



THE MESSENGER

MAY 2, 2021

NEWS AND NOTES

Congregational Meeting
TBA

Weekly Bible Studies
Tuesdays at 11 on Zoom

Times of Service

Sunday

Bible study: 9:45 AM
Worship: 10:45 AM; 6 PM

Wednesday

Bible study: 7:30 PM
(Immediately followed by a
short worship service)

First Friday of Month

Singing

On hold

Address and Contact

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Christ
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LIFE IS PRECIOUS

GUILTY ON ALL CHARGES was the verdict in the Derek Chauvin murder trial. Among the myriad of comments heard during the various news and press conferences that quickly followed was “George Floyd’s life mattered because he was a human being.” While it may be tempting to pay little attention to that statement because it is so obvious and simplistic, I believe it to be profound and worthy of further exploration. Let’s proceed and discover where the journey takes us.

A being is, very simply, a living thing. To be is to exist. A thing does not have to possess physical life to exist. An idea or a cause can be alive in one’s mind. We talk of certain things taking on lives of their own. George Floyd’s life mattered because he was a very special kind of being, a human being. But does his life matter more than, say, that of a canine being, or a feline being? I certainly hope the vast majority of people would say, “Yes.” So, it is generally agreed that human beings matter more than other beings. Why?

The word “human” means “of or pertaining to man” and therein lies the answer to why human beings matter. After creating the physical structure of the universe and filling it with all sorts of plants and animals, God knew that the world was ready; all the preparations were completed ²⁶ *Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”* ²⁷ *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Genesis 1:26-27)*

Note the following: man is the only being for whom everything else was created; man is the only being created in the image and likeness of God; man is the being given dominion over everything else; and man is the only being who will live with God eternally. George Floyd’s life mattered to the One who created him.

Members Needing Our Prayers

Pat, Seabolt, Janet Brundige, Julie Patton, Jackie and Evelyn Litmer, Joyce Bolton, Karen Spivey, Rhonda Boyd, Cindy Bradbury, Paul Atkisson, Rhonda Boyd (and family)

Others Needing Prayers

Ann Little, Mary Jean Snyder, Mark Nickles, Dale Lyons, Adam Fusco, Rachel and Sarah White, Duane Harrod, Grace Meyer, Andy Seabolt, Meredith Nicholson, Alice and Lonnie Anderson, Glen Perkins, Ethan Shelton, Terry Daniels, Harvey Baker, Leroy Weatherholt, Robert Brundige, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul and Marrian Lyda, Dana and her children, Shane (a relative of Cindi), Ron Harmon, Debbie Lanphear

To Our Guests

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Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, or our website to watch or listen to sermons.

But while human life always matters to God, it does not always matter to other human beings. Humans seem ever ready to trade human life for whatever commodity might be considered to be of greater value. From the very moment Cain rose up and slew his brother Abel, mankind has cheapened life, the very precious gift from the Almighty.

Throughout history the unauthorized taking of human life has been an integral component of the entire spectrum of sinful activities. Man does not have the right to take the life of another person unless God has authorized it. Such authorization has happened when God has raised up one nation to punish disobedience, or by means of the institution of government. Furthermore, I believe such authorization is contained within the responsibility God places on man to protect those dependent upon him. Outside of those limits, when one person snuffs out the life of another, he proves he cares nothing for that which God loved beyond measure; he thwarts the plan God had for that individual; and he destroys the crowning glory of God’s creative power. God said, *Thou shalt not murder. (Exodus 20:13)* and John was inspired to write, *Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him (1 John:15)* How carefully we need to treat one another. JT

Elders	Deacons	Evangelist
Troy Antle	Richard Brundige	Adam Litmer
David Collins	Adam Daniels	
John Thompson	Adam Litmer	
	Frank Patton	
	Jamie Powell	
	Pat Seabolt	
	Matt Thompson	
	James Weatherholt	

