

# The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Aug 12, 2012



## LIVING IN THE MOMENT

by Patrick Morrison

The masses rush head-long through life never slowing down from their frenzied pace to examine the direction of their lives. Our schedules are crammed full of running “hither and yon,” leaving little or no time to take inventory of our journey with God. We are so busy that we seemingly have no time to reflect on our past or look to whatever future might lie ahead. This frantic lifestyle has caused so many to simply live for the moment. The Bible affirms that we have not been promised life beyond the present (Prov.27:1). Yet, it is utterly foolish to restrict our view of life to the “right here and right now.” Peter speaks of one who goes through life with blinders upon his eyes: “But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins” (2 Pet.1:9). The child of God who fails to mature in the faith will constantly struggle to see beyond today.

We must never forget from whence we have come. I am not referring to our cultural, social, political, economic, or educational backgrounds. I speak concerning our undone spiritual condition before being washed in the saving blood of Jesus Christ. “As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one...For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Rom.3:10, 23). Had it not been for the grace of God and the vicarious death of Christ on Calvary’s cruel cross, we would still be in our sins and without...

*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 & Pew Packers on 1st & 3rd Sundays at 4:15 p.m.

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

[emailus@coldwatercofc.com](mailto:emailus@coldwatercofc.com)

[www.coldwatercofc.com](http://www.coldwatercofc.com)

#### 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

...hope: “That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world” (Eph.2:12). Gratitude and thanksgiving abound in the heart of the child of God who constantly remembers his condition before his obedience to the gospel.

We must also never lose sight of where we are headed. Those who have been forgiven of their past sins are sojourning toward eternal life. We must firmly fix our eyes on the goal ahead of us lest we be side-tracked from the pathway of the redeemed. “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affections on things above, not on things of the earth” (Col. 3:1-2). Christians must see beyond the mortal coil, and remain transfixed on the realm of eternal day. “While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal” (2 Cor.4:18). The ability to look beyond the here and now will remind us that we are strangers and pilgrims upon the earth (Heb.11:13).

May we ever be mindful that the decisions we make now, and the actions we undertake in the present have repercussions that echo into eternity. We cannot be so foolish as to live only in the moment, never pausing to consider how the choices we make will affect our souls and the souls of our children and on through subsequent generations. As we grow and mature in the faith of Jesus Christ, we will lock our gaze upon heaven, while never forgetting all that God has done for us.

---

## ONLY ONE CHANCE TO DO RIGHT

*by Nathan Brewer*

Golfers call it a "mulligan." Kids call it a "do-over." Whenever we make a mistake, we want the opportunity to make it right. Sometimes, in this life, we get second and even third chances. But one day — and no one knows when that day will be — the opportunity for "do-overs" will be gone. One day, it will be too late to make things right. Jesus makes this point in Luke chapter 16 in the story of the rich man and Lazarus. Both men die and go to Hades to await final Judgment. Lazarus had been a beggar living a miserable life. The rich man lived as the rich often do, in comfort and luxury. But when they die, their roles are reversed. The rich man is in agony, "tormented in this flame" (v. 24). Lazarus...

...the beggar is now comforted, resting at last in Abraham's bosom. The rich man sees Abraham in the distance and asks him to send Lazarus over with a drop of water to relieve his suffering. Abraham says no. "Between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us, that would come from thence" (v. 26).

It's not that Abraham, the father of the Jews, doesn't want to help relieve the rich man's suffering. He can't. When death comes and our spirits travel to Hades, it's too late for us to change our condition. Here's a wake-up call: The one suffering in flames in Luke 16 isn't an atheist or a cultist. He's one of the Israelites God had separated to be His special people.

Are you religious? Do you think that you are right with God? The Bible is full of religious people who think they are living, worshipping and serving God acceptably, yet they aren't. Study your New Testament with an open mind. Preachers, relatives and friends might counsel you, but the words of Christ are the only roadmap to heaven (John 8:31-32). They are the standard by which our lives will be judged (John 12:48).

Once you die, that's it — no "mulligans," no "do-overs," no second chances. It won't do any good for your relatives to pray for your sins to be purged. And no one can obey the Gospel for you. Death seals your fate. Like the rich man in Luke 16, whatever spiritual condition you are in when you die is the condition you will be in forever. Are you ready?

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

Sunday:	Jeremiah 1 – 3
Monday:	Jeremiah 4 – 6
Tuesday:	Jeremiah 7 – 9
Wednesday:	Jeremiah 10 – 13
Thursday:	Jeremiah 14 – 17
Friday:	Jeremiah 18 – 22
Saturday:	Jeremiah 23 – 25

### *Sermon Review*

#### **God: He is Unknown** (Acts 17:16-23)

- I. Consequences of God being Unknown
- II. Causes of God being Unknown
- III. Corrections to God being Unknown

#### **God: He is Creator** (Acts 17:24a, 26, 28)

- I. The Divine Designer
- II. The Divine Developer
- III. The Divine Decorator

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Nora Boling; Sara Norris;  
Herbert & Helen Bowman;**

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

## Family & Friends

**Jimmie Hill**, preacher, elder, and missionary who lives in GA, battling cancer said to be in stage 4. **Curtis A. Cates**, battling leukemia, and has lately be hospitalized because of a related infection. **Shelly Cates**, wife of Dan, is taking a very strong antibiotic for a possible bacteria behind her stomach. **Mickey Knockart**, Jim's mother, she has an upcoming surgery. **Paul Perkins**, Mischel's dad, recovering from a mini-stroke. **David Angel**, is doing much better after receiving antibiotics. **Angel & Stone Family**, in loss of Frances Frady, David Angel's cousin. **Lauren Jackson**, had benign tumor removed and doing well. **Gema Winchester** has stage 4 stomach cancer and is not doing well, Jonathan and Gema are a young couple with two young children. **Carla Carlson**, in her battle with cancer. **Matthew Canada** (5), has down syndrome, but was also diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. **Franklin Taylor**, friend of Daniel's, has cancer. **Eli Williams**, and his battle with cancer. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler; **Elbert Key Family Ray Maples; Wayne Collinworth; Andrew Hagewood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

## August Birthdays

8/10 Caleb Baker	8/21 Sue Cobern
8/15 Carolyn Davis	8/23 Angie Staten
8/16 Clifton Angel	8/25 Addie Bayless
8/16 Alianna Davis	8/26 Jim Jackson
8/19 Helen Bowman	8/28 Jerry Davis
8/19 Ron Johnson	

## August Anniversaries

8/2	Jared & Rebecca Brown
8/6	Tim & Rachel Wilkes
8/18	Ron & Anna Johnson

## Get Involved!

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

**Providence Place Devo -- TODAY -- 2PM**

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lectureship at Courtland**  
Aug 12 - 16 -- Theme: God's Families  
See Flyer on Bulletin Board

**Memphis Redbirds Game -- Aug 25**  
6:05 PM, \$5/person, Age 2 and under free  
Signup sheet in Foyer  
Get money to Jeffery Ferrell by Aug 19

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, August 12

#### Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jared Brown
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Ron Johnson
	Jeffrey Ferrell
Assist	Jerry Davis
	Payton Jackson
Opening Prayer	Seth Daniel
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Joe Owen

#### Evening

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Caleb Baker
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Ron Johnson
	Payton Jackson
Closing Prayer	Jason Bayless

### Wednesday, August 15

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Jim Jackson
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jared Brown