

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

July 31, 2011



A Prayer for America

by Steve Higginbotham

(via www.thebible.net via mercEmail on 9-12-01)

Father, we approach your throne of grace and truth at this moment with hearts that have been disturbed by the events of the last two days. And we know that as devastating as the events of this day have been to us, you too have been saddened by the hatred and senseless loss of life.

Father, the events of yesterday remind us of just how fallen this world is, how sin-sick men have become, and how we so frequently suffer at our own hands because hearts that have been filled by sin. May the events of today remind us of how far removed we are from your glory. This certainly is not what you intended for mankind when you created us, but it is the result of disobedience and the work of the Devil. May these events help us to see more clearly what it means to live apart from the standards of your word. May it cause us to be repulsed by the work of Satan in this world and to be filled with renewed zeal, to refuse to serve Satan, by failing to serve you.

Father, so many lives have been lost, thousands have been thrust into eternity, prepared or not, to give account for their lives. Countless thousands more will be touched by the loss of family members, father, mothers, spouses, siblings, and children who will not return home. Be with them that they might find peace and calm. And may we, as citizens of this nation, but more importantly, as citizens of your great kingdom, the church, be used as instruments of your providence to reach out in avenues of compassion and care to share the love of Jesus with those who are filled with hatred.

Father, we also know and acknowledge that you are in control of all things, that nothing escapes your notice, and that ultimately justice will be realized. But father, we also pray that a swift justice might be realized in this life, so that others may be spared the repeat of such tragedies. And Father, we especially know our own weaknesses. We know how easily it could be for us to allow hatred to gain control of our hearts at this time. Help us to control our anger. Help us to realize that as hurt and angry as we may be, hatred is not the godly response Jesus would desire from us.

And finally, Father, we pray for our national leaders. Be with president Bush, his advisors, and our congress that in the next few days, weeks, and months, that they may pursue a course of wisdom that will ultimately lead to our peace and safety.

In Christ's name we pray, Amen

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

They Sewed Fig Leaves

by Clifton Angel

*And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were **naked**; and **they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons** (Gen. 3:7). When Adam and Eve sinned, they tried to cover their nakedness with fig leaves. Notice, **they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons**. Was such a proper covering for their nakedness? What did God demand according to Genesis 3:21? *Unto Adam also and to his wife did the LORD God make **coats of skins, and clothed them***. God's design for covering their nakedness required death, sacrifice, and bloodshed.*

Likewise, when we are living in sin, we are spiritually **naked**. All accountable souls living today have at some point been spiritually naked, and many remain that way today: *For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God* (Rom. 3:23). Sadly, many will be found naked and without the "wedding garment" when the Lord returns (c.f. Matt. 7:13, 14; Matt. 22:1-14), which is a humbling reminder of the commission Jesus gave to us (c.f. Matt. 28:18-20; Mark 16:16). What must we do to cover our spiritual *nakedness*? We must be **clothed in Christ**. *For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ* (Gal. 3:27). God's design for covering our spiritual nakedness required, death, sacrifice, and bloodshed. "What can wash away my sins? Nothing but the blood of Jesus!" *Jesus Christ...washed us from our sins in his own blood* (Rev. 1:5). When does He wash us in His blood? Ananias told Saul, *Arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins* (Acts 22:16). *Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?* (Rom. 6:3). Jesus died, sacrificed, and shed His blood that we might be cleansed of our sins. When we obey His will in immersion in water for the remission of sins, we are *baptized into his death*, we contact *his own blood*, and we *put on Christ*, so that as long as we *walk in the light as He is in the light* (1 Jn. 1:7-9), we will not be **naked**.

However, many today and throughout history have been "sewing fig leaves" and "making themselves aprons". They are seeking to cover their spiritual nakedness in their own way. O yes, some use the Scriptures to "prove" their plan of salvation, but they do not consider the contexts of those passages, and the whole counsel of God concerning salvation. Some spiritual "aprons made from fig leaves" include: "Be a sincere person"; "Have an experience"; "Hear a voice"; "See the Lord, Himself"; "Only repent"; "Only believe"; "Just pray this prayer"; "See a vision"; "Witness a miracle", and the list goes on. However, these nine can be directly refuted in the Bible's account of the conversion of Saul of Tarsus. Jesus said, *Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity* (Matt. 7:21-23).

WHEN PRAYING...

(Matthew 6:5-8)

Blessed be the God and _____ of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all _____ blessings in heavenly places in Christ (Eph. 1:3).

