

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)
February 21, 2016

Coldwater church of Christ

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ELDERS

Richard Price
Kevin Smith
Bill Vincent

DEACONS

Johnny Downs
Josh Fulcher
Josh Price
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 CLASS

Tuesday 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:

Richard Price

Lead Singing:

Josh Price

Opening Prayer:

Ron Hutchison

Scripture Reading:

Bradley Smith

Lord's Table

Chris Smith
Andy Johnson
Josh Fulcher
Kyle Hobbs

Closing Prayer:

Richard Jones

Greeters (East)

Andy and Maddie

Greeters (West)

Chris and Theresa

LESSONS

AM: Can One Quit the Church and Come Back Like Nothing Happened?

Scripture reading:

John 14:15-21

PM: How to Keep the Church From Becoming a Denomination

Scripture reading:

Ephesian 4:1-6

3 Questions to Ask Before You Complain

By: Andy Brewer

I know what you're thinking, Christians would never complain, right? I mean, the New Testament teaches us to love each other (John 13:34-35), to be content (Philippians 4:11), and to shine the light of God into the world (Matthew 5:16). And what does a Christian really have to complain about anyway? We've been redeemed of our sins by a God who loves us beyond measure, who cares for us, watches over us, provides for us, and has prepared an eternal home to one day deliver us (John 3:16). What could possibly happen in our lives that would cause us to lose sight of all of that and resort to complaining.

Sadly everything I just wrote is pure idealism. We live in the real world and in the real world complaining has existed among God's people as long as Christianity has been around. In Acts 6 there was a situation that arose shortly after the church was established that led to some of the local Christians complaining.

"Now in these days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring of the Grecian Jews against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations. And the twelve called the multitude of the disciples unto them, and said, It is not fit that we should forsake the word of God, and serve tables. Look ye out therefore, brethren, from among you seven men of good report, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will continue stedfastly in prayer, and in the ministry of the word. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicollus a proselyte of Antioch; whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands upon them" (vs. 1-6).

In this text we can learn a few things that should lead us to ask 3 questions before we, as Christians, should ever complain about anything:

Is the complaint legitimate? In this case, the Grecian Jews had a legitimate complaint. When widows had no other family to which they could turn the New Testament entrusted their care to the church (1 Timothy 5:1ff; James 1:27). If these widows were actually being neglected then those Christians had every right to address that neglect so it could be fixed. There are a lot of things that come up in our lives that are legitimate causes for concern. I think, though, if we were honest and objective with ourselves we would admit that many of the complaints we have in life prove to be less

than legitimate. They may come in the form of personality differences, personal preferences, difference in judgments, etc. So the first thing we need to decide is whether or not our complaint is legitimate. If it isn't it would probably be better if we keep it to ourselves.

Have I issued the complaint in a proper way? I'm not really sure if we can say the Grecian Jews did or not. The way Acts 6 says they issued their complaint is kind of ambiguous. Did they complain among themselves until the apostles finally heard about it and chose to address it or did they go directly to the Hebrews and offer their grievance? The verse doesn't seem to be clear either way. But there is a right way and a wrong way to address a complaint. Paul condemned the idea of there being strife, jealousy, wraths, factions, backbitings, whisperings, swelling, and tumults among God's people (2 Corinthians 12:20). But on the other hand Jesus taught that if a person has an issue with someone they were to go to them (Matthew 5:23-24; 18:15). So if I have a complaint and it is legitimate my next step should be to make sure that I issue that complaint in a proper way.

What am I doing to be a solution? Every complaint has a solution. The problem with constant complainers is that they assume that fixing the problem should always be somebody else's problem. In Acts 6 we don't really know how involved the actual complainers were as far as being any of the seven men chosen, but they apparently were at least involved in the process of choosing them and they wholeheartedly supported the solution. As far as we know from the text the widows received their care, the complainers were satisfied, the complaints ceased, and the unity of the church was never compromised. Could you imagine how much healthier the church would be if every complainer's first instinct was to be a solution to the problem? Simply put, if I'm not willing to be a solution to my complaint then I need to just keep my mouth shut.

