



The Creek Courier

Weekly Update June 25, 2022

Loving God

Learning Together

Leading Others to Christ

**Remember the former things long past,
For I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is no one like Me,
Declaring the end from the beginning,
And from ancient times things which have not been
done,
Saying, 'My plan will be established,
And I will accomplish all My good pleasure'**

Isaiah 46:9-10

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we also have obtained our introduction by faith into this grace in which we stand; and we celebrate in hope of the glory of God. And not only this, but we also celebrate in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope; and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

Romans 5:1-5

Dear Church,

Over the years science fiction writers have used their imaginations to create scenarios that may later match reality. For example the book *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea* anticipated the invention of the submarine. The book *Cyborg* envisioned bionic limbs. There are a few other examples that have become real, but the majority of the time those imaginings of science fiction writers later matching reality simply don't pan out.

As the passage above from Isaiah reminds us, there is one Book that unfailingly predicts the future, thousands of years in advance. This Book has a proven track record of absolute accuracy. God's Word (the Bible) reveals His omniscience (He is all-knowing) and includes every future event and contingency. He has chosen to reveal those future events so that we might be prepared and joyfully anticipate the future He has in store for His children.

We have hope for the future because we live with the assurance that the Lord is in control. He has foretold the future because He *knows* it and He *controls* it.

Praise the Lord our hope is found in Him. It only takes a few minutes of watching the news or scrolling the internet to remind us that our world is spinning further and further out of control. If we're not careful we can easily become discouraged. Strife, hatred and division seem to be the events we most often hear or read about. However, we must be careful to make sure our hope is never be found in what we hear on the news or read on the internet.

The apostle Paul realized from personal experience that we most need hope in times of suffering. In the Romans 5 passage above he wrote about that hope in the

**LifeGroups
9:30 a.m.**

**Sunday Worship
10:30 a.m.**

context of suffering. He explains how suffering can lead to hope: **And not only this, but we also celebrate in our tribulations, knowing that tribulation brings about perseverance; and perseverance, proven character; and proven character, hope, and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.**

As Christians our hope is rooted solidly in the love of the Lord, and poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit. Nobody wants to suffer; we all need hope. Hope is what is what takes us through suffering to the glorious future God has in store for us

The ultimate fulfillment of every promise revealed in Scripture is the return of our Lord Jesus. His return is imminent and draws closer every day. Our hearts should overflow with joy and gladness as we anticipate that glorious day when He returns.

Even in the midst of our suffering and hurting, may our pain lead us to hope in the Lord.

-Bruce

Sunday Worship

**Former pastor Don Davidson will be preaching.
Join us in person or on our livestream for Worship.**

Prayer Ministry

**Sunday afternoon at 5:00
in the Family Life Center**

**Saddlerock Farm Horse Camp VBS
July 25-29 from 5:30—8:30 p.m.**

There are five churches participating and registration forms are available at each church. Participation will be limited to the first 60 to sign-up.

Questions? Call Emily Parker at 919.690.5610.

Pastors Tim and Josh and your deacons are available to help with any needs you might have.

On-call deacon for the next week is Tony Norwood.

Tony can be reached at 252-767-7736.

Pastor Tim can be reached at 252-432-6780.

Pastor Josh can be reached at 919-606-0537.