

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dec. 1, 2013



WHEN I DON'T GIVE THANKS

"Thanksgiving" is over, but is our thanksgiving over? Solomon wrote, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven" (Ecclesiastes 3:1). He then proceeded to illustrate this statement with very practical and common occurrences that are cyclical in the life of every human being (see Ecclesiastes 3:2-8). As he poetically notes that there is "A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted" and so on, NEVER does he say: "A time to be unthankful." In fact, ingratitude can be found at the heart of every sin and certainly is one of man's greatest problems.

Long ago, a man wrote about the ingratitude of people in his past. These were not people that he knew personally, but ones that lived long before him. It is interesting that we can read about the results of ingratitude on mankind thousands of years ago and take note of the ever-applicable consequences that remain even today. He wrote:

When they knew God, they glorified him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and four-footed beasts, and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonor their own bodies between themselves: who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen. For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: and likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves ...

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

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

emailus@coldwatercofc.com

www.coldwatercofc.com

ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... that recompense of their error which was meet. And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient; Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers, backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, without understanding, covenant-breakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful: who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

If any of these apply to me, my conclusion must be that I'm not as thankful as I thought I was. What horrifying results! By the way, these are the words from the Bible (Romans 1:21-32).

—written by Clifton Angel

Have you noticed the recent Facebook trend which tasks users with the challenge of expressing thanksgiving throughout November [instead of just one day]? The challenge is described as a “once-a-year project to focus on those people, experiences and things in our life that we appreciate.”

Seeing others meet the challenge, I wanted to see if I could do the same. In no particular order...

Day 1. **I am thankful for my Father in Heaven.** Without him, I am nothing. Ultimately, everything traces back to Him.

Day 2. **I am thankful for my Lord, Savior, Teacher, & King, Jesus Christ,** who gave His life so that I might live. His sacrifice, an act of love and grace, has made a way for me.

Day 3. **I am thankful for the Spirit of the Lord** who has shown me the way. He has sealed me & bears witness with my spirit that I am a child of God (cf. Eph. 1:13-14; Rom. 8:16).

Day 4. **I am thankful for the Word of God.** It tells me where I came from, where I am, and where I am going. Where would I be without the B-I-B-L-E?

Day 5. **I am thankful for the gift that is life itself.** I owe it to God to be ever thankful to be afforded the opportunities experienced on “God’s green Earth.”

Day 6. **I am thankful for my salvation in Christ Jesus.** What more can I say?

Day 7. **I am thankful for the hope of heaven.** I do not fear death. I know that my death would not be the end; it would just be the beginning.

Day 8. **I am thankful for the kingdom of the Lord.** The church of Christ, the body of Christ, has a special place in my heart.

Day 9. **I am thankful for my health.** It could be better. It could be worse. I am thankful for what I have.

Day 10. **I am thankful for my wife.** She manages to be a Christian, beautiful wife, mother, business woman, seamstress, encourager, counselor, & wonderful cook all in one. If she was anyone... else, I would not know how she does it all.

Day 11. **I am thankful for my daughter.** She gives joy to each day. She reminds me of how good God is.



- Day 12. **I am thankful for my father and mother.** They have been so good to me & trained me up right (cf. Prov. 22:6).
- Day 13. **I am thankful for my in-laws** for raising such an exceptional young woman.
- Day 14. **I am thankful for my siblings.** With two sisters and one brother, I consider myself a lucky man. Not to forget several sister/brother in-laws ... They're alright too.
- Day 15. **I am thankful for opportunities.** We are promised nothing. All that lies before us is opportunity.
- Day 16. **I am thankful for the blessings of ministry.** To be able to follow after the footsteps of Christ is something so precious to me.
- Day 17. **I am thankful for being blessed to preach the Gospel.** What a blessing! What a privilege!
- Day 18. **I am thankful for works of charity.** This world needs more love, and any work that seeks to help others in need is a blessing.
- Day 19. **I am thankful for the little things of life.** Earlier this week, I was greeted at the door by two barking dogs and one barking little toddler. I am thankful for the little things of life.
- Day 20. **I am thankful for some of the luxuries this day and age has to offer.** iPads, iPhones, and iEverything's help make my life a little easier and sleeker, and I appreciate that.
- Day 21. **I am thankful for my memories.** In recent days, I have been thinking about grandparents, a mountain, and Piccadilly cafeteria. It brings a smile to my soul to think about the good ol' days.
- Day 22. **I am thankful for the brethren at Emerald Beach.** You have been so good to my family and me since day one. I can never thank you enough.
- Day 23. **I am thankful for all my brothers and sisters in Christ.** Like Paul, I "always thank God for all of you" (1 Thessalonians 1:2).
- Day 24. **I am thankful for Tennessee football.** I know that you are as well.
- Day 25. **I am thankful for second chances.** And third chances, and fourth chances, and fifth...
- Day 26. **I am thankful for education.** I completed a degree of higher education this past year, and I am already thinking about what to study next.
- Day 27. **I am thankful for music.** Music has always brought joy to my life. What about you?
- Day 28. **I am thankful for blessing of daily necessities.** I know that others are not as fortunate. I am thankful that my family is not going hungry. God has been so good to us (cf. Mt 6:33; Jas 1:17).
- Day 29. **I am thankful for those that encourage me.** They know who they are.
- Day 30. **I am thankful for you.** Thank you for taking the time to read this. May it have a positive effect on your life.

