

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Feb. 3, 2013



Peacemakers

I doubt that any of us would consider ourselves violent people. To my knowledge none of us is wanted by the authorities for committing a violent crime. It is not within our realm of expectation to have a bomb explode in our town square because it was put there by a religious fanatic. And yet we see on the news on a daily basis those who commit such heinous acts in the name of their “god.” There are people blowing up buildings, cars, their enemies, and worst of all, themselves because they have been led to believe that that action will get them into Paradise. How eternally sad.

Jesus Christ brought a message of peace, physical peace. “Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. (John 18:36)” Jesus never advocated physical aggression toward an enemy, in fact, he taught just the opposite. “But I say unto you, That ye resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. (Mat. 5:39)” Our commission from the Lord does not involve going into all the world and making mincemeat of all our enemies, it involves going into all the world and making disciples of all men. And yet, at the same time, Jesus did come to wage a war. “Think not that I am...

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 & Pew Packers
each Sunday at 12:30

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

...come to send peace on earth: I came not to send peace, but a sword. For I am come to set a man at variance against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter in law against her mother in law. And a man's foes shall be they of his own household. (Mat. 10:34-36)" We are instructed to be soldiers (2 Tim. 2:3-4), wearing the armor of God (Eph. 6:10-18), involved in warfare (1 Tim. 1:18). But what we and all men must understand is that God's war is not physical, it is a spiritual war. We seek to cause conflict within the spirits of men while remaining at peace with them physically. "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds. (2 Cor. 10:4)" The good news for all mankind is that the outcome of the spiritual war is already decided - God has triumphed over Satan! But every man must determine the outcome of his personal battle.

God has given to us the means by which we might all have peace - His only begotten Son. Obedience to God through His Son Jesus Christ results in the peace that passes understanding (Phi. 4:7). This is the peace that all men need. This is the peace that would revolutionize the world. This is the peace that Christians in the first century had that allowed them to face persecution to the point of death. This is the peace that caused Stephen's face to shine like an angel's (Acts 6:15). Peace is a state of mind, not a state of a nation.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus promises happiness (blessedness) to those who are involved in making peace (Mat. 5:9). His main meaning is spiritual peace. Jesus is stating that those who bring peace into the hearts of others will find a happiness that is akin to the happiness saved for the poor in spirit, the mourning, the meek, the righteously hungry, and the pure. The peacemakers to which Jesus is referring are those who are involved in teaching others the Gospel. It falls to Gospel teachers to be called the children of God.

There was a group of Jews in Jesus' day who were devoted to making war with the ruling power, Rome. These Jews were called the Zealots. The Zealots... ..wanted to reestablish Jewish independence and they were more than willing to use violent force to accomplish their desires. One of Jesus' own...

...apostles came from this group. Simon was a Zealot (Mat. 10:4 - “Canaanite” should be “Zealot”). It might not be too much of a stretch to refer to the Zealots as a terrorist organization. Most of Jesus’ audience on this day would have taken this statement as a sign of disapproval of the Zealots’ tactics. Even if his hearers took the meaning of this statement no further than its application to the Zealots, it would have had profound impact on the nation. In this, his first and greatest sermon, Jesus makes it known on which side of the matter of a violent revolution he would fall. He would chose the side that used peaceful tactics.

The Jews all saw themselves as children of Abraham, the inheritors of the promise (John 8; cf. Gen. 12:1-3). But Jesus transits through the lineage of Abraham to equate peacemakers with children of God. His audience already thought of themselves as children of God, more importantly to them they were children of Abraham. Jesus puts their focus back on their proper Father.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus asserts himself as a spiritual, peaceable, submissive leader. If any will follow him they must take on the same qualities. He is teaching the Jews a new (and yet old) way of fulfilling their obligations to God. Making peace is what qualifies one to be a child of God. Peace starts within a person’s heart, then spreads from his heart to his hands, then from his hands to the hands and hearts of others. When a peaceable follower of Christ is fighting the good fight, and warring the good warfare, then he knows he will have victory as a true child of God.

-Written by David Dixon, gospel preacher working with the Warm Springs Road church of Christ in Columbus, GA

Sermon Review

The Greatest Salvation

(Romans 6:23)

- I. The Greatest Problem
- II. The Greatest Salvation

Heaven on Earth

- I. SINGING
- II. ASSEMBLING
- III. REJOICING
- IV. SERVING

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Ruth & Elizabeth and Boling family
Wiley & Betty Tuggle;
Sue Cobern; Herbert & Helen Bowman

OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Stewart family and friends, Delores Stewart, member at Independence, passed. **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, Christian residents at Providence Place, they have also requested prayers for their sons, Charles and Chris; **Mrs. Gaines**, in the loss of her father; **Nicholas Franks; Winchester family**, in loss of Gema; **Beverly Hays; Frederick Bland; Clyde Pruiett**, Jeffrey's grandfather; **Greg Myers**, Krystal's father, to have back surgery in near future for major back problems; **Kenneth Webb**, Krystal's grandfather, treatment for melanoma that has spread; **Jerry Price**, husband of Molly's assistant, has brain tumor; **Terry Hawkins; Barbara Denton**, friend of Molly, stage 3 cervical cancer. **Brigman Family; Janice Jenkins**, co-worker to Beverly Hayes, rare form of cancer. **Carla Carlson** and her battle with cancer; **Matthew Canada; Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **Doris Easley; Curtis A. Cates; Eli Williams; Ray Maples; Wayne Collinsworth; Andrew Hagewood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

February Birthdays

2/7 Abigail Wilkes
2/8 Leigh Anne Owen
2/12 Terry Bland
2/13 Ashby Johnson
2/13 Tim Wilkes, II
2/14 Eric Jackson
2/25 Betty Tuggle

Get Involved!

Final Signup Sheet for Creation Museum Trip
On Table in Foyer

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- TODAY

Meeting with Parents of Youth -- TODAY
Between Services

Bible Bowl -- Feb 9 -- 10:30 AM

Genesis 7 - 9;
Coldwater & Independence Co-Hosting
Give \$\$ to Jeffrey for snacks & drinks

Providence Place Devo -- Feb 10 -- 2PM

Creation Museum Trip -- March 14 - 16

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, February 3

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Joe Owen
Announcements	Jim Jackson
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jason Bayless
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Assist	Andy Ratliff
	Jerry Davis
Opening Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Moore

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Billy Bland
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jason Bayless
	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Ron Johnson
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, February 6

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Seth Daniel
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jim Jackson