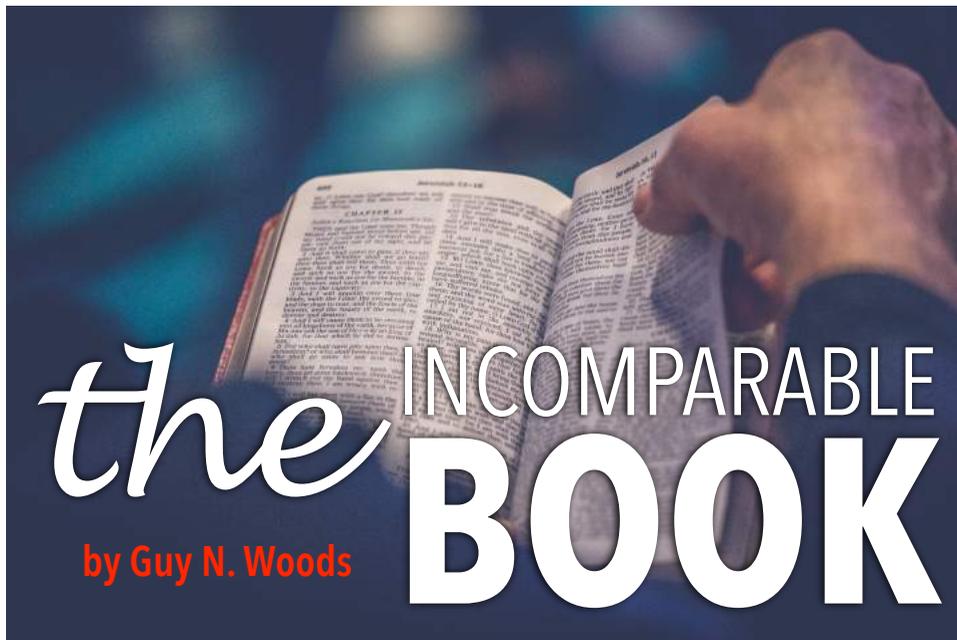


The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Dec 31, 2017



It is said that Lardner, a professor of physics in Oxford University, in 1837 wrote an elaborate treatise "proving" that no vessel could ever cross the Atlantic under its own steam, since to generate that steam would require coal enough to sink the vessel before it could ever leave the wharf! By a strange irony of fate, the Great Western Steamship on its first trip across the Atlantic, brought copies of Lardner's book. The Scientists who had reviewed it were in somewhat of a quandary. They had said that Lardner's argument was irrefutable and amounted to a demonstration, yet there was the steamship and the ...

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 Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Joe Owen Andy Ratliff

Tim Wilkes, II

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

... passengers affirmed it had crossed on its own steam! What should they do about it? However plausible their theory, the presence of the ship was a fact, and theories much always give way before facts. Again and again, men have appeared on the scene with the avowed purpose of destroying the Book of God. Two hundred years ago (**almost 300 now, CRA**), the noted French infidel, Voltaire declared that in a hundred years after his day, the Bible would be forgotten or would only be drawn from the dusty shelves of a museum as a relic of superstitions which once oppressed the human mind. Mr. Voltaire went the way of all the earth: and, when the century was up, the very house in which he wrote that prophecy was packed full of Bibles – the depository of the Geneva Bible Society. It is interesting to note that not so long ago, at an auction of a famous library, Voltaire's ninety-one volumes sold in England for eight shilling, approximately \$2. In 1926, a copy of the Gutenberg Bible sold for \$106,000. The highest price ever paid for a book before that was \$60,000, and that was for another Bible. Mr. Voltaire's boast that: "it took twelve men to found the Christian religion:" "I will show the world that one man can overcome it" has become, like Mr. Lardner's treatise on steamships, an exploded theory, and the Bible continues to influence the world more powerfully than any other book.

Men have died gladly, rather than relinquish their faith in its holy teachings, and the noble efforts of translators to give us an uncorrupted and pure translation, make us eternally indebted to them. From the days of Wycliffe to the King James revisers, efforts to put the word of God into the language of the people, read like a romance. Wycliffe, himself escaped martyrdom only because he had a paralytic attack which resulted in his death but even then the priests of Rome would not let his body rest, for forty years thereafter the Council of Constance decreed that his bone should be taken up and burned. In 1427, the Pope ordered his body and bones to be exhumed, "cast far from ecclesiastical burial and publicly burned and the ashes to be so disposed of

that no trace of him shall be seen again." In the spring of 1428 the Bishop of London executed the order and threw Wycliff's ashes into the river, to "the damnation and destruction of his memory," for the unspeakable crime (in the eyes of Rome) of trying to give the word of God to the common people.

