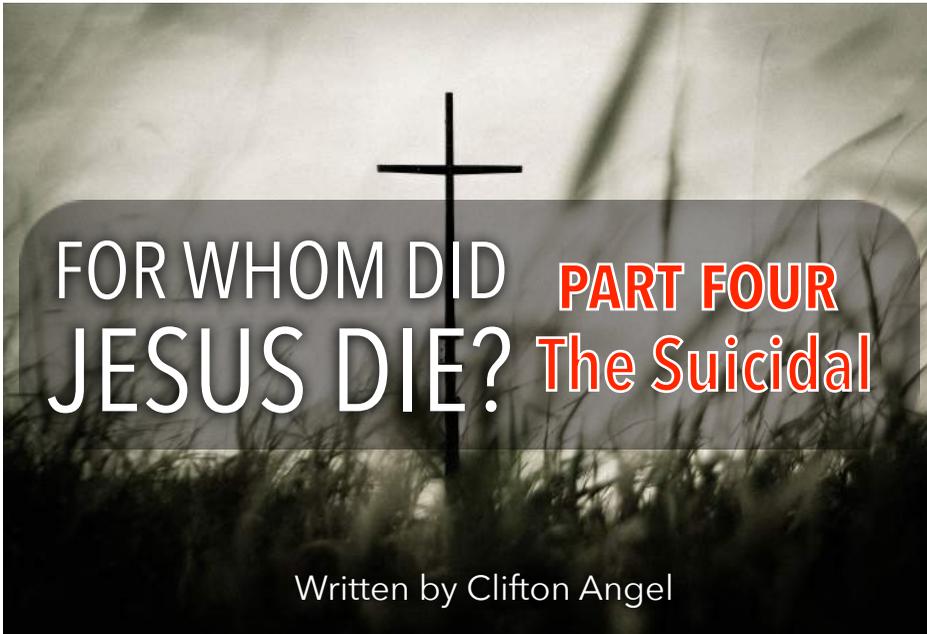


The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST Dec. 6, 2020



Jesus died for the suicidal. This may be a topic not often enough considered and discussed. One who is suicidal is one who is “deeply unhappy or depressed and likely to commit suicide” (*Dictionary*, Apple Inc., Electronic source). I may take this definition further and say that such a person is in such a dark place in his mind that he cannot see into the future; he cannot see any “light at the end of the tunnel.” It is truly a mindset of hopelessness. Said persons may have made unsuccessful attempts at ending their lives, however,

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!

P.O. Box 321

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(1.2 miles east of I-55)

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless

Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell

Joe Owen

Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II

John Wofford

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... one can be suicidal even if no attempts have been made to commit suicide. To be suicidal does not mean one HAS to commit suicide. Rather, Jesus died to give hope to those who have no hope. Prior to ending his life, Judas was suicidal. We know he was because of the end result. It does not mean he was suicidal all of his life. Rather, events occurred in such an arrangement and he made certain choices that led to him thinking there was no escape from his burden but to kill himself. My heart breaks for the persons that adopt such a hopeless view. My heart breaks for their families. But my heart breaks even more that they do not see that there is an escape—one that is filled with hope and continued physical life. The escape? Jesus.

Matthew's gospel account and Luke's Acts of the Apostles are the only Biblical writings which explicitly record Judas' suicide. Matthew records for us that after the chief priests and elders bound Jesus and led Him to Pilate, "Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders" (Matthew 27:3). I believe another translation will help us here in bringing out more clearly what the original text says, "Then when Judas, his betrayer, saw that Jesus was condemned, he changed his mind and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and the elders" (Matthew 27:3, ESV). Two things could potentially cause confusion in the former rendering: (1) the ...

... pronoun "he" can become confusing as to whether it is speaking of Judas or Jesus, (2) the word "repented" could make us think that Judas truly turned from his sin. Even if we could prove that Judas wanted to make right his sinful state, he turned to the wrong source for answers. Judas went to the chief priests and elders, "Saying, I have sinned in that I have betrayed the innocent blood. And they said, What is that to us? see thou to that. And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself." (Matthew 27:4-5). Judas' traditional source for religious counsel told him, "You are on your own, buddy!" And so, he "hanged himself."

My heart is heavy as I wonder: What if Judas had waited a little longer? What if he had gone to Jesus for answers? Surely, Jesus would have told him, "You are not alone." Surely, Jesus would have offered him yet another opportunity for salvation! Jesus could have given him hope! Jesus could have prevented one who was suicidal from committing suicide!

Jesus died for the suicidal. If we expect to turn the hopeless to the hope of Christ, we must be patient, empathetic, and enduring. Such a one is already filled with shame and condemnation; more of such would only be detrimental. Let us be diligent to show that Jesus came "that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly" (Jn. 10:10).

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Renee Davis, recovering from pneumonia; **Grace Williams**, recovering from eye surgery; **Sherry Gaines**; **Wiley Tuggle**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**; **Sammy Williams**; **Inez Neyman**.

Far East Missions Fishers of Men NetCasters

Family & Friends

Tracy Medley, Teresa Gregory's brother; **Richard Neal**, Clifton's neighbor, cancer, in hospice; **Belva Collums**, Terry Bland's sister-in-law, had surgery following a bad fall; **Allie Kitchens**, Ferrell's niece, medical tests; **John Moore & family**; **Wayne Jackson family**; **Henry Wadsworth family**; **Leonard Watson family**; **Brethren in Philippines**, typhoons; **Debbie Phillips**, Mischel's aunt, cancer; **Ethylene Strange**; **Carolyn Plumley**.

Birthdays

12/6 Sammy Williams
12/13 Michael Sykes
12/17 Kaiden Ferrell
12/22 Dalton Owen
12/24 Daniel Owen
12/30 Renee Davis

Anniversaries

12/13 Jerry & Renee Davis

Get Involved!

Coldwater Youth Devo : Dec 6, 5:30 PM

@church building, eat before or bring own food
Ornament exchange for younger kids
\$5 max Dirty Santa for those wanting to play

Secret Sisters Reveal Brunch: Dec 12

Mission Report: Dec 13, 1 PM

Chuck Cordon reporting on work in Africa

Bible Class Teachers for 2021

1st quarter filled: Thank you, teachers!
See Jeffrey to sign up for other quarters

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 6

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jim Jackson
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Noah Davis
Opening Prayer	Billy Bland
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jeffrey Ferrell
Assist	

Closing Prayer	Joe Owen
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Afternoon

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Opening Prayer	John Wofford
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeffrey Ferrell

Closing Prayer	Kevin Dixon
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Wednesday, December 9

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Andy Ratliff

TECH:	Daniel Owen
HALL:	