

# BIDDEFORD CHURCH OF CHRIST

266 POOL STREET - P.O. BOX 331 - BIDDEFORD, ME 04005

MAY 28, 2017

## WHERE WAS THEIR HOPE? ARTICLE BY DENNIS GODIN

I am grateful that I am part of a church family that feels comfortable talking to me about the lessons I preach, for it gives me the opportunity to reflect and at times clarify something I said or on other occasions, correct it. Last week I used a quote concerning the Old Law that, upon reflection, could leave someone asking the question, "Where was their hope?" It is this very question I seek to bring insight to.

Let's begin with something the apostle Paul wrote to the church in Galatia. He said, "For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, 'Cursed is everyone who does not continue in all things which are written in the book of the law, to do them.'" (Galatians 3:10) He goes on to say that the "man who does them [*the Law*] shall live by them." (Galatians 3:12) Why would such a man be cursed? It's not that the law was somehow imperfect (Romans 7:12 says it was "holy, just and good."); but rather, "the flesh" of man was weak (Romans 8:3; Hebrews 8:8), unable to maintain it perfectly; and thus, revealed man's imperfection. Paul said it this way in Romans 3:20, "Therefore by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of



sin." (Romans 3:20) The very fact that sacrifices were continuously needed, revealed man's inability to live righteously, that is, perfectly, while under the old law. As one person put it, "The Law is therefore, not meant to save, but rather strip us of *all hope of looking to self for salvation...*" Where then, is their hope prior to Christ's work on the cross?

Hope was in the mind of God before the foundation of the world (Ephesians 1:4), in His redemptive plan spoken of long before the Old Law would come into view. At the fall of man God promised, saying to

## SCHEDULE OF ASSEMBLIES

**SUNDAY**  
**BIBLE CLASS 9:30A.M.**  
**WORSHIP 10:45 A.M.**  
**MID-WEEK STUDY**  
**TUESDAY 7-8 P.M.**  
**(BIDDEFORD)**

### Elders

Brad Shaw (207)878-4124  
Tony Lemay (207)651-3369  
Dennis Godin (207)651-3588

### Deacons

John Carter (207)229-8516  
Matt Sampson (207)251-3030

### Ministry Leaders & Staff

Education - Antonio Balsamo  
(207)286-0514  
Worship - Abe Damuth  
(207)608-1784  
Grounds - Mark Foley  
(207)284-3816  
Building - Joe Romano  
(207)281-3929  
Fin./Benev. - John Carter  
(207)229-8516  
Fellowship - Matt Sampson  
(207)251-3030  
Secretary - Mike Wickwar  
(207) 432-2272

### Ladies Ministry

Debbie Godin (207)286-4821  
Barbara Lemay (207)850-0084

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## AS EACH PART DOES ITS WORK

How important is encouragement to you? Note someone you have not seen in worship lately and give them a call or send them a card. Who knows, your words of encouragement could make an eternal difference.

**"Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" - Acts 16:30**

**Hear** the Gospel - John 6:44-45; Romans 10:14, 17

**Believe** [trust in] God - John 3:16; 8:24; Ac 16:31; Heb 11:6

**Repent** of sins - Luke 13:1-5; Acts 2:38; 3:19; 17:30

**Confess** Christ - Mt 10:32-33; Ac 8:36-37; Rom 10:8-10

**Be baptized** - Mk 16:16; Ac 2:38; 8:36; 22:16; 1 Pet 3:21

**Be faithful** unto death - Mt 7:21; 10:22; Heb 5:9; Rev 2:10

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*"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved."*

~ Acts 4:12 ~

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## Ladies Corner

Our next Ladies meeting will be during the congregational breakfast on June 10th.

Thank You,

*Debbie and Barbara*

Last Week's Numbers:

Attendance: 44    Contribution: \$ 1081

## ONE ANOTHER ENCOURAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

the serpent, "And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel." (Genesis 3:15) This promise was revealed again to Abram (soon to be called Abraham) saying that "all the families of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 12:3; 17:5) through him. Now listen to what Paul writes to the church in Galatia, "And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the **gospel** [that is, good news] to Abraham beforehand, saying, 'In you all the nations shall be blessed.'" (Galatians 3:8) That seed promise given to Abraham was fulfilled through Christ (Galatians 3:16), their good news, as well as ours.

