



Covenant Baptist Church

Reformed and Refreshing

May 31st, 2020

Welcome to Covenant Baptist Church. We are a Reformed church committed to three things:

- **The Exaltation of God**

We desire that the people at Covenant truly understand who God is and His rightful place in their lives as their Lord and sovereign Savior.

- **The Edification of the Saints**

We consider it extremely important to correctly teach the Bible, verse by verse, so we can properly have the Holy Spirit apply it to our lives.

- **The Evangelization of the Sinner**

We understand that God has given us the responsibility to be stewards of the Gospel and that means sharing it exactly like God gave it to us with those who need Jesus.

<https://covenantbaptistsc.org>

Service Times:

Bible Education Hour (Puritans)
~ 9:30 A.M.—ON HOLD

Sunday Worship ~ 10:30 A.M.

Wednesday Prayer Service ~ 7:00 P.M.—ON HOLD

*(We are not interested in traditional worship
or contemporary worship. We are only
interested in true worship.)*

Order of Worship

(May 31st, 2020)

He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought—58

Scripture Reading:
Proverbs 21:16-31

All I Have is Christ—389

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy—391

Message:
The World's Prosecutor
—John 16:8-11

Prayer and Benediction

Closing Hymn: On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand—423

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Church Bookstore:

Purchases (cash only) can be made by seeing Annsley or Cristan Smoak, or following the instructions left near the bookstore entrance.

Announcements

We are aware of the situation with the coronavirus and are asking that everyone take the necessary precautions (i.e. wash hands, use hand sanitizer, etc.) and monitor the church website and the texting service for announcements regarding our services. Things can change overnight as we have seen, so there may be a time when we cancel all services. If you have any questions, you can ask any of the elders or deacons. If anyone needs help knowing how to livestream the service, please see one of the elders or deacons. Also, if you need to stay home for health reasons and need anything brought to you, please let us know. We would be glad to serve you in this way.

—
A special time of prayer in the overflow room/fellowship area will begin soon, taking place on Wednesdays at 6:15 PM. In an effort to have more prayer and to improve our Wednesday evening service, we are adding a time and place for men and women to pray for general needs. This is modeled after the men and women gathered together for prayer in the upper room in Acts 1. During the Wednesday evening service at 7 PM, we will have 2 or 3 men lead in a more directed prayer for specific topics or needs. Start date to be announced soon.

—
We will have preaching for the next 2 Sunday evenings:

Alton Crapps: May 31st, 6pm

Matt Watson: June 7th, 6pm

Come and support these men as they preach and teach the Word of God.

Covenant Baptist Church Events

Greek Class—*On hold*

Other Events:

Truth: Answers for Women, March 27-28 2020—(Williamstown, KY)

DELAYED UNTIL 2021

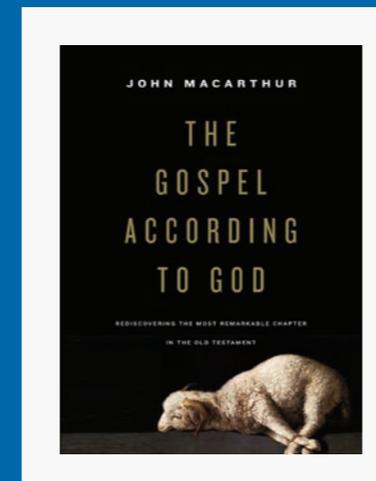
More at: <https://answersingenesis.org/outreach/event/answers-for-women-2020/>

NCFIC Singles Conference—*NCFIC is offering a Singles Conference: Holiness to the Lord October 28-29. More details can be found at: <https://ncfic.org/events/216400/overview>*

Book of the Week: The Gospel According to God, by John MacArthur

In his best seller *The Gospel According to Jesus*, John MacArthur called the church to consider how it had lost sight of what it means to follow Christ—yielding to Him as Lord—and it shook the evangelical world. John's follow-up books, *The Gospel According to the Apostles* and *The Gospel According to Paul*, answered criticisms to the first book and dug even deeper into the salvation truth communicated throughout the New Testament.

