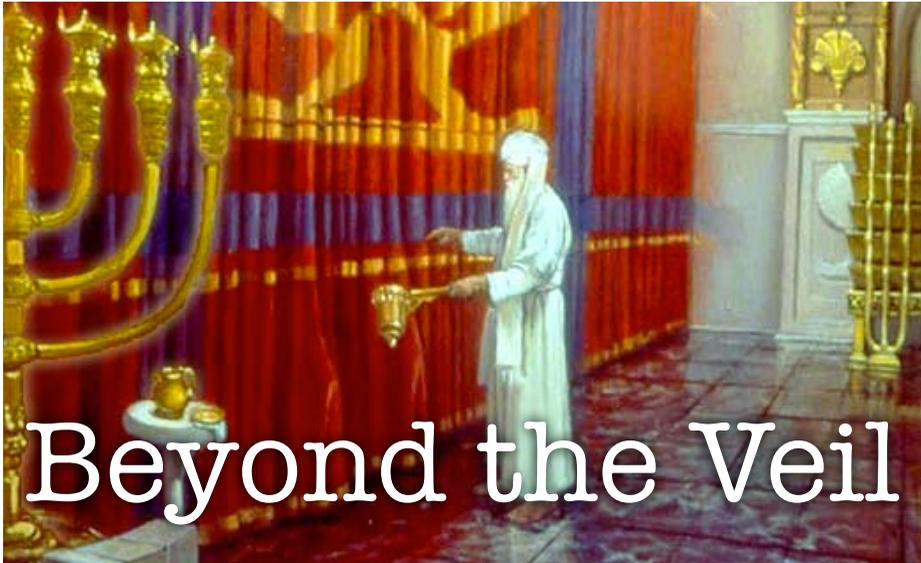


The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST Dec. 9, 2018



During this time of year, many of the religious in Christendom are focused on the birth of Christ. Albeit, the exact date of Jesus' birth is not given, much of the evidence points to a different time of year, and there's no command for us to celebrate His birth; however, His birth is truly significant to the gospel and Christianity. Furthermore, the resurrection of Christ is vitally important to the gospel and Christianity. Without it, Jesus would still be in the grave and there would be no hope for mankind. We are to honor His resurrection in our new life in Christ and every Lord's day (Sunday).

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

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

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ELDERS

Billy Bland

Seth Daniel

Jim Jackson

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jerry Davis

Jeffrey Ferrell Chris Martin

Joe Owen Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II John Wofford

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

While the way Jesus' birth is acknowledged and the way His resurrection is honored are often debated in the religious world, I believe we can all agree that the center of the gospel, the greatest turning point in humanity, and the most ironic event to take place in the history of man is at the cross of Christ.

We are given quite a few interesting details surrounding the crucifixion of Jesus, and yet, much of our knowledge of what took place at the cross has had to come from other sources: Jewish commentaries, history, archaeology, etc. But for our focus in this article, consider these words recorded by Matthew:

Jesus, when he had cried again with a loud voice, yielded up the ghost. And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many (Matt 27:50-53).

Concerning this occasion of the torn temple veil, a dear friend and evangelist, Wade Webster, wrote (and preached) the following:

Often, the tearing of the temple veil gets little or no attention. Yet, it is very significant. As you likely know, the temple veil separated the holy place from the most holy place in the temple. The high priest was the only one who could go behind the veil; and, he could only do so once a year. Tradition says that a rope was tied about the high priest's waist so that he could be pulled out if something happened to him while he was behind the veil. The veil of the curtain of the temple was sixty feet high and thirty feet wide.

According to Jewish tradition, it was as thick as a man's hand (one inch) and took three hundred priests to move it. As you can imagine, this curtain wasn't easily torn. When and how it was torn are significant. The fact that it was torn from the top rather than from the bottom indicates that it was torn by God and not man. The fact that it was torn immediately after Christ gave up the ghost reveals that the Savior through His death had opened up the way to the Father. The debt of sin had finally been paid. Today, because of Christ's sacrifice, we are able to draw near in a way that was before impossible (Wade Webster, "Ready To Worship," <https://thelightnetwork.tv/>).

Webster's comments really bring to light the significance of the occasion of the torn temple veil and how that the cross of Christ is our way to salvation and access to our Heavenly Father. The Hebrews writer penned,

Having therefore, brethren, boldness to enter into the holiest by the blood of Jesus, By a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water
(Heb 10:19-22).

Have you come to the cross (Colossians 1:18)? Have you taken up your cross (Matthew 16:24)? Are you crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20; Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12)? Have you contacted His blood (Matthew 26:28; Revelation 1:5; Acts 22:16)?

All credit to Wade Webster, **Utmost Missions**

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Aemon Ratliff, having a lot of allergy trouble; **Sarah Norris**; **Sammy Williams**, cancer treatments; **Stephanie Bayless**; **Clifton Angel**, doing well recovering, voice is weak; **Timothy Wilkes, Sr**; **Wiley Tuggle**; **Caleb & Elizabeth Baker**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**.

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

Family & Friends

Elizabeth King, Tyler's grandmother, recently in hospital; **Becky Fleming**, Billie Martin's mom, back surgery this month; **Joy Angel**, recovering from surgery she had Friday; **Paul Meacham, Jr. family**; **Cameron Blount family**; **Brinson family**; **Dan Talley**; **Devin Dickey**, aneurysm that will require surgery; **Darrell Martin**, Chris' dad, leukemia treatment.

Birthdays

12/3	Kevin Miller
12/6	Sammy Williams
12/13	Michael Sykes
12/17	Kaiden Ferrell
12/22	Dalton Owen
12/23	Jeremy Moore
12/24	Daniel Owen
12/30	Renee Davis
12/31	Eli Martin

Anniversaries

12/2	Andy & Whitney Acklin
12/13	Jerry & Renee Davis

Get Involved!

Providence Place Devo: TODAY, 2 PM
Youth are making baskets to give to residents

Youth Devo, Christmas Party: TODAY, 5 PM
Ferrell's Home; Bring sides & desserts
Ornament Exchange & Dirty Santa (\$5 max)

Secret Sister Reveal Party: Dec 13, 6:30 PM
At building, signup for food on bulletin board

Coldwater Singing Night: Dec 26, 7 PM

5th Sunday Service: Dec 30, 1 PM

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 9

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Chris Martin
Announcements	Billy Bland
Song Leader	Noah Davis
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Andy Ratliff
	Kevin Dixon
	John Wofford
Assist	Marc Strickland
	Jerry Davis
Opening Prayer	W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.
Sermon	Jason Bayless
Closing Prayer	

Afternoon

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Opening Prayer	Tim Meredith
Sermon	Billy Bland
Lord's Supper	John Wofford
	Marc Strickland
Closing Prayer	Jim Jackson

Wednesday, December 12

Song Leader	Noah Davis
Prayer	Billy Bland
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell

TECH:	Daniel Owen
HALL:	Jeffrey & Amanda Ferrell