

Good News From Chardon Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave., Chardon, Oh 44024

February 9, 2025

Issue 6

Schedule of Services

Greeting: Mark

Song Leader: Myron

Opening Hymn:

23—Sweet Hour Of Prayer

Opening Prayer:

Hymn:

578—This Is My Father's World

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 2:19-23

Hymn:

53—Purer In Heart, O God

Lord's Supper:

Hymn:

1A—How Great Thou Art

Sermon: Mark

Invitation Hymn:

605—Just As I Am

Closing Hymn:

527—Let The Lower Lights Be Burning

Closing Prayer:

♪ This world is not my home, I'm just a
passing thru. My treasures are laid up
somewhere beyond the blue;

The angels beckon me from heaven's
open door, And I can't feel at home in
this world anymore.

O, Lord, You know I have no friend like
You, If heaven's not my home then Lord,
what will I do;

The angels beckon me from heaven's
open door, and I can't feel at home in this
world anymore. ♪

CALENDAR

Feb 9—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark

Feb 16—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Tom

Feb 17—(a) David & Dorene

Feb 21—(b) Jaden

Feb 22—(a) Ray & Barbara

Feb 23—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am
Speaker Mark

Mar 2—Bible Study 10 am, Worship 11 am

Did the Prophets Say Christ Would be "Called a Nazarene"?

After describing the birth and early years of the life of Jesus, Matthew tells us that Joseph, having obeyed God by going down to Egypt, returned to Galilee, to Galilee, "and he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene" (Matthew 2:23). There seems to be a problem, however, in that there is no Old Testament prophet who said, "He shall be called a Nazarene," and the city of Nazareth is never mentioned in the Old Testament.

Some have suggested that Matthew meant a Nazarite, rather than a Nazarene. A Nazarite took vows of holiness, never cutting his hair, avoiding any contact with dead bodies, and generally living a very austere life. Some of the prophets did refer to the holiness of the Messiah, but none said He would be a Nazarite. John the Baptist may well have taken a Nazarite vow, but Jesus, who was called a glutton and a winebibber, and who touched the dead to bring them back to life, would not have been a Nazarite. Surely Matthew understood the difference between a Nazarite, one who had taken a Nazarite vow, and a Nazarene, one who was from the city of Nazareth.

A more likely explanation for Matthew's statement that "He shall be called a Nazarene" lies in a play on words, specifically the Hebrew word "branch," that would have been very obvious to the Jewish readers who were the target of his gospel account. Matthew stressed that Jesus was "the son of David, the son of Abraham" (Matthew 1:1), as he showed that Jesus was the fulfillment of the words of the prophets as the One who was the promised Messiah-King. The Hebrew word for "branch," naser is very similar to the root word of Nazareth. Isaiah had prophesied of the Messiah, "And there shall come forth a rod out of the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots" (Isaiah 11:1). Of this Branch, he said, "the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD" (Isaiah 11:2). The prophet Zechariah said, "Hear now, O Joshua the high priest, thou, and thy fellows that sit before thee: for they are men wondered at: for, behold, I will bring forth my servant the BRANCH" (Zechariah 3:8).

(continued on back)

PRAYER LIST

Mynda as she travels. **Caleb's** back surgery recovery
Her **Aunt Donna** and family
Tom & Nina health, **Nina** is at Blossom room 33 for rehab.
Daughter **Jenny** and family
Mark and **Debbie** as they travel. Mark's brother **Dale**
Tom's Bible Study with **Roberta, Channing,** and **Kris.**
Bonnie's health, grandsons **Devin, Dakota, Mick, Dillon,**
Connor & Keegan. Daughters **Ronda** and **Renee**
Friend, **Liz** with serious troubles
Wanda's migraines; son **Allen,** sisters **Lorraine, Joyce**
knee surgery, niece **Nikki** in bad accident, niece
Lorrie heart attack. **Allen's friend** with brain bleed.
Mary, Carl and family. **Ryan** had ankle surgery and is
home.. **Keatha,** Mary's sister-in-law.
Mary's brother **David** with health issue,
Jim and Beverly G. with health issues
Wayne and Diane G. with health issues
Kathy's health, gout in her foot
Linda's health and back pain, **Tiffany & family.** **Christian**
Zarna and her family
Juanita and her family.
Ray and **Barbara** and their family. Welcome back Ray!
Dale's health issues, headaches, His family. His **Mothers**
upcoming knee replacement surgery. 7 year old girl,
Lucie, with Leukemia. Cousins, **Randal** physical &
mental health, **Jalen's** mental health. Uncle **Earl**
with cancer, **Aunt Rose** health, Brother in Christ
Johnston surgery recovery. Uncle **Jimmy** stroke.
Ray's health and his family. **Rebecca, Steven, and Asher**
Pat and her family
Robert & Sara, Son **Michael** and Daughter **Maddie**
Brenda's health, her sister **Linda** is now on Hospice, sister-
in-law **Linda** with breast cancer, grandson **Jason**
with herniated neck disc, granddaughter **Amanda.**
Her **brother's** health
Larry & family
Mike & Debra Their friend **Carl** with cancer.
Doug's father-in-law, **Mahlon,** is home now.
Betty's friend **Judy,** she needs medical help & support
Mark L.—stimulator in his back

(continued from front)

Matthew's statement, "that which was spoken by the prophets" (2:23), is a general statement, not necessarily indicating that any of the prophets specifically said, "He shall be called a Nazarene." Elsewhere, when Matthew speaks of fulfilled prophecy, and he has a specific quotation in mind, he names the prophet, or says "the prophet," rather than "the prophets." His general statement indicates that a general teaching of the prophets was that the Messiah would be called a Nazarene.

There is significance in being called a Nazarene. To be called a Nazarene was to be called "from the backwoods," to be unsophisticated. When Philip told Nathanael, "We have found him, of whom Moses in the law, and the prophets, did write, Jesus of Nazareth," Nathanael commented, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?" (John 1:45-46). Many of the prophets said the Branch, coming from humble beginnings, would be despised and rejected by men. Jesus was treated as a "Nazarene" by the religious authorities of His day.

Bob Prichard serves as an elder and evangelist for the Hillview Church of Christ
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WHERE IS IT WRITTEN?

And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with
all thine heart, and with all thy soul, and
with all thy might.

Answer: Deuteronomy 6:5

Matthew 2:19-23 19 But when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeareth in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, 20 Saying, Arise, and take the young child and his mother, and go into the land of Israel: for they are dead which sought the young child's life. 21 And he arose, and took the young child and his mother, and came into the land of Israel. 22 But when he heard that Archelaus did reign in Judaea in the room of his father Herod, he was afraid to go thither: notwithstanding, being warned of God in a dream, he turned aside into the parts of Galilee: 23 And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, He shall be called a Nazarene.

SUNDAY: Bible Study—10:00 am, Worship—11:00 am
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