

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

Aug. 31, 2024 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 7:45

### Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. . . . . Bruce Graham

Presentation study—2:00 . . . . . Dave Havir  
(also transmitted live)

### Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader . . . . . Neil McIver

Pianist . . . . . Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading . . . . . Ecclesiastes 12:9–14

Sermon . . . . . Jim Bald

### Quick takes

1. Every Wednesday—Bible study at 7:00 p.m.
2. Dominoes on Sunday—For those interested, there will be dominoes in the building at 11:00 a.m.
3. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "The 'Progressive Legacy'—Parts 1, 2 & 3" by Thomas Sowell.
4. Among Friends—This week's article is "Book of Revelation—Part 9" by Dave Havir. (Although this series started with nine parts, Mr. Havir just expanded it to include three more Bible studies.)
5. Eye on the World—242 headlines and four articles.

### Prayer updates

On Tuesday, **Melodee Eishen** sent the following update: "I had a CT scan today. Results were great. It's all good news. I'm still going to do nutrition and such, to keep getting healthier. Thank you for your prayers."

In the Feb. 10 bulletin, we announced that **Jake** and **Tiffany Dunnam** were going through the process to adopt a child. Last Sunday, they gave **Dave Havir** permission to give an update on his text list, and they gave Mr. Havir permission to share the news in this bulletin: “Our 5-year-old, **Benjamin**, was placed with us on Aug. 12. He loves sports and has me running everywhere. We have had ups and downs, but things are getting better with the routine getting established. We continue to ask for prayers as we continue to learn how to be parents to an ADHD kiddo with the energy of an overcaffeinated squirrel! Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.”

On Wednesday, **Angela Dunnam** reported: “I had an MRI on my left knee yesterday. I just heard the results. I have a torn meniscus at the back of my knee. It is bone-on-bone arthritis with very minimal cartilage and inflamed tendons in the knee. There is a cyst in the knee that is benign. My next step is to see an orthopedic surgeon to hear my options.”

On Monday, **Dave McLearn** reported: “The pain-management doctor called today informing me that the procedure scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed until Sept. 3 (because insurance has not yet approved payment for the procedure). On Thursday, Mr. McLearn reported: “I had a fall last night after we got home from Bible study. We called EMS to help me to get up—but I didn’t go to any facility. The fall aggravated my back quite a bit.”

In last week’s bulletin, we mentioned that **Melissa Defur** had been diagnosed with thyroid problems (with six nodules and one identified as suspicious). She had a biopsy done, but she has not heard the results yet.

In the Aug. 17 bulletin, we mentioned that **Tricia Svehla** was diagnosed with a rare form of lung cancer and was awaiting surgery (removing the lung and reinserting it). She reported: “My surgery is scheduled for Sept. 3. The thoracic surgeon did not want to do the surgery as my lung function is very low. But my pulmonary doctor told him it had been low for years and it had not affected my ability to be active. She reminded him that he took an oath to treat the patient and not the symptoms. So he is moving forward.”

In July, we mentioned orally that: “**Randy Steele** (father of **Mandi Mischnick**) was recently diagnosed with stage-4 cancer and was moved into a nursing home in Gladewater on Tuesday (July 16)—so that he could receive full-time care and pain management under hospice care. His wife, **Diane**, died on April 17.” Last Sunday, **Dave Havir** asked the family for an update: “**Randy Steele** is still on hospice at Legend Oaks. His condition is stable. He has ups and downs, but they are mostly able to manage his pain. He’s still able to receive visitors. Thanks for all thoughts and prayers on his behalf.”

## New prayer requests

**Roxanna West** requests prayers for her sister **Dianna Payne**. Mrs. West reported: “Dianne is not doing well of recent. She has the same lung disease as our father—pulmonary fibrosis. Her saturation levels drop immediately if she exerts at all (meaning just living normally). Her lungs don’t absorb the oxygen she takes in. She is on oxygen 24/7. Please pray for relief and peace of mind for her.”

**Jim and Penny Bald** request your prayers for their family. He reported: “Penny’s stepfather (**Guy Bagwell**) is in a severely weakened condition, and his pacemaker is not functioning—which puts stress on Penny’s mother (**Sarah Lee**). My mother (**Nancy Prokopich**) is extremely ill, and her cognitive state is declining—which puts stress on her husband (**Paul Prokopich**). Thank you for your prayers.”

