



Covenant Baptist Church

Reformed and Refreshing

May 17th, 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 17th, 2020)

How Great Thou Art—5

Scripture Reading

Come, Thou Almighty King—326

God, Our Father, We Adore Thee—324

Message:

The Promise of the Spirit of Truth—John 15:26-27

Prayer and Benediction

Closing Hymn: I Sing the Mighty Power of God—26

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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.

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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.

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The Mission Team for India has postponed their trip to June due to the spread and uncertainty of the coronavirus. Meanwhile, they are still preparing for the upcoming trip. The team will consist of Alton Crapps, Pastor Swann, Luke Swann, Spencer Allen, Andy Shumpert, and Andrew Shumpert. Each individual is responsible to raise their own funds for air tickets, hotel room, and meals. If you would like to help in this ministry please earmark checks or label the missions envelope either for the individual you wish to help or if you wish to help with the ministry cost, label checks or envelope India Ministry. Funds are also needed to provide Telegu bibles. Your prayers and your support are much appreciated.

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: God's High Calling for Women, by John MacArthur

Before God, men and women are absolutely equal. Yet along with that equality, God created some differences. He has called women to a unique role that no man can ever fill. Yet there are those who denounce that role...In particular, the feminist movement—and sadly, many in the church—undermine the biblical values that give women a great sense of joy and accomplishment...Is there a way to achieve the fulfillment feminism promises—and fails—to deliver? Is there more a woman can hope for?...The answer is yes! And the key is in following God's High Calling for Women. In this study, John MacArthur considers the New Testament's most comprehensive treatment of the woman's appearance, attitude, testimony, and her contribution to the Lord's work—the true path to fulfillment.



<https://www.gty.org/library/topical-series-library/152> (also avail. as hard copy in church bookstore)



Jealousy and Envy Refresher

—by Eric Davis

The 19th century Frenchman, Victor Hugo, is considered one of the greater writers of all time. Best known for *Les Misérables* and *The Hunchback of Notre-Dame*, he also wrote a little poem called, *L'Avarice et L'Envie*. Greed and Envy are two sisters in the poem. One day they are granted one wish; whatever they wanted. But there was one condition: whatever they request, the other sister will receive double of that same thing. Translated into English, the poem concludes:

*Envy at last the silence broke,
And smiling, with malignant sneer,
Upon her sister dear,
Who stood in expectation by,
Ever implacable and cruel, spoke
"I would be blinded of one eye!"*

Envy: a disturbing and resentful desire which craves advantage over another, or, a disturbing and resentful awareness of someone else's advantage over you. Envy craves to possess the God-given providences in another person's life. Similarly, it craves to be superior to another person in some way. Typically envy has no

problem weeping with those who weep. At times it can rejoice with those who rejoice in response to a blessing in another's life. However, it will not rejoice if that blessing is somehow superior to itself or the object of its own idolatry.

Do you struggle with envy or jealousy? But they are just little sins, right? Just a brief, but minor moment of ignobility?

Diagnosing Jealousy & Envy

Do you sincerely rejoice with others when they experience something that you really want, but you did not receive? Are you happy for others when they are somehow shown as superior to you in some way? Or they receive something you were hoping for but did not get?

At one point in your life, envy might show its ugly head in athletic ability. Later in life, it might be a job promotion. Then its kids and even in the local church ("What?! That person got picked to do that over me? Does anyone know about my credentials and my experience?!").

When a co-worker gets that raise and recognition and you don't, do you rejoice? When that person enters into a relationship situation that you want, do you rejoice? When that brother or sister receives a ministry promotion or recognition that you hoped for, do you rejoice? When a friend's child is more self-controlled, behaved, godly, or recognized than yours, do you rejoice?

If not, you might, like the rest of us, have a little sinful jealousy and envy thriving in your heart.

Love is not jealous (1 Cor. 13:4).

Jealousy and envy need not manifest in an outward rage of violence against another. Instead, they can simmer deep down in the person who seems outwardly content and quiet.

The Root

There is, however, more going on in those moments of jealousy and envy than

jealousy and envy. These two cousins are sickly fruit on a sickly tree controlled by sickly roots. Jealousy and envy are symptoms of a much deeper problem.

The root of jealousy and envy is sinful pride; a deep worship of self. Sinful envy is simply the offspring of self-worship. Envy worships self so much, that it is disturbed inside when someone else experiences something better than self.

