



Weekly Booster

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Facebook Contributors

Pastor David B. Clark,

Barb Cunningham,

Craig Harris, Jeff Hiser

Sunday Praise Team

Terry Stafford, Linda Haldane,

Margaret Brady, Deb Finlay,

Jeff Hiser, Drew Morelock,

Pastor David



When is Righteous Anger Justified?

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—will be blessed in what they do.

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world (James 1:19-27).

Continued page 2.

“Life shrinks or expands in proportion to one’s courage.”
Anais Nin

“Just don’t give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don’t think you can go wrong.” Ella Fitzgerald

Reminders

September 22nd

PK-6 S.S.– After Children’s Message
Jr/Sr High S.S. – 10:30 a.m.

September 24th

Ad Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m.

September 25th

Bible Study – 11:00 a.m.
Praise Team - 5:00 p.m.
Choir Practice – 5:30 p.m.
Bell Choir Practice – 6:30 p.m.

September 26th

T.O.P.S.
Meals-On-Wheels Deliveries

****Worship Assistants are needed for October**

**** Fellowship Volunteers needed sign-up in Fellowship Hall**



September 22, 2024

The 18th Sunday
after Pentecost

Righteous Anger - Continued from page 1.

Original Meaning

Receive the Word in Humility, Speak without Anger (James 1:19–21)

The opening verb, “take note of this” (Gk. *iste*, v. 19), can by form be either indicative (a simple statement) or an imperative (a command). It is most likely a command, and it introduces the thoughts that follow: “Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to become angry.”

James then turns his attention to two examples that illustrate his point: human anger and the righteous life that God desires. In verse 20 James seems to confirm our suspicion that in the background is to be found a concern with the character of the Christian community, for he says that human anger does not produce the righteousness of God. James seems to have no particular type of anger in view but puts before us the proposition that anger is deleterious to the righteousness God desires of us.

In verse 21 James opens with a brief catena of behaviors that should not characterize the life of a Christian. The first involves both restraint and renunciation: Christians should “get rid of” (NIV) or “strip off” certain behaviors (v. 21a). James instructs us to remove “moral filth” and “evil.” These terms are among the strongest he has at his command and imply not only general moral evil but also a premeditated, evil intent.

But turning from evil is not enough. James also places before us an alternative path: “Humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you” (v. 21b). Humility is significant not only because the attitude is necessary to allow the word to flourish, but also because it is the essential attribute of the poor, those without resources who are dear to the heart of God.

God’s word has the power to save us. We are to nurture it, for it is a motive force in the process of saving us. The result of this process is that we will achieve ultimate salvation.

Hearing without Doing Is Worthless (James 1:22–25)

Continued page 9.

Volunteers Needed



LAST PERSON LEAVING
PLEASE TURN OUT LIGHTS
AND LOCK DOORS

First United Methodist Church
**Please wear your
name tag on
Sunday mornings**



Church Ad Board Members

- Michelle Morelock - Chair*
- Mary Peterson - Secretary*
- Margaret Brady - Vice Chair & Trustee*
- Gary Milstead - Trustee*
- Roger Jones - SPRC*
- Robin Hensen - Finance*
- Dave Lashier - Treasurer*
- Craig Harris - Lay Member to Annual Conference*
- Connie Anderson - Memorials*
- Linda Haldane - Membership*
- David Clark - Pastor*

Church Office Hours

**** Children & Jr.-Sr. High Sunday School – Starting September 8th. PK-6 during service, Jr/Sr High 10:30 a.m.**

****Choir – Sept. 4th, 5:30 pm**

****Bell Choir – Sept. 4th, 6:30 pm.**

The front door to the church will be unlocked during office hours and closed only for errands and lunch.

Monday

9:00-11:00

12:00-3:00

Tuesday

9:00-11:00

12:00-3:00

Wednesday

CLOSED

Thursday

9:00-11:00

12:00-3:00

Friday

9:00-11:00

12:00-3:00

Please continue to call in advance if you need in the church to make sure someone is in the office. If you reach the answering machine please leave your name, number, and a brief message and your call will be returned. Calls after 2:00 p.m. may be returned the next business day.



