

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Church of God Big Sandy

ChurchofGodBigSandy.com

March 12, 2022 • 1:00 p.m. • Sunset 6:25

Bible studies

Interactive study—1:00 p.m. Dixon Cartwright

Presentation study—2:00 Wynn Skelton

(Also transmitted live)

Order of service—3:00 p.m.

Song leader Neil McIver

Pianist Dixon Cartwright

Scripture reading Matthew 5:31–42

Sermon Morris Foster

Quick takes

1. Traveling speakers—We are pleased to announce the following traveling speakers coming to our congregation.

■ Today	Wynn Skelton and Morris Foster
■ March 19	John Reedy
■ April 2	Bill Crow
■ April 30	Ken Tate
■ May 14	Jim Johns

2. Pastor's travel—Today Dave Havar is giving a sermon in Shreveport. (Mr. Havar was scheduled to visit western Tennessee today, but that congregation postponed his trip because it was concerned that inclement weather would affect the members attending the various activities scheduled throughout the afternoon and evening. Mr. Havar is now expecting to make that trip in May.) Since Mr. Havar had speakers scheduled in our congregation today, he asked Wynn Skelton where he might be able to help a nearby congregation.

3. Thank you—Following are excerpts from a message from Sharon Burgin: "The Burgin family would like to thank everyone for the support and help with the Celebration of Life for Ken Burgin. We appreciate the use of the building and the time of people organizing the celebration. We truly appreciate all that you did."

4. Reminder—Daylight-saving time begins tomorrow.

5. Wednesday-night Bible study on March 16—The next Wednesday-night Bible study is scheduled for March 16.
6. Edifying the Body—This week's article is "A Black Guy's Defense of the Constitution" by Allen West.
7. Among Friends—This week's article is "Revelation 18" by Dave Havir.
8. Eye on the World—This week's "Eye on the World" is 36 pages. (This edition has nine articles and 243 headlines.)

Prayer updates

On Monday, **Timberly Dunnam** visited an ear, nose and throat specialist and had tests performed. She is currently waiting on the results of the tests.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Gary Woodring** had been having trouble with his gallbladder, but he decided against surgery because of his heart issues and his diabetes. He reports that he has administered a cleanse and that he did not have another gallbladder attack this week. He appreciates your prayers.

In last week's bulletin, we mentioned that **Lily** (a 5-year-old girl in Arizona) had been in the ICU of a children's hospital with pneumonia and low oxygen. On Monday, she was able to return home, but the family was instructed that she should not "be around people for two more weeks."

New prayer requests

Koby Dunne of Arlington (grandson of **David** and **Joyce Coleman**) has for some time been dealing with stomach issues. On Thursday, he was experiencing stomach pain. The family requests your prayers.

Carl Wunch of Kilgore (brother-in-law of **Annette Payne**) hurt his back and is presently in the VA hospital in Shreveport.

Dave Fergen of Wichita, Kan., is recovering from hip-replacement surgery.

James Scales of Beaumont (who experienced falls in September and January) has encountered brain bleeds and is in a nursing facility.

Amy Thibodeaux of Lindale is consulting with a doctor about how to treat broken bones in her leg above her ankle.

Hugh Caudill of Cincinnati, Ohio, died on March 3. Please remember his family in your prayers.

Lola Wright of Vian, Okla., died on March 5. Please remember her husband, **Terry**, and the rest of the family in your prayers.

Thought for the week

The worst thing about government censorship is xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx.

A Black Guy's Defense of the Constitution

This article is from the “Edifying the Body” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website, churchofgodbig sandy.com. It was posted for the weekend of March 12, 2022.

By Allen West

DALLAS, Texas—Recently a leftist journalist from *The Nation* named Elie Mystal referred to the U.S. Constitution as “trash.” He appeared on *The View* last Friday to promote his new book *Allow Me to Retort: A Black Guy’s Guide to the Constitution*. This is the ideological battle in which we are engaged in America.

Two philosophies

Mr. Mystal must be commended for having the courage, albeit delusional, to admit to the country the progressive socialist leftist perspective on the U.S. Constitution. It is no different from Virginia gubernatorial candidate Terry McAuliffe when he asserted that “parents do not have a right to decide what their children are being taught.”

The left in America is so emboldened that they no longer feel the need to hide their disdain for this nation. The question is, for us constitutional conservatives: What shall be our response?

The situation in America is no longer about political parties. It is now about two very different philosophies of governance: constitutional conservatism and progressive socialism—Marxism.

