# **Serving This Week:**

# **Sunday Morning**

Announcements: Howell Todd
Song Leader: Kyle Richardson
Opening Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

**Lord's Supper** 

**Presiding:** Kyle Richardson

Serving: Eric Horne

Austin Horne

**Preaching:** Howell Todd **Closing Prayer:** Austin Horne

# **Sunday Evening**

Opening Prayer: Brian Horner
Preaching: Howell Todd
Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

# **Wedensday Evening**

Opening Prayer: Kyle Richardson
Devotional: Howell Todd
Closing Prayer: Ken Grandstaff

# **Serving Next Sunday:**

Lord's Supper: Brian Horner
Preaching: Brian Horner
Opening Prayer: Howell Todd
Closing Prayer: Austin Horne

# To all our visitors - Welcome! We hope you will come back and worship with us soon!

Please call to inform us of News items or Prayer Requests that need to be in the Bulletin:

Kyle Richardson - 495-7106 Dorthy Jean Smith - 444-5437

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Children's Home Donation:**

Please donate money for perishable items. Today is the last day.

# **God's Plan of Salvation**

Hear the Word
(Rom 10:17)
Believe in Jesus
(John 8:24)
Repent of your sins
(Luke 13:3)
Confess faith in Christ
(Rom 10:10)
Be Baptized for forgivness of sins
(Acts 2:38)
Live Faithfully
(1 Cor. 15:58)

# **TEAM MEETINGS**

**Correspondence -** Sunday evenings after worship see Kyle Richardson.

Visitation/Bible Study - For

assignments see Brian Horner.

**Member Care -** Regarding Member needs contact Kyle Richardson.

**Flower Request** - Please call Lynda Ann Sparkman: 444.0938(h) 587.8187(c)

# **Bethel church of Christ**

2427 Sparta Pike, Lebanon TN 37090 http://www.bethelcoc.net July 8, 2012

Sunday Bible Study: 10 AM Sunday Morning Worship: 11 AM Sunday Evening Worship: 6 PM Wed Bible Study: 7 PM

### **God's Pattern**

Patterns are an important part of our lives in many ways. When a contractor builds a house, he follows a pattern known as a blueprint. When a mother sews a dress for her daughter, she follows a pattern.

In each case there is a standard pattern to be followed to achieve the desired results. The pattern must be followed or the end product will not be faithful to the original and the results could be disastrous. The house not built to pattern may leak or worse, it may collapse; the dress not made by the pattern may look more like a clown outfit.

Many people who have the common sense to recognize the need to faithfully follow patterns in their everyday lives, fail to recognize the most important pattern of all the Bible. God has always provided a pattern for His people to serve as a guide to worship and service acceptable to Him.

In the Old Testament, God led the children of Israel out of the slavery of Egypt to Mt. Sinai. There God called Moses up the mountain and gave him a pattern of laws and a pattern for a place of worship. As God gave Moses this pattern, He also gave a warning: "According to all that I shew thee, after the pattern of the tabernacle, and the pattern of all the instruments thereof, even so ye shall make it" (Ex. 25:9). And He repeated this warning: "And look that thou make them after their pattern, which was shown thee in the mount" (Ex. 25:40).

Following God's pattern, the Jews constructed the tabernacle and all the articles for worship to be placed within and without: the brazen altar, the laver, the golden candlestick, the table of shewbread, the altar of incense and the ark of the covenant.

Not all the Jews heeded God's warning to follow his pattern. Two priests determined to disregard God's pattern of worship and follow their own worship. Nadab and Abihu "offered strange incense before the Lord, which he commanded then not" (Lev. 10:1). The consequences of violating God's divine order were immediate, "And there went out fire from the Lord, and devoured them, and they died before the Lord" (Lev. 10:2). God's punishment of these two men was for our benefit to teach us to treat His pattern with respect.