Now, in *The Gospel According to God*, John MacArthur gives you a fresh perspective on what many people refer to as the "Old Testament's gospel"—Isaiah 53. This in-depth study of Christ's sacrifice for sinners will catapult your worship as you behold the One who was pierced for your sins and took on Himself the scourging that we all deserved.



<https://www.gty.org/store/books/451185/the-gospel-according-to-god>



Humans: Purposely Designed

—by Prof. Stuart Burgess

The human body is designed unlike any other creature. Our ability to communicate and understand, to feel emotions, and to think rationally shows that we are created for a purpose—to have a relationship with God.

I once designed a small knife which consisted of a slender rod with a tiny razor-sharp blade at the end. One of my students came across the knife and started using it to cut up cards.

I explained to him that the knife was for something far more important—for carrying out life-saving operations on newly born boys who have a blocked bladder valve. If the student had looked closely at the intricate design of the knife, he would have known it was no ordinary knife.

Many today make the same mistake concerning the purpose of human life.

Evolutionists assume that humans are just an advanced ape-like creature with no special design or purpose.

More Than Survival?

In contrast, the Bible reveals that humans are unique creatures designed for much more than just survival. Humans are creative, emotional, and spiritual beings, separate from the animal kingdom. We are designed to have deep relationships with others and with our Creator.

Humans have a unique ability to be creative in many areas. We have areas in the brain dedicated to the appreciation of beauty and creative thinking. Only humans have thousands of touch sensors on every finger. Only humans have a large part of the brain dedicated to controlling the hands with precision.

The precise abilities of the human hand are not what we would expect if we were descended from an ape-like creature; but they are just what we would expect if we are made in God's image.

Designed to Communicate?

Humans have the unique ability to communicate thoughts and emotions through language. Human speech and writing contain intricate sounds, sophisticated grammar, and thousands of words. Language enables humans to teach and learn, and to develop relationships.

Language requires many complex design features in the human body. Large areas of the brain are dedicated to processing speech. Humans have a uniquely long throat, agile tongue, fine lips, and precise vocal cords. Up to 100 muscles are at work during communication, and the brain is processing information at an immense rate.

Such verbal skills are hardly likely to have evolved just to allow man to be a hunter-gatherer. However, language is just what we would expect if humans were created to worship and glorify their Creator.

Designed for Emotion?

Humans are capable of a vast range of emotions. Scientists know that part of the brain is dedicated to emotional feelings, but science cannot explain where such feelings come from.

Humans also have a physical design that complements their emotional nature. This includes crying tears of emotion and communicating emotion by facial expressions. The human face has 50 facial muscles and the unique ability to make on the order of 10,000 different facial expressions.¹ Such characteristics cannot be explained by the idea of evolution.

Humans are also designed to derive pleasure in many subtle ways. We can appreciate beauty through sight, sound, smell, touch, and taste. Insofar as scientists have explored these subjects, only a human stops to enjoy a sunset or to appreciate a bird's song.

Designed for Spiritual Life?

Finally, humans are uniquely capable of rational thought and self-awareness. We decide what course of action to take at every moment and in every area of life. In contrast, animals are predictably obedient to instinct. Apes do not worry about the meaning of life.

The ability to think and decide also means that humans are responsible beings. We are responsible for our actions and accountable to our Creator if we break His commands.

Genesis reveals that mankind was designed to steward the earth and to have fellowship with God. But man rebelled against his Creator in the Garden of Eden.

Thankfully God has also made us capable of receiving eternal life through the gift of faith in Jesus Christ (Ephesians 2:8). And those who know Christ are designed to live eternally in Heaven with Him. As human beings, we are designed for far more than survival.

Adapted with permission from Evangelical Times. This article first appeared in the December 2006 issue of Evangelical Times.

