

The Messenger

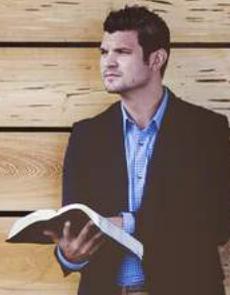
COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST June 30, 2019



Rise Up O Men of God

PART 1

Written by Rick Popejoy



Our song books contain two songs by the same title, written by the same man, yet two different tunes. Song #553 and #554. Rise Up, O Men of God is a powerful challenge that is relevant for the men of God today living in an untoward generation (cf. Acts 2:40) where sin is waxing worse and worse (cf. 2 Timothy 2:13). God has placed within the heart, hands, and soul of men incredible power to heal or hurt, build up or tear down, comfort or crush, and serve or enslave. Throughout history we can see glaring examples of both extremes. When men decide to do something - something happens (cf. Genesis 11:1-6).

The Apostle Paul would challenge his son in the faith, to rise up in the following words in 1 Timothy 6:11-12:

*But thou, O man of God, **flee** these things; and **follow** after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. **Fight** the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.*

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

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell Chris Martin

Joe Owen Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II John Wofford

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

From this text we gain the three-point outline of (1) Flee; (2) Follow; and (3) Fight. But, before we get to the outline the Holy Spirit has provided us with, let us look at the phrase "men of God" within Holy Writ. It is used of Moses (Deu. 33:1); Samuel (1 Sam. 9:6ff); Elijah (1 Kgs. 17:18, 24); Elisha (2 Kgs. 5:20); David (2 Chr. 8:18); and Igdaliah (Jer. 35:4); as well as of at least two unidentified men (1 Sa. 2:27; 1 Kgs. 13). Thus, the term "the man of God" was always used in reference to one who bore the Word of God, who represented God by speaking in God's behalf, God's truth.

There are two other uses of the term "man of God" in the New Testament. One of them reflects back to Old Testament men of God (2 Peter 1:21). The second statement is found in 2 Timothy 3:17 and is primarily and contextually for the benefit of those who are the messengers of the Word of God. Scripture is given by inspiration of God for the purpose of perfecting the man of God. You cannot be a man of God without His Word.

Herein, we desire to focus our attention upon the man of God **fleeing** these things. First, what are *these things*? Some might be tempted to limit these things to the love of money (vv. 6-10) but that would be a mistake. Certainly, the love of money is a part of *these things*, but it cannot be the whole because *these things* is plural not singular. So, to list one item would fall short. If we continue to back up in the text, we see the rest of the story - false doctrine. Not consenting to wholesome words breeds an unwholesome mindset (vv. 3-5).

- It demonstrates a proud heart
- It breeds an ailment of the mind
- It begins a war of words
- It reproduces feelings of resentfulness
- It enhances quarreling
- It reproduces evil speaking
- It strengthens speculations and conjecture
- It brings about incessant wrangling

Second, why is it necessary for the Christian to flee *these things*? There are certain phrases which answer our question: "from such withdraw thyself" (v. 5); they "fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lust, which drown men in

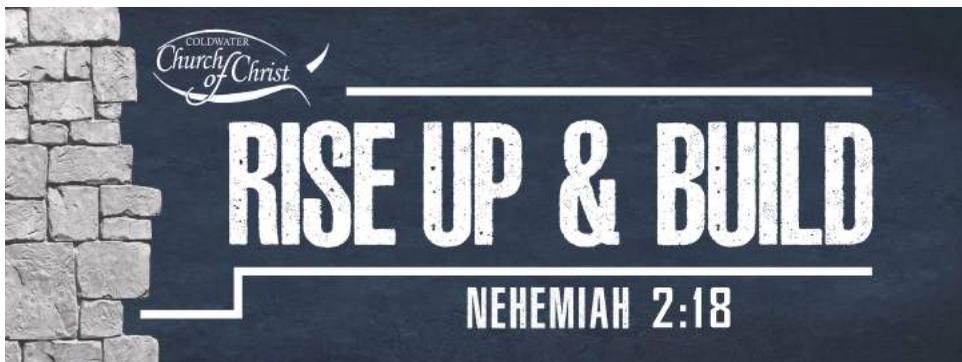
destruction and perdition” (v. 9); and thy have “pierced themselves through with many sorrows” (v. 10). In other words, they are a danger to themselves and those around them. We must flee from those things that are dangerous to the heart, mind and soul.

