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into eternal torments, and be punished with ever lasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and the glory of his power."

(32.3) "Christ wants us to know with certainty that there will be a day of judgment, both to deter all men from sin and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity. Likewise he wants that day unknown to men, so they may shake off all fleshly security, and be always watchful, because they do not know at what hour the Lord will come, and will therefore be ever prepared to say, Come Lord Jesus, come quickly, Amen."

There is wisdom to be found in noting what they were willing to say and the issues upon which they were not willing to comment.

Bottom line: We are to live our lives knowing that Jesus is coming again to judge the heavens and the earth.

Come, Lord Jesus, come quickly. Amen.

Pastor Caines

NURSERY SCHEDULE

May 3

9:30 *Infants:* D & G Schreiner
Creepers/Toddlers: P & L Spotts
Toddlers: P & L Jones

SS *Infants:* K & S Orthner
Creepers: D & E Reynolds
Toddlers: S Wade, L Orthner

6 PM *Combined:* Tracy Brown Family

May 10

9:30 *Infants:* S Forrester, A Wooten
Creepers/Toddlers: S Gritter, J Hall
Toddlers: H & B Lehmann

SS *Infants:* R & B Roop
Creepers: J & R Ray
Toddlers: R & P Lyons

6 PM *No Evening Service - Mothers' Day*

Please note: If you are unable to find a replacement for your nursery duty, call Cayce Weekley at 423-843-5008.

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

8451 East Brainerd Road
Chattanooga, TN 37421

(423) 899-5377
www.covenantchattanooga.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



THE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 22, No. 16

Covenant
Presbyterian Church

April 29, 2009

From the Senior Pastor...

Whenever we preach on a passage in Scripture that touches directly upon such topics as the Kingdom of God and the day(s) of the Son of Man — such as Luke 17.20-37 — it provokes many comments and questions.

That's understandable. God has placed eternity in our hearts. As men and women created in God's image, we sense that there's more to reality than what we detect with our senses.

By God's grace, the light of His revelation has blazed upon us. And by grace, through faith, having embraced Jesus as Savior, Lord and King, we long to see Him face to face and expectantly look for His promised coming.

In the seventeenth century, our church fathers gathered in the Jerusalem Room of Westminster Abbey to write our *Westminster Confession of Faith*. The final two chapters of our Confession attempt to clarify for us what Scripture teaches about the second coming of Christ.

I want to remind you of what they wrote. For the sake of clarity (I hope) I'll try to put into more modern English what they wrote.

(32.1) "The bodies of men, after death, return to dust and see corruption. But their souls, which neither die nor sleep . . . return to God who gave them. The souls of the righteous, being then made perfect in holiness, are received into the highest heavens . . . behold the face of God . . . and await the full redemption of their bodies. The souls of the wicked are cast into hell, where they

remain in torment and utter darkness, awaiting the judgment of the great day."

(32.2) "At the last day, those still alive shall not die, but be changed: and all the dead shall be raised bodily . . . and be united again to their souls forever."

(32.3) "The bodies of the unjust shall, by the power of Christ, be raised to dishonor. The bodies of the just, by his Spirit, shall be raised to honor and be made conformable to his own glorious body."

(33.1) "God has appointed a day when he will judge the world, in righteousness, by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgment is given by the Father. On that day, the apostate angels and all persons who have lived upon earth shall appear before the tribunal of Christ, to give an account of their thoughts, words, and deeds. They will receive good or evil according to what they have done."

(32.2) "The goal of God's appointing this day is for the manifestation of the glory of his mercy in the eternal salvation of the elect, and the manifestation of his justice in the damnation of the reprobate who are wicked and disobedient. At that time, the righteous shall go into everlasting life, and receive fullness of joy and refreshing that comes from the presence of the Lord. But on that day the wicked who do not know God, and do not obey the gospel of Jesus Christ, shall be cast

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YOUTH & FAMILY

Middle school & high school youth will meet this Sunday after the evening service.

TATERS & TUBE STEAKS

Join us Friday, May 22, for a night of food and fun. Meet at Coolidge Park between 5:45 and 7 PM for a grilled-hotdog-and-sausage dinner, then to AT & T field for a Lookouts game with the Carolina Mudcats. The cost is \$5 per person with a \$15 family maximum . . . best entertainment value in town! Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board by the church's main lobby.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Starting in June we need two Sunday School helpers for the kindergarten class. You can commit for a year, a semester or just the summer. This is a great opportunity to minister to our children. Please contact Mark Wilson for more information.

BABY SHOWER

The drop-in baby shower for Laurie (Elwood) Ritzema is this Sunday, May 3 from 4:00 - 5:30 PM in the parlor. She is registered at Target and Babies R Us.

IRONMAN'S BREAKFAST

All men are invited to the Ironman's Breakfast this Saturday, May 2, at 8:30 AM. Chris Gregory will speak on "The Age of Opportunity." Join us for a great time of fellowship, food, discussion, and prayer.

COMMUNION/ DIACONATE OFFERING

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper will be celebrated during the morning worship service this Sunday. Please prepare your hearts.

This is also a time when a special diaconate fund offering is received. The funds supply the financial resources for the ministry of mercy conducted by our deacons, primarily assisting CPC family members who are in need.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Ladies' Tea

Be sure to register this Sunday for the Ladies' Tea, May 9. The registration deadline is this Sunday, May 3. The cost is \$6 and \$3 for girls under age 12.

Fellowship Groups

- The East Brainerd fellowship groups 1 & 2 will meet Monday, May 4, at 6:30 PM for a salad supper at Ann Walker's house.
- The Mothers Encouragement fellowship will meet Tuesday, May 5, at 10 AM in the parlor.

GRADUATES

If someone in your family is graduating or has graduated since last May from high school or college, contact the church office as soon as possible. We would like to have the names of each so we can properly recognize them.

Parents of Graduates

Parents of high school, college and grad school graduates: Picture boards and instructions may be picked up in the narthex after the service. Turn in by May 10. Thanks!

MUSIC MINISTRY

Sunday Worship

This Sunday our worship focuses on our *PRESENT* God. Two of the hymns we will sing are *All Creatures of Our God and King* (p. 115) and *Loved with Everlasting Love* (p. 703).

MUSIC CAMP

Music Camp is scheduled for June 8-12. The cost is \$25 per child. Registration forms are available at www.covenantchattanooga.org for you to download.

NEW MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

Please notify the church office if you have had a change of address, phone, or email address since we last published the membership directory. We plan to have a new directory available in the next few weeks.