Envy thinks, if inadvertently, “I am so wonderful and worthy of worship, that I deserve advantage over that person in some way.” Sinful jealousy preaches to itself, “I am so exalted and worthy of praise, that it is a violation of all that is good, right, and just for so-and-so to experience more blessed circumstances than me in this or that area.” Envy is the ante-Psalm 115:1 “Not to anyone else, O Lord, not to anyone else, but to me alone be glory.” Envy can even subtly meditate, “I am OK if that person experiences blessing, but it better not be more blessing than me. And it better not be more blessing than in this particular thing.” For those reasons, jealousy and envy are really a deep and wretched idolatry, and the worst possible kind of idolatry; the worship of self. Gilbert Chesterton once said, “Let Jones worship the sun or moon, anything rather than the Inner Light; let Jones worship cats or crocodiles, if he can find any in his street, but not the god within.”

What does God think of jealousy and envy?

But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing (Jas. 3:14–16).

First, God says that jealousy is arrogant. Self-worship is the highest kind of arrogance. Second, it is a lie against the truth. It is not thinking truthfully about God, self, and others. Third, it is demonic. Some associate “demonic” with things like a type of music, for example. God teaches that jealousy and envy are demonic. Why? Because at the heart of our jealousy is the very sin of Satan, the leader of the demons: “I must be number one, even if it means the downfall and misfortune of someone close to me.” Fourth, jealousy and envy are in association with disorder and every evil thing. So, these are no small sins.

The Many Sins of Jealousy & Envy

In our moments of jealousy and envy, there are a few things happening.

First, we are holding onto a thing too tight. We greatly desire something; maybe even something good. But envy surfaces in our hearts concerning the thing, it has become an idol and object of worship. So, we have violated the greatest commandment (Exod. 20:4-5; Matt. 22:37). Therefore, we must come to the cross of Christ, not just for envy, but worshiping something above God.

Second, in envy and jealousy, we see ourselves as so great and glorious, that we deserve advantage and blessing more than others. Thus, as mentioned, we are in the darkness of self-worship. This too is idolatry and a great sin (Exod. 20:4-5 ; Matt. 22:37). We must come to the cross of Christ, not just for jealousy, but for venerating ourselves as a god.

Third, we love ourselves and want glory so badly that we will hate others in our heart, even a sister or brother in Christ. [We] may not be saying to ourselves, “I hate so-and-so!” But, are we considering them more important than ourselves (Phil. 2:3-4)? Are we loving them as much as we love ourselves (Matt. 22:39)? Thus, we must come to the cross of Christ, not just for envy, but for hating our neighbor.

Fourth, in jealousy and envy, we are failing to trust God’s providence in our lives. God is the one who is sovereign over who gets what (Ps. 103:19, 135:6). We are spurning his providence in the lives of others. We are, in effect, saying, “God, sorry, but you do not know what you are doing in the universe by allowing so-and-so to experience greater blessing than me in this area. You need me to run the universe instead.” We are not trusting in God’s sovereignty; that whatever we have or don’t have, it is all God. God is the one who gives. Thus, we must come to the cross of Christ, not just for jealousy, but for snubbing God and his doings.

Repenting of Jealousy & Envy

There are a few things we can do to address the wretchedness of jealousy and envy.

First, we must confess the multi-faceted sins for what they are (e.g. idolatry, hate,

spurning God).

Second, we can remind ourselves afresh that God is sovereign over all things. He is far more wise, loving, and capable than us when it comes to running the universe. We can trust him when it comes to his providence in people's lives. It is God who gives.

Third, we must remind ourselves of what we actually deserve. What would be fair recompense for a sinner who has failed to love God, praise God, worship God, trust God, fear God, honor God, and obey God as much as he deserves countless times in thought, word, and deed? What would be just? Eternal punishment (Rev. 20:11-15).

Fourth, we must remind ourselves of the goodness of God in light of what we deserve. In his common grace, he gives rain, sun, laughter, food, family, jobs, air, and far more to his enemies (Matt. 5:45).

Fifth, we must remind ourselves that our job is to love others (Matt. 22:39). True humble love shows when we really want something, we don't get it, someone else does, and we thank God, trust God, and sincerely celebrate with and for that person.

Sixth, we must remind ourselves that our calling from God as it relates to others is not to envy them, but serve them (Mark 10:42-45). Greatness is servanthood. We are to outdo one another in blessing each other (Rom. 12:10). Jealousy and envy focus on the opposite.

Seventh, we must remind ourselves of God's colossal grace in the Person and finished work of Jesus Christ.

The Lord Jesus was the only person who never sinned in envy and jealousy. He always did what was pleasing to God the Father (John 8:29). But there were plenty of occasions where he could have been tempted due to another's advantage over him (Heb. 4:15). He is truly God. The blessed Lord Jesus is the King far superior to every king and the Lord far exalted above every lord. He created the stars, the galaxies, the universe, and everything there in by speaking. He is omniscient, knowing all that there is to know about everything instantaneously. Jesus is God.

And yet, how did he fair in this wretched world?