Continuing our discussion of 1 Timothy 6:11-12, we desire to focus our attention upon the man of God **following** certain things: righteousness, godliness, faith, love patience and meekness.

Running from wrong is only one-third of the plan for the man of God. He must also follow (lit., run, pursue, or hunt) what is right. These six virtues describe the lifestyle of a balanced spiritual man. Working together, these produce an established pattern that is deliberate. The Christlike life doesn't just happen, it requires focus, discipline, and a dependence on the blessed and only Potentate (6:15). It has rightfully been argued that as we run from evil and danger, we must run in the direction of God in order to be successful in the Christian life. That is, we have to give our mind, time & energy to both flight and pursuit. In this vain, the apostle to the Gentiles would write, “I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air” (1 Corinthians 9:26).

Rise up, O men of God and follow after *righteousness*. Here the word refers to conformity to the standard of God's Word. In a broad sense, the state of one who is as he ought to be, righteousness, the condition acceptable to God; the doctrine concerning the way in which man may attain a state approved of God; integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness, correctness of thinking feeling, and acting.

**Originally published in the Nesbit Bulletin
Part 2 scheduled for our 7/7/19 Bulletin**



NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Leigh Anne Owen; Clarence & Faye Edwards, Wiley Tuggle; Timothy Wilkes, Sr.; Inez Neyman; Ginna Honeycutt; Seth Daniel; Sarah Norris; Sammy Williams; Elizabeth Baker.

Far East Missions|Fishers of Men|NetCasters

Family & Friends

Brenda Pounders family, Ashley's aunt, passed Monday night, no funeral arrangements, family to have memorial service in the future; **Melissa McDaniel**, Tim M.'s sister; **Glenda Meredith**, Tim M.'s mother; **Doris Wilkes family; Junior Williams**, Sammy's brother; **Larry Scruggs; Phillip Vanwinkle**, young preacher with stage 4 cancer; **Iris Casteel; Don & Sheri Blackwell and family**, rehab at Shepherd's Center; **Tabby Jenkins and her family**, continue in need of our prayers.

Birthdays

7/2	Noah Davis	7/7	Aemon Ratliff
7/3	Ruth Brister	7/9	Olivia Wofford
7/3	Marc Strickland	7/13	Seth Daniel
7/4	Inez Neyman	7/14	Jason Bayless
7/4	Jimmy Sowell	7/31	Porter Ferrell
7/6	Cali Bayless		

Anniversaries

7/3	Sammy & Grace Williams
7/11	Chris & Billie Martin
7/14	Clifton & Lara Angel
7/23	Tyler & Katherine King
7/26	Michael & Terri Sykes

Get Involved!

5th Sunday Special Contribution: TODAY

Any amount above the weekly budgeted amount will go directly into the building fund

5th Sunday Service: TODAY, 1 PM

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior: July 7

Independence VBS: July 8–10, 7 PM

Nesbit VBS: July 8–12, 7 PM

Thyatira VBS: July 27

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, June 30

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jeffrey Ferrell
Announcements	Billy Bland
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Russell Wadsworth
	Chris Martin
Assist	Marc Strickland
	Kevin Dixon
Opening Prayer	John Wofford
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Afternoon

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Chris Martin
	Marc Strickland
Closing Prayer	Tim Wilkes, II

Wednesday, July 3

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Billy Bland
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jerry Davis

TECH:	Noah Davis
HALL:	Jeffrey & Amanda Ferrell