

“...strengthen thy brethren”



Luke 22:32

CHURCH OF CHRIST

of Genesee County

5284 Fenton Road, Flint, Michigan 48507

December 24, 2017

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.

Church of Christ of Genesee County

Worship Service	Bible Classes
House to House / Heart to Heart	Tracts and DVDs
Internet Telecast of Sermons	Evangelism / Gospel Meetings
Online Academy of Biblical Studies	Mission Work
Food Closet	Apologetics Press
Seek the Old Paths	World Video Bible School
Gospel Broadcasting Network	The Spiritual Sword

Website: www.coc-gc.org

PRAYER LIST

MEMBERS

Cindy Atkinson—was in the hospital Thursday with heart problems
 Joan Clodfelter—Christena Apostolico-Joan’s sister in Ohio—
 heart attack, pray also for her family.
 Bill Aldaffer –friend Steven Bock passed away –pray for the family
 Betty Crewse
 Marty Stearns-health problems
 Al Haskell - kidney problems
 Chuck Smith—heart, Sciatic
 Mike and Vivian Golwitzer– health

REQUESTED PRAYERS

Hurley—Joan’s brother and elder is have health problems
 Chere’s— Pryia Vannoy (daughter) and Adam Vannoy (son)
 Ashley Dominey– difficult pregnancy
 Paul Siders-cancer– Joan’s sister in law’s brother
 Patty Lewis-Chuck’s daughter
 Pray for Mason and his parents.
 Edith Taylor-Bill’s mother
 Cody Cantrell-coma-Bill’s friend.
 Rachel Hall—health problems
 Cindy’s friends-Ireland Family, Wayne Hamilton, Kathy
 and Misty Davis, Jody Rynca-cancer
 Betty requests prayers for Earlene Currier-Betty’s Aunt, Susan
 Wills.-Betty’s daughter– Kathy Roberts-cousin-had surgery,
 Lauren Weidner-Betty’s grand-daughter.
 Jeannie’s cousin—McKenna Schummer-cancer (12 yrs. old)
 Dennis—Lou Gehrig's disease-Chuck’s friend

SERMONS

AM: The Benefits of a Merry Heart

PM: Shall We Blame God?

Bible Study



Ladies Bible Class
December 26, 2017 (10 am)

God Always Thinks Ahead

The report of the miraculous events that God used to deliver the Israelites from bondage had spread throughout the land of Canaan. The inhabitants of Canaan had lost all courage and trembled with fear at the prospect of fighting against a people with such a powerful God. In fact, when Joshua sent out the two spies to explore the city of Jericho, the harlot Rahab hid them from danger and said to them, “I know that the Lord has given you the land, that the terror of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land are fainthearted because of you. For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt” (Joshua 2:9-10). God’s work and reputation had so paralyzed the Canaanites that the Israelites planned to make easy work of them.

In the first major battle of the Canaanite conquest, the battle of Jericho, God continued to help the Israelites by miraculously destroying the walls of the city. God did, however, decree that none of the gold or silver in Jericho was to be taken by any individuals; it was all to be dedicated to Him. Sadly, an Israelite named Achan disobeyed God’s command and took a wedge of gold, unbeknownst to Joshua and the other Israelites.

In the confidence of their colossal victory over Jericho, the Israelites next plotted to take the small Canaanite city of Ai.

Without consulting God, the Israelites only sent a few thousand men to Ai, thinking that victory was inevitable. Aspirations of victory were defeated, however, when the few men of Ai sallied forth and defeated the Israelites, killing some 36 men. Joshua and the Israelites were devastated and confused. Why had God left them? And what would the other Canaanite nations do now that they saw that the Israelites could be beaten? Joshua mourned and cried to God, “O Lord, what shall I say when Israel turns its back before its enemies? For the Canaanites and all the inhabitants of the land will hear of it, and surround us, and cut off our name from the earth. Then what will You do for Your great Name?” (Joshua 7:8-9). Upon hearing Joshua’s prayer, God informed him of Achan’s sin and explained that the Israelites would not be victorious until the sinner was removed from the camp. Joshua speedily followed God’s instructions for the removal of Achan. Then God gave Joshua a plan for defeating Ai. He instructed Joshua to set an ambush behind the city. Then he was to set a band of soldiers in front of the city and retreat as in the previous battle (Joshua 8). When all the men of Ai saw the retreating Israelites, they thought that the Israelites were defeated as before, and they all rushed forward, leaving the city unguarded. Those in ambush then attacked the city, and signaled for the retreating Israelites to turn and fight. The result was the utter defeat of Ai. What appeared to be a major defeat to Joshua and the other Israelites, God used to set the stage for a major victory, by making the defeat look intentional. God had added another element to the Canaanites’ reasons to fear Him, showing that not only were the Israelites powerful and strong with His aid, but that they also were capable of cunning military strategy through His guidance. God’s name and brilliance were once again glorified, even in spite of the temporary setback caused by sin in the Israelite camp. This episode provides one more piece of evidence that “[t]here is no wisdom or understanding or counsel against the Lord” (Proverbs 21:30).

by Kyle Butt, Apologetics Press