When David became king he planned the build a permanent place of worship in Jerusalem. While David was not allowed by the Lord to build the temple, David did make all the plans and preparations for the construction of the temple which

(continued from page 1)...

he passed on to his son, Solomon, to complete. As David commissioned Solomon to build the temple he explained, "All this the Lord made me understand in writing by His hand upon me, even all the works of this pattern" (1 Chron. 28:19). David urged Solomon to follow God's pattern in the commands of his Law as well as building His temple.

Despite God's warnings again the Jews failed to respect and keep God's pattern. Towards the end of his life Solomon drifted away from God. Following Solomon under the kingdoms of Israel and Judah, more Jewish kings were unfaithful to the Lord. Because of the apostasy of the Jews, God allowed them to be taken into captivity and the temple to be destroyed.

While in captivity in Babylon, God sent a special vision of the temple to the prophet Ezekiel. In the vision Ezekiel saw a man with a measuring rod measuring God's temple and all the articles in it. Why? What was the meaning of the vision? "Thou son of man, shew the house to the house of Israel, that they may be ashamed of their iniquities: and let them measure the pattern" (Ezk. 43:10).

Just as God gave the Jews a pattern through Moses and David, He has given us a pattern of work and worship. The Old Testament, the tabernacle and the temple were only "a copy and a shadow of heavenly things" that are now provided for us by Christ under the New Testament.

The pattern Christians have to follow is complete and sufficient. It is complete as it has "given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness" (2 Pet. 1:3). It is sufficient as it "is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

As God warned the Jews not to violate or tamper with His pattern, He warns us also.

We must obey God's pattern. It is necessary to obey "that form (pattern) of doctrine which was first delivered to you" (Rom. 6:17). To fail to obey His pattern leads to sin and death (Rom. 6:18-23).

We must walk by God's pattern. The apostles, led by the Holy Spirit are an "ensample" or pattern for us to learn from, imitate and walk after (Phil. 3:17; 2 Thes. 3:9).

We must keep God's pattern. "Hold fast the form (pattern) of sound words, which thou hast heard of me" (2 Tim. 1:13).

We must make all things by God's pattern. As Moses was warned to follow the pattern of God in all things, so God warns us in the New Testament "for See, sayeth He, that thou make all things according to the pattern" (Heb. 8:5).

Will you heed the warning?

by Wayne Greeson

# **Daily Bible Reading**

Day	Scripture
Sunday (Epistles)	Philippians 3-4
Monday (The Law)	Leviticus 10-12
Tuesday (History)	2 Kings 1-5
Wednesday (Psalms)	Psalms 78-80
Thursday (Poetry)	Proverbs 8-9
Friday (Prophecy)	Ezekiel 19-24
Saturday (Gospels)	Luke 17-18

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Matthew 5:11-12

# Remember in Prayer

### Shut Ins:

Vallie Andrews Fannie Bell Warren Janelle Arrington

#### Others:

Hollis Cluck Vickie Wade - cancer Muril Todd Karen Hudson - cancer **Christy Garrett** The Bryan Family Annie and JW Smith Margie Taylor Priscilla and Patrick Graves Jessica Richardson Dan Smith Diane Grandstaff and family William Wells - inoperable condition Joe Allen Bonnie Richardson - cancer Linda Kay Edwards - surgery recovery Dylan Speck - kidney problems Haily Speck - melanoma **Edna Forbes** Janice Garrett Carol Goins - Mary L.'s sister

# Bible Riddle

When the prophet's servant looked for me, Six times he went, but could not see. The seventh time he scanned the skies, He saw me from the sea arise.

I caused a king to flee and fear,
For storm and destruction seemed very near.
In the Bible there are many of my kind,
But no other of my size will you find.

Some concealed men who went away;
For others men were said to pray.
Upon one the Lord was said to ride,
Behind another a people were able to hide.

For ages my kind received praise and blame, Tell what I am; I have no name. (last week's answer: Joseph)

# If man came from apes... Why are there still apes?

# This Week's Bible Trivia:

- Q Who was the wife of Moses?
- Check back next week for the answer!

# Last Week's Trivia:

- Q What baby won the heart of a princess by its beauty and tears?
- A Moses. Ex 2:6, Acts 7:20