

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Aug 19, 2012



FULL FORGIVENESS

by Garrett McGilvray

Near the end of his life, David the great King of Israel wrote about his righteous manner of living before God: "I have kept the ways of the Lord, and have not wickedly departed from my God. For all his judgments were before me; and as for his statutes, I did not depart from them. I was also blameless before him, and I kept myself from my iniquity. Therefore the Lord has recompensed me according to my righteousness, according to my cleanness in his eyes." (2 Sam. 22:22-25). We learn from David's words a lesson of the blessings God grants those who live blameless before him. Yet, was David truly blameless? Did he in fact never depart from God's statutes as he claimed?

Probably more than anything else, David is famous for his connection with two other names from the Sacred Pages: Goliath and Bathsheba. In connection with the former during his younger days, David is held up as a model of courageous faithfulness and reliance on God. The infamous incident with Bathsheba (recorded in 2 Sam. 11), however, darkly marks his character with grievous sin. God had said, "You shall not covet your neighbor's wife" (Exo. 20:17), but when David saw the wife of Uriah the Hittite bathing from a nearby roof, covetousness for her burned within him. God had said, "You shall not commit adultery" (Exo. 20:14), yet...

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
each Sunday at 12:30

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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

...David had Bathsheba brought to him for the very purpose. God had said, “You shall not murder” (Exo. 20:13), yet when David discovered that his paramour was pregnant with his child, and he was unable to make it appear to be Uriah’s child, he maliciously had Uriah killed. Uriah was not just a random stranger who happened to be at the “wrong place in the wrong time.” 2 Kings 23:39 lists Uriah the Hittite as one of David’s “Mighty Men,” a special group of David’s most loyal soldiers. In one tangled mess, David violated Commandments 6, 7, and 10, and he betrayed his faithful friend in cold blood.

With such extreme wickedness charged to his name, how could he dare make the claim, “I was also blameless before him, and I kept myself from iniquity”? With this background in mind, David’s words in 2 Sam. 22 quickly change from a lesson in righteous living to a lesson about God’s amazing forgiveness. When David was confronted by a prophet of God concerning his sin, he was convicted by his own guilt. His heart full of godly sorrow (cf. 2 Cor. 7:9), David wrote Psalm 51: “Have mercy upon me, O God, according to your lovingkindness; according to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin....Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.” (vv. 1-2, 7).

Was David right? Would his heart be made clean, whiter than snow? Only a few centuries later, it was God himself who said to David’s kingdom, “‘Come now, and let us reason together,’ says the Lord, ‘Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool’” (Isa. 1:18). Can a pristine white page, once spilt with bright red ink, ever be restored to its former spotless state? Not by any eraser I know. Yet God offers to change the sin-stained soul of a repentant sinner to a purity as bright as freshly fallen snow.

If it is surprising to us that David could claim to be blameless, perhaps it is even more surprising that God agreed! God later said to Jeroboam: “If you heed all that I command you, walk in my ways, and do what is right in my sight, to keep my statutes...

...and my commandments, as my servant David did, then I will be with you and build for you an enduring house...” (1 Kings 11:38).

Forgiveness as fine as that is offered to us all, for “if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness” (1 John 1:9). It is no wonder Christians lift up their voices and sing, “‘Full atonement!’ Can it be? Hallelujah! What a Savior!”

This Week’s Daily Bible Reading:

Sunday:	Jeremiah 26 – 29
Monday:	Jeremiah 30 – 31
Tuesday:	Jeremiah 32 – 34
Wednesday:	Jeremiah 35 – 37
Thursday:	Jeremiah 38 – 41
Friday:	Jeremiah 42 – 45
Saturday:	Jeremiah 46 – 48

“AND THE SERVANT OF THE LORD MUST NOT STRIVE; BUT BE GENTLE UNTO ALL MEN, APT TO TEACH, PATIENT, IN MEEKNESS INSTRUCTING THOSE THAT OPPOSE THEMSELVES; IF GOD PERADVENTURE WILL GIVE THEM REPENTANCE TO THE ACKNOWLEDGING OF THE TRUTH; AND THAT THEY MAY RECOVER THEMSELVES OUT OF THE SNARE OF THE DEVIL, WHO ARE TAKEN CAPTIVE BY HIM AT HIS WILL” (2 TIMOTHY 2:24–26).

Sermon Review

God: He is Lord
(Acts 17:16-23)

- I. He is Above
- II. He has Authority
- III. To Him, all are Accountable

God: He is All-Present
(Acts 17:24c.)

- I. It is Awesome
- II. It is Abasing
- III. It is Assuring

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Aubrey Ratliff, bronchial infection.
Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Nora Boling; Sara Norris;
Herbert & Helen Bowman; Sue Cobern

OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Carla Carlson, in her battle with cancer, is currently in the hospital with pneumonia. **Franklin Taylor**, friend of Daniel family, who was said to have cancer, either did not have it or it is gone. **Jimmie Hill**, preacher, elder, and missionary who lives in GA, battling cancer said to be in stage 4. **Curtis A. Cates**, battling leukemia, was able to return home from the hospital. **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. **Gema Winchester** has stage 4 stomach cancer and is not doing well, Jonathan and Gema are a young couple with two young children. **Matthew Canada** (5), has down syndrome, but was also diagnosed with acute lymphoblastic leukemia. **Eli Williams**, and his battle with cancer. **Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler; **Ray Maples; Wayne Collinsworth; 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!!

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 TODAY

Bible Bowl -- Sept 8
10:30 am at Looxahoma building
Acts 23-25
We are looking forward to an exciting new format;
Parents & Children, study hard!

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, August 19

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Joe Owen
	Jared Brown
Assist	Daniel Owen
	Ron Johnson
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Closing Prayer	Wiley Tuggle

Evening

Song Leader	Jared Brown
Opening Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Sermon	Caleb Baker
Lord's Supper	Joe Owen
	Daniel Owen
Closing Prayer	Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Wednesday, August 22

Song Leader	Caleb Baker
Prayer	Seth Daniel
Invitation	Daniel Owen
Prayer	Jason Bayless