From: <https://answersingenesis.org/what-is-the-meaning-of-life/humans-purposely-designed/>



Pastor dies from coronavirus after laying hands on infected followers, declaring them

—by *Leonardo Blair*

Frankline Ndifor, a popular self-styled prophet and former presidential candidate in Cameroon, died from the coronavirus Saturday after laying hands on dozens of his infected followers and pronouncing them healed from the disease. He was 39.

The BBC reported that the death of the pastor, who founded Kingship International Ministries, caused so much mayhem it took police hours to retrieve his corpse from his home, where he died in Bonaberi, as his family and followers prayed for his resurrection.

Rigobert Che, one of the pastor's followers, told Voice of America that it was only last Wednesday that Ndifor had prayed for him and several dozen others who were either diagnosed with the virus or suspected they had been infected. Now that Ndifor is dead his followers are worried about their healing from the virus.

“This is a pastor that has been laying hands [on the sick] and claiming that he cures COVID-19,” Che said. “If you, the person that claims that you are curing COVID-19, you are dead, what about the fellow people that were affected by the COVID-19? Now that he is dead, I do not know how the people that he was laying hands on will be healed.”

The Cameroon Tribune reported that the pastor was sick for weeks before his death but he didn't seek medical help until early Saturday morning when his symptoms began to overwhelm him. He reportedly called the Regional Delegate of Public Health to refer him to a doctor, but by the time the doctor arrived he was in a coma and subsequently died.

Doctor Gaelle Nnanga told VOA that Ndifor died less than a week after he was diagnosed with the coronavirus.

Nnanga said he had been called by church members to help the pastor on Saturday, but by the time he and his team arrived, Ndifor was having severe respiratory issues that led to an agonizing death less than 10 minutes after he was treated.

A government official in Douala also noted that the pastor's followers refused to accept the medical examiner's death pronouncement and had chased medical staff away from his home and told people that he was simply away on a spiritual retreat with God.

Ndifor was a well-known faith healer who placed seventh out of nine candidates in Cameroon's 2018 presidential election with 23,687 votes, VOA reported.

Before his death he prayed for many people infected with coronavirus in his home and church and donated buckets and soap to the poor so they could also protect themselves from the coronavirus by washing their hands.

His last public outing was on April 20, when he went out into Douala's streets to distribute facemasks.

Some 3,300 people have been diagnosed with the coronavirus in Cameroon and 147 of them have died, according VOA.

Medical personnel in the Central African nation of more than 27 million are now begging for increased security at hospitals as they face increasing attacks from people infected with the coronavirus or their loved ones.

Gervais Gabriel Atedjoe, secretary general of Cameroon's National Medical Council, told VOA that last week, angry crowds exhumed at least four corpses of people buried after they died of COVID-19 in the cities of Douala and Bafoussam to stop the spread of the virus. They insisted that people needed to be properly buried.

"It is unbelievable, unacceptable that a medical doctor or medical personnel should be putting up a fight over a corpse with a family. They [the crowds] should understand that these people [the healthcare workers] are coming to help so that they should not be infected," Awah Fonka, governor of Cameroon's Western Region, said.

Other News:

