# THE ROCK HILL

The bulletin of the Rock Hill church of Christ



## The Rock Hill church of Christ

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#### Worship Times:

- Bible Class 9:00AM
- Sunday Worship 10:00AM
- Sunday PM Worship 6:00PM
- Wednesday Bible study 7:00PM

#### Elders:

- Jim Boles
  - Charles Haley
  - Doug Jones
- Scott Wallace
- Hugh RuebushJohn SmetzerBurley Stinnett

Deacons:

Reiven Holt

Vallace

#### Preacher:

Park Linscomb



### SPIRITUAL TIDBITS-JOSEPH'S PART

We As we consider the road from the Abrahamic promise to its fulfillment, many things had to happen. Much of what we have reviewed is in the book of Genesis. We have not moved beyond the year 1884 BC, meaning we are still 1,884 years from the birth of Jesus. We have not seen the coming of the New Dispensation, we have yet to see the establishment of the Law of Moses including the 10 Commandments, nor the occupation of the 'Promised Land'. We know that Abram lived in Canaan for 10 years (*Genesis 16:3*), when Sarai gave Hagar to him for wife, which was not the fulfillment of the Promise.

Earlier in <u>Genesis 15:13-17</u>, God told Abram, "thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs and shall serve them; and be afflicted four hundred years...but in the 4<sup>th</sup> generation, they shall come hither again" This is a reference to the land of Egypt that begins in 1876 BC. The 'bondage' would begin after the death of Joseph. The idea of bondage is first mentioned in <u>Exodus 1:8-11</u>. We know the time in Egypt was a total of 430 years, and the first Passover is dated at 1446 BC (1876-430 =1446 BC). Before bondage began, God greatly blessed the children of Israel through Joseph's oversight in Egypt. God's plan for Joseph can be discovered in <u>Genesis</u> <u>45:4-18</u>.

Joseph was the 11<sup>th</sup> son born to Jacob (Israel). Although the more direct lineage to Jesus is through the Tribe of Judah, Joseph would play this significant role in bringing health and wealth to the descendants of Jacob. The bondage occurred in the last 100-110 years of their total time in Egypt. Prior to that, Joseph 'brokered' the provisions he had managed to accumulate during the "7 years of plenty" in Egypt to all people within the region. In exchange for gold and silver, then livestock and finally to land, Joseph built great wealth for Egypt and for the children of Israel as well. In Genesis 46:1-4 God gave this to Jacob in a dream; "fear not to go down into Egypt for there, I will make of thee a great Nation: I will go down with thee into Egypt: and I will surely bring thee up again"... the fulfillment of prophecy to Abram in Genesis 15:14 "also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge...afterward they will come out with great substance."

Doug Jones

Family News

"For through Him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God." Ephesians 2:18,19

f you are visiting our congregation, welcome! Please fill out a visitor's card and put it in the collection tray as it is passed. If you have questions, we welcome them; please do not hesitate to ask Park Linscomb, our minister (the tall guy) or any other church member.

#### N . E . W . S .

**THIS evening services our regular worship service has been cancelled** so that those who have been invited to Kent's and Avery's wedding can do so.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** — Thanks to everyone who helped with the breakfast preparation, to everyone who came, and Tom Roberts for making a great presentation.

**CAROL PYBURN** passed on Wednesday after a long illness. Jim and Carol first came to work with the Frisco church of Christ in 1985. Jim preached for the Frisco church of Christ until 2001 until we started the Rock Hill church of Christ. He preached here until he retired and then later moved to Denton. Her service was yesterday, May 17th, at the Denton church of Christ.

**KEN CONKLIN** is now in a nursingrehab facility and hopes to be home in 7-10 days. Tammy thanks everyone so much for all the prayers!

**SEWING MINISTRY** — We will be sewing on this Thursday, May 22. **ADDRESS UPDATES??** — Please check our online address book and see if your information is correct. If not, please let Nancy Jones know. **The Pittsfield MA church** — Those who wish to provide the Pittsfield MA church money for their benevolence fund monthly can see Trudy R. to contribute.

#### NEW PRAYER REQUESTS...

• Esther Myrick asks for prayers from us. She has been having a very low blood count, especially her white count, for some time. The doctors are having a hard time knowing what is causing it. She will see her doctor again on Tuesday. Pray that the doctor will determine the cause and prescribe a corrective action.

#### **OUR PRAYER LIST...**

- Ora is now home, but she has to be quarantined for 90 days. However, she will have to go to the hospital for testing and follow-up three times a week, so continue to pray for her continued improvement and for her medications to work well for her kidney.
- Reiven H Pray for a quick and complete recovery.
- Suzanne asks for strength for her mother Bonnie. She wants so badly to be able to attend services but does not have the physical strength to do so.
- From Juliana: Pray for Becky B,. recovering from tongue cancer surgery.
- Our missionary in Pittsfield MA, the Staffords, now has their grand-daughter, Peyton living with. Please pray for them in this transition.
- Please pray for Eloise's recovery for a broken bone from a fall.
- Mary H is recovering at home.

- Ralph L. suffering from double vision.
- Elizabeth's cousin Tracy with Lupus, and also her cousin Debbie H.
- Jim B.'s daughter-in-law is terminal.
- Emma's grandmother, Karla R, dementia and cancer.
- Bonnie D recovering from a minor stroke.
- Sue C: digestive problems
- Churches in New England
- Brethren in India
- Our leaders, parents, families, marriages, widows, and singles of our congregation.