How often does the Tree of Life yield fruit?

- a) Everyday
- b) Every week
- c) Every month
- d) Every year

Who was the last judge of Israel?

- a) Gideon
- b) Samson
- c) Jephthah
- d) Samuel

Who was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock?

- a) Methuselah
- b) Lamech
- c) Adah
- d) Jabal

Check page 4 for answers from the previous week.



22nd – Knox Pease

25th – Charlotte Weiss

26th – Hazel Knight

****See a wrong birthday or anniversary, or need one added, please call the office, or send an email to office@shen.church**

**Shenandoah First United
Methodist Church**

200 Church St.
Shenandoah, IA 51601

Phone 712-246-2081

Church E-mail
office@shen.church

Same address – a new look at
<https://shen.church>



<https://shenchurch.onechurchsoftware.com/>



United Methodist Church,
Shenandoah, IA

<https://www.facebook.com/methodist.church.shenandoah>



Services are now on our YouTube
channel only.

<https://www.youtube.com/@shen.church8192/streams>

***Prelude/Postlude/Accompanist: Terry Stafford**

Call to Worship

Leader: We gather today as people God calls to go and share the good news.

People: We gather as God's sent-out people.

L: We gather to listen and share God's work in our lives, our families, and our neighborhoods.

P: We proclaim the goodness of God's love together.

L: We gather to respond to God's grace as we continue on the path of discipleship.

P: We hear God's call and learn to say "yes" to God together.

"On Pilgrimage"

Scripture Reading:

Songs

All Creatures of Our God and King #62

God of Wonders #3034

This Is My Father's World #144

Last Week's Attendance

In-Person Worship – 61

On-Line Worship – 13

Our Mission:

"Know & Serve God by Sharing Christ's Love."

Our Vision:

"We will grow in holiness, our community will thrive, & we will make a difference in our world."

**Answers for September 15th are b) Samson c) Moses c) they were great and tall.
Quiz hints – Q1) Revelation Q2) 1 Samuel Q3) Genesis**

October 2024



Pancake Mix & Syrup, Pasta (including Spaghetti Noodles), Spaghetti Sauce, Green Beans, Corn, Mandarin Oranges, Cinnamon Applesauce, & Pineapple, Chunky Soup, Chicken Noodle Soup, Chili, Macaroni & Cheese, Hamburger, Tuna, & Chicken Helpers, Cake, Brownie, & Muffin Mixes, Ketchup, Mustard, Salt, Pepper, Spices.

There are times when people who use the Food Pantry come to the pantry on foot. They are then forced to walk home carrying, pushing, or pulling several pounds of food. Southwest Iowa Transit, for a very reasonable fee of \$5.00, will take individuals with their food items home. If you are interested in helping pay for these fees, simply seal your cash (whatever you would like to give) in a plain envelope and add it to your donated food items.

The church elevator needs some state-mandated repairs. The repairs are costly but the elevator is also a necessity and vital for members of the congregation. If you would like to donate to help with the cost of the repairs you may drop your donation in the offering box or bring it to the office. Please make sure to indicate on your donation that it is for the elevator fund.



This year we will have a Confirmation program for students in 7th or 8th grade. We will have a parent meeting this coming Sunday, September 22, at 10:30 a.m., and class will begin on October 6. If you have any questions or would like to get your student signed up, please contact Pastor David.

