

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST Aug 25, 2019



Advice From An Older Preacher PART ONE



Written by Tom Wacaster

Many years have passed since the late Guy N. Woods was editor of the Gospel Advocate. I was a young preacher, and I admired and looked up to those who were "seasoned" in the faith. Guy N. Woods, B.C. Goodpasture, G.K. Wallace, and Gus Nichols were among those preachers who were "giants" in my eyes, and if I could but have a small portion of their abilities I would feel that my life as a preacher could not help but be successful. One of my first articles published in a brotherhood publication was submitted to the Gospel Advocate during the time that brother Woods

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 JoeOwen

Andy Ratliff Tim Wilkes, II

John Wofford

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

was the editor. The title of that article was, "What I have learned after ten years of preaching." I recall receiving a very nice letter from brother Woods (that was before the days of computers and emails) commending me for the article. My heart sank as I read the first few lines: "As editor of the Gospel Advocate I do not usually print articles having to do with personal preaching experiences." Had I dismissed the letter and not read the remainder I would likely have spent the rest of the day downtrodden and disappointed, and may very well have given up any attempt to write again. But the next line was tremendously encouraging. Brother Woods wrote: "But your article was especially touching, and I plan to print your article in the next issue of Gospel Advocate." Wow! Talk about an honor!

Three decades have come and gone and occasionally I will receive an email or a phone call from a young preacher asking for advice concerning some issue in the church, or my thoughts on a passage with which he might be having difficulty. I feel honored that some would ask concerning my thoughts, but humbled that some struggling preacher would trust the advice from this "seasoned" preacher. Were I able to address an audience of young men aspiring to preach the word, or who, having recently graduated from college or a preacher training school, were to seek my advice, I think I would focus my remarks upon the advice given by an older, well known preacher who lived almost two thousand years removed from our time, to a younger man who was aspiring to be an evangelist. Of course I speak of the advice that Paul gave to Timothy as contained in 1 Timothy 6:11-16. Using the words of the apostle himself, we focus on the following.

First, "flee these things." Sometimes the best way to avoid being taken captive to the devil is to "flee." When Potiphar's wife sought to pursue Joseph, that young man did not hesitate to make haste and flee from her presence. He did

not attempt to rationalize or reason with that woman. Instead he ran, leaving his garment in her hand (Gen. 39:12). When Paul told Timothy to “flee these things,” he had just warned the young evangelist about the dangers of (1) false teachers, and (2) the uncertainty of riches. When men love error more than truth and money more than the Master, they are ripe for apostasy. No wonder Paul told Timothy to “flee these things.” That is good advice for any preacher - in fact it is good advice for every one of us.

Second, “follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness.” The verb here (as in the previous admonition) is “present active imperative” (Robertson). The intensity inherent in the word “flee” is contained in this admonition as well! While fleeing error, the preacher is to be in “hot pursuit” of this sextuple of Christian virtues. Time and space does not allow a detailed discussion of these traits, but every single one of them is indispensable in one’s service to God. One brother summed these traits up thus: “Righteousness (personal integrity which stems from the glorious gospel); Godliness (the mentality that seeks to be like God in all things, personal piety); Faith (faithfulness, dependability); Love (the willingness to sacrifice for the well being of others); Patience (endurance even while under trials); Meekness (exerting controlled power)” (Rick Popejoy). I could not put it any better! (to be continued) www.abiblecommentary.wordpress.com



NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Seth Daniel, diagnosed with cancer; **Timothy Wilkes, Sr.**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**, **Wiley Tuggle**; **Inez Neyman**; **Sarah Norris**; **Sammy Williams**; **Elizabeth Baker**, myalgic encephalomyelitis.

[Far East Missions](#)|[Fishers of Men](#)|[NetCasters](#)

Family & Friends

Wade Wilkes, Tim Sr.'s father; **Maryann Pruiett**, Jeffrey's grandmother; **Diane Mansel**, Dana's mother; **Vicki Angel**, Clifton's mother; **Cooper Swims family**; **Phillip Vanwinkle**; **Don & Sheri Blackwell**; **Tabby Jenkins and her family**.

Birthdays

| | | | |
|------|-----------------|------|-----------------|
| 8/4 | Terry Davis | 8/17 | Dana Davis |
| 8/6 | Monica Meredith | 8/18 | Carl Honeycutt |
| 8/9 | Xander Cagle | 8/25 | Addi Bayless |
| 8/10 | Larry Campbell | 8/26 | Jim Jackson |
| 8/14 | Lily Wilkes | 8/28 | Jerry Davis |
| 8/15 | Carolyn Davis | 8/30 | Hannah Davis |
| 8/16 | Clifton Angel | 8/31 | Kara Strickland |
| 8/16 | Whitney Acklin | | |

Anniversaries

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| 8/1 | Terry & Dana Davis |
| 8/1 | John & Suzanne Wofford |
| 8/6 | Tim II & Rachel Wilkes |
| 8/17 | Tim & Monica Meredith |

Get Involved!

Coldwater Singing Night: Aug 28, 7 PM

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior: Sep 1

Providence Place Devo: Sep 8

Youth Devo: Sep 22, Wadsworth's Hosting

Coldwater Door Knocking: Oct 5

Coldwater Trade Days Booth: Oct 12

Coldwater Gospel Meeting: Oct 13 – 16

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, August 25

Morning

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Prayer Before Class | Jerry Davis |
| Announcements | Billy Bland |
| Song Leader | Andy Ratliff |
| Lord's Supper: | |
| Preside | Jeffrey Ferrell |
| | Tim Wilkes II |
| | Daniel Owen |
| Assist | Noah Davis |
| | John Wofford |
| Opening Prayer | Clifton Angel |
| Sermon | Tim Meredith |
| Closing Prayer | |

Afternoon

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Song Leader | Andy Ratliff |
| Opening Prayer | Kevin Dixon |
| Sermon | Clifton Angel |
| Lord's Supper | Jeffrey Ferrell |
| | Tim Wilkes II |
| Closing Prayer | Marc Strickland |

Wednesday, August 28

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|-------------|---------------|
| Song Leader | Andy Ratliff |
| Prayer | Billy Bland |
| Invitation | Tim Wilkes II |
| Prayer | Andy Ratliff |

| | |
|-------|---------------------|
| TECH: | Dalton Owen |
| HALL: | Tim & Rachel Wilkes |