People approached him as if he was some kind of wacko who should be shut up forever. Most saw themselves as superior to him. He was thought to be a demon-possessed outcast (John 8:48). He was thought to be the most shameful type of reject possible, only worthy of a humiliating death. Jesus knew that most thought this of him. So many experienced temporal advantages over him during his time on Earth. And yet, he never sinned once for even a second in jealousy or envy of others.

In fact,

[A]lthough He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross (Phil. 2:6-8).

Jesus went to the cross to pay the full penalty for sinful envy and jealousy in the place of all who would ever repent and bow the knee to him. As our righteous substitute, Jesus bore the undiluted wrath of God in the place of the envy, jealous, self-worshippers. He then rose bodily to new life, so that all who put faith in him might experience salvation and sanctification out of all sin, including jealousy and envy.



County supervisor says San Diego has only had 6 “pure, solely coronavirus deaths” out of 194 listed as such

—by Peter Heck

San Diego County in California has officially listed 194 deaths due to the novel coronavirus, but only six of those fatalities were the result of the virus alone, according to County Supervisor Jim Desmond. All other deaths were also due in part to previous, underlying health concerns.

“We’ve unfortunately had six pure, solely coronavirus deaths — six out of 3.3 million people,” Desmond said during an interview with Armstrong & Getty Extra Large Interviews podcast. “I mean, what number are we trying to get to with those odds. I mean, it’s incredible. We want to be safe, and we can do it, but unfortunately, it’s more about control than getting the economy going again and keeping people safe.”

Asked about Desmond’s characterization of the situation, Public Health Officer Dr. Wilma Wooten cautioned it was important not to downplay the loss of life for those with underlying conditions, remarking “their life is no less valuable.”

Desmond has been an outspoken critic of California’s response to the pandemic, suggesting that leaders are “holding our jobs and the economy hostage.” He contends that it is possible to keep people safe and still “responsibly open our businesses.”

From: <https://disrn.com/news/county-supervisor-says-san-diego-has-only-had-6-pure-solely-coronavirus-deaths-out-of-194-listed-as-such>

EXTRA!

Look to the sky for the green Comet SWAN for the next couple of weeks!

<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/nation-world/comet-swan-green/507-38ed6a58-874a-47b7-9729-9cb484b6b7c2>

Other News:

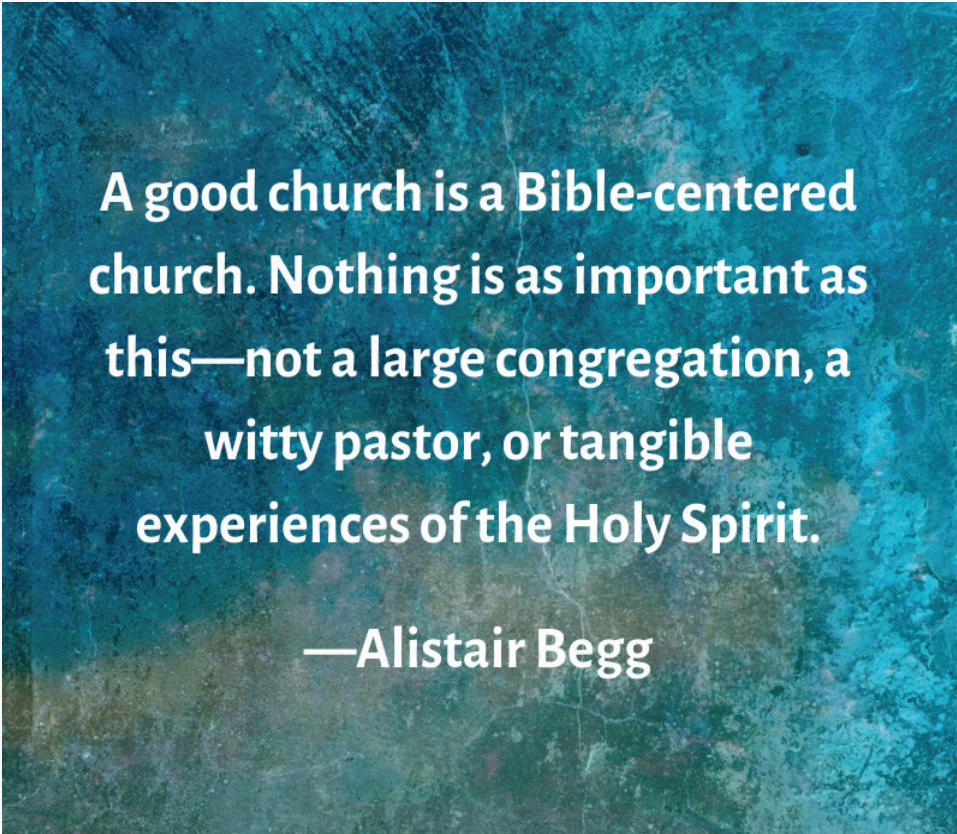
Dallas Salon owner gets 7 days in jail and \$7000 fine for reopening shop— <https://disrn.com/news/dallas-salon-owner-gets-7-days-in-jail-7000-fine-for-reopening-shop>