City Wide
YARD SALE

Fall City Wide Yard Sales
Friday/Saturday
September 20th & 21st

*Bring Your Change
to Make a Change*

*Collected each Sunday after
the children's message*



“Each of you should GIVE what you have decided in YOUR HEART to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for GOD LOVES a cheerful GIVER.” (2 Corinthians 9:7)

The Noisy Offering is one more way to do ministry for those in need and teach your children the importance of giving and serving. Each Sunday a new opportunity for mission giving will take place after the Children's Message. Sunday School students will walk around the congregation, collecting your loose coins and currency in their colorful metal pails. This would be a good time to clean out the loose change from your pockets or purse. The money donated in September will go to the **Shenandoah Community Schools – School Nurses**.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**Two Volunteers Needed each Thursday
to Deliver Meals
Sign-Up Sheet is on the
Welcome Center Counter**





Shenfest
On the Sunny Side
Shenandoah, IA

BIKE PARADE

DECORATE YOUR BIKE, SCOOTER, STOLLER,
WAGON OR WHEELCHAIR IN THE "SUNNIEST"
FASHION

PLEASE NO ATVS OR MOTORCYLES

Saturday, September 28th
12:30pm
Sheridan Ave
The Mill -> Police Station

10:30-12:30 @ THE MILL/GREEN SPACE

KIDS GAMES BOUNCE HOUSES

PRIZES AND MORE!



Contact - sshaw@smchospital.com for questions/concerns

If you are interested in helping or running a kid's game, please get in touch with Margaret Brady. There will be prizes and more. The time is 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 28th. Bring your lawn chair with you and join the fun.



EVENTS SCHEDULE

September 28th

- 7am-10am - Fireman's Pancake Feed (Safety Center)
- 7:45-9am - SMC Fun Run/Walk (Wabash Trace old Depot)
- 8am-12pm - Peter Weber Swing for Education Golf Tournament (Golf Course)
- 8am-12pm - Doubles Pickle Ball Tournament (SportsPlex)
- 9am-1:30pm - Car and Truck Show (Earl May Parking Lot 208 N. Elm)
- 9am-1:30pm - Veterans Memorial Museum Tours, Hot Dogs (603 W Lowell)
- 9am-1pm - Tarkio Valley Antique Tractor Show (Railroad Street by The Mill)
- 9am-1pm - Antique Tractor rides (Railroad Street by The Mill)
- 9am-1pm - Antique Tractor Shuttle (Around downtown)
- 9am-1pm Vendor Fair at The Mill (818 W Sheridan)
- 9am-12pm - Farmers Market (Priest Park)
- 10-4pm Food Trucks (Railroad Street by The Mill, Flat Iron)
- 10am-1pm Business Scavenger Hunt (Shenandoah Businesses)
- 10:30-12:30 - Kids Games (Railroad Street Green Space)
- 10:30-12:30 - Bounce Games (Sheridan next to Katz Koolerz)
- 12:00-5pm - Huff n Puff Lawn Mower Pull (Elm and W Valley St)
- 12:30-1pm - Bike Parade (Sheridan from The Mill to Safety Center)
- 1pm-4pm - Historical Museum open (closed during parade)
- 2pm - Parade Sheridan Ave (Line up Clarinda Ave)
- 3:30 - Marching Band Awards (Everly Brothers Childhood Home)
- 3:30-5pm - Alumni/Alumnot Meet and Greet (The Mill 818 W Sheridan)
- 3:30 - Live Music John Rogers (Depot)
- 7pm - Live Music Matt Cox Band (Depot)



Righteous Anger - Continued from page 2.

Living a life of holiness requires a life of action. James makes this point with the present imperative “do” (*ginesthe*, v. 22), which has the force of “continue to do.” God’s people must continue to grow in carrying out the commands laid on them by their hearing of God’s word. This hearing is most naturally the public reading of the Scriptures in the context of worship. But hearing alone is insufficient. To hear and not to take action is to lie to oneself, to “deceive” ourselves. Having introduced the idea of eschatological judgment (v. 21b, the word can “save” us in ultimate salvation on the day of judgment), James’s warning here takes on grave consequences.

In verses 23–24, James’s point is that the image in the mirror, whether the product of a furtive glance or an adoring gaze, quickly dissipates; whatever impression forms in the mind and heart while looking in a mirror is temporary.

