

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Feb. 26, 2012



Hate religion, but love Jesus?

by Dennis Gullede

A “spoken word” poet named Jefferson Bethke has posted on You Tube a video entitled “Why I Hate Religion, But Love Jesus.” As one might expect it has attracted a lot of attention pro and con. The video is interesting and provocative.

If one is to “hate” he/she should “hate every false way” (Psa. 119:104, 128), and “abhor that which is evil” (Rom. 12:9). There are plenty of false ways in religion (Matt. 7:15, 21-23; 1 Jn. 4:1). Did Jesus hate religion? He loved in that he “gave himself for us” to redeem us (Tit. 2:14). Does that include religious people? Jesus certainly warned against false religion (Matt. 15:12-14). Jesus did not come to make men religious. He came into what was already a religious world. He came to make men right religiously (Gal. 4:4-5), and that is through his church (Eph. 3:8-11).

The words “Religion” and “religious” are fairly elastic terms in English. They can denote any philosophical viewpoint that a person might hold. One might be an...

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

5:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
on 1st & 3rd Sundays at
4:15 p.m.

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ELDERS

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W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

...atheist, humanist, Marxist, or any other “ist” and still be religious in a broad sense. For example, one is hard pressed to find a more anti-religious philosophy than secular humanism, but it is itself a religion. In the opening statement of the Humanist Manifesto I (1933) it is affirmed that humanism is “a new statement of the means and purposes of religion” at a time when “scientific achievement” has spawned the need for such.

The Greek word that is translated “religious” in the New Testament also describes the external service of religion. That is the idea in James 1:26, which says, “If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless.” The verb describes one who goes through the motions of religious service, but does not control his life in matters related to his speech. The noun form of the same word is used of external religious rites of various sorts: It denotes Judaism (Acts 26:5; Gal. 1:13-14). It referred to the pagan worship of angels (Col. 2:18). Paul used it of the idolaters in the city of Athens, Greece (Acts 17:22).

Seventy-percent of English words have Latin origins. Our word “religion” is from the Latin term *religio*: *Re*, meaning “back,” and *ligare* meaning “to bind.” The word “ligament” comes from this Latin word. A ligament is a band of tough tissue connecting the articular extremities of bones. The point is that “true religion” is that which binds a person back to God. We are separated from God by sin (Isa. 59:1-2; 1 Jn. 3:4). That is, true religion is what we must do to be bound and to stay bound to God! It is impossible for me to imagine how a person, who pontificates about hating religion while claiming to “love” God’s Son, has any credibility at all.

Both the English words “religious” and “religion” appear in James 1:26-27. James is not defining these words as much as he is showing their...

...primary expressions. That is true religion is expressed in the *control* we exercise (Vs. 26), in the *care* we exhibit (Vs. 27a), and in the *cleanness* we exemplify (Vs. 27b).

Dennis Gullede is a faithful Gospel preacher that has been the pulpit preacher in Mabelvale, AR for 23 years.

Sermon Review

God Has Given

(2 Peter 1:1-11)

- I. Equally Precious Faith (v. 1).
- II. Exponentially Grace & Peace (v. 2).
- III. Everything for Life & Godliness (v. 3).
- IV. Exceedingly Great Promises (v. 4).

God's Soap

(Numbers 19)

- I. Read the Text
- II. Recent History
- III. Review the Text

This Week's Daily Bible Reading:

Sunday:	Numbers 35-36
Monday:	Deuteronomy 1-2
Tuesday:	Deuteronomy 3-4
Wednesday:	Deuteronomy 5
Thursday:	Deuteronomy 6-7
Friday:	Deuteronomy 8-10
Saturday:	Deuteronomy 11-13

WANT TO STUDY THE BIBLE?

We offer multiple avenues:

1. We can study with you in your home!
2. We have a postal correspondence course
Contact us at www.coldwatercofc.com.
3. You can study the Bible via an online course.
Visit www.ucanbsure.org.

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Shirley Yarbro, continuously lacks the strength to do the things she needs to do with the healthy problems she has. **Sue Cobern**, pancreatitis, and other complications. **Wiley Tuggle & Betty Tuggle**.

**Far East Missions
OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men**

***See below for an update on Eli Williams.

Family & Friends

Sam Dickson's mother passed. **Connie Streiber**, Ray Maples asked us to send her cards of encouragement. **Nicole Blagburn**, co-worker of Molly, has been diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 30. **Lajuan Collums**, Billy's sister, is back in the hospital with pneumonia, along with other health problems. **Aubree Harris**, daughter of co-worker of Molly, has a long road ahead with gaining proper strength and muscle development; Mother has asked for prayers that this is not something that will be life-long for Aubree. **Chuck Tharp**, prostate cancer. **Eli Williams**, and his cancer treatment; it seems they had to do the shunt anyway, earlier this month. He has not been able to come home a lot, and he is experiencing a lot of nausea, which leads to him not being able to keep food down, which leads to even less strength. He and his family need our continual prayers. **Missy Kelsay**, battling cancer. **Kyle Ellis**, co-worker of Andy; and his family. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, has cancer. **Renee Loya**, (cousin of Elizabeth Baker), has MS. **Ray Maples** undergoing chemo-therapy for leukemia. **Janie Brister** has multiple health problems.

Larry Morgan; Michael Bray; Leon Going; McElroy Family; Harvey Tuggle; Charlie McAllister; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Charles Easley; James Angel; Gloria Angel; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.

February Birthdays

2/11 -- Sydney Thompson
2/11 -- Jackson Staten
2/12 -- Terry Bland
2/13 -- Ashby Johnson
2/14 -- Eric Jackson
2/21 -- Cathy Thompson
2/25 -- Betty Tuggle

Get Involved!

Daily Bible Reading Calendar 2012
Let's continue to read and study together!!

Sunday Night for the Savior -- March 4
Contacts & Finger Foods.

March Bible Bowl -- March 10
10:30AM @ Looxahoma -- Acts 17-19

Providence Place Devo -- March 11, 2PM

MSOP Lectures -- March 25 - 29
Theme: "In God We Trust"

Youth Egg Hunt -- March 31 -- 11:30 AM

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, February 26

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Johnny Bayless
Announcements	Jim Jackson
Song Leader	Jared Brown
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
	Billy Bland
Assist	Jeremy Moore
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Opening Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Ron Johnson

Evening

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Caleb Baker
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeremy Moore
	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Jason Bayless
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, February 29

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jim Jackson