One of the greatest spiritual blessings Christians have is the blessing of _____ --
_____ with our Heavenly Father!

I. *BE NOT AS THE* _____

Consider the **PURPOSE**, the **PLACE**, and the **PRAISE** (5, 6).

1. We sometimes misuse prayer by _____ using it, _____ to use it, or praying to be _____ of men.
2. *...for every one that _____ himself shall be abased; and he that _____ himself shall be exalted (Luke 18:9-14).*
3. Purpose: _____ out to the Father.
4. Place: A place of _____, a place of humility, a place of solemnity.
5. Praise: _____ *be thy name...Thy Will be done...Thine is the kingdom, and the _____, and the _____ for ever (6:9-13).*

II. *BE NOT AS THE* _____

1. *Vain* _____: Pagans believed repeating requests would _____ the gods into granting their requests.
2. _____ in prayer is a Biblical principle.

III. PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. What is my _____ when I pray? (Dan 6:10; Matt 26:39; Lk 22:41)
2. Does my prayer have to be _____? (I Sam 1:12-13)
3. Do I always have to say "in _____ name"? (??)
4. Does God really _____ my prayers? (Matt 7:7-8; Js 1:5-7)

Sermon Review

BE NOT AS THE HYPOCRITES WHEN GIVING

(Matthew 6:1-4)

- I. GIVE WITH THE RIGHT PURPOSE.
- II. GIVE IN THE RIGHT PLACE.
- III. GIVE WITHOUT SEEKING PRAISE.

THE ARMY OF JESUS

(Rev. 19:11-21; Eph. 6:10-18)

- I. SUCCESS.
- II. STRENGTH.
- III. STAND.

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Tim II, Rachel, & Titus Wilkes with full time mission work, and in the expectancy of a new addition to the family!

Wiley Tuggle has been have some complications and has an appointment scheduled for Monday.

Sue Cobern was not feeling well Wednesday because of a migraine.

Continue to remember **Betty Tuggle**.

Family & Friends

Eugene Spencer--had quintuple bypass surgery Wednesday

Pat Allen--wife of one of the elders at the Monroe, GA congregation. The cancer has taken a toll on her lungs and heart; she is on a ventilator and not doing well. She and her family need our prayers

Bob May--Tim's cousin, is in rehab after stroke.

Susan Brown--is home and doing ok after gallbladder surgery.

Teresa Burdsal--Bren's sister-in-law, recovering from a massive heart attack.

Carla Carlson--undergoing chemo-therapy.

Janie Brister--Ruth's sister-in-law, has multiple health problems.

Cathy Thompson--has lupus.

Ray Maples--undergoing chemo-therapy for leukemia.

Lajuan Collums; Luke Cantrell; James Angel; Steve Angel; Scott McNeer; Trey Hanks; Jimmy Young; Gloria Angel; Wilton Wooten; Clay Collums; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg; Brianna Edwards; Steve Angel

Let us not forget to pray for the works being done through Fishers of Men, Far East Missions, and the Open Door Ministry.

August Anniversaries

Jared & Rebecca Brown 8/02

August Birthdays

Caleb Baker 8/10

Carolyn Davis 8/15

Clifton Angel 8/16

Helen Bowman 8/19

Ron Johnson 8/19

Angie Staten 8/23

Addi Bayless 8/25

Jim Jackson 8/26

Jerry Davis 8/28

Get Involved!

Housewarming for Ron & Anna

Today, July 31st, 1 - 3 @ their house.

Give money & gift cards to Rebecca.

Sunday Night for the Savior--August 7

Bring Finger Foods & Contacts!

Devo @ Providence Place--August 14

2:00 PM

Memphis Redbirds Game

August 13--6:05PM--\$5 per person

Sign up sheet on table in foyer.

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, July 31

Morning

Prayer Before Class

Jeffrey Ferrell

Announcements

Caleb Baker

Song Leader

Andy Ratliff

Lord's Supper:

Preside

Jeremy Moore

Jared Brown

Assist

Jerry Davis

Ron Johnson

Opening Prayer

Johnny Bayless

Sermon

Clifton Angel

Closing Prayer

Wiley Tuggle

Evening

Song Leader

Andy Ratliff

Opening Prayer

Jason Bayless

Sermon

Clifton Angel

Lord's Supper

Jared Brown

Ron Johnson

Closing Prayer

Jim Jackson

Wednesday, August 3

Song Leader

Andy Ratliff

Prayer

Shane Staten

Invitation

Clifton Angel

Prayer

Caleb Baker