

And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence.

Colossians 1:18

At school in England we had "head boys". All the pupils belonged to one of four "houses" and each house had its own head boy. They had a certain amount of clout and the rest of us knew better than to mess with them. As a result, I like to think that I did not grow up without an appreciation for authority. There is danger, though, that I could still have an inadequate understanding of what this passage says about Jesus. I mean His authority does not come from the fact that he is one of the oldest boys, although He is "The Ancient of Days"

I watched until the thrones were thrown up, and the Ancient of Days sat, whose robe was white as snow, and the hair of His head like the pure wool. His throne was like flames of fire, and His wheels like burning fire. Daniel 7:9

Neither does His authority come from the fact that He has passed all his exams successfully, although I know He is smarter than me.

...in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Colossians 2:3

Like a head boy, Jesus has the approval of those above him...

And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

So that's it! He is God's Son and obviously I cannot compete with that qualification. If He were not in the picture, you and I would have a chance at being the head, right? If He had just stayed in Heaven we could all take turns, or just fight it out to see who the head will be. Maybe God's idea is better after all. But why should we trust His Son; what makes Him different? Maybe it is the fact that He came into this world after we had tried to destroy each other by destroying God, and when Jesus came into this world we made it clear that we did not want Him to be head of our lives. He was the Son of God, but He bled just like you and me. He breathed His last, as all men must. He went the way of all men when all is said and done.

But all is not said, of course. He came back to life and breathed again, and so will you and I, because as it goes with Jesus, so it goes with us. He is the firstborn over all creation (Colossians 1:15). If there is no Jesus in this world then there is no world. He is also the firstborn from the dead; if there is no Jesus coming out of that grave, then there is nobody coming out of any grave. As certain as we are breathing now, we will be resurrected to stand before Him for judgment. He is responsible for the creation and for the new creation.

I'd say that makes Him the One who should be the Head of it all. Wouldn't you?

AB



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

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July 1, 2018

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30pm

All the churches of Christ greet you.

ROMANS 16:16

Today's Sermon: *Three Things You Should Know About This Church*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org

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Scripture: Luke 6:43-49

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class: Out for the summer! Watch this space! We will resume in September.**
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** July 4th at 7pm. We are studying the book of Judges. Please note the later time. **Because of the date (Independence Day), we will have a vote today to see how many can make the study.**
- **Athens Street Fair:** July 20th and 21st. We will be handing out tracts and Bibles. We will be promoting our upcoming VBS. Please plan on spending some time in our booth to help out.
- **5th Sunday Regional Singing @ Ithaca, July 29th @ 4pm.**
- **VBS** with our Kittanning and Camp Hill brethren August 11th and 12th.

Next Potluck: July 15th



- Please remember the **fundraising bottles** for the Crisis Pregnancy Center. Fill them up with change and bring them in.
- **Arthur and Sandy would like to thank all that attended the barbecue yesterday. It was hot, but a good time was had by all! We had music on the lawn, thanks to Darlene and her music setup.**
- Ronnie Jones is looking for an apartment in Sayre while he is working in Troy so he can be close by to help us with the work at Valley Cities.

PRAYERS...

- We pray that our **door-knocking/leafleting** campaign to introduce ourselves to the neighborhood **produces fruit and Bible studies. Lets all invite our friends and neighbors to study the Bible and attend worship.**
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer. Darlene visited with her last week and she is doing as well as can be expected.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** – lung cancer, recovery from brain tumor.
- Pray for Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** who has metastatic breast cancer. She has discontinued all medication except the chemo that is prolonging her life so she can spend more time with her two young boys.
- **Patty and Ruthie's cousin Cathy's husband Bruce** has kidney cancer.
- **Pray that Dave and Lynne Laton's daughter Natalie** will be able to recover from her cancer. She is thankful that her tumor has greatly reduced in size, but this last round of chemo has been very hard on her.
- Pray that **Jerry** can continue to find a way to worship. We are thankful that Sam is able to pick him up.
- **Darlene** has had low energy and hair loss as well as symptoms of gastric reflux.
- Darlene and Doug are dealing with a sick pet dog, **Hachi**.
- **Emily Barry** is interviewing for a better paying job, and they are thankful that **Aidan** found a summer job.
- **Jenna Barry**, Arthur and Sandy's granddaughter from AK is in the Ukraine participating in the Let's Start Talking program.
- **Donald** has asked for prayers that he can find a new job and find spiritual direction in his life.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please