

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Aug. 25, 2013



Further clarification/details for our Islam seminar:

The seminar will be presented via DVD. There are 8 lessons, each being about 30 minutes in length. Lord willing, we will show one lesson per Sunday from September 1 through October 20. The lessons will be presented during our 1 PM services on those dates, except for the week of October 13. That week, Mike Hixson will be preaching for us in our Gospel Meeting. We hope that you can join us on these occasions!

VISITORS, WELCOME!

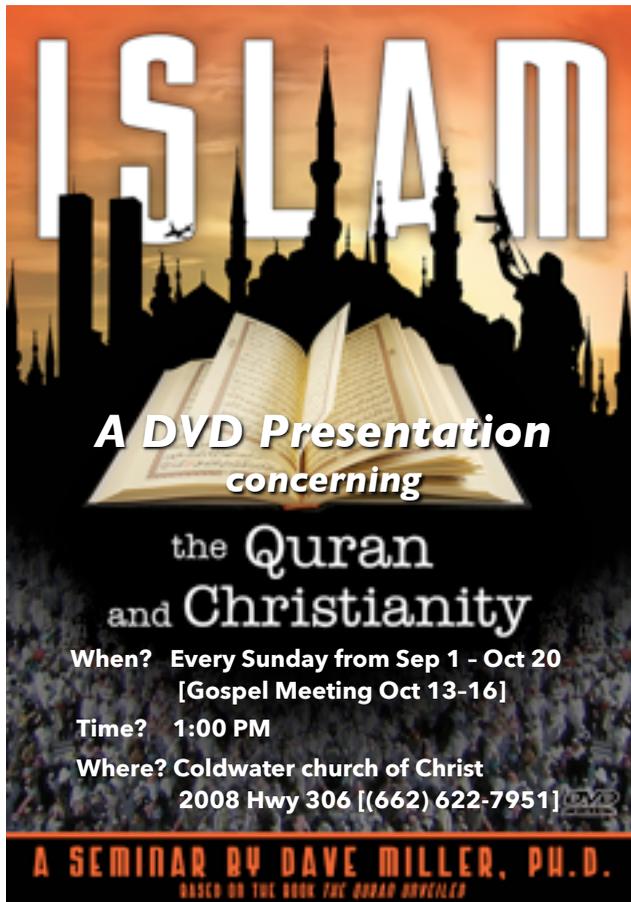
Sunday:

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

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

SHOULD WE COEXIST?

Our world has increasingly turned to the philosophical idea of Postmodernism. Postmodern thought is essentially a "live and let live" mentality. It promotes not only tolerance, but acceptance of all types of lifestyles and schools of thought. One, very visible, proof of this idea is the coexist stickers which many have placed on the bumper of their cars. These stickers promote the idea that there are many paths to religious enlightenment and many path to Deity. There are some serious questions, which would come to the minds of those with good and honest hearts, about these ideas.

Should We Live and Let Live?

Is it our duty to be involved in the lives of those around us, or should we "leave well enough alone" those with whom we interact daily? When listening to our politicians, there is a noticeable difference in the terminology which they use to talk about our 1st amendment rights. They have begun to talk about freedom of worship instead of freedom of religion. Although there only seems to be a slight difference, the implication is a drastic change to the ideas of our founders. Freedom of worship is intended to keep our freedoms within our "houses of worship" and our private lives, but they are not to extend to into our public lives. Freedom of religion, which is what is outlined in our Bill of Right, means we have the freedom to live and act upon our beliefs at all times. Reality teaches us that one cannot separate his actions from the belief set which he has, although that is the intention of this new language.

Jesus teaches us our obligation to "teach all nations" and "preach the Gospel to every creature" (Mark 16:15; Mat. 28:19). It is impossible to do those things without being actively involved in the lives of those around us. In many cases, we have decided to practice isolationism within ourselves, but that is clearly not a biblical principle. The Apostle Paul writes that we can only be isolated from the world when we are taken out of the world (1 Cor. 5:10). Building relationships and being a part of the lives of others are critical aspects of evangelism. We cannot act in a forceful way towards others, but we must let love, sincerity, and truth be seen through our words and actions toward all of humanity (Mat. 5:14-15; Gal. 6:10).

Should We Coexist?

There is a sense in which we have no choice but to coexist. To coexist means that individuals live at the same time. The Bible clearly teaches that we will live at the same time as the ungodly and those with different belief sets, but we cannot coexist in the sense that is meant by those pushing the idea shown by the bumper sticker. Their intention is to allow all to ...