Verse 25 offers a positive example, but this verse is perhaps the thorniest theological problem in the entire book. For James “perfect law” and “word” are related. Like Jesus, James does not have in mind a new law, but rather the fuller expression or more perfect distillation of the Mosaic law. For the Christian, this law is still the will of God, but a more refined apprehension of that will. The perfect law, the word implanted and allowed to take root, is ultimately the very teaching of Jesus.

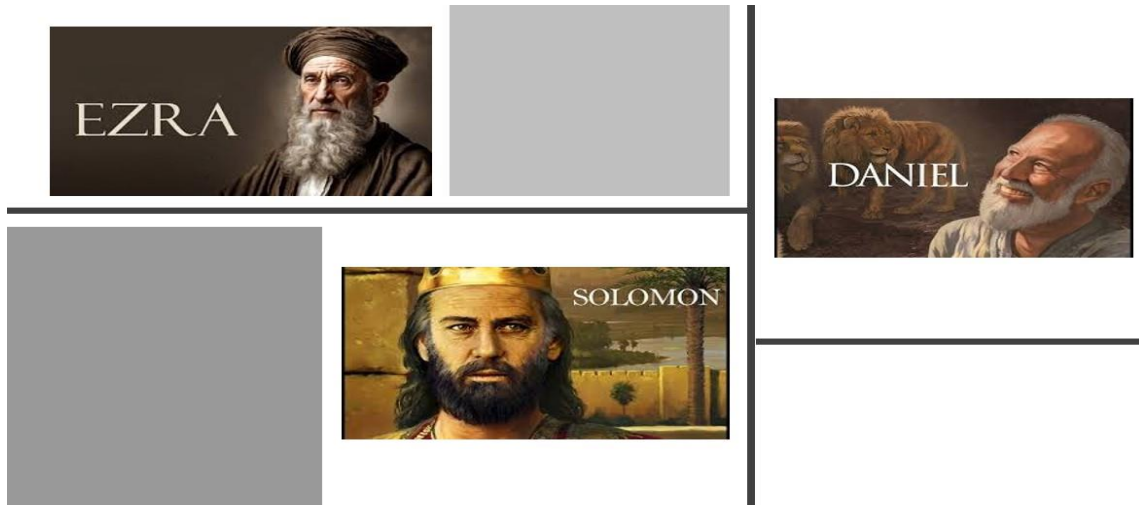
Pure Religion (James 1:26–27)

Two links connect this section to what has gone before. First, verse 26 highlights the sin of rash speech, the theme that opened the passage (v. 19). Second, here is provided an extension of the teaching of “not merely hearing but doing,” in that worship is described as worthless without actions impelled by a godly character. In both this and the previous section, self-deception plays a significant role. The practice of “pure religion” is described here as the control of speech, acts of charity, and resisting temptation.

Application

Intemperate speech. While as children we may have chanted, “Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me,” the ditty is an exercise in whistling in the dark. Words have great power to both wound and heal. Our speech has the power to encourage and nourish life or to snuff it out. Which shall we choose?

When is righteous anger justified? James cautions a slow and deliberate approach. Perhaps the best answer is to investigate biblical patterns, especially that of the prophets. The prophets certainly expressed righteous anger, as did our Lord Jesus. Yet James advocates slowness of speech. We easily become numb to injustice. Oppression of the powerless needs to be pointed out, and in whatever terms necessary. But not every situation is such a crisis. James would have us choose words that are, in fact, appropriate to the issue.



Getting to Know the Major Characters of the Old Testament: Part 3 (Solomon, Daniel, Ezra)

This is the third and final part of our series introducing major characters of the Old Testament. In our first article, we looked at the lives of Adam and Eve, Abraham, Jacob, and Joseph, and our second examined Moses, Joshua, and David. We're now surveying the lives of Solomon, Daniel, and Ezra, while also drawing out some lessons we can apply to our own lives as followers of Christ.

Solomon

Solomon succeeded his father, David, as king of Israel. Solomon would be the last king to rule over Israel as a united nation—the kingdom split into two parts following his death (1 Kings 12).

