

“...strengthen thy brethren”



Luke 22:32

Sermons:

AM— Criticized?

PM— Why Did Jesus Christ Leave Heaven?

Prayer List

Pray for our Gospel Meeting with Ted Thrasher—Oct. 18-21, 2015

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Al Haskell—kidney problems | Charlene Steele—injuries |
| Chuck Smith—heart & Sciatic nerve | Dale and Sue Gregory |
| Donna Duford—Betty’s daughter. | Janet Davis—health |
| Earlene Currier-health | Edith Taylor - Bill’s mother. |
| Jacob Jobe—stroke | Joyce and Marty Stearns |
| Kim Penoyer-health | Leonard White —cancer |
| Lauren Weidner-encouegment | Pam Bentz—cancer |
| Misty Davis—health problems | Russ Bateman-health |
| Pat Crain—health | Stan Bozich |
| Wyatt Duford—need of prayers | Scott Bateman—cancer |

CHURCH OF CHRIST

of Genesee County

July 26, 2015

5284 Fenton Road, Flint, Michigan 48507

Welcome All:
 We are thankful to have you with us today. The Lord's church here is dedicated to the restoration of New Testament Christianity, respecting both the authority and the silence of the Scriptures.
 Again, thank you for worshipping God today.

Schedule of Services

Worship...	Sunday	11:00 a.m.
	Sunday	6:00 p.m.
Bible Study...	Sunday	10:00 a.m.
	Wednesday	6:00 p.m.

www.coc-gc.org

Preacher: Michael Golwitzer (810) 771-4627

Placed Membership with us:

Al and Jeannie Haskel

600 N East Street

Fenton MI 48430

Phone #: 810-750-3438

Anniversary: June 19th

Birthdays: Al—Feb 22 Jeannie-Mar 6

Kim Penoyer—He has moved from the hospital to Oaks At Woodfield, 5370 E Baldwin Road Grand Blanc, MI 48439 (810) 877-0743 (Rm 219)

TIPS for Bible Study

The Book of REVELATION

Notes

As you learn, highlight, underline, and keep notes in your Bible. These can be valuable to you later when you review a passage.

1. Environment

Time: It is important for Christians to set aside time each day for prayer (talking with God) and reading the Bible (letting God talk to us). We should select a time when we are fresh and relaxed, and preferably the same time each day so as to form a habit.

Location: We should pick a well-lit place where we can spread out and take care to prevent technology (text/email alerts), sound (TV/radio), and people distractions. We should have paper, pens, and highlighters at hand. If we use an electronic Bible, we should use the note-taking and Bible-marking features.

2. Context

When was this text written? Is it part of the Old or New Testament? Under which dispensation does it fall?

Who wrote it, who is speaking, and who is being spoken to? This information gives insight into meaning.

- 1 In this example we see that it is a Revelation of Jesus, written by John, to the seven churches of Asia. **3**
- 2 **Where was it written?** Finding where a book was written and under

what circumstances can help with interpretation.

- 4 Here, John is on the island of Patmos, suffering "tribulation" or difficulty (most believe imprisonment by the Roman government).

What is the purpose? It is important to look at a book's original purpose. What was the author communicating to the original readers?

- 5 Here, John writes to encourage Christians who are about to face severe persecution.

3. Interpretation

Let the text speak. We must never force the Bible to say what we want it to say. The Bible is our perfect guide (James 1:25), but only when we let the text guide us to its meaning rather than looking for verification of something we already believe.

Let Scripture interpret Scripture.

If we run across a difficult passage, we should look at other passages on the same topic. The Bible also often defines terms. For instance, Hebrews 11:1 defines *faith*.

Remember that one New Testament Scripture will never contradict another New Testament Scripture, so use the Bible to help in interpretation.

4. Resources

Study Helps: Many Bibles come with cross-references, introductions, devotionals, and other study helps. While these are often good resources, it is important to remember that they are not part of Scripture, so they are subject to error and bias. Trust the text of the Bible, and always weigh carefully what men write (Acts 17:11).

- Greetings to the Seven Churches. **1** loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood. **2**
- 1 The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to show unto his servants things which must shortly come to pass; and he said and signified it by his angel unto his servant John.
 - 2 Who hath received of the word of God, and of the testimony of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw.
 - 3 Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand.
 - 4 **1** (John) to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace be unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come, and from the seven spirits which are before his throne.
 - 5 And from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead, and the prince of the kings of the earth. Unto him that
- loved us, and washed us from our sins in his own blood. **6** And hath made us kings and priests unto God and his Father: to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. **7** Behold, he cometh with clouds, and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him. Even so, Amen. **8** **1** **I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.**
- 9 **1** John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.

Apparent Age

How old is the Earth? No one knows the exact number of times this globe has orbited the Sun. However, using biblical chronology a person can calculate the age of the Earth to be in the neighborhood of 6,000 years old. "But the Earth looks millions of years old," some people will protest. There are at least two responses to such a statement. First, one might ask: "Compared to what; what does a young Earth look like?" We do not have another Earth that we know is younger than this one, so how would we know what a young Earth looks like. Second, it should not surprise us if science occasionally calculates older dates for the Earth, due to a concept known as the "doctrine of apparent age." This idea suggests that the things God made during the Creation week were formed complete and fully functional. For instance, how old were Adam and Eve two seconds after God created them? They were two seconds old! Yet they walked, talked, and looked like adult human beings, and even had the ability to reproduce (which was one of the commands God gave them—Genesis 1:28). If a tree were cut down in the Garden of Eden one day after the Creation week, how many rings would it have had? Possibly hundreds, yet it would have been only five days old (trees and other plants, remember, were created on day three of the Creation week). So, the real age of the tree and the apparent age of the tree would have been quite different. Just because this Earth may appear older than 6,000 years, that does not mean it is older than that. Some people have suggested that if God made the Earth appear older than it actually is, then He has deceived us because things aren't really as old as they look. This criticism cannot be true since God told us what He did!

