

# THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

*"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)*

**February 15, 2015**

## **Coldwater church of Christ**

8467 State Route 121 N  
Murray, KY 42071

(270) 489-2219

www.coldwatercoc.org

coldwatercoc@wk.net

### **ELDERS**

Richard Price  
Kevin Smith  
Bill Vincent

### **DEACONS**

Johnny Downs  
Josh Fulcher  
Wesley Tucker

### **PREACHER**

Luke Puckett

### **SUNDAY SERVICE**

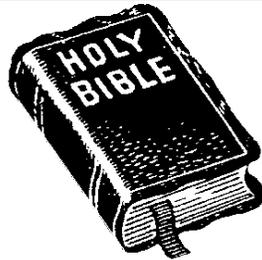
Bible Class: 9:30  
AM Worship: 10:15  
PM Worship: 1:00

### **WEDNESDAY**

Bible Class: 7:00pm

### **Ladies Bible Class**

Tuesdays: 10:00am



## **A Message To Our Visitors**

It is our privilege to have you visiting with us today. Please know that you are our honored guest. Please let us get to know you, and fill out an attendance card so we can have record of you being here. Please return to be with us again at your earliest opportunity. If you have questions or would like to study the Bible with us, please let us know. Thanks again for visiting with us, and may God continue to bless you according to His divine purpose.



### **THOSE TO SERVE**

#### **Announcements:**

Josh Fulcher

#### **Lead Singing:**

Mitchell Smith

#### **Opening Prayer:**

Bill Vincent

#### **Scripture Reading:**

Josh Price

#### **Lord's Table**

Bradley Smith  
Chris Smith  
Kevin Smith  
Mitchell Smith

#### **Closing Prayer:**

Johnny Downs

#### **Greeters (East)**

Josh and Andrea

#### **Greeters (West)**

Richard and Tonya

### **LESSONS**

AM: Living A Moral  
Christian Life

Scripture reading:  
Ephesians 4:20-32

PM: The Invitation  
Scripture reading:  
Matthew 11:28-30

## WHO AM I *By: Jonnie Hutchison*

When Jesus Christ was in the region of Caesarea Philippi He asked His disciples “Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?” The disciples at first gave the most common beliefs of the general public regarding Jesus — some say John the Baptist, Elijah, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Then Jesus addressed His apostles, the men who had been with Him, who had sat at His feet as He had taught, and who had witnessed His miracles, “But who do you say that I am?” There seems to have been no hesitation on the part of Peter in answering the Lord’s query: “You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God.” Jesus’ response to this confession of Peter indicates that Peter hit the nail on the head!

If Jesus were to ask people today “Who Am I?” what kind of answers would He receive?

Unbelievers would answer that “you are a non-existent figment of man’s imagination.” In 1985 a man by the name of Gerald Massey wrote a book in which he declared of Jesus Christ, “whether considered as the God made human, or as man made divine, this character never existed as a person” (Gnostic and Historic Christianity, p. 22). Those who deny the existence of Jesus Christ as a person who lived and breathed must also reject the extra-biblical proof for His existence. Two reliable historians mention Jesus as a person in their writings. Josephus, a Jewish historian, mentions Jesus twice in his book Antiquities of the Jews, calling Him a “wise man...a doer of marvelous deeds, a teacher of men who receive the truth with pleasure” (Section 18). He also declared “Jesus who was called the Christ” as the brother of James (Section 20). Tacitus, a Roman historian, in his book of the history of Rome, referred to the execution of Christ by Pontius Pilate (Annals, 15:44). These historians and others testify to the existence of the man Jesus Christ. To deny that Jesus Christ was an actual person is to deny reality.