#### LONG TERM PRAYER REQUESTS

- Isela H's sister Griselda's illness
- Carol P.
- Dale and Lavonia C.
- Julia's nurse friend, Michaela
- Rosa's friend Isabella, heart lesion
- Travis Y. feeding tube
- Ken C.

Dava ave Diava vi vi viava

- READ-THE-BIBLE-IN-A-YEAR
- □ May 18, 2 Chron 5-7
- □ May 19, 2 Chron 8-10
- □ May 20, 2 Chron 11-14
- □ May 21, 2 Chron 15-18
- □ May 22, 2 Chron 19-22
- □ May 23, 2 Chron 23-25
- □ May 24, 2 Chron 26-28
- □ May 25, 2 Chron 29-30

What you do matters because it reflects who you belong to. DAVID STARRY

A word of Encouragement

"For this reason we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away from it." Hebrews 2:1, NAS95.

## THE MARRIAGE COVENANT

've heard people joke about it before, but never really heard anyone speak about it seriously. Yet, there it was on the radio being seriously discussed like it was a desirable, workable possibility—contractual time limits for marriage, an end point for marriage other than "until death do us part".

The rationale? "People live a really long time, these days; it's not unusual for people to be married 40, 50, and 60 years these days. And when marriage was "invented" people didn't usually live but to 40 about years old and weren't married for more than perhaps 20 years. Now that we live so long, we have the time to change, grow, morph, become someone new; and we oftentimes outgrow an old relationship that we entered into into our 20's."

When I hear such nonsense, I'm reminded of a movie line (a near-quote, anyway) out of *Her Alibi* as the main character explains the reason his ex-wife divorced him, "She said she needed to grow. I thought she was full grown, when I married her." The problem, seriously, isn't about growth.

The problem is a fundamental misunderstanding of, or ignorance of, or even wanting to ignore the meaning of covenant; and marriage is a covenant (Malachi 2:14). Covenants are a kind of agreement or contract, but one far, far more binding, life-long in duration, and requiring far more from those that enter it than any paper contract or handshake agreement that someone might make under ordinary circumstances. Covenants are essentially the making of family through incorporating someone not in your immediate family into your immediate family. Adoption, for example, is a covenant, and helps to illustrate the nature of covenant. Adopted children are considered as much the children of the parent as the naturally born children-having an inheritance with natural children, loved like natural children, having all the responsibilities and duties of natural children, and being children of the parents for their whole lives. And marriage is a covenant (the making of family), too, with its own special set of responsibilities, duties, and loyalties-and equally as durable as any adoption, because durability is the nature of family, of covenant. Marriage cannot be modified any more than sonship/fatherhood or any other family relationship.

As 21st century Christians we must be careful not to embrace the world's ever-changing and sinful values and views. The world has chosen to try to redefine marriage significantly in the past several years: "Open Marriage", same-sex marriage, leadership changes in the family, and now time-limited marriages. We have new (we think) ideas about what makes marriage good, beneficial, and viable—thrill, romance, deep friendship, etc. Thinking that marriage is an invention of human society, mankind comes to the wrong-headed notion that humans can modify it as they see fit without harm or sin. But they are terribly misguided.

Marriage is not a human institution or convention, it is a God-made covenant which we have no right to modify outside of the parameters that God has laid down. It is God who has set the ground rules, men have no right to alter, tweak, or change the "deal" that God has set down.

- It is only between a man and a woman (Genesis 2:18ff)
- The husband is the head of the wife (Ephesians 5:22-33)
- Husbands and wives must love one another (Ephesians 5:25 and Titus 2:4)
- Sexual expression is permissible, encouraged (Genesis 1:22), and a rightful expectation (1 Corinthians 7:2-5)
- Sexual expression is exclusive to one's husband or wife (Exodus 20:14)
- Its duration is as long as they both shall live (Romans 7:3)
- Divorce is allowable only for the cause of adultery (Matthew 5:32)

There are other parameters that could be listed here, but the main point is that we must pay attention to and obey God's laws for marriage, even when the rest of the world says something different. Men and women may argue that it just isn't working for them; but when you cut through the baloney, the problem isn't in marriage the way that God created it—God's way works just fine. The problem is that God's parameters don't fit *their* desires, and it tells them that *they're* wrong. Men in their "wisdom" may not understand why, but rightness or wrongness doesn't lie in whether or not we can figure it out; it lies in the fact that God has said it.

## FAMILY GALENDAR FOR THIS WEEK IN MAY

18 = 9:00AM Bible classes = 10:00AM Worship	19 Charles/Diane 🌳	21 = 7:00PM Wed. Bible class	22 Sewing ministry at 10AM	23	24 Yaw F. 🔤

#### SERVICE IN WORSHIP

Week of May 18	AM	РМ	Wed.
Announcements			
Song Leading	,	,	Jeremy C
Opening Prayer	Reiven H	Tom R	,
Communion	Chris S	Yaw F	
Closing Prayer	Tom R	Hunter M	
A/V Control	Charles H	John S	Hunter M
Greeter	Hugh R		

#### Week of May 25.....Wed.

Announcements	Charles H	Charles H	
Song Leading	Scott W	Doug JJim B	
Opening Prayer	Chris S	Jim B	
Communion	Burley S	Reiven H	
Closing Prayer	Doug J	Ralph K	
A/V Control	Hunter M	John SCharles H	
Greeter	John S		





Sermon Notes...