**Angela Butler** of Rockwood, Tenn., died on Aug. 21. Please remember her family in your prayers.

**Susan Griffith** of Hennessy, Okla., died on Aug. 24. Please remember her husband, **Ron**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

**Kyriacos Stavrinides** of Glendora, Calif., died on Aug. 24. Please remember his family in your prayers.

**Keith Stump** (who moved to Peru a few years ago) died on Aug. 25. Please remember his family in your prayers.

**Bob Fiddes** of Oklahoma City, Okla., died on Aug. 26. Please remember the family in your prayers.

## Thoughts for the week

“The difference between fiction and reality is that people expect fiction to make sense.”—*Brad Thor*

“I love Labor Day where we celebrate work by not working.”—*David Coleman*

“Hard work keeps the wrinkles out of the mind and spirit.”—*Josiah Soto*

## “Book of Revelation—Part 9”

This article is from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy website ([churchofgodbigandy.com](http://churchofgodbigandy.com)). It was posted for the weekend of Aug. 31, 2024.

### By Dave Havir

**B**IG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I continued with what was intended to be a nine-part series about the book of Revelation. At the beginning of the Bible study, I announced that I was adding three more studies to now make it a 12-part series. After announcing that decision, I continued with Part 9—which was about “Revelation 19:9-10.”

### Revelation 19:9-10

■ Revelation 19:9—He (an angel) said: “Write: ‘Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!’ ”—And

he said to me: “These are the true sayings of God.”

■ Revelation 19:10—John wrote: “And I fell at his feet to worship him” and the angel responded: “See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.”

The angel speaking in Revelation 19:10 resisted being worshipped.

At this point, let me mention two lessons from Revelation 19:10 that all religious people (including those individuals who claim to be leaders) should remember.

■ Followers of God should not worship

any of God's servants.

■ Followers of God should resist being worshipped.

### Role of angels

■ Hebrews 1:1—Before the Son of God came, God often spoke to the fathers by the prophets.

■ Hebrews 1:2—After the Son of God came, God regularly spoke to His disciples by His Son—whom He has appointed heir of all things.

■ Hebrews 1:3—The Son of God purged our sins and sat down at the right hand of God.

■ Hebrews 1:4—The Son of God fulfilled a higher role than the angels.

■ Hebrews 1:13—The angels were not invited to sit at the right hand of the Father.

■ Hebrews 1:14—But the angels are valuable serving spirits sent forth to serve those who will inherit salvation.

It is exemplary that the angel in Revelation 19:10 did not want John to worship him.

At this time, let's look at two biblical examples of humans following the angel's example of not wanting people to worship them.

### Gideon chose not to rule

The first example is Gideon in the Old Testament.

I must admit that his story is a mixture of good decisions and bad decisions. Here are some good reports about him.

■ Judges 6:14—The Lord sent Gideon to save Israel from the Midianites.

■ Judges 6:25-30—Gideon tore down an altar of Baal, cut down the wooden image and built an altar to the Lord.

■ Judges 8:22-23—When the people asked Gideon and his family to rule over them, he refused.

That last scripture is the one that I want to mention in a discussion about Revelation 19:10—Gideon turned down the leadership role.

However, here are some of the bad reports that immediately followed.

■ Judges 8:24—Gideon made a request for the earrings from the people that they plundered.

■ Judges 8:26—The weight of the gold earrings that he requested was 1,700 shekels of gold.

■ Judges 8:27—Then Gideon made the gold into an ephod and set it up in his city (Ophrah).

Although Gideon should be criticized for collecting the gold and making an ephod, he should be credited for not wanting to rule over the people.

### Paul and Barnabas reacted

■ Acts 14:8-10—In Lystra, God healed a crippled man through Paul.

■ Acts 14:11—When the people saw what Paul had done, they said: "The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men."

■ Acts 14:12—The people referred to Barnabas as Zeus and they referred to Paul at Hermes (because Paul was the chief speaker).

■ Acts 14:13—The priest of Zeus (whose temple was in the front of their city) brought oxen and garlands to the gates—intending to sacrifice with the multitudes.

■ Acts 14:14-17—Barnabas and Paul reacted strongly against the idea of the priest of Zeus and the citizens wanting to worship them.

### Revelation 22:8-9

Let's look at another example of angels rejecting worship that is found in the book of Revelation.

■ Revelation 22:8—John wrote: "When I heard and saw, I fell down to worship before the feet of the angel who showed me these things."

■ Revelation 22:9—The angel said: "See that you do not do that. For I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren the prophets, and of those who keep the words of this book—worship God."

### Reminders about worship

At this point, let me repeat the two lessons that I mentioned earlier in this article.

■ Followers of God should not worship any of God's servants.

■ Followers of God should resist being worshipped.

And let me remind you what the angel said in Revelation 19:10 and in Revelation 22:9.