During his 40-year reign, Solomon conducted an extensive building program and expanded Israel's trade with other nations. He's remembered most for building the temple in Jerusalem, which would stand for several hundred years. The temple took seven years to complete and involved the work of tens of thousands of laborers. 1 Kings 8:22-66 describes Solomon's prayer of dedication and the celebration of the people at its completion. Importantly, Solomon acknowledges in his prayer that "even though God had chosen to dwell among his people in a special and localized way, he far transcended being limited by anything in all creation," including the temple.

Solomon was also known for his great wisdom, which he asked God to grant him early in his reign (1 Kings 3:1-15). He's the author of numerous wise sayings recorded in the book of Proverbs and is traditionally believed to be the author of the books of Ecclesiastes and Song of Songs. He was famously visited by the Queen of Sheba who "came to test Solomon with hard questions" (1 Kings 10:1). After talking with him about "all that she had on her mind," she exclaimed, "The report I heard in my own country about your achievements and your wisdom is true... you have far exceeded the report I heard" (1 Kings 10:1-7).

Despite Solomon's great wisdom, he made the destructive mistake of allowing the worship of false gods in Israel, primarily through the influence of his many wives from other nations. Scripture records that "on a hill east of Jerusalem, Solomon built a high place for Chemosh the detestable god of Moab, and Molek the detestable god of the Ammonites. He did the same for all his foreign wives, who burned incense and offered sacrifices to their gods" (1 Kings 11:7-8). A "high place" was "a place of worship ordinarily situated on a hill or mountain and commonly associated with false religions."

As a result, "the LORD said to Solomon, 'Since this is your attitude and you have not kept my covenant and my decrees, which I commanded you, I will most certainly tear the kingdom away from you and give it to one of your subordinates'" (1 Kings 11:9-13). As the *Asbury Bible Commentary* observes, "How few proofs does [Solomon's] life give that the gracious purpose of God was fulfilled in him! He received much, but he would have received much more, had he been faithful to the grace given." This is a reminder that there is a big difference between *knowing* what is right and *doing* what is right. Solomon was aware God hated idolatry but persisted in it for the sake of political alliances through his marriages. James reminds us, we should not merely *hear* God's word but also *act* on it. Still, Solomon is remembered for the wisdom of his writings and the temple he built for the worship of the true God.

Daniel

Daniel was a Jewish prophet whose story is told in the Old Testament book that bears his name. He was a member of the royal family in Jerusalem, but as a young man was taken away to Babylon by its king, Nebuchadnezzar, who besieged Jerusalem. The Babylonians aimed to indoctrinate Daniel and others who were taken into their own culture, and Daniel was given the Babylonian name Belteshazzar (Daniel 1:7). Three of Daniel's fellow Israelites, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah—who were renamed Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego—are remembered for being thrown into a fiery furnace—and surviving—because they refused to bow down to a golden idol set up by Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 3).

Daniel quickly distinguished himself as a leader and wise counselor, and he won Nebuchadnezzar's favor by interpreting a dream no one else could explain. This led Nebuchadnezzar to declare, "Surely your God is the God of gods and the Lord of kings and a revealer of mysteries, for you were able to reveal this mystery" (Daniel 2).

Daniel also had four visions that predicted how future world kingdoms would unfold, all the way to the end of time (Daniel 7-12). One of these visions foresaw the future reign of Jesus—hundreds of years before Jesus was born:

In my vision at night, I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days [i.e., God] and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory, and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom will never be destroyed. (Daniel 7:13-14).

Jesus applied this prophecy to himself in the Gospel of Matthew, stating, “But I say to all of you: From now on you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Mighty One and coming on the clouds of heaven” (Matthew 26:64).