A little over a hundred years later, William Tyndall appeared with another translation, differing little from that of the King James Version of today. He encountered a Royal decree forbidding any person to translate the Scriptures without permission. He sought for this permission and was refused. He said to the Bishop of London, "If God spares my life, ere many years I will cause the boy that driveth the plow to know more of the Scriptures than thou dost." In a few years, his prophecy was fulfilled, but at terrible cost. First, the Catholics gathered his testaments which had been smuggled into London by tens of thousands and burned them in Saint Paul's Churchyard. Ten years later, they strangled him, and burned his body at the stake. Thus, did men suffer for their efforts to bring knowledge of life and salvation to the benighted and oppressed peoples of Roman Catholicism? Three hundred years ago, reading the Bible was a privilege denied all except the dupes of the church of Rome. Hidden in a dead language, the common people were forbidden on pain of imprisonment to read it, and all Bibles discovered in the language of the people, were ordered burned.

Do we appreciate this incomparable book as much as we should? Do we read its holy pages as often as we might? Men in other times have been willing to die for the joy of reading its blessed pages. In the darkness of caves and catacombs, men have risked their lives for the privilege of gleaning some light from its profound depths. May the Lord help us to appreciate it as we should and from it derive the help we so much need.

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Several traveling; **Seth Daniel**, flu symptoms, still recovering from knee surgery; **India** mission; **Wiley Tuggle**; **Clarence & Faye Edwards**.

Far East Missions | **Fishers of Men** | **NetCasters**

Family & Friends

Ernest Russell family, Dana's cousin recently died; **Wayne Cooper family**, Jan's brother died; **Marilyn Walker**, Inez's daughter; **Amber King family**, Tyler's aunt that passed; **Faye Lipford family**; **S.J. Edwards' family**; **Joy Angel**, Clifton's sister; **Darrell Martin**, Chris' father, leukemia; **Marci Cox**, Dana's cousin; **Jeff & Janie Brister**; **Fernando Casacuberta**, Jared's friend, MS; **Macadden Easley**; **Robbie Patterson**, Terry Bland's sister; **Lyla Childers**; **Lee Davis**; **Matt Brooks**, stationed in Qatar; **Iris Casteel**; **Judy Dowelling**; **Ray Maples**; **Becky Latimer**; **Kristie Deffenbaugh**; **Raleigh Wood**; **Carole Livsey**; **Lisa Hogan**; **Ava Roten**; **Sharon Brewer**; **Mac Owen**; **Rhonda Cook**; **Wanda Coats**; **Tammy Powell**; **Lawton O'Brien**; **Beverly Whitecotton**; **Peggy Hunt**; **Jason Spencer**; **Elizabeth Baker**; **Frankie Burfield**; **Renee Loya**; **Martha Hatfield**.

Birthdays

12/03	Kevin Miller
12/06	Sammy Williams
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

12/13	Jerry & Renee Davis
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Get Involved!

Coldwater Harbor Meeting – TODAY
Between services

5th Sunday Service – TODAY – 1 PM

New Year's Eve Devo & Game Night – TODAY
8 – 12, Bring finger foods & games, etc.

Sunday Afternoon for the Savior – Jan 7
Between services

Sen. Health & Rehab Devo – Jan 24 – 10 AM

Coldwater Singing Night – Jan 31 – 7 PM

Nesbit Lectureship – Jan 26 – 28

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, December 31

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Billy Bland
Announcements	Jerry Davis
Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Jared Brown
	Tim Meredith
Assist	Marc Strickland
	Mika Meredith
Opening Prayer	Jim Jackson
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Russell Wadsworth

Afternoon

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Opening Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jared Brown
	Tim Meredith
Closing Prayer	Tim Wilkes II

Wednesday, January 3

Song Leader	Jason Bayless
Prayer	Jerry Davis
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Andy Ratliff

TECH:	Daniel Owen
HALL:	Tim & Rachel Wilkes