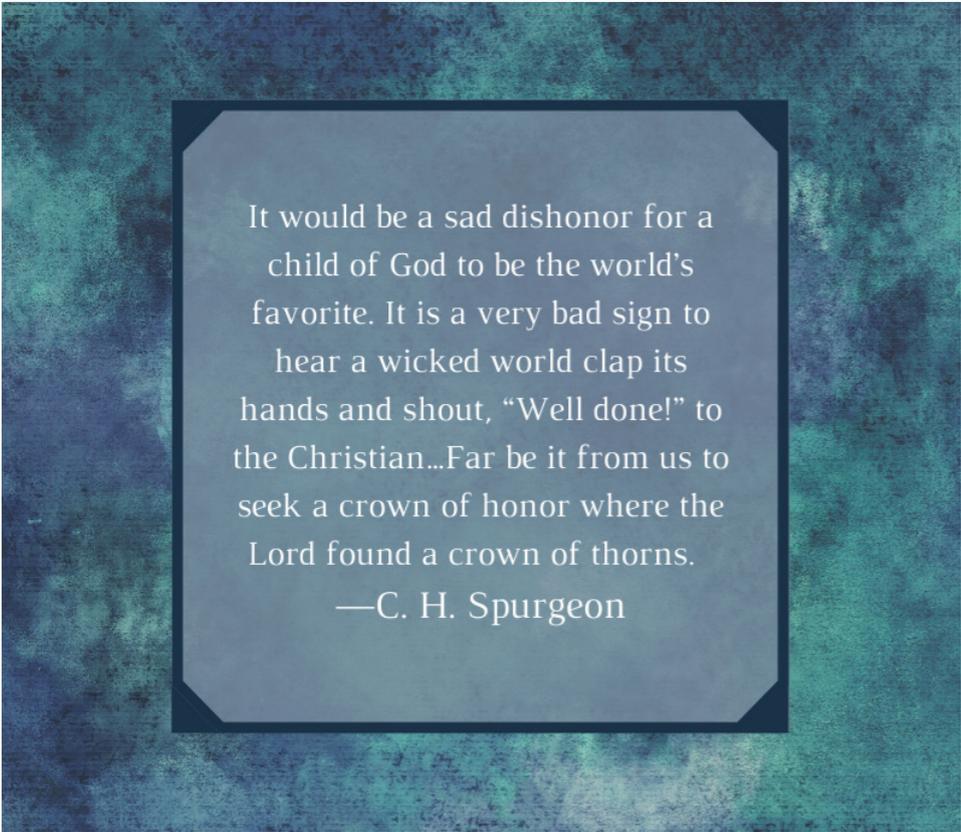
NYC Council speaker demands Samaritan's Purse to leave over homosexuality views - The Christian Post— <https://www.christianpost.com/news/nyc-council-speaker-demands-samaritans-purse-to-leave-over-homosexuality-views.html>

County supervisor says San Diego has only had 6 “pure, solely coronavirus deaths” out of 194 listed as such— <https://disrn.com//news/county-supervisor-says-san-diego-has-only-had-6-pure-solely-coronavirus-deaths-out-of-194-listed-as-such>

Dallas Salon owner gets 7 days in jail and \$7000 fine for reopening shop— <https://disrn.com//news/dallas-salon-owner-gets-7-days-in-jail-7000-fine-for-reopening-shop>

More than 5,600 Planned Parenthood clinics worldwide have closed due to pandemic— <https://disrn.com/news/more-than-5600-planned-parenthood-clinics-worldwide-have-closed-due-to-pandemic>

Quote of the Week:



It would be a sad dishonor for a child of God to be the world's favorite. It is a very bad sign to hear a wicked world clap its hands and shout, "Well done!" to the Christian...Far be it from us to seek a crown of honor where the Lord found a crown of thorns.

—C. H. Spurgeon

Biblical Counseling Resources

Strategies for Fighting Depression Well—by Jim Newheiser
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/fighting-depression-well/>

Identity Language in Counseling—by Martha Peace
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/identity-language-in-counseling/>

The Pursuit of Peace—by Sam Stephens
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/the-pursuit-of-peace/>

Defeating Despair—by Tim Pasma
<https://biblicalcounseling.com/defeating-despair/>

Covenant Baptist Biblical Counseling Class:

A Biblical Counseling class started February 13th at 7 PM here at the church. If you would be interested in participating, please let the pastor know. We are going to livestream the class. Just go to the website at <https://covenantbaptistsc.org> and click the livestream button on home page at 7pm Thursdays.

Biblical counseling class on hold while teacher recovers from surgery. See page 2 for more info.



Covenant Baptist Church

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3535 Delree Street

West Columbia, SC 29170

<https://covenantbaptistsc.org>

Location:



*If you are interested in joining our church, please speak to one of our elders or deacons.
They will be happy to give you the information you need.*