

Lewiston Church of Christ

July 30, 2023



MESSENGER *Growing Friendships, Families & Faith.*



Weekly Services

Sun. Bible Study 9:45 AM
Sunday Worship 10:45 AM
Sun. Day/Evening Groups
Wed Bible Study 6:30 PM

MINISTER

Joel Solliday: 208-743-2711

ELDERS

Joe Bieren

Doyle Dawes

DEACONS

Education: Shawn Bolm
Finance: Tom Hill
Outreach: Mark Whittaker
Tech & Safety: Eric Kjorness

AREAS OF SERVICE

Building: Ken Vogtman
Custodian: Hannah McKee
Fellowship: Joe/Carrie Bieren
Grounds: Doyle Dawes
Sing Ministry: Timauri Stearns
Secretary: Renee Hill
Technology: Cody Dawes

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Web Site:

www.lewistonchurchofchrist.org

FB:

Class & Sermons online
Check email notification

Monthly Service Schedules:

Posted in the foyer. Please find a replacement if you will be gone.



A Beautiful Book

Did you bring your Bible today? If so, you are holding a library of 66 ancient documents written from 3,500 to 2,000 years ago spanning the bronze and iron ages of human history. Countless scholars have toiled tirelessly to understand the ancient languages used to compose those writings and have provided us with reliable translations to make the Bible readable for English-speakers like us! The fact that you have this in your personal possession is an amazing blessing.

The Bible did not just fall out of the clouds. It is “God-breathed” (2 Timothy 3:16) but it did not get to us in isolation from flawed human agents. It comes from the heart of God carried to us through His Holy Spirit, but it also comes to us through brave human agents, authors, and translators in various cultures, many of which are long gone. God chose to reveal His will to us through a long history of real-life interactions with Him recorded by the people who lived them.

The Bible reveals a God who meets humans where we are using forms and terms we can grasp if we are willing to work at it. It is a vast mixture of such literary expressions as stories, treaties, law codes, genealogies, prayers, hymns, poems, wisdom writings, prophecies, beatitudes, sermons, worship, letters, parables, narratives, epiphanies, psalms, personal salutations, commands, warnings, spiritual gift guidance, eschatology, mentoring, festive feasts, holiday celebrations, and much more. It is incredibly diverse and dynamic! Every page is as down-to-earth as it is heavenly.

Sadly, we humans have a lousy history of handling this amazing blessing from God. For example, in his Second Inaugural Address (March 4, 1865) with the Civil War coming to a close, Abraham Lincoln described both the North and South thusly; “Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God.”

Humans have a way of making the Bible fit our preconceptions and preferences. But the history of how humans have mishandled and abused the Bible cannot be blamed on the Bible or on God. This should humble us. In fact, one reason God gave us this beautiful book is to humble us. If it is not doing that, you are reading it wrong. JMS