

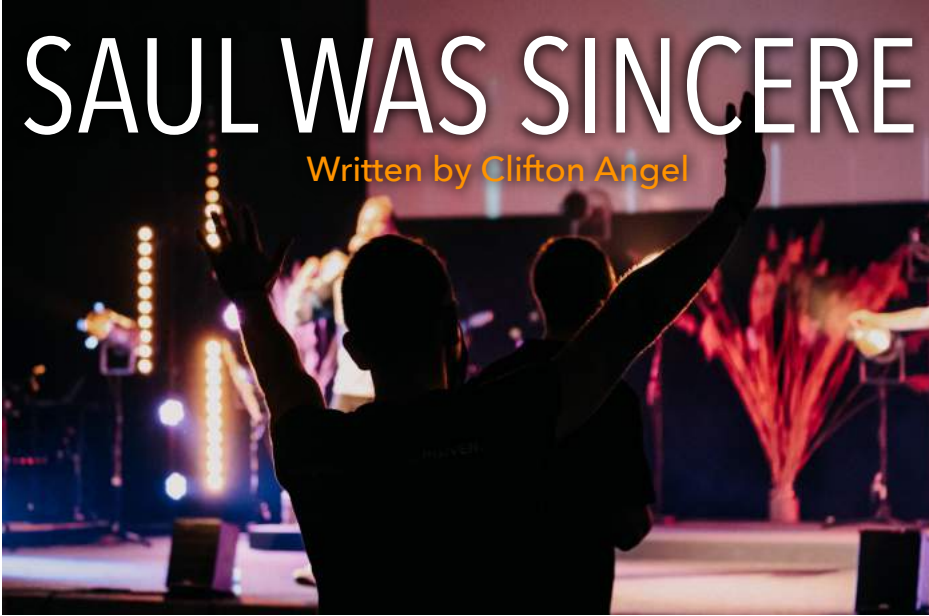
# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST January 24, 2021



## SAUL WAS SINCERE

Written by Clifton Angel



“And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went unto the high priest, And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem” (Acts 9:1-2).

When Saul acted, he did so with his whole heart. ...

*This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).*

**VISITORS,  
WELCOME!**

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

1:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes  
for all ages & fellowship  
for lunch every Sunday!

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### ELDERS

Billy Bland

Jim Jackson

### DEACONS

Jason Bayless

Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell

Joe Owen

Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II

John Wofford

### PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... He was devoted and sincere. Devotion and sincerity are vital for becoming and being a Christian; however, prior to his conversion to Christ, Saul's sincerity alone could not save him. Let us note numerous occasions that Paul (formerly Saul) recounts his sincerity and devotion before becoming a Christian. To the churches of Galatia, he wrote, "For ye have heard of my conduct in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers" (Galatians 1:13-14).

While in Jerusalem, and after being removed from the Jewish mob that sought to kill him, Paul recounted to the Jews his background and conversion (cf. Acts 22:1-21). After another interruption, uproar, and demand for him to be scourged, Paul appealed to the guards with his Roman citizenship. So, the Romans set him before the Jewish Sanhedrin, and Paul picked up with his former account with these words: "Men and brethren, I have lived in all good conscience before God until this day" (Acts 23:1). A little later, he would recount some of the same to Festus and Agrippa (higher governing authorities): "I verily thought with myself, that I ought to

do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them. And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities" (Acts 26:9-11).

It is apparent on all accounts that Saul was sincere and devoted, even while he acted contrary to the will of God. Many today believe sincerity grants us access to Heaven; however, such simply is not the case. Jesus said, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity" (Matthew 7:21-23).

Saul is a powerful example to the fact that we cannot be saved merely by sincerity. For, at one time, he was sincerely wrong.

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Wiley Tuggle**, upcoming surgeries on each leg; **Dixon family**, in quarantine, daughter has covid; **Kara Strickland**, sick last week; **Joe Owen & family**, in loss of his father; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**; **Sammy Williams**; **Inez Neyman**.

## **Far East Missions Fishers of Men NetCasters**

### Family & Friends

**Jerry Cooper family**, friend to Clifton, member at the Monroe congregation, passed last week; **George Moore family**, Jerry Davis' friend, passed unexpectedly; **Rick Comans family**, Marc's uncle passed recently; **Linda Rosado**, Monica's mom; **Wendy Jackson**, Marc's friend, diagnosed with cancer; **Donny Hunt**, Tim M.'s uncle, had triple bypass surgery; **Cheryl Pegram**, Jason's friend.

### Birthdays

1/5 Cash Jackson  
1/5 Terri Sykes  
1/7 Tucker Johnson  
1/8 Dean Strickland  
1/14 Suzanne Wofford  
1/15 Clarence Edwards  
1/21 John Wofford  
1/23 Lara Angel  
1/25 Jeffrey Ferrell

## Get Involved!

### **Youth Devotionals 2021**

Sign up to host a youth devotional  
Thanks to all who have signed up, so far!

### **Nesbit Lectureship — Jan 27 – 31**

Flyer on bulletin board

### **5th Sunday Contribution — Jan 31**

All above budget goes directly to building fund

### **MSOP Lectureship — March 28 – Apr 1**

Flyer on bulletin board

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, January 24

#### Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jeffrey Ferrell
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Noah Davis
Opening Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Marc Strickland
Assist	

Closing Prayer	Joe Owen
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#### Afternoon

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Opening Prayer	Tim Wilkes II
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Marc Strickland

Closing Prayer	Jason Bayless
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### Wednesday, January 27

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Billy Bland

TECH:	Daniel Owen
HALL:	