

May 2013

Dear Friends,

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, ² Who *is* this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? ³ Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. ⁴ Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding. ⁵ Who hath laid the measures thereof, if thou knowest? or who hath stretched the line upon it? ⁶ Whereupon are the foundations thereof fastened? or who laid the corner stone thereof; ⁷ When the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸ Or *who* shut up the sea with doors, when it brake forth, *as if* it had issued out of the womb? ⁹ When I made the cloud the garment thereof, and thick darkness a swaddlingband for it, ¹⁰ And brake up for it my decreed *place*, and set bars and doors, ¹¹ And said, Hitherto shalt thou come, but no further: and here shall thy proud waves be stayed? ¹² Hast thou commanded the morning since thy days; *and* caused the dayspring to know his place; ¹³ That it might take hold of the ends of the earth, that the wicked might be shaken out of it? ¹⁴ It is turned as clay *to* the seal; and they stand as a garment. ¹⁵ And from the wicked their light is withholden, and the high arm shall be broken. ¹⁶ Hast thou entered into the springs of the sea? or hast thou walked in the search of the depth? ¹⁷ Have the gates of death been opened unto thee? or hast thou seen the doors of the shadow of death? ¹⁸ Hast thou perceived the breadth of the earth? declare if thou knowest it all. ¹⁹ Where *is* the way *where* light dwelleth? And *as for* darkness, where *is* the place thereof, ²⁰ That thou shouldest take it to the bound thereof, and that thou shouldest know the paths *to* the house thereof? (Job 38:1-20 KJV)

Only a gracious God could have spoken such kind words. It is one of the greatest temptations known to human beings to try to speak for God and Job and his friends had just succumbed. They had indeed spoken words without knowledge. Yet God in His infinite mercy responded with fatherly care by refocusing their attention on Him who knows all things because He made them. He confronts Job not with anger but with correction. He restores Job to his right mind. God alone fixes and determines events; He alone knows a thing from beginning to end.

We often need the lesson of Job because it is too easy in today's world of mindless information to begin to think that we can speak for God. We utter words without knowledge and literally "darken counsel." Still God with a fatherly heart forgives our misspeak and brings us by His Spirit to the right mind of an obedient child. This is one of the reasons there is great comfort in reading Job; to see how our marvelous God and Father gently chastises His children bringing them to repentance through kindness and renewing their steps on the path He has designed for them. Thanks be to our God and Father for Jesus sake.

God's Peace,
Jay Weidner



Donations Received...

In memory of Theresa Weidner
from Al & Janis Saari

In memory of Ernest Bylkas Jr.
from Pastor Ernest & Joy Bylkas III & family

In honor of Albert & Janis Saari's
50th Wedding Anniversary
from Janis Saari



Planning for 2013 Fall Classes

The following classes have tentatively been scheduled for the fall semester which will begin on Wednesday, September 4th. The Monday night class in Hancock will begin on September 9th. For additional information or if you would like to enroll in a class, please email cilseminary@ilseminary.com or call 906-482-3337.

Christian Dogmatics I (3 credits) – Lectures, readings and discussion of various Christian Doctrines including an in-depth look at the prolegomena for doing any study of systematic theology.

History of Christianity in America (3 credits) – A history of the spread of the church in the United States from its pilgrim beginnings to the present.

Anthropology & Christology (2 credits) – An investigation of what it means to be human, especially in light of the person and work of Jesus Christ.

Samuel, Kings & Chronicles (2 credits) – A comparative study of the history of the nation of Israel as recorded in these accounts.

(Fall classes continued)

Isaiah (2 credits) – An exegetical study of the book of Isaiah, theories of its development and its impact upon the New Testament.

Gospel of Mark (2 credits) – An in-depth analysis of the most concise Gospel with an emphasis on sound and segmentation.

Romans (2 credits) – Exegesis and interpretation of portions of the epistle emphasizing its doctrinal content and theology.

Ministry to the Aging (1 credit) – A study of the various facets of ministering to senior citizens as vital members of the Body of Christ.

Edifying Church & Family (1 credit) – A course to develop an awareness of the dynamics of Pastoral duties in shepherding the flock, and the care of family with the necessity of maintaining personal, familial and congregational health through the resources that God has provided.

Deaconess History (2 credits) – A study of the role of deaconesses through the history of the Christian Church.

Revelation (2 credits) – An exegetical study and interpretation of the book emphasizing its structure and content.



Thank you for the GREAT TURN OUT!
at the SPRING SING SERVICE

Thank you to all who attended the Spring Sing service at the seminary on April 28th. The students, staff and local musicians took part in this service, and the support was overwhelming! The sanctuary was packed and the service was enjoyed by all! Again, thank you for your continued support!