



The Glendale New Church
845 Congress Ave. Glendale, OH 45246 513-772-1478

The Precursor

May 2022

Our Mission:

The Glendale New Church connects heaven to earth by worshiping the Lord God Jesus Christ; discovering eternal truths in His Word; promoting spiritual awareness; and fostering community

Announcements

Our May 8 worship service will be in-person at the Church. We will be attentive to people's safety.

Stay tuned for details on our celebration of New Church Day, June 19th.

FROM THE WORD

As Jesus was leaving the Temple that day, one of his disciples said, "Teacher, look at these magnificent buildings! Look at the impressive stones in the walls." Jesus replied, "Yes, look at these great buildings. But they will be completely demolished. Not one stone will be left on top of another!"

Later, Jesus sat on the Mount of Olives across the valley from the Temple. Peter, James, John, and Andrew came to him privately and asked him, "Tell us, when will all this happen? What sign will show us that these things are about to be fulfilled?" Jesus replied, "Don't let anyone mislead you, for many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am the Messiah.' They will deceive many. And you will hear of wars and threats of wars, but don't panic. Yes, these things must take place, but the end won't follow immediately. Nation will go to war against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be earthquakes in many parts of the world, as well as famines. But this is only the first of the birth pains, with more to come. When these things begin to happen, watch out!"
Mark 13:1-37

[I print here only the opening verses of this chapter, but I encourage you to read the rest of the chapter. My favorite translation is the New Living Translation easily found at biblegateway.com. While reading, ask yourself what are the underlying emotions that Jesus is eliciting out of his listeners? What are the consequences that Jesus outlines will happen to those who are having these feelings? Reflect on what you do and say when you feel grumpy, angry, sad or happy. When your emotions drive your actions and speech what happens to you and those around you? These questions highlight the psychological truths underneath Jesus' predictions of the future.]

[The following is a slightly edited quote from Emanuel Swedenborg's "Secrets of Heaven, paragraph 8478]

When people are [overly worried] about the morrow and are not content with their lot, they do not trust in God but in themselves, and have solely worldly and earthly matters in view, not heavenly ones. These people are ruled completely by anxiety over the future, and even by the desire to possess all things and exercise control over all other people. That desire is kindled, and then inevitably grows greater and greater, till at length it is beyond all measure. They grieve if they do not realize the objects of their desires, and they are distressed at the loss of them. Nor can they find consolation, for in times of loss they are angry with the Divine. They reject Him together with all belief, and curse themselves. This is what those concerned for the morrow are like.

Those who trust in the Divine are altogether different. Though concerned about the morrow, yet are they unconcerned, in that they are not anxious when they give thought to the morrow. They remain even-tempered whether or not they realize their desired outcomes, and they do not grieve over loss. They are content with their lot. If they become wealthy they do not become infatuated with wealth; if they are promoted to important positions they do not consider themselves worthier than others. If they become poor they are not made miserable either; if lowly in status they do not feel downcast. They know that all things are moving towards an everlasting state of happiness, and that no matter what happens at any time to them, it contributes to that state. All because they trust in the Divine.

A person is encouraged to seek a complete acceptance that Divine providence is overall, that is, is present within the smallest details of all that is known and experienced. People can fully realize that they are in the stream of providence, being carried along constantly towards happier things, whatever appearance the means may present. Those in the stream of providence are people who trust in the Divine and ascribe everything to Him. But those not in the stream of providence are people who trust in themselves alone and attribute everything to themselves; theirs is a contrary outlook, for they take providence away from the Divine and claim it as their own. It should be recognized also that to the extent that anyone is in the stream of providence they are in a state of peace; and to the extent that anyone is in a state of peace by virtue of the good of faith, they are in Divine providence.

Those with the contrary outlook are scarcely willing to allow any mention of providence. Instead they put every single thing down to prudence; and what they do not put down to prudence they put

down to fortune or to chance. Some put it down to fate, which they do not ascribe to the Divine but to natural forces. They call those people simple who do not attribute all things to themselves or to natural forces. From all this one may again see what those people are like who are concerned for the morrow, and what those are like who are not concerned for the morrow.

FROM THE PASTOR

Our approach here is that when Jesus is making these predictions about the future, he is also describing the impact of not trusting in God for our future welfare, when we do not live feeling safe and secure in God's plan for us. Life will be full of inner anxiety and outer conflict. Jesus is saying that the peace he promises is dependent on people acknowledging his resurrection as meaning that they will live forever and that God is in charge, and that therefore God will make that happen, regardless of earthly, physical or psychological circumstances.

A few of the effects of lack of trust in any higher power and divine source of life include: a consuming worry about the future; interpersonal conflicts; a tendency to fear mongering; reactions of angry defensiveness; retreating from life in fear; escaping in altered states of mind through drugs, food or sex; continual, vain efforts to control circumstances and outcomes; unresolvable regret and shame; and feelings of unremitting despair. These are psychological realities that manifest as chemical imbalances in the brain, chronic pain, panic, rumination, uncontrollable thoughts.

Have you experienced one of these? Did you experience actually overcoming one of them? Did that healing involve letting go and letting God? Jesus wants us to know that the source of these physiological and psychological symptoms is the egotistical reliance upon self that rejects both God's care and community with others. His predictions of what will happen are dire, to say the least. He predicts that we all go through such ordeals to experience what happens when we are selfish and materialistic. And he describes the cure, and promises it will work. It is the blessing we acquire when we have a secure attachment to God and others – when we learn to live in God, have God alive in our hearts, and live in community loving others more than ourselves.

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Mindfulness, Cognitive Therapy, Spiritual Development

www.trilliumsmallgroupcenter.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 7pm - Choose Joy Now	3 5:45pm - Yoga	4	5 6pm - Yoga	6	7 10am - Yoga 4pm - Smith/Olgaschlager
8 11am - Worship with	9 7pm - Choose Joy Now	10 5:45pm - Yoga	11	12 6pm - Yoga	13	14 10am - Yoga
15	16 7pm - Choose Joy Now	17 5:45pm - Yoga	18	19 6pm - Yoga	20	21 10am - Yoga
22	23 7pm - Choose Joy Now	24 5:45pm - Yoga	25	26 6pm - Yoga	27	28 10am - Yoga
29	30 7pm - Choose Joy Now	31 5:45pm - Yoga	1	2	3	4

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2 6pm - Yoga	3 4:30pm - Clark/Smith	4 10am - Yoga 11:45am - Clark/Smith
5	6 7pm - Choose Joy Now	7 5:45pm - Yoga	8	9 6pm - Yoga	10	11 10am - Yoga
12 11am - Online Worship	13	14 5:45pm - Yoga	15	16 6pm - Yoga	17	18 10am - Yoga
19	20	21 5:45pm - Yoga	22	23 6pm - Yoga	24	25 10am - Yoga
26	27	28 5:45pm - Yoga	29	30 6pm - Yoga	1	2

Schedule

May 2022

DATE	Worship Service (type and time)
5/1	
5/8	11:00 am –Worship Service at Church - contact Pastor Clark for details
5/15	
5/22	
5/29	

June 2022

DATE	Worship Service (type and time)
6/5	
6/12	
6/19	
6/26	

Keep calm and carry on!

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