The Muslim would answer “you are a good prophet inferior to Mohammed but you are not the divine Son of God.” From an article on the website islam-guide.com the following statements are made about Jesus: “It is clear enough for everyone that the Quran denies the divinity of Jesus, so we do not need to spend much time explaining that....The Bible clearly teaches that Jesus is not God...the disciples never came to the conclusion that Jesus is God....all the writers of the Bible believed that God was not Jesus....Peter did not see the miracles as proof that Jesus is God” (The Bible Denies the Divinity of Jesus). Another article declares, “the controversy about the personality of Jesus Christ is the major difference between Islam and Christianity” (The Truth About Jesus). The religion of Islam rejects the divinity of Jesus, denies the crucifixion of Jesus, and places Jesus in rank below the prophet Mohammed. It is obvious that the view of the Qur’an that Jesus Christ was not the divine Son of God (“God is not like humans to need children. God declares that He is self-sufficient. He has no

*need for such things*” - Qur’an 10:68) is a direct contradiction to the confession of Peter, “You are the Christ the Son of the Living God” (Matthew 16:16). No adherent to Islam would give the answer that Peter gave to the question of Jesus “Who am I?”

**Some religious people would answer, “you are the same person as God the Father and the Holy Spirit whose name is Jesus.”** “Are there three persons in the Godhead? No.” (60 Questions on the Godhead, United Pentecostal Church International—upci.org). Those of this persuasion believe that the names Father, Son and Holy Ghost describe the same person operating in different capacities.

The Bible certainly teaches that there is “one God” (Deut. 6:4; 1 Kings 8:60; Isaiah 43:11; Galatians 3:20; James 2:10). Jesus declared that He and the Father are “one” (John 10:30). Jesus prayed that His disciples would be “one” as He and the Father are one (John 17:20-21). Does this mean that Jesus and His Father are one and the same person? Was Jesus praying that His disciples would all become “one person”? Obviously, the prayer of Jesus was for the unity of His disciples—that they would be one in belief and practice as is the Father and the Son. In writing of those passages that speak of the “oneness of God” brother Wayne Jackson says, “...the meaning is **there is but one divine nature**. There is a **unified** set of traits or characteristics that distinguish a personality as God....There is but **one** divine nature, but there are **three** distinct **personalities** possessing that unified set of infinite qualities.” (*The Biblical Doctrine of the Godhead*, Christian Courier online).

The Bible is filled with passages which emphasize the individuality of each member of the Godhead. At His baptism, Jesus was in the water, the Father was speaking from heaven and the Holy Spirit was between heaven and earth descending in the form of a dove (Matthew 3:16-17). By what reasoning would one conclude that all three were the same person? The fact that Jesus is said to be the “Mediator between God and men” suggests two separate persons (1 Timothy 2:5). The meaning of the passage is nonsensical otherwise. Jesus taught a distinction between His person and that of the Holy Spirit in the words, “Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven Him, either in this age or in the age to come” (Matthew 12:32). If Jesus and the Holy Spirit are the same person then would not speaking against one be equivalent to speaking against the other? There are many other passages which show that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are not the same person. Yet, some would answer Jesus question of “Who Am I” by wrongly declaring Him to be the same person as God the Father and the Holy Spirit.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

- ⇒ Theresa Smith (15th)
- ⇒ Larry Lamb (18th)

## **Announcements**

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Acts
- ⇒ **Team: Team 3 meets today**
- ⇒ **Area events:** Please see bulletin board for more info. Several meetings, singings, and Bible schools are coming up in our area.
- ⇒ **Personal invitation handouts** are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
- ⇒ **Senior Appreciation Dinner:** Today after morning service.
- ⇒ **New Directory Pages:** Info for the Hobbs', Hutchison's, and new birthday pages are available. Please see Luke or Amber to pick these up so you can add them to your directory.
- ⇒ **Bible Bowl:** Will be Saturday 3-14 at the Green Plain church building. All ages from K-12th grade participate. The study is over the book of James. If interested, see Wesley for more info.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Green Beans

