

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 18, 2012



## Food for Thought

### RELIGIOUS REDUNDANCIES

by Dennis Gullede

Gregory Alan Tidwell made an interesting point in his article, "Repetitious Redundancies" (Gospel Advocate, June 2007, p. 5). He spoke of "recurring, superfluous, redundant and unnecessary repetitions" that creep unawares into our speech. For example, we often hear of an "unknown stranger." Are we to imagine a known stranger?

Religious people seem to be especially good at this sort of thing. A redundancy that I often encounter in my reading is the phrase "baptism by immersion." It surprises me when brethren speak or write this way. What is baptism if not immersion? Nothing else qualifies. It is not as though one has a choice of baptisms – sprinkling, pouring or immersion. If one was "sprinkled" as a baby obviously he/she has not been baptized. It is redundant to speak of the "modes" of baptism. Baptism is its own mode (Col. 2:12). And if one is not immersed for the right purpose he/she only gets wet (Acts 2:38).

"Undenominational Christianity" is a common redundancy. Is the way of Christ anything else? Christianity predates Protestant denominationalism by fifteen centuries. Another redundancy often used is "congregations of the church of Christ." A church is a congregation. The New Testament identifies "churches of Christ" (Rom. 16:16). The church at Corinth was one of these (1 Cor. 1:2). We are not congregations of a certain brand name, but local groups of Christians in various localities.

*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

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

#### DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

#### PREACHER

Clifton Angel

## **How to be Sound** by *H.M. Phillips*

It is not enough to condemn the rotten, but the sound teaching must be presented and then lived before others that they may see your good works and glorify God (Matt. 5:16). That preacher who received \$300.00 a month and preached a sound sermon on giving, and then gave \$1.00 on the Lord's day, surely was not a sound preacher in practice.

It has a better effect to see the act and then preach it than just to preach it and not practice it.

Jesus went about doing good and teaching (Acts 10:38). The Bible puts the doing good first. A straightforward preacher with a questionable life is not sound enough. A hollow tree is not sound, yet if you hit it, about all you get is sound. I wonder if some preachers are not somewhat similar.

"What do you mean by 'soundness?' " Well, I would think it to be true to the Book in spirit and word, teaching as it is written, doing this in a firm yet kind way, and living true to that teaching. Lord, give us more such sound preachers, for it seems that we are in need of them.

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## **“Division Must Come”** by *David Lipscomb*

Division in the churches is painful. It wrings the heart with anguish. But God asked, "Can two walk together except they be agreed?" (Amos 3:3). This is a strong declaration that they cannot. It is true as applied to both God and man. Can you walk with God unless you agree with Him? He claims to be the Lord, the only Ruler of the universe. Can you walk with Him while you insist on making laws and changing His order? It also applied to man. Can two walk together when one insists on going another way?

Often, those we love must force us to the choice as to whether we will cling to God or go with them. If we love God better than we love them, we will cling to God and His ways. If division must come, let it come along the lines of love and loyalty to God. If we separate from others and do not walk with God, another separation must come. Separation after separation must come until the lines of cleavage run with the line of loyalty to God. Until division along this line is reached, divisions must continue and multiply. As soon as, and not until, divisions along this line is reached, the union with God and those true to Him will be permanent.

God is directing these things and does all things well. All we have to do is to stand true...

...and firm to God and His word all along the line, and leave results with Him. We can do nothing else. We are poor and foolish and weak; God is wise and strong. Our only hope is to walk with and be true to God in all things. "For there must be also heresies (divisions) among you, that they which are approved may be made manifest among you" (1 Corinthians 11:19). Divisions must come until we are all willing to be led by God.

### *Sermon Review*

#### **Prayer & Provision**

(Matthew 7:7-11)

- I. PETITION
- II. PROVISION
- III. PATTERN

#### **Why Study Joshua?**

- I. It is a portion of God's Word.
- II. It is a fulfillment of God's promises.
- III. It is a refutation of Premillennialism.
- IV. It is a reminder to put away sin.
- V. It is a memorial of God's care for particulars.
- VI. It provides instruction that we have freewill.

#### **This Week's Daily Bible Reading:**

Sunday:	Judges 1-2
Monday:	Judges 3-5
Tuesday:	Judges 6-7
Wednesday:	Judges 8-9
Thursday:	Judges 10-12
Friday:	Judges 13-15
Saturday:	Judges 16-18

### *Mark Your Calendars!*

Men & Children Campout	April 27-28
Coldwater VBS	June 10 - 14
Sardis Lake Christian Camp	June 17 - 23

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

Nora had a cold last Sunday.  
Caleb & Elizabeth were under the weather last Sunday.  
Aubrey Ratliff was sick last Sunday.  
Herbert & Helen Bowman  
Sue Cobern is recovering from the removal of a gall stone. Let us pray that this remedies her complications.  
Shirley Yarbrow  
Wiley Tuggle & Betty Tuggle.

Far East Missions  
OpenDoor Ministry  
Fishers of Men

## Family & Friends

Linda Peneiston, co-worker of Johnny Bayless, she just had surgery to removed breast cancer. Kelly Burrow, in loss of her father Leon Going. Clarence Sparks (and daughter, Kim Wallace), in loss of his wife, Connie Sparks. Sherry Brown. Terry DeBerry, wife of MSOP student, is in scheduled to have a kidney transplant. Nicole Blagburn, co-worker of Molly, has been diagnosed with breast cancer at the age of 30. Chuck Tharp, prostate cancer. Eli Williams, and his cancer treatment; Missy Kelsay, battling cancer. 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. Kyle Ellis & Family; Aubree Harris; Lajuan Collums; Larry Morgan; Michael Bray; McElroy Family; Harvey Tuggle; Charlie McAllister; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Charles Easley; James Angel; Gloria Angel; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.

## March Birthdays

3/9 -- Ginger Bayless  
3/14 -- Brianna Davis  
3/18 -- Betty Duke  
3/21 -- Ella Brown  
3/24 -- Johnny Bayless  
3/30 -- Joe Davis  
3/30 -- Beau Davis  
3/31 -- Beverly Hayes

## March Anniversary

3/29 -- Herbert & Helen Bowman

## Get Involved!

### **Daily Bible Reading Calendar 2012**

Let's continue to read and study together!!

### **Come & Go Housewarming for Tim & Rachel**

March 25 -- 2:00 - 3:30 PM

### **MSOP Lectures -- March 25 - 29**

Theme: "In God We Trust"  
See flyer on bulletin board!

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

### **Sunday Night for the Savior -- April 1**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, March 18

#### Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Johnny Bayless Jared Brown
Assist	Payton Jackson Wiley Tuggle
Opening Prayer	Ron Johnson
Sermon	TBA
Closing Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell

#### Evening

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	TBA
Lord's Supper	Jared Brown Payton Jackson
Closing Prayer	Jeremy Moore

### Wednesday, March 21

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jason Bayless