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>

COVID-19 antibody testing finds number of Bay Area infections may be 85 times higher than reported— <https://disrn.com/news/covid-19-antibody-testing-finds-bay-area-infections-may-be-85-times-higher-than-reported>

Google Play suspends evangelical church's app over COVID-19 'sensitive events' policy— <https://www.christianpost.com/news/google-play-suspends-evangelical-churchs-app-over-covid-19-sensitive-events-policy.html>

Quote of the Week:



A good church is a Bible-centered church. Nothing is as important as this—not a large congregation, a witty pastor, or tangible experiences of the Holy Spirit.

—Alistair Begg

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/>

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

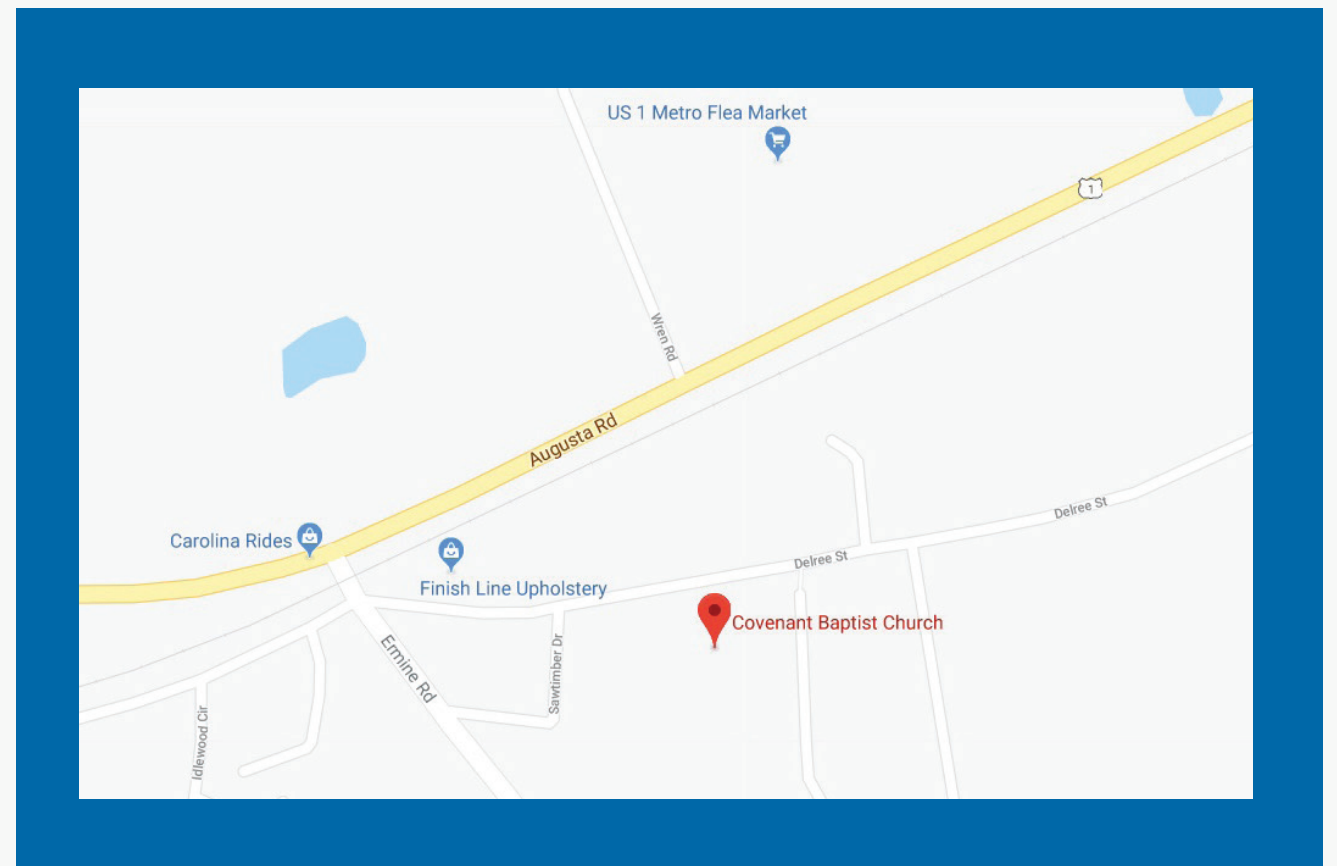
Reformed and Refreshing

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.*