

Eisenhower Church of Christ

How Long, O Lord?

In the book of Revelation when the Lamb opened the fifth seal, John saw the souls of the martyrs underneath the altar in the throne room of God. In Revelation 6:10 the scripture says, "...and they cried out with a loud voice, saying, ***'How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?'***" This plea for God to execute His judgment on the wicked may surprise some of us. It may even offend some. God, however, did not condemn this plea. Instead, He comforted these martyrs and told them they must rest a while longer until the number of martyrs would be completed (v. 11). The implication is that God will at some point do as these martyrs requested.

The sentiment of the martyrs in Revelation 6 was primarily the result of the persecution Christians were then suffering at the hands of the Roman Empire. For many generations, especially here in the United States, the idea of persecution and a resultant plea for God to execute judgment on the wicked were only theoretical exercises. We have lived in relative peace and security as believers because our system of government recognized the value of the Christian religion and generally avoided any intrusion into the exercise of our faith. This time appears to be over. Not only are Christians under assault from the generally recognized forces of evil, but we are now also beginning to see overt persecution from our government. As these things accelerate, we worry about what will ultimately befall us.

Some Christians remain aloof and unconcerned about the current state of affairs in our country. There is no adequate explanation for such blindness. As surprising as this is, there are other professed believers who seem to be aiding and abetting the enemy in this struggle. They do so by accepting the notion that certain kinds of behavior no longer fall under condemnation as sin. They do so also by supporting and endorsing candidates for public office whose stated agendas are contrary to biblical truth. They seem oblivious to the fact that they are by their actions letting the wolf into the sheepfold.

On the other hand, faithful Christians recognize the dangers that face us today from ungodly influences. Like the martyrs in Revelation 6, they cry out, ***"How long, O Lord, holy and true, will You refrain from judging and avenging our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"*** They wonder how long God will allow the world to further debase itself. When they view the situation in the world today, they can see that we must be as close as any generation has been to the conditions that prompted the great flood. In Genesis 6:5 the scripture says that every intent of the thoughts of mankind were only evil continually. This certainly seems to be the case today.

The sentiment of Revelation 6 is understandable. Christians are salt and light in the world (Matthew 5:13-16). Their desire, like that of their Father in heaven, is that all people would be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth (I Timothy 2:4). They want only to live in peace and to influence as many as possible for good. The actions of the wicked in every segment of society make these goals more difficult to attain.

Nevertheless, Christians have a hope that no others possess. We are promised that the suffering of life will not compare to the glory of heaven (Romans 8:18). We are promised that when we enter heaven God will wipe away all tears (Revelation 21:4). We are promised also that the wicked will not go unpunished (2 Thessalonians 1:7-8). Like the martyrs in Revelation 6, we must remain faithful and wait a while longer for God to make things right.

—Fred Dominguez

Sympathy

Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Kim Guynn and her family in the loss of her mother, **Meta Troutz**. Meta passed from this life Friday, July 1st after a lengthy illness. Her funeral service was conducted at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 5th at Sunset Memorial Gardens.

Also, we would like to extend our condolences to the family of **Anna McGlothlin**. Anna passed away Friday, July 1st. Visitation was scheduled for Friday between 6–8pm at Sunset and her funeral service at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, July 9th also at Sunset Memorial Gardens. Anna is the mother of Anita Smith.

Prayer Requests

Marilyn Upshaw was taken to Oceans last week. She was put on medication to help calm her down. Keep Marilyn in your prayers.

Kay Baker was treated for a stomach virus last week. She is expected to have another stent put in her heart around July 13th. Kay is a former member of Eisenhower.

Concerns Update

John Wood was taken to ORMC Sunday morning, July 3rd. He was treated and prescribed medication for kidney stones. John is okay.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell, Susan Bosse, Mack Bradford; Betty Branson; Bobbie Braun; Bill Bundick; Sissy Bundick; Neva Carrigan; Eddy Chavez; Steve Chavez; Zane Chism; John Cole; Dayton Dennard; James & Joyce Drake; Ethan Driggers; John Ford; Bill Gibbons; Hattie Gilmore; Kelsey Gomez; Anna Groves; Natalie Hudson; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Charles & Helen Jones; Tracy Leeth; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Elder McCarty; Patty Montgomery; Russ Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Julie Munoz; Laura Olivas; Earlene Poses; Elvia Ruckman; Montrella Ruffner; Andrew Schwarz; Brenda Simmons; Charles Simmons; James Singleterry; Bob Spurlin; James Weaver; Judy Wells; Lisa Wells;

Eisenhower's Shut-ins

Neva Carrigan; Ruby Davis; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Maxine Newton; Janelle Shirley; Wilma Squire, Marilyn Upshaw; and Lester Whisenant.

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

Events

The Texas and Clements Ladies Bible Class have invited our ladies to their “**Annual Ladies Day**” program on Saturday, August 13th, 2016. Urisonya Flunder from the 20th & Birch Church of Christ in Lubbock will be their guest speaker. Registration is from 8:30 a.m. until 9:00 a.m.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Which NT book has the most quotations from the OT?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

King David stole Uriah's wife, Bathsheba.

Thank You

Your gift of love, kindness and compassion meant so much. They cheered her day and strengthen her soul.

We are thankful that God has led us through this time and that you were allowed to walk with us on this journey.

Love,

Steve and family of Linda Horton

I would like to thank all who helped with my garage sale.

Thank you so much,

Hattie Gilmore.

FYI

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 6:30 am on KOSA, channel 7.

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the "**Speaking the Truth in Love**" program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Office News

The "**Odessa Christian School**" is in need of a degreed classroom teacher. They are not concerned with the grade level of teaching expertise. If you qualify and are interested, please contact Nancy Campbell at the school 362-6311.

The next food drive for "**The New Mexico Children's Home**" is Tuesday, August 30th. They are requesting **Canned Peaches and Canned Apricots**. The home also accepts monetary donations.

Our "**Fifth Sunday Services**" is July 31st. We will have a potluck following our morning services followed by our evening service. Our visitors are welcome to join us.

July 10, 2016

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer
Lord's Supper
West...

A.M.

Larry May
Rudy Ochoa
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Dex Dennard
George Warren
Craig Wesson

Richard Siler
Trinidad Wood
Dylan Straw

P.M.

Larry May
John Wood
Allen Weakland
Larry May
Richard Siler
Jeff Wesson
Charles Wood

Tom Sorenson
Communion
(In Library)

East... Cody Wesson
 Isaiah Armendarez
 Josh Weakland

Other Responsibilities: *Elder :* Larry May 638-3990; *Deacon:* Jr. Munoz 363-1309; *Pulpit:* Tony Marrs 553-7349; *Table:* Tom Sorenson 631-2518; *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291; *Recording Duties:* Chris Butler 362-7486; *Collections:* Chris Butler 362-7486

Sunday AM

"Best Things"
(1 Samuel 21:7-9)

Sunday PM

"The Abiding Word"
(1 Peter 1:22-23)

Our Records

Bible Class... 60
*Morning Worship...*121
*Evening Worship...*73
*Wednesday...*72
Contribution...\$4,900.25