

## Last Day (AB)

This is the last Sunday of the year of our LORD, two thousand, eighteen. Two days after that, if the LORD wills, we will begin the year of our LORD, two thousand, nineteen.

Why do we celebrate ends and beginnings? Birthdays, seasons, anniversaries, etc... They carry emotional significance for everyone but, as Christians, we hope for eternal newness, and God does promise that blessing to us.

Romans 6:4 *We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*

Bearing in mind that the entire revelation of God speaks of Messiah and the resurrection to eternal life, we see why ends and beginnings are such a huge part of our psyche. So, when Jesus went up to the Temple in Jerusalem in the middle of the Feast of Booths, it was on the last great day of the feast that He stood up and spoke the messianic promise to be a source of living water. That would be when He poured out the Holy Spirit after His resurrection and returned to Heaven. (John 7:37-39)

The last day of the Feast of Booths was the eighth day, which is technically the first day of a 7-day week. Jesus resurrected on the first day of the week, Sunday, and He poured out His Spirit on the day of Pentecost, which is 50 days after Passover (Leviticus 23:16). That is, one day after the 49<sup>th</sup> day, which would also be a Sunday. If the number seven is the measure of completeness, why does God use the concept of the eighth day so often? In the Bible we find that it applies to the dedication of animals, priests, the Temple, and of course it is the day that a male child is circumcised.

The number eight becomes the hope of newness because it goes beyond our normal measure... into a different measure altogether. Eight includes the seven but it brings the seven to an end. It is the beginning that will have no end. The LORD is the Alpha and the Omega because He is beyond them both, and He is the beginning and the end, because He is beyond them both. He is the one and the seven because He is beyond them both. Those of us who have the Spirit of Christ stand at the dawn of a new day that will never end. With that in mind.... Happy New Year!



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840  
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732  
December 30, 2018

### WELCOME!

<u>Sunday</u>	Bible Class- 9:30 a.m. Worship- 10:30 a.m.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Ladies Bible Study- 10:00 a.m.
<u>Wednesday</u>	Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

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**All the churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

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### **Today's Sermon: *Rumors or Reality?***

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

Bulletins are archived on the website.

**[valleycitieschurchofchrist.org](http://valleycitieschurchofchrist.org)**  
**[aicoc.org](http://aicoc.org)** (Antioch Initiative)

Find us on Facebook

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](http://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Scripture:** John 7:14-24; 37-39

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Ladies Class:** We will be skipping Tuesday's ladies' class again because of the holidays. Meanwhile, we will discuss whether we want to wait until February to resume or go ahead with Day 4 of Lesson 7 on the 8<sup>th</sup>.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class:** January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Arthur will be teaching Ephesians, starting into chapter 1.
- **Horseheads Ladies' Day-** Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.
- **Sojourners** here- July 8-18.

**Next Potluck: January 20<sup>th</sup>. Try something new for the New Year!**



- **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Regional Singing- Today! at 4:30 here at Valley Cities. We will need soups and/or stews, sandwiches and desserts to feed the hungry singers!**



- We will be starting a prayer ministry in the new year. We are preparing a mailbox-type receptacle for people to drop off their prayer requests as they have need. It will be placed in front of our building near the front steps.



**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

## PRAYERS...

- We are thankful that **Darlene and Doug** made it safely to Frostproof, FL, where they will rest and relax until February.
- **Patty asked for prayer for her daughter, April**, who is suffering pain and bleeding at the scar from her gall bladder operation. A CT scan revealed an umbilical hernia which needs to be attended to as well.
- **Sam** is trying to secure an internship in our area while he finishes his last semester at Corning.
- Pray for **Marilynn Patrick** who is battling metastatic colon cancer. She has been released from the hospital wearing a "life vest" which will detect and stop any incidents of arrhythmia.
- Pray that **Jackie** will have a smooth move from her home in Endicott to her new place in Athens, and that she can live comfortably there on her income.
- **Pat Guthrie** came through his lung cancer surgery well on Friday. We are praying that all the cancer was removed.
- Pray for **Karolyn**, who works with Tim, and for the other passengers in her car who are all injured from a head on collision with a drunk driver.
- Pray for **Andrea Lentz** – lung cancer.
- Pray for **Lori Kashorek** – lung cancer.
- Pray for Sandy and Arthur's neighbor, **Erin Beiber** who has metastatic breast cancer.
- Help us to all stay **encouraged** throughout the holiday season and into the new year.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.