One key lesson we can learn from Daniel’s life is what it looks like to be faithful to God in the midst of a culture that worships false gods and doesn’t recognize God’s authority. The *Theology of Work Bible Commentary* explains, “Daniel managed to walk the tightrope of partial cultural assimilation without religious and moral compromise. The stakes were high. Daniel’s career and even his life were on the line... Yet by God’s grace, Daniel remained composed and maintained his integrity. Even Daniel’s enemies would later admit that ‘they could find no grounds for complaint or any corruption, because he was faithful, and no negligence or corruption was found in him’” (Daniel 6:4).

This reflects the apostle Peter’s advice to Christians that we should “live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God . . .” (1 Peter 2:12).

Ezra

After Daniel was taken to Babylon, the Babylonians once again attacked Jerusalem, and many citizens of the region were deported to Babylon. After Babylon fell to the Persians, the Persians began allowing the Jews to return to their homeland. This happened in three separate waves, and Ezra led the second wave back to Jerusalem. By this time, the temple had been rebuilt (Nebuchadnezzar had destroyed it), but the people lacked instruction in God’s Word and law and spiritual leadership. Ezra was well qualified to provide this as a priest and a scribe—that is, “a teacher well versed in the Law of Moses” (Ezra 7:6).

One of the major issues Ezra had to confront was the many marriages between the Israelites and people from the surrounding pagan nations. In a mournful prayer to God, Ezra lamented, “Shall we then break your commands again and intermarry with the peoples who commit . . . detestable practices?” We saw earlier how Solomon had been led into idolatry by the pagan practices of his foreign wives. The result of this kind of idolatry was that “we and our kings and our priests have been subjected to the sword and captivity, to pillage and humiliation at the hand of foreign kings, as it is today” (Ezra 9:14; Ezra 9:7). Thus, Ezra made the people swear an oath to separate themselves from their foreign spouses. Had the foreign spouses committed themselves to the God of Israel, there would not have been a problem. But the implication is that the vast majority still worshiped their gods (Ezra 10:19).

The book of Nehemiah tells more of Ezra’s story, including how he read God’s Word to an assembly of the people, and how the Levites—the temple workers—assisted him by reading “from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people understood what was being read” (Nehemiah 8:8).

Because “Ezra had devoted himself to the study and observance of the Law of the Lord, and to teaching its decrees and laws in Israel” the “gracious hand of his God was on him” (Ezra 7:9-10). A recurring theme throughout the Bible is the importance of reading, studying, and meditating on God’s Word. Psalm 1, for

example, says that the person who meditates on God's Word is "like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season and whose leaf does not wither—whatever they do prospers."

A steady diet of Scripture reading and study is essential for spiritual growth, so we encourage you to make use of the resources we offer at Bible Gateway including tips for fully engaging Scripture, Bible reading plans, and other tools for growing deeper in your knowledge of God's Word.

Adapted from author Christopher Reese, freelance writer and editor-in-chief of The Worldview Bulletin. HarperCollins Christian Publishing, Inc., the parent company of Bible Gateway. December 15, 2020.



FALL FUNDRAISER

BABY
Bottle
Drive

- Help support pregnant moms and families at the Shenandoah Pregnancy and Resource Center.
- Simply take a baby bottle, pray, put your donation inside the bottle, return the bottle to church next week.
- Thank you for your support.

 **SPaRC**
Shenandoah Pregnancy and Resource Center
Helping Hearts, Building Lives



From Pastor David

As I continue to work on my doctoral program in spirituality and pilgrimage, I took a pilgrimage last week to several National Parks Service sites in and around the Badlands of South Dakota. Europe has traditional pilgrimage sites and routes like Lourdes, the Camino de Santiago, Assisi, and Rome. Here in America, we have National Parks. But what do National Parks have to do with Christian spiritual formation? What might they teach us? This coming Sunday, I will answer some of these questions and share my journey with you. I hope to see you all this weekend!

Grace and peace,
Pastor David B. Clark
308-258-7749

This week is photo number 8 in a series of unique pictures from all over the world. For some pictures, you may need to squint and then you will see what the picture represents, others you will see it right away. I have found these amazing and wanted to share them.

#8