There are few things more distasteful in life than constant complaining. But, realistically, there are some legitimate concerns that arise every now and then even among Christians. When those times come we need to check our attitudes and ask ourselves these questions to ensure that our motives are pure and a solution can be found.

—Via <http://www.biggerbetterfaith.com/?p=2181#comments>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Rita Price (26th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Luke
- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ **New Personal invitation handouts** are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
- ⇒ **Monthly Men's Class:** March 01 at 6:30pm here at the building.
- ⇒ **Senior Luncheon:** Thanks to all who were able to stay last week. We appreciate all our seniors!
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Spaghetti noodles

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Virgil Hale (In Spring Creek)
- ⇒ Jonnie Hutchison (Amber's father is having eye trouble)
- ⇒ Debbie Smith (Kevin's sister-in-law-cancer)
- ⇒ Greg Black (Kathy Black's son)
- ⇒ Larry Pea (Cousin of Judy Black, has cancer)
- ⇒ Loretta Haley (cancer)
- ⇒ David Edwards (Josh Fulcher's uncle-cancer)
- ⇒ Billy Irvan
- ⇒ Debbie Edwards (Josh Fulcher's)
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison (cancer)
- ⇒ Wanda Riley (Josh Fulcher's Aunt)
- ⇒ James McAbee
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Richard & Rachel Guill (Rachel was placed in a nursing home)
- ⇒ Lashell Jones
- ⇒ Michael Inman (Tonya Jones' stepdad)
- ⇒ Maria's sister-continuing to recover from heart surgery.
- ⇒ Lucetria Hutchison (Ronnie's mother)
- ⇒ Jay Kolb (Friend of Bill and Maria has brain tumor)
- ⇒ Caleb Teasley (Kevin's cousin's son, 4 years old)
- ⇒ 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.coldwatercoc.org.
You will find bulletins,
sermon outlines, and
other helpful links and
material.



MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

Luke 4:8 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, 'YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD, AND HIM ONLY YOU SHALL SERVE.' "

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: proskuneō (προσκυνέω)

Pronounced: pros-koo-neh'-o

Translated into the word we use today: **Worship**

Meaning: according to Strong is: From G4314 and probably a derivative of G2965 (meaning to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand); to fawn or crouch to, that is, (literally or figuratively) prostrate oneself in homage (do reverence to, adore): - worship.

Supporting verse: John 4:24 God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

John 4:24 tells us to worship God in spirit and truth. As we think about worshiping God in these two ways, we must understand them and what it means to worship God. Worship is to pay homage or humble ourselves to God and serve Him in the way He wants us to. Truth is doing it in the correct way. We are told that we can know the truth and that truth is God's word. We see that God wants us to worship Him on the first day of the week (Acts 20:7). In doing so, there are five avenues in which we approach Him: Prayer, Hearing His word taught, Singing, Giving of our means, and the Lord's Supper. These five ways are how God has said for us to worship Him. We can only do these acts in ways that God has approved or in TRUTH. We only sing, not use mechanical instruments, and we take of the Lord's supper every Sunday. We are also told to worship in Spirit. One way we do this is by having the right frame of mind so that we are wholly giving ourselves to Him while we are worshiping Him. One could be doing everything right or in truth as far as worshiping God is concerned, but if they aren't giving Him their all while they are doing it, then they are not worshiping Him in spirit. If someone is wording our mind in prayer and you are not praying along or thinking about what's for lunch, then your mind is in the wrong place. Let us always worship God in spirit and truth!



Bible question: What prophet confronted David about his adultery?

Last week's question and answer: Who had a rod that God turned into a snake?
Answer: Moses (Exodus 4:3)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Helen Tidwell, Rachel Adams, Johnny and Mae Downs