Well, that was insightful and a lot of fun. I challenge you: "Count your many blessings. Name them one by one. Count your many blessings. See what God has done." *—written by Barry Gilreath, III*

Sermon Review

God's Design for Discipline in the Church

(1 Corinthians 5:1–13)

- I. To Praise Our Infinite God
- II. To Preserve the Institution
- III. To Protect the Individual

God's People: Anchored by Hope

(Malachi 4:1–6)

- I. Hope in the Coming Judgment (1, 3)
- II. Hope in the Coming of Jesus (2)
- III. Hope in the Coming of John (5–6)

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Inez Neyman, recovering from pacemaker surgery;
Severall traveling for various mission efforts; **Wiley & Betty Tuggle**; **Sue Cobern**; **Helen Bowman**.

Far East Missions
Fishers of Men
NetCasters

Family & Friends

Janie Brister, Ruth's sister-in-law, oral procedure on her jaw, **Philippine Typhoon victims**; **Janet Colvett**; **Bobby Gayton**; **Marie Sims**, Ashby Johnson's mother, cancer treatment now, surgery January; **James Cooper**, Jan's brother, stomach cancer; **Vicky Davis**, cancer has spread to brain; **Vicki Angel**, Clifton's mom, recovering well; **Ray Maples**; **John & Anita Simpson & family**, John had a successful surgery and is scheduled to have another in January; **Martha Hatfield**, Lynn's grandmother, has stage 4 cancer; **Cindy Jones' family**; **LaJuan Collums'**, receiving treatments for cancer, battles other health problems also; **Virginia Johnson**, wife of gospel preacher Roger Johnson, has stage 4 lung cancer; **Juanita Wooten**; **Joy Angel**, battling various health problems; **JoAnn Prestage**, Sara Norris' sister, cancer; **Tasha Higginbotham**, in need of a kidney transplant; **Linda Perkins**, Tim West's mother-in-law, leukemia; **Mac Owen**; **Bob Spurlin**; **Ally Jo Kelly**, toddler with leukemia; **Brad & Sheri Daniel**, in efforts of adoption of baby Faith; **Carly Wright**, 3 yr. old with liver cancer; **Joe & Josephine Johnston**, and their sons, Charles and Chris; **Frederick Bland**; **Carla Carlson**.

Birthdays

12/17 Kaiden Ferrell
12/22 Daniel Owen
12/23 Jeremy Moore
12/24 Dalton Owen
12/27 Reese Kinney
12/30 Renee Davis

Anniversary

12/13 Jerry & Renee Davis

Get Involved!

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior -- TODAY

Starry Nights at Shelby Farms -- Dec 6

All invited; time TBA; \$10/person
Signup no later than TODAY to reserve your spot

Children's Ornament Exchange -- Dec 8

Between services; See Anna for details

Providence Place Devo -- Dec 8 -- 2:30 PM

Singing Night -- Dec 25 -- 7 PM

No BIBLE BOWL for December

Will Resume January 18; Genesis 25 - 27
At Looxahoma, 10:30 AM

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 1

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jim Jackson
	Payton Jackson
Assist	Jeremy Moore
	Jerry Davis
Opening Prayer	Andy Ratliff
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Joe Owen

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Opening Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jim Jackson
	Payton Jackson
Closing Prayer	Seth Daniel

Wednesday, December 4

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Ron Johnson