

October 1, 2023

FLORENCE BOULEVARD CHURCH OF CHRIST



Elders

Steve Clark
Jake VanDyke
Ken Vanhorn
Mark Willingham

Deacons

Greg Allen
Justin Beckman
Kevin Clemons
Jeffrey Cox
Mike Davidson
Kyle Dickson
Gregg Elrod
Nate Fulmer
AJ Gooch
David Gooch
Lee Handley
Will Hodge
Brian McManus
Jamey Medley
Ronnie Putnam
Dave Schmidt
Mark Vanhorn

Minister

Austin Johnson

Youth Minister

John Birdwell

Secretary

Sonya Cox

How many times over the past several years have you read the news and thought “how can this be happening?” What is wrong with our society? It seems like a month does not go by where there is not a school shooting, mass murder, sex trafficking, death from illicit drugs, and examples of blatant hatred of God’s word and family such as the promotion of transgenderism for our children.

Honestly, have you not asked yourself. What is this world coming to? Where is justice in this world? Why would God allow such chaos to continue in this world?

As God’s people, when we see things like this it truly breaks our heart, it brings sorrow to us, it shocks us, and it puts us in a stage of disbelief at times. We as Christians know that God expects us to love the people in this world and we must do so. But still, it does make us wonder sometimes, “God, why are You allowing this to happen? Why would You allow the ungodly of this world to bring great injustices to the innocent of this world? Where is the justice in this?”

Habakkuk reflected on his concerns about injustices, and he took these concerns directly to God. His nation, Judah, was God’s chosen people, but they did not act like it. Habakkuk demanded to know when God would teach Judah a lesson. At first God’s answer seemed unfair to Habakkuk, so he asked God another question. He listened patiently to God’s answer and finally put his trust in God’s plan. Even though society was crumbling around him, Habakkuk declared his faith in God, and even rejoiced in God.

Like Habakkuk, many of us feel appalled by the social ills of today. To read the news is to weep and to become sorrowful. And these basic questions seem to nag at us at times:

- Does God hear prayers?
- Does God rescue the oppressed?
- Does God intervene in tragic situations?

The book of Habakkuk will hopefully shed light on the answers to these questions and allow us to more fully understand that God does have a plan and is in control.

Habakkuk did something that was unique and different. He addressed himself directly to God. He was clearly confused by all the wickedness and injustice that was happening all around him and he wanted to know why God was allowing this to happen and questioned God’s dealings with the people. We may look at Habakkuk and wonder why he, of all people, a prophet, would question God. But this just shows the innermost thoughts of his heart and the struggle he was going through in seeing all the terrible things that were occurring around him.

The importance for us will be to listen to the answer that God gives Habakkuk. It is an answer not just for Habakkuk and the people of his day, but an answer to troubled souls of all ages to come. Habakkuk has been called the “prophet of faith” for his faith in Jehovah was strong, but like many other righteous souls he was troubled by the apparent inequalities of life. But instead of moping around and sulking about these injustices, he took the matter to God. And the result of this was that his faith was made stronger.

2502 FLORENCE BOULEVARD

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Worship: Sunday 9:00 am & 5:00 pm; Bible Class 10:15 am; Wednesday: 6:30 pm

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday AM: 272 / On Line Views: 237
Sunday School: 221 / On Line Views: 107
Sunday PM: 211/ On Line Views: 146
Wednesday: 208/ On Line Views: 74
Budget: \$14,620
Contribution: \$ 11,062

OCTOBER MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

Evands Pierre
C/O Jean-Claubert Belton
Carrefour Michaud #46 Route Malpasse
Entrée Double Harvest
Croix des Bouquets
Haiti

(continuation)

The book of Habakkuk will remind us that God does not hurry, and half do things like men do. Someone has said that "God's train is never late; it always runs on schedule, though his schedule is not always what man would make it."

Mark Willingham

UPCOMING EVENTS

Maywood Church-wide Retreat, October 13th -15th
(sign-up sheet on foyer table)
Trunk or Treat, Sunday, October 29th
Elders & Deacons Meeting and Men's Meeting,
Sunday, October 29th
Gospel Meeting , November 5th-8th

THANK YOU

I wish to thank everyone for their kindness shown to me and my family during my sickness. I really appreciate all the cards, calls, visits, and the delicious food, but especially appreciate the prayers. I hope to one day be able to be back at services with you.

*In Christian Love,
Jerry Trousdale*

AREA EVENTS

Gospel Meeting at Center Star Church of Christ, October 1st-4th, with Ricky Berger. Sunday afternoon service: 1:00 pm; Monday-Wednesday services: 7:00 pm.

Gospel Meeting at Valdosta Church of Christ, October 8th-12th, with Sidney White. Sunday evening service: 5:00 pm; Monday-Thursday services: 7:00 pm.

You Are Invited To A
"Grief & The Holidays"
FREE Seminar

Florence Blvd. Church of Christ
Saturday, OCTOBER 28TH
(8:30-11:30 a.m.)

8:30-9:00 a.m. (Registration & Breakfast)

9:00-11:30- Dealing with Grief during the Holidays-What to do and not to do

Don Williams, Instructor
To Pre-Register, Call: 256-766-3617
or 256-366-3327

(Seminar, Breakfast &
All Materials Are FREE!)