

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

Planted by the Waters

OUR FAMILY NEWS

Pray: Tina Crawford, Judy Michael (Joe Clapp's daughter), Wayne and Cathy, Peggy Beebe, Robert Webster (Peggy's nephew). Han's nephew, he is missing.

Ladies' Retreat: The Anchorage church of Christ will host a Ladies' Retreat March 20-21. The theme this year is 20/20 Vision Looking Upward. Speaker will be Maria Cox from Nikiski. Ladies' plan to attend.

Traveling/Working: Slope workers. Joe is in Cold Bay. Steve and Abby are in Juneau.

Radio Program: Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program

Women's Study: The women's study next month will be Saturdays February 8 and 29, 2020, at 1:00 PM at the Building. All the women are encouraged to attend.

Evangelism: There are several bible studies ongoing. Check the website and attend if you can.

Today's Scripture: "For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit." **Jeremiah 17:8 (KJV)**

Wisdom for Today: "Those that be planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God." **Psalms 92:13 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 85: Our Record: 107

For more detail, please go to the web site.

ELDERS:

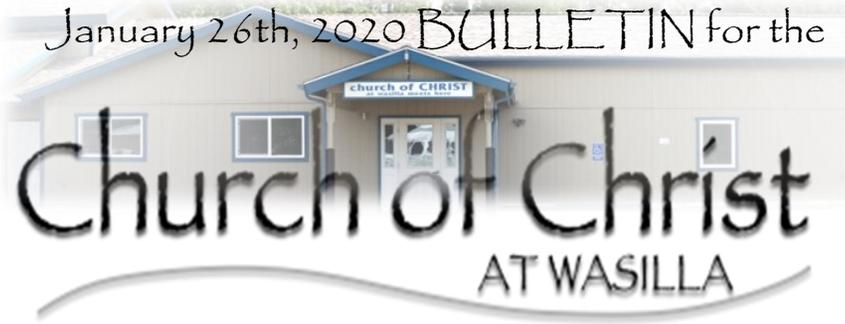
Ed Maxwell	(907) 373-5583	ed@churchofchristwasilla.com
Hans Nicholson	(907) 230-2969	hnichs@gmail.com
Paul Stone	(907) 491-1170	good_nooz@yahoo.com

DEACONS:

Joe Murdock	(907) 715-0089	montana2189@hotmail.com
Phillip Kelly	(907) 632-1118	affordablehydroseeding@hotmail.com
Logan Decker	(907) 244-1777	logan.decker9@gmail.com

EVANGELIST

Bill Beebe	(907) 841-9261	bill@churchofchristwasilla.com
------------	----------------	--



God's Plan of Salvation

Hear..... Romans 10:17
 Believe..... Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6
 Repent..... Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10
 Confess..... Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33
 Be Baptized Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16
 Arise & Walk in Newness of Life Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

MEETING TIMES
Sunday:
 Bible Classes: 10AM
 AM Worship: 11AM
 PM Worship: 5PM
Wednesday:
 Bible Study: 7PM

OFFICE HOURS
 Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

COME JOIN US!
 The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:
 2061 N. Merciful Circle
 Wasilla, AK 99654
 (907) 373-5773

Visit our website at:
www.churchofchristwasilla.com

Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

Planted by the Waters

The idea of being planted by the waters is used by both David and Jeramiah. David used the phrase in **Psalm 1:3 (KJV)** where he says *“And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”* Jeramiah makes a very similar statement in **Jeremiah 17:8 (KJV)** *“For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and that spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.”* The idea is also used by John in the Revelation. There John, guided by the Holy Spirit, says *“And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”* **Revelation 22:1-2 (KJV)**.

We all understand that things planted near a water source do better than those that are far away from water. We see it all the time, in our gardens, in farms, and in forests. Something that has a dependable supply of water just grows better than those things that don't have that resource. Both David and Jeramiah uses this to demonstrate the affect that living with and without the proper relationship with God has on humanity.

In Psalms 1, David says *“Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night. And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.”* **Psalm 1:1-3 (KJV)**. The person who lives their lives in righteousness and abstains from all that is ungodly will be like a tree planted by a river. In other words, that person will be spiritually successful and will not see a season where their spiritual lives wither and ceases to grow. On the other hand, that person who lives an ungodly life may succeed for a while but there will come a time when he will wither and die. David, in this Psalm describes their fate as *“The ungodly are not so: but are like the chaff which the wind driveth away. Therefore the ungodly shall not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous. For the LORD knoweth the way of the righteous: but the way of the ungodly shall perish.”* **Psalm 1:4-6 (KJV)**

In Jeramiah chapter 17, Jeramiah was prophesying about the things that Judah was going to face. In this particular section, he is comparing a man who trusts in men and their teachings to one who trusts in God. The man who trusts in men and their teaching is like the plants that grow in the desert well away from a dependable water source. He will dry up and will not be able to recognize the

By: Bill Beebe

goodness of the Lord, because he will be blinded by the traditions and teaching of mere men. But the man who trust in God and whose hope is solidly placed in Him is like those trees who grow by the river. That tree spreads its roots out and drinks of the cool waters and doesn't wither away when the dry season comes. And so is the man whose hope is placed in God and not men. He will drink of the cool waters of the word of God and will flourish continually. When trials come his hope in God will see him through the worst of times.

John, in Revelation 22 is describing what he is seeing in Heaven. He sees a river flowing from the throne of God, the waters in this river are the waters of life. And on either side of the river grows the tree of life. This is an amazing site. But once again the idea is that the trees will never wither because they are constantly drinking cool clear water. In this case, they are watered by the river of life that flows from the throne of God. Barnes, in his notes on the New Testament, states that the idea here is not of a single tree but of numerous trees growing on either side of the river and throughout the city. This, in his comments, contrasts with the single tree that grew in the garden of Eden. Think about the wonder of heaven, there is not a single tree of life but countless trees, all producing fruit continuously. And that fruit gives us continuous life. Since they grow by the river of life, they will never fail to produce fruit. An eternal park overflowing with fruit of the tree of life and watered by the river filled with the water of life. There can be no better thought than this.

So the question is where do you want to grow. Do you want to grow in the desert where you may flourish for a season, but when the time comes wither away since you have no consistent source of life giving water. Or do you want to be planted by the river and spread your roots, drinking in the cool clear waters that give life and give it abundantly without fail. When we trust men and their teaching we are living in the desert where we may enjoy life for a season but when judgement comes we are withered and die. When we place our hope in God we will drink the cool, clear waters of His word. And when judgement comes we will be placed in that great park where untold numbers of the tree of life grow being watered by a river flowing from the throne of God and filled with the water of life.

Unlike trees and plants, we can make the choice of where we grow. What will your choice be? You will make a choice, ether for God or not, but you will make a choice and you will make it today. You made it yesterday and you will make it tomorrow. You will make it everyday for the rest of your life. You will not be able to avoid making the choice, so make it with determination and with a full understanding of the consequences.