April 15, 2018

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: We hope to have a morning catechism (#51) and an evening reading service. Classes after the morning service.

This Week Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 p.m. Rev de Leeuw preaches in Sioux Center (Prayer Service for Classis). Wednesday Classis meets.

Next Week: We hope to have a morning catechism reading service and a 2:30 p.m. service with Student de Leeuw

Advance Notices:

- April 29 6:30 p.m. Rev. Vogelaar
- Wednesday, May 2 7:30 p.m. Student Witvoet in Sioux Center (National Prayer Day)
- Thursday, May 3 7:30 p.m. Student Witvoet in Rock Valley (National Prayer Day)
- Thursday, May 10 7:30 p.m. Rev den Hoed in Rock Valley, Rev. Vergunst in Sioux Center (Ascension Day),
- May 20 2:30 p.m. Student de Leeuw (Pentecost)
 -All the Lord willing-

Offerings Today: 1st General Fund Next week: 1st General Fund 2nd School Settlement 2nd Theological School

We Remember in Prayer:

- -The delegates at the classis meeting and the decisions that have to be made.
- -Those who have been unable to gather with us for some time, our widows and widowers, our elderly, the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, any others who are unable to gather with us today, are under doctor's care, and all those who have hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

Remember, man, thy birth;
Set not on gold thy heart;
Naked thou cam'st upon the earth,
And naked must depart.
This world's vain wealth despise;
Happiness is not here;
To Jesus lift thy longing eyes,
And seek thy treasure there. .~J. Hart

Profit and Loss

George Burder was an English minister, who lived about 200 (now more than 265) years ago. His mother died when he was only 10 years old. His father impressed on him that he must seek the Lord and that he must believe in Christ. When he was 17 he had a great privilege: he heard the famous minister George Whitefield preach.

After he became a minister himself, some of his sermons were written down and they are still available for people to read. He once used an illustration about a house fire.

"Many houses were built of wood in those days, and fires were more common than they are now. As the fire took hold of the building, the lady of the house went into a panic. She was trying to rescue as many of her goods as she could. You can imagine her running in and out with her arms full of all the things she held dear - perhaps clothes, books, even kitchen items.

"She was so busy doing this that she forgot that her baby was asleep in the cradle. How quickly she ran back to the house, desperate to save her darling child - but it was now too late! The flames made it impossible for her to get back into the house. Just think of her utter agony and distress as she cried out, 'Oh, my child! My child!' How unspeakably sad! What a loss!

"Just so will it be at the last, with many poor sinners. They spend all their lives 'careful and troubled about many things.' They are taken up with their studies, then with their jobs, their families, their children and so on - and all these things are right in themselves. Yet all this time they forget about the 'one thing needful.'

"What good will it do you at last to say, 'I had a good house or a good job, but I lost my soul! I had a large fortune, but I lost my soul! I had many friends, but God is my enemy! I lived in pleasure, but now pain is my everlasting portion! I clothed my body attractively, but my soul is naked before God! Oh, my soul! My soul!' What a loss!"

Should it not make you think of the verses: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Mark 8:36, 37). To gain the world and lose your soul – Oh, what folly! Oh, what sorrow! Will you not ask God to save your soul now, before it is too late?

-J. van Kralingen

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. 1 Peter 2:24

Church Times: 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.