

# Glenpool Church of Christ

## A Nation Unmade

I try hard not to embrace national pessimism, the polemic attitude that says “the other guys” are ruining the country. I don't even like to think that our country is beneath the headsman's axe, beyond all hope. I certainly do not believe that our national morality is at historic lows - that is just a forgetful view of history.

However, like Jeremiah, we do seem to feel a wind blowing, and I pray it is not the wind Jeremiah felt.

*At that time it will be said to this people and to Jerusalem, "A hot wind from the bare heights in the desert toward the daughter of my people, not to winnow or cleanse, a wind too full for this comes for me. Now it is I who speak in judgment upon them." (Jeremiah 4:11-12)*

We can benefit as a people from a little hardship, something to remind us to be grateful for what we have and to value what matters most. But what Jeremiah felt was not a winnowing or cleansing wind. That breeze had already passed and been ignored. This was the whirlwind of annihilation. What follows in his description of it is to me the most frightening passage in his entire book of prophecy.

He claims that the Creator would now unmake this nation (Jeremiah 4:22-28). Why? He does not sugarcoat his accusation.

*“For my people are foolish; they know me not; they are stupid children; they have no understanding. They are 'wise'--in doing evil! But how to do good they know not.”*

Stupid children. For a people who forget how to do good and become wise only in evil, God promises a doom that is best described as a winding back of the week of creation. It is the moral consequence of banishing the Creator and Sustainer of reality from our midst.

**The Uncreation Week.** “I looked on the earth, and behold, it was without form and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light.” God once shaped us out of chaos by his Spirit who hovered above the formless waters. If he takes away his life giving Spirit, chaos would surely return. God once spoke and gave the world light. If he stopped speaking, the heavens would be dark again. Day one, unmade! “I looked on the mountains, and behold, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro.” God once parted the seas and made dry land appear. When we tell him that he is no longer needed, even the earth rebels against our foolishness. Day two, unmade! “I looked, and behold, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the LORD, before his fierce anger.” Here, the green life that blooms

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September 11, 2016

### ELDERS

Bobby Hill

Bill Path

Keith Riggs

David Tenison

### PULPIT MINISTER

Benjamin Williams

### YOUTH INTERN

Haden Brill

### PRISON MINISTER

Bill Hamrick

### DEACONS

James Hamilton,

WORSHIP

Thomas Hallsted,

FINANCE

Todd Khoury

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Johnny Riggs,

MEMBER SERVICES

Bruce Rothell,

MISSIONS

Zac Tenison,

YOUNG FAMILIES

Edwin Whittlesey,

ADMINISTRATION

### SECRETARY

Karen Brown

Belong. Learn. Serve.

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is replaced with barren land, and of course the human cities that live off of nature's bounty go with it. Day three, unmade! "For this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above be dark." This judgment is cosmic, darkening even the sun, moon, and stars. Day four, unmade! "I looked, and behold, there was no man, and all the birds of the air had fled." At the end, humanity is no more. Birds flee from the horror. Day five and six, unmade! Day seven was a day of rest where the Creation would reflect glory to God. When the creation - us - stops reflecting God's glory, his rest is interrupted and his creative work spoiled. Why would he continue to hold reality together when it no longer accomplishes the task for which he created it?

**A Nation Unmade.** "For thus says the LORD, 'The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. ... For I have spoken; I have purposed; I have not relented, nor will I turn back.'" Clarifying the passage, Jeremiah hears God say that this grim scene is not a "full end." Lest we be confused, he has been speaking in hyperbole, exaggerating his intent by reminding us of his power. He is still speaking of the unmaking of the nation, not the creation. The God who makes and sustains the universe would have no problem unmaking a nation. And for Judah, that was precisely what he intended to do.

I do not know what God intends for America or for any nation on the earth today, but I know that the nations should never forget the God who graciously allows their very existence, lest we too become a nation unmade.

*by Benjamin J. Williams*

*This full article is available at [www.benpreachin.com](http://www.benpreachin.com)*

## MONDAY NIGHT FOR THE MASTER

Monday Night for the Master will resume meeting on Monday, Sept 12th about 6:30. If you have a project in mind that might be done on these evenings, email or contact the office and we will see if it could be added to the list of projects. (this is a come and go event, if you can't make it 6:30 come when you can)

Possible Projects:

- Auditorium needs new pencils and visitor cards (before Friends & Family Day)
- Touching up paint
- Cleaning out bugs in light fixtures
- Cleaning up carpet spots

## YOUNG FAMILIES

The Young Families will have their monthly dinner after evening services today.