*And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.*

## *Hebrews 11:39-40*

So, where was their hope? It could not be in the Law, or in their ability to keep the Law. The Law exposed the sin problem and sought to point man towards the solution. Thus, their hope, as well as ours, is placed in God's redemptive plan, which found its fulfillment in Christ's sufficient work on the cross.

*Dennis*

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We're on Facebook**– Biddeford church of Christ is on Facebook! There is a profile, which is public, and there is a closed group, for current Biddeford church family only, where we can share photos, prayer requests, announcements, etc. The public cannot see posts in the BCOC FB group. Only members can.

**Men Leading in Worship** - The men who serve in worship are asked to meet in the cry room or, if it is in use, a classroom promptly at 10:30 to confirm assignments and go to God in prayer.

**Building Lights** - If you are the last person leaving the building, please be sure to turn off all the lights, check that all windows are shut, and the doors are locked.

**Bulletin /- Prayer List** - If you have a prayer request or an announcement for the bulletin, please contact Mike Wickwar at 432-2272 or email him at mickwick@yahoo.com by Friday of each week. Anything given after Friday may not make it into that Sunday's bulletin.

**Reminder:** Please turn off your cell phone or place it on vibrate during Bible study and worship.

**We care what you think** - If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, feel free to write them down on a piece of paper, then sign it and place it in the box. We will get back to you as soon as possible. Thanks for your help.

**Monthly Bulletins**– One per family, please. If you would like another copy, you can find it on our website, biddefordchurchofchrist.com. You can also listen to sermons on the website.

**Updating the Prayer List** - Please review the prayer list. If there is a prayer request initiated by you, it is important you contact Mike Wickwar with updates. Thank you.

**Upcoming Events** - Please check your calendars

**Life Groups**– June 4th and June 18th.

**Congregational Breakfast** - June 10th at 8:30 am.

**Potluck** - June 11th

**Singing Nights** - Tuesday May 27rd (7 p.m. Biddeford)

**Happy Birthday!** Megan Romano June 1.

Abe Damuth June 9

Jessica Damuth June 12

AJ Damuth June 17

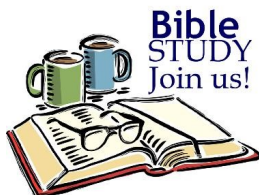
Chris Stephenson June 25

**Happy Anniversary!** Jon & Cheri Erichson June 17.

**Pick up Directory Spreadsheets Today**

### MID-WEEK BIBLE CLASSES

Biddeford  
Wednesdays  
7:00-8:00 p.m.



Sanford  
Thursdays  
6:00-7:00 p.m.

YOUR ATTENDANCE WOULD BE SUCH AN ENCOURAGEMENT!

## ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR TODAY

**Song 915 *Trust and Obey***

**Announcements**—Shepherd

**Opening Prayer** - Brad Shaw

**Song 962 *Were You There***

**Song 694 *Servant Song***

**Lord's Supper** - Joe Romano, Erik Cote,  
Rufilo Lawrance

**Song 860 *There Is A Habitation***

**Contribution**

**Song 490 *It is Well With My Soul***

**Prayer** - John Carter

**Song 96 *I Stand In Awe (2X)***

**Scripture Reading** - Mark Foley  
Genesis 3:14-15

**Lesson** - Dennis Godin

**Where Was Their Hope?**

Lesson Text: Hebrews 11:39-40

**Song 969 *Don't You Want To Go To That Land***

**Closing Prayer**—Shepherd



Song Leader: James Butler

Greeter: Brenda Butler

Communion Prep: Jessica Damuth

### NEXT WEEK'S SERVICE SCHEDULE:

Song Leader - Antonio Balsamo

Opening Prayer - Mike Wickwar

Lord's Supper - John Carter, Clifford  
Parker, Jacob Romano

Prayer - John Marescot

Scripture Reading - Lenny Spano

Greeter - Linda Barnes

Communion Prep - Deborah Godin

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WELCOME VISITORS



We here at the Biddeford church of Christ pray your visit with us today is enjoyable and uplifting. Please stay around after services so that we can get to know you better. We all strive to put Christ first in our lives and make the Bible our principle guide for living.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

[WWW.BIDDEFORDCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM](http://WWW.BIDDEFORDCHURCHOFCHRIST.COM)

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