

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

May 6, 2012



## TRADITIONS – GOOD OR BAD?

by Dennis Gullede

Recently I had the opportunity of treating this subject from the pulpit and wanted to stress the fact that just because something is or is called a tradition does not make that thing wrong. The point being that we are strongly controlled by traditions in our ways of doing things. We need to understand that such things are fine in themselves.

Aside from there being bad traditions (Matt. 15:3; Col. 2:8), and good traditions (1 Cor. 11:2; 2 Thess. 2:15; 3:6), there are also neutral traditions. We are strongly controlled by traditions that are not wrong. Into this area we place expedients. There are expedient ways of doing what God has commanded. A command of God may be done in an expedient way and on a regular basis. In such cases a tradition is formed. Examples might be the hours at which we meet for Bible classes and worship, the order of worship service, the manner in which the Lord's Supper is served and contribution taken, and whether we sing the older more familiar hymns or the newer less familiar (at least to those of us who are older) songs. Whether or not we like the newer songs we should keep in mind that all music was once new music – even Fanny J. Crosby's hymns.

Every congregation has its own particular order of service. Congregations may differ slightly in the order of worship...

*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

...service that they follow, but as long as all of the avenues of New Testament worship (singing, prayer, preaching, the Lord's Supper and giving) are present then God's will is being done. These things may be carried out in expedient ways. An expedient action is a tradition and not a law, and as such it is subject to change even though it will disturb some people. God's revealed truth is not subject to change. An expedient action should never be transformed into a law.

It is a matter of great concern when a long held practice that is dictated by God's command is ridiculed by some who call it a mere "tradition." For example, after I had preached a sermon on why churches of Christ do not use mechanical instruments of music in worship, a sister said to me, "The Bible does not say that instrumental music in the worship is wrong. It is only Church of Christ tradition that says so." The sister was correct in that the New Testament nowhere prohibits such mechanical intrusion into our worship of God, but neither does it allow such by express statement, approved example or necessary inference. Any person holding her view will fail to see how a thing may be wrong even if there is no express prohibition of it in the New Testament. Again, her view fails to recognize the law of exclusion in Biblical hermeneutics. That is, where the Bible includes a thing in keeping with God's revealed will it also excludes anything that would interject a different "kind" into the action under consideration. The command to sing can only permit a cappella music – not mechanical (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16). Song books allow you to do what God commands. Mechanical instruments bring in another "kind" of music than that which God allows.

### ***1 Peter 3:1-7***

*In like manner, ye wives, be in subjection to your won husbands; that, even if any obey not the word, they may without the word be gained by the behavior of their wives; beholding your chaste behavior coupled with fear. Whose adorning let it not be the outward adorning of braiding the hair, and of wearing jewels of gold, or of putting on apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart, in the incorruptible apparel of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. For after this manner aforetime the holy women also, who hoped in God, adorned themselves, being in subjection to their own husbands: as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord: whose children ye now are, if ye do well, and are not put in fear by any terror. Ye husbands, in like manner, dwell with your wives according to knowledge, giving honor unto the woman, as unto the weaker vessel, as being also joint-heirs of the grace of life; to the end that your prayers be not hindered.*

## Announcement from the Elders:

For the month of May, our PM services will be held at 1 PM every Sunday. May will be a “trial” month for this new schedule. The elders are seeking honest and *kind* feedback for this potential schedule change.

### This Week's Daily Bible Reading:

Sunday: 1 Chronicles 15-17  
Monday: 1 Chronicles 18-21  
Tuesday: 1 Chronicles 22-24  
Wednesday: 1 Chronicles 25-27  
Thursday: 1 Chron. 28 - 2 Chron. 1  
Friday: 2 Chronicles 2-5  
Saturday: 2 Chronicles 6-8

## Mark Your Calendars!

Coldwater VBS

June 10 - 14

Sardis Lake Christian Camp

June 17 - 23

### Sermon Review

#### I'm a Deacon...Now What?

(1 Timothy 3:8-13)

- I. DIVINELY INSPIRED
- II. DIRECTIVE TO JESUS
- III. DECREASED BY DESIGN
- IV. INDISPENSABLE EVEN TODAY

#### Two Appointments of Men

(Hebrews 9:27)

- I. DEATH
- II. JUDGMENT

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Tim II, Rachel, Titus, & Abigail.**

**Wiley Tuggle**, rescheduled to have an MRI tomorrow.

**Betty Tuggle**, experiencing a lot of pain and cannot use one of her arms, especially.

**Nora Boling; Herbert & Helen Bowman;**

**Sue Cobern; Shirley Yarbro**

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

## Family & Friends

**Wayne Collinsworth**, his 35 yr old son was killed in an auto accident **Wayne Cooper**, Jan Daniel's brother, is recovering from pneumonia. **Andrew Hagewood**, infant that has already had a heart transplant, is improving slowly. **Mary Brett Baird**, 8-year-old child experiencing multiple health issues., cancer. **Chuck Tharp**, prostate cancer. **Eli Williams**, and his battle with cancer. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, has cancer. **Ray Maples** undergoing chemo-therapy for leukemia.

**Sheena Hunt; Terry DeBerry; Nicole Blagburn; Gary Daugherty; Janie Brister; Renee Loya; Lavon Holden; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Gloria Angel; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

## May Birthdays

5/6 -- Dylan Moore  
5/7 -- Rebecca Brown  
5/15 -- Andy Ratliff  
5/22 -- Brisa Davis  
5/24 -- Anna Johnson  
5/25 -- Davis Johnson

## May Anniversaries

5/15 -- Jason & Ginger Bayless  
5/17 -- Joe & Leigh Ann Owen  
5/19 -- Seth & Jan Daniel  
5/22 -- Troy & Sue Cobern  
5/23 -- Johnny & Stephanie Bayless  
5/24 -- Bill & Claire Easley  
5/26 -- Jimmy & Virginia Sowell  
5/31 -- Billy & Terry Bland

## Get Involved!

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

Let's continue to read and study together!!

### **New Schedule "Trial" Month -- May**

PM services at 1PM every Sunday  
Organized luncheons following AM services.  
See bulletin board for what to bring.

### **Nesbit Gospel Meeting -- May 6 - 9**

Preacher: Jason Holladay; See flyer in foyer.

### **Sunday "Night" for the Savior -- May 6**

At 12:30PM, while children are in Pew Packers.

### **Providence Place Devo -- May 13 -- 2PM**

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, May 6

#### Morning

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

#### Evening

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Caleb Baker
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell
	Ron Johnson
Closing Prayer	Seth Daniel

### Wednesday, May 9

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Joe Owen
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jerry Davis