Rights, freedoms, liberties

The crux of the matter comes down to the relationship between the individual citizen and the institution of government. Our founding documents, which Mystal believes are flawed because white men wrote them, establish the individual, their rights, freedoms, liberties, as sovereign over the institution of government. Mystal and his comrades do not believe that to be so.

We are living in a time where the usurpation of individual rights and liberties is rampant. Of course, Mystal believes that the Constitution should be scrapped and replaced with the fundamental ideological beliefs of postmodern, not classical, liberalism. The

left’s belief is that social justice, which means equality of outcomes, should be the guiding principle. But who exactly gets to decide the outcomes?

Equality of opportunity

Constitutional conservatives embrace the premise of equality of opportunity and in the writings of English political philosopher John Locke and his theory of natural rights—life, liberty and property. Thomas Jefferson codified Locke’s natural rights theory in our Declaration of Independence—life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

Mystal’s condemnation of our Constitution is based upon the skin color of the writers, the framers, which is insidious. Was it not Dr. King who advocated that we judge based upon the content of character, not the color of skin?

All-powerful federal government

I am wondering, if the Constitution, according to Mystal, is trash, then what happens to freedom of religion and the free exercise thereof? After all, the civil-rights movement was faith-based.

If the Constitution is trash, then what happens to the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments, which ended slavery, gave slaves citizenship and codified the right to vote for those new American citizens. Oh yeah, those were white men who passed those Amendments, as well as the Amendment giving women the right to vote.

Shall we scrap the Second Amendment of the Constitution?

Matter of fact, it was the Ku Klux Klan that certainly did not want newly freed slaves to enjoy that constitutional right. Yeah, the KKK served as foot soldiers to the Democrat party.

Mystal even asserts that we should abolish states’ rights, meaning the 10th Amendment. In essence he is advocating that we are no longer a constitutional republic, and he disavows the system of federalism. Mystal and

his leftist accomplices want an all-powerful federal government that rules, not governs.

Media, academia, courts

And we must understand that the left does not believe in the three branches of government, but rather the three branches of rule—media, academia and the courts. The left does not believe in natural-rights theory, no. They believe that their ideological agenda forms the basis of rights, which they can bestow and rescind.

The left does not believe we have a right to life. They have welcomed the cult of death of a woman who was a white supremacist and racist, Margaret Sanger. The left used the U.S. Supreme Court, all white men, to decide that a woman has the right to murder a baby in the womb. They also used the SCOTUS to decide that marriage can be what their ideological agenda states.

And, by the way, the Constitution does not give courts the enumerated power to make law.

Totalitarian designs and goals

The abject danger of the ideals of Elie Mystal and the progressive socialist left is that they have no regard for our rule of law—just their rule. Individual rights are impedi-

ments to their totalitarian designs and goals.

The Constitution of the United States is the document that binds us together as the American people. It is the reason why we are the longest running constitutional republic that the world has ever known. It is the document that four generations of black men in my family took an oath to support and defend. And we are all combat veterans who were willing to make the last full measure of devotion to honor that oath.

Support and defend

This black man honors and reveres our Constitution. That is why I am blessed to be the executive director of the American Constitutional Rights Union (ACRU). This is where I will make my stand, against the clear and present danger represented by Elie Mystal. I wonder if *The View* would ever have me on the show to retort the delusional “retort” of Elie Mystal?

In closing, we must all take an oath to support and defend the Constitution of these United States of America, our fundamental rule of law that sees not color—but enables our rights, freedoms and liberty.

Steadfast and Loyal.

["Steadfast and Loyal" is the motto of the 4th Infantry Division of the U.S. Army.]

“Revelation 18”

Following is an excerpt of an article from the “Among Friends” section of the Church of God Big Sandy’s website (churchofgodbigandy.com), which was posted for the weekend of March 12, 2022.

By Dave Havir

BIG SANDY, Texas—At our Bible study on Wednesday night, I gave a presentation titled “Revelation 18.”

I want to share some of my comments in this short article.

Reason for topic

It is reasonable for a person to wonder why I chose this topic at this time. The answer is threefold.

First, I chose this topic as an opportunity to make some observations about problems that are occurring around the world.

Second, I used Revelation 18 to discuss four main ideas.

- Notice the ultimate enemy.
- Notice the sin of Babylon.
- Notice the reaction of the merchants.
- Focus upon the main instruction about Christian living.

Third, I wanted to encourage my friends.

Main ideas

- Ultimate enemy—Revelation 18:2.
- Sin of Babylon—Revelation 18:3 and Revelation 18:23.
- Reaction of merchants—Revelation 18:11 and Revelation 18:15.
- Christian-living instruction—Revelation 18:4.