... follow and believe in whatever path will lead them to a higher power or sense of enlightenment, without anyone saying that another way is better and right. We cannot simply stand aside and allow people to believe whatever they would like without ever speaking up for the God of heaven. The words of warning given to Ezekiel, the prophet of old, should be applied and heeded today:

When I say unto the wicked, Thou shalt surely die; and thou givest him not warning, nor speakest to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life; the same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Yet if thou warn the wicked, and he turn not from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he shall die in his iniquity; but thou hast delivered thy soul. Again, When a righteous man doth turn from his righteousness, and commit iniquity, and I lay a stumbling-block before him, he shall die: because thou hast not given him warning, he shall die in his sin, and his righteousness which he hath done shall not be remembered; but his blood will I require at thine hand. Nevertheless if thou warn the righteous man, that the righteous sin not, and he doth not sin, he shall surely live, because he is warned; also thou hast delivered thy soul (Ezekiel 3:18-21).

Are There Many Paths to God?

This question gets to the heart of the matter. If there are many paths to God, we should not make any distinction between another way and ours. Jesus speaks clearly about the number of paths to God. "Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me" (John 14:5-6). "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Mat. 7:13-14).

There is only one way, there is only one path, there is only one gate, and there is only one hope for the salvation of humanity, through the shed blood of the Son of God who has all authority and sits at the right hand of the Father.

Should we live in peace with all? Absolutely (1 Tim. 2:2), but we cannot reject our obligation to teach the saving message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, God's only means of salvation today (Rom. 1:16).

—written by Will Anderson, for www.onlyhopepublications.com

Sermon Review

Consider the Cost

(Luke 14:26–27, etc.)

- I. NO DECEPTIONS
- II. NO GENERICS
- III. NO BARGAINS

God's People: Privileged to Persevere

(Malachi 2:17)

Evidence of Israel's lack of perseverance...

- I. THEY DEFAULTED
- II. THEY DOUBTED

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Tim, Rachel, Jeffrey, & Amanda, mission to Guyana.
Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Sue Cobern; Helen Bowman, she is confined more than before because of incidents dangerous to her well-being; **Clifton Angel**, doing well.

OpenDoor Ministry
Fishers of Men
Far East Missions

Family & Friends

Mr. Robertson, Helen Bowman's son-in-law, cancer has returned; **Andy Jones**, had to have a 2nd surgery because of infection; 1st was to remove cancer from esophagus and stomach, in ICU at Baptist Desoto; **Haley Coe**, Geoffrey's niece, head injury; **LaJuan Collums**'s, Billy's sister, cancer returned, receiving treatments, battles other health problems also; **Steve Angel**, was able to go home; **Joy Angel**, Clifton's older sister, battling various health problems; **John Simpson**, was able to go home; **Roy Cobern**, broken face bones, wrist, and 8 ribs; **Raleigh Wooten**, at home; **JoAnn Prestage**, Sara Norris' sister, cancer; **Tasha Higginbotham**, in need of a kidney transplant, also has cataracts, & other health problems; **Curtis Cates; Linda Perkins**, Tim West's mother-in-law, leukemia; **Mac Owen; Bob Spurlin; Kam Spencer; Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel; Noah Judd; Carly Wright**, 3 yr. old with liver cancer; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris; **Nicholas Franks; Frederick Bland; Barbara Denton; Brigman Family; Janice Jenkins; Carla Carlson; Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **Doris Easley; Eli Williams; Ray Maples; Wayne Collinsworth; Andrew Hagewood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; David Bragg**

Birthdays

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

Anniversaries

8/2	--	Jared & Rebecca Brown
8/6	--	Tim II & Rachel Wilkes
8/6	--	Tren & Toranda House
8/18	--	Ron & Anna Johnson

Get Involved!

Islam DVD Series -- Begins Sept 1 -- 1 PM
 Invite everyone! Refreshments to follow.

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- Sept. 1

Movie Night at Tim & Lynn's -- Sept. 6

Tate County Adopt - A - Mom -- Sep. 7

Give donation money to Jan or Amanda
 Gifts unwrapped, new or gently used
 Gifts to building no later than Sep. 5

8th Annual Preachers Files Lectureship
Sep 6-8, see schedule flyer on bulletin board
 Hosted by Rogers Springs church of Christ

Looxahoma Ladies Day -- Sep. 13 -- 9:30AM

Bible Bowl -- Sep. 14 -- 10:30AM
 Genesis 16-18

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, August 25

Morning

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

Afternoon

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

Wednesday, August 28

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jason Bayless