## **Prayer/Sick List**

- ⇒ Ray Stembridge—Sick with an ear infection/Back trouble
- ⇒ Brooks Tucker (RSV)
- ⇒ Ima Barnes
- ⇒ Tonya Jones
- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs (Received great news from the doctors :)
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Debbie Smith (Kevin's sister-in-law-cancer)
- ⇒ Greg Black (Kathy Black's son)
- ⇒ Loretta Haley (cancer)
- ⇒ David Edwards (Josh Fulcher's uncle-cancer)
- ⇒ Billy Irvan
- ⇒ Jana Ward (cancer)
- ⇒ Todd Walker
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ Wanda Riley (Josh Fulcher's Aunt)
- ⇒ James McAbee
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison Berry (friend of Stembridges, has brain cancer)
- ⇒ Richard & Rachel Guill
- ⇒ Rachel Adams
- ⇒ Lashell Jones
- ⇒ Nat Evans (Randall's father—home recovering)
- ⇒ Continue to remember all those who have lost loved ones this year

## **WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?**

Hear the Word  
*(Rom 10:17)*

Believe the Word  
*(John 8:24)*

Repent  
*(Luke 13:3)*

Confess Christ  
*(Rom 10:10)*  
*(Acts 8:37)*

Be Baptized  
*(Acts 2:38)*  
*(Acts 22:16)*

Remain Faithful  
*(Rev 2:10)*  
*(Acts 8:12-24)*

Heaven can be your home if you obey God!  
*(Heb 5:8-9)*

Please visit our website at [www.coldwaterchurchofchrist.org](http://www.coldwaterchurchofchrist.org). You will find bulletins, sermon outlines, and other helpful links and material.



## MEMORY VERSE FOR WEEK

Acts 12:1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church.

## GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

**Word:** kakoō (κακώω)

**Pronounced:** kak-o'-o

**Translated** into the word we use today: harass or vex.

**Meaning:** according to Thayer is: to oppress, afflict, harm, maltreat, or to render evil. Strong says it is to injure, harm, hurt, vex or to treat evil. Vines says it can also be used as affected (as used in Acts 14:2) or affliction; as to treat evil or badly, or to cause hurt or pain.

**Supporting verse:** Acts 12:1-2 Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. (2) Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

## THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

As we read throughout God's Word, we see so much persecution that was done. First, do you remember what was done to our Lord and Savior, how evil He was treated, how much harassment He went through, the mockery, and then the physical abuse? We see in Acts 12:1-2 how King Herod harassed the church and killed James with the sword. We read in 2 Corinthians 2:23-28 all that Paul endured, how bad he was vexed. And yet, here we are not being thrown in prison, not being beaten or worse beheaded, and we must ask ourselves are we taking a stand like these men in the first century did? Yes, we will be persecuted, but the end reward is worth it!

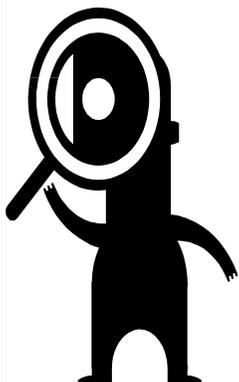
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**Some Christians may answer the question of Jesus of "Who Am I?" by saying, "You are my part-time Lord."**

Although following Jesus faithfully demands self-denial and cross bearing (Matthew 16:24; Luke 9:23), some are not willing to give up those things in their lives that are spiritually harmful. They want to hold on to the sinful things of the world and to the Lord at the same time. They are what used to be called "Sunday morning only Christians." This is one who does not practice his or her Christianity except when other Christians are around. Of course,

Jesus teaches that spiritually speaking one cannot serve two masters (Matthew 6:24). One serves either the devil or the Lord and it is impossible to serve both simultaneously and live a life acceptable to God. Until the Christian develops a genuine love for God as opposed to loving the world, he/she will not experience the true joy of being a faithful servant of the Lord.

Jesus asks, "Who do you say I, the Son of Man Am?" The answer you give to this question will determine whether your eternal destination is heaven or hell.



**Bible question:** Who made an axe head float?

**Last week's question and answer:** What did Joseph accuse his brothers of stealing?

**Answer:** His silver cup (Genesis 44)

**Those answering:** Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Clemmie Black, Helen Tidwell, Peggy Newsome, Rachel Adams