

2 Corinthians 3

(from The Message)

7-8 The Government of Death, its constitution chiseled on stone tablets, had a dazzling inaugural. Moses’ face as he delivered the tablets was so bright that day (even though it would fade soon enough) that the people of Israel could no more look right at him than stare into the sun. How much more dazzling, then, the Government of Living Spirit?

9-11 If the Government of Condemnation was impressive, how about this Government of Affirmation? Bright as that old government was, it would look downright dull alongside this new one. If that makeshift arrangement impressed us, how much more this brightly shining government installed for eternity?

12-15 With that kind of hope to excite us, nothing holds us back. Unlike Moses, we have nothing to hide. Everything is out in the open with us. He wore a veil so the children of Israel wouldn’t notice that the glory was fading away—and they *didn’t* notice. They didn’t notice it then and they don’t notice it now, don’t notice that there’s nothing left behind that veil. Even today when the proclamations of that old, bankrupt government are read out, they can’t see through it. Only Christ can get rid of the veil so they can see for themselves that there’s nothing there.

16-18 Whenever, though, they turn to face God as Moses did, God removes the veil and there they are—face-to-face! They suddenly recognize that God is a living, personal presence, not a piece of chiseled stone. And when God is personally present, a living Spirit, that old, constricting legislation is recognized as obsolete. We’re free of it! All of us! Nothing between us and God, our faces shining with the brightness of his face. And so we are transfigured much like the Messiah, our lives gradually becoming brighter and more beautiful as God enters our lives and we become like him.

Deep Sheet

[a place for your notes]

What is the “government of death?”

Who was Aphrodite and what did she have to do with the Corinthians?

Did Moses have horns?

What does today’s passage tell us we are free from?

Who is always busy telling you that you’re no good?

Other Notes:

January Weekly Bible Readings

Date	Day	New Testament	☑	Special Prayer	Old Testament	☑
05	Su	Matthew 8			2 Kings 12	
06	Mo	Matthew 9			2 Kings 13	
07	Tu	Matthew 10			2 Kings 14	
08	We	Matthew 11			2 Kings 15	
09	Th	Matthew 12			2 Kings 16	
10	Fr	Matthew 13			2 Kings 17	
11	Sa	Matthew 14			2 Kings 18	
12	Su	Matthew 15			2 Kings 19	



Laketon Bethel’s Core Values:

A. ACCEPTANCE:

Everyone, regardless of who they are, what they have done, or what they are doing, will be accepted here. Laketon Bethel will be a safe place to explore your relationship with Jesus.

B. BIBLE:

The teachings of Jesus, contained in the Bible, are the final authority for faith and practice. We will study these teachings with open minds and the best scholarship available.

C. CONNECTION:

We invite people to connect with Jesus and with each other in all that we do.

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Leadership Selection

The Reformed Church's Book of Church Order requires that we publish the names for three weeks of those who may be chosen for the consistory. If there is any valid reason why any of these candidates should not serve, please inform Sherwin. We will draw the names on January 12.

Elder Nominees (1 will be chosen)

Boyd Kitzrow

Kathy Young

Deacon Nominees (1 will be chosen)

Janice Carrigan

Rita Sikkenga

Sherwin's Adult Bible Study: Questions Part 2

This 8-week series is a continuation of congregational questions biblically addressed by Sherwin.

It begins on Wednesday, January 22nd at 6:00pm with pizza served first and the Bible Study following.

If you are interested, please sign up on the sheets in the entryway in order to get an accurate count for pizza.

Announcements

Membership Class We will have a membership Class on February 16th in the Parlor following the Second Service. Lunch will be provided. If interested, please sign up on the sheets located in the entryway.

Jr. & HS Youth Group Students 6th grade - 12th grade are welcome to join us today from 5:00pm -7:00pm. We will have dinner, a lesson and lots of fun. We will meet next on January 19th. For any questions, please see John or Ashley Wierenga.

Jr. High J.A.M. Students in grades 6th and up are welcome to enjoy a lesson during the Crosstalk in the Parlor the second and fourth Sunday of each month. For any questions, please see Mia Fick.

Women's Divorce Group We're starting our group back up on Wednesday, January 22nd at 6:30pm at Park Meadows. We will gather in the small meeting room on the east end. For any questions, please contact Heather Wilke at 215-8593.

Monday Morning Ladies Bible Study We will be starting a new book Jan 13 at 9:30. The book we will be using is: *Experiencing the Heart of Jesus for 52 Weeks Revised and Updated: A Year-Long Bible Study (Life Lessons Bible Study)*. All are welcome. If you have any questions contact Maureen Mussman 231-894-8010.

Service Opportunities

Children's Church We are looking for helpers for set-up, classroom assistance, and clean up. More info and sign-up sheets are located on the table in the entryway.

Volunteers

1st Service Coffee Server: Diane Brantsen

2nd Service Coffee Server: Sheri Vanderlaan

1st Service Nursery: Amy Kunnen

2nd Service Nursery: Pat Ritsema, Theresa Schiltz

Special Senior: Sally Legard

Please sign the cards located on the table in the entryway.

Order of Worship-9:00am

Gathering Song

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

Call to Worship

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Come, Holy Spirit”

“Holy Spirit, Thou Art Welcome”

“Where the Spirit of the Lord Is”

Crosstalk - “Government of Death”

Offering

“We Fall Down/Holy Is the Lord”

Benediction

“Spirit Song”



Order of Worship-11:00am

Gathering Song

“God So Loved”

Call to Worship

“House of the Lord

Welcome & Announcements

Congregational Prayer

Worship in Song

“Breathe On Me”

“Who You Say I Am”

Crosstalk - “Government of Death”

Offering

“Old Church Choir”

Benediction

“Salt & Light”