion who has a different inter-

pretation about the Godhead?

Do you avoid greeting a person among the Church of God congregations who has a different interpretation about the family of God?

- I suggest that you don’t have to avoid people who have different points of view.

- I recommend that you consider avoiding people who are seeking to push their ideas down your throat.

Recognize evil

Revelation 2:2—“I know your works, your labor, your patience, and that you cannot bear those who are evil. And you have tested those who say they are apostles and are not, and have found them liars.”

Control the tongue

Acts 23:5—“Then Paul said, ‘I did not know, brethren, that he was the high priest; for it is written [in Exodus 22:28], “You shall not speak evil of a ruler of your people.” ’”

James 4:11—“Do not speak evil of one another, brethren. He who speaks evil of a brother and judges his brother, speaks evil of the law and judges the law. But if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.”

1 Peter 3:8-9—“Finally, all of you be of one mind, having compassion for one another; love as brothers, be tenderhearted, be courteous; not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing.”

1 Peter 3:10-12—“For ‘he who would love life and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips from speaking deceit. Let him turn away from evil and do good; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their prayers; but the face of the LORD is against those who do evil.’”