### Sunday, Sept 11

Leadership meeting at 3:00

Young Families dinner after evening services

### Monday, Sept 12

Monday Night for the Master 6:30

### Saturday, Sept 17

Youth Devo at the Hamilton's home

Middle Agers, game night

### Wednesday, Sept 21

Teenage boys will do the devotional

### Saturday, Sept 24

Fall Festival for toddlers thru elementary ages 6-8 pm

### Sunday, Sept 25

Friends and Family Day

## IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

- There have been no ill reported to the office.
- **Service men and women:** Jenna Sullivan; Jacob Littlebear;

**Long Term Prayer List:** Eric Vaughan (heart surgery); Henry Lack (dizziness); Stephanie White (pain); Dolores Scherman; Steven Cornejo; Alan Trimble (ALS); Wayne Morgan; Rosalie O'Neal (kidneys); Ruth Henry;

## GOSPEL MEETING

The Oologah congregation is hosting a Gospel Meeting, Sunday thru Thursday Sept 11-15.

## GLAD YOU ARE HERE

We are happy that Larry, Beverly, and grandson Ryder Killebrew are placing their membership with this congregation. They are Sarah Hallsted's parents. Welcome to the Glenpool Church of Christ!

## FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY

We have scheduled Sunday, Sept 25 as our Friends and Family Day. **Post cards** have been printed (some are formatted to be mailed, some are to be handed out to your friends) and are on the desk in the foyer and on the small table.

## LEADERSHIP MEETING

The monthly leadership meeting is scheduled for Sunday, Sept 11th at 3:00. This is for the elders, deacons, and ministers.

## MIDDLE AGERS

The Middle Agers will have a 'game night' at the church building on Saturday, Sept 17th. See Sandra Tenison for questions.



## YOUTH DEVO

There will be a Youth Devo at the Hamilton's home on Saturday, Sept 17.

- Boys bring chips, girls bring drinks
- If you need a ride be at the church building by 4:00 — **let Haden know if you will need a ride**
- The devo begins at 5:00
- **Let Haden Brill know if you plan on attending, the Hamilton's would like an idea of how many to expect.**
- Parents— you will receive a text or phone call letting you know when the devo is over and you can pick up your children at the building.

## FALL FESTIVAL

There will be a Fall Festival for the Toddlers thru Elementary age at the home of David & Sandra Tenison on Saturday, Sept 24th from 6-8 pm. See Sandra for questions.



## OPEN HOUSE at HOPE HARBOR

Hope Harbor will have their annual Open House on Saturday, Sept 24.

- 10:00 am Silent Auction begins along with kid and family activities
- 11-12:00 lunch includes fish fry, BBQ & more
- 12-1:00 live auction! Bid on items such as a car, gift baskets, art & more.

A flyer is posted on the bulletin board with more information.



## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Meghan Causby, Sept 11  
Peyton McCafferty, Sept 12  
Daniel Marquez, Sept 12  
Bob Simmons, Sept 12  
David & Betty Shelby, Sept 12

Richard Senn, Sept 12  
Jeff Bullinger, Sept 13  
Bob & Betty Simmons, Sept 16  
(63 years)  
Cathy Burcham, Sept 17

Darla Edwards, Sept 17  
Robert & Andrea Hallsted, Sept 18  
Tammy Carr, Sept 19  
Wanda Howard, Sept 19

### SUNDAY AM WORSHIP

Song Leader	Bill Path
Opening Prayer	Randy Crawford
Table	1. Sonny Pulliam 2. Robert Hallsted 3. David Tenison 4. Johnny Riggs 5. Ryan McCafferty 6. Topper Causby
Scripture Reading	Thomas Hallsted
Closing Prayer	Bob Howard

### SUNDAY PM DEVOTIONAL

Song Leader	Bill Path
Opening Prayer	Edwin Whittlesey
Table	1. David Tenison 2. Robert Hallsted
Closing Prayer	Larry Potter

### WEDNESDAY DEVOTIONAL

Song Leader	Steve Wetzal
Opening Prayer	Bill Hamrick
Devotional	Benjamin Williams
Closing Prayer	Todd Khoury

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Sunday Contribution	\$4,632
Budget	\$4,625
Over Budget	\$36

### LAST WEEK'S ATTENDANCE

Sunday Bible Classes	147
Sunday AM Worship	194
Sunday PM Worship	95
Wednesday Bible Classes	78

### COMMUNION PREPARATION

9/11	Dana Kent
9/18	Earline Lierly
9/25	Cathy Burcham
10/2	Marilyn Pulliam
10/9	Stephanie Bullinger

### NURSERY ATTENDANTS

9/11	Stephanie & Mackayla
9/18	Tonya & Toni
9/25	Debbie & Autumn
10/2	Bobby & Shirley
10/9	Tommy C. & Dana

### SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Classes / 9:30 am  
 Worship / 10:30 am

### SUNDAY EVENING

Devotional & Classes / 5:00 pm  
**WEDNESDAY**  
 Devotional & Classes / 7:00 pm

**Sunday Sermon Series:** Written in Red  
 "To the Joyless"  
 Luke 15:1-10  
 Benjamin J. Williams

**Sunday Evening Devo:** Psalm 105  
**Sunday Evening Classes:**  
 Prayer (Benjamin J. Williams, Auditorium)  
 Evangelism (Bruce Rothell, Chapel)