

# *The Messenger*

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dec. 30, 2012



## ***Who Are You Living For?***

"And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever" (1 John 2:17).

The only thing that is going to last are the things of God.  
Period.

The world is passing away. Our days are fleeting. One day we will all be gone from this earth as we know it. You see, we're not citizens of earth trying to get to heaven. We are citizens of heaven sojourning here on earth. This earth is not our home.

Are you living for the praise of men? Or for the glory of God?  
Are you living for time? Or are you living for eternity?

Are you living for the things that can be seen? Or for the things that cannot be seen?

One of these days, this old world and all of its vaulted culture, proud philosophies, and godless materialism is going to be forgotten. But he that "doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

Take stock: Who are you really living for?

Live For Jesus Today,

*Jim Murrell*

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

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**VISITORS,  
WELCOME!**

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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

# Preach The Word Without Respect To Season

by Bob Xiang

Adapted & Edited from *The Four Seas Informer*

The Bible says “Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine” (2 Timothy 4:2). These are the words that Paul said to the young evangelist Timothy.

Paul was charged by the Lord to preach the gospel to the lost in Acts 26:18. People who do not know the gospel are in darkness and in the power of Satan. They need to know the gospel. They need to have their sins washed away, and to make the relationship right with God. If they die without knowing the gospel, they will suffer damnation (John 5:29). The word that Christ spoke about will be the standard of judgment (John 12:48).

Paul valued souls of men, so he urgently preached the gospel everywhere to save people. He was encouraging Timothy to see the urgency of preaching as well. He encouraged him to preach the word of God, which was also Timothy’s main passion in his life. As a preacher, he should preach in good times and make use of good opportunities. He should also preach the gospel in bad times. A preacher should grasp every opportunity to preach the word of God, especially in times of persecution and adversity. I understand that it is not easy to be a preacher.

When a preacher preaches, he should preach the whole counsel of God. He needs to reprove false teachers, to rebuke those who do not repent of their sins, and to encourage the weak brethren, especially the diffident and the tempted brethren. A preacher cannot choose either to condemn or to encourage the brethren, but both are needed to help them to grow.

When I examine myself by what Paul said to Timothy, it is easy for me to preach in good times. I do not know what it is to preach in bad times. My homeland China is a communist country. Preaching the gospel openly and worshipping God with brethren is illegal. The timid government thinks that groups of people gather together regularly work together to rebel against them and therefore ban large group gatherings. Another danger is that neighbors may report to the government if they are not happy about the singing. Policemen may come and harass us when we worship God. I pray that God will strength me if I meet these situations in the future when I preach the gospel. I pray that God will help me to over- come these difficulties and continue to preach the gospel. It is impossible to work by myself without God.

Our Lord Jesus Christ has set up a very good example in preaching and teaching. He grasped every opportunity to convey His message to people who were around him. He preached the message when He asked the Samaritan woman for water. He taught people in a ship which thrust away a little bit from the land. The Lord said to Zacchaeus, “Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy

house” (Luke 19:5) when He saw him up in a Sycomore tree. In time He set a little child in the midst of people, and said to them, “Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven” (Matthew 18:3). There are many occasions like these in the gospel accounts where Christ sought opportunities to teach. Our Lord Jesus Christ is a wonderful teacher! He is the only person we should follow in every deed and action.

I am blessed. I know that I am not worthy of salvation. However, God loves me and He saved me. Lord willing, I want to preach His gospel in China. May God strengthen me. Amen!



Bob Xiang will begin his second year of study at Four Seas in 2013. He is from Hubei, China.

#### **Last of 2012 Bible Reading:**

Sunday: Revelation 17 – 19

Monday: Revelation 20 – 22

#### **Matthew 5:3–12**

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.

### *Sermon Review*

#### **God: He is LOVE**

- I. Long-Suffering
- II. Obliging
- III. Vicarious
- IV. Everlasting

#### **Birth of Christ: A Purposeful Occasion**

- I. An Examination
- II. An Explanation

# NEWS & NOTES

## Please Pray

**Joe Owen** had surgery on his neck this past week.

**Wiley Tuggle** fell last week.

**Nora Boling**

**Wiley & Betty Tuggle; Sara Norris;**

**Herbert & Helen Bowman; Sue Cobern**

**OpenDoor Ministry**

**Fishers of Men**

**Far East Missions**

## Family & Friends

**Carole Vernier**, Beverly Hayes' sister, in ICU in Lake Charles, LA and doctors are not sure of diagnosis; **Terry Hawkins**, member at Looxahoma, surgery because of breast cancer; **Barbara Denton**, friend of Molly, stage 3 cervical cancer. **Brigmon**

**Family; Janice Jenkins**, co-worker to Beverly Hayes, rare form of cancer. **Carla Carlson** and her battle with cancer. **Gema Winchester** and her battle with stomach cancer. **Matthew Canada; Wes**, brother of Deb Peeler, cancer; **David & Vicki Angel; Potts & Stampley Families; Doris Easley; Curtis A. Cates; Frederick Bland; Eli Williams; Ray Maples; Wayne Collinsworth; Andrew Hagewood; Janie Brister; Chuck Tharp; Renee Loya; Aubree Harris; Virginia Mayfield; Peyton Harville; Bob Spurlin; David Bragg.**

## December Birthdays

12/30 Renee Davis

## January Birthdays

1/4 Milba Sutton  
1/5 Cash Jackson  
1/6 Mindy Moore  
1/7 Tucker Johnson  
1/9 Claire Easley  
1/10 Elizabeth Baker  
1/25 Jeffery Ferrell  
1/30 Stephanie Bayless

## Get Involved!

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Singing & Devo -- TODAY -- 1PM**

**New Year's Eve Party -- Dec 31 - Jan 1**

Starts at 7PM

Beginning with Devotional Period

**New Quarter Begins -- Jan 6**

Teacher Rotation, See Jared for Materials

**Bible Bowl -- Jan 12 -- 10:30 AM**

Genesis 4 - 6, Study Hard!

**Standing in the Gap Lectureship at Nesbit**

January 25-27, 2013

## Privileged to Serve

### Sunday, December 30

#### Morning

Prayer Before Class

Wiley Tuggle

Announcements

Jerry Davis

Song Leader

Jason Bayless

Lord's Supper:

Preside

Billy Bland

Jim Jackson

Assist

Jeremy Moore

Ron Johnson

Opening Prayer

Joe Owen

Sermon

Clifton Angel

Closing Prayer

Andy Ratliff

#### Afternoon

Song Leader

Jason Bayless

Opening Prayer

Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Sermon

Clifton Angel

Lord's Supper

Ron Johnson

Closing Prayer

Payton Jackson

Jeffrey Ferrell

### Wednesday, January 2

Song Leader

Jason Bayless

Prayer

Jared Brown

Invitation

Clifton Angel

Prayer

Seth Daniel