

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)
March 13, 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:
Bill Vincent

Lead Singing:
Bradley Smith

Opening Prayer:
Wesley Tucker

Scripture Reading:
David Dodd

Lord's Table
Josh Price
Richard Price
Mitchell Smith
Johnny Downs

Closing Prayer:
Johnny Downs

Greeters (East)
Andy and Maddie

Greeters (West)
Maria and Jennifer

LESSONS

AM: God's Plan for
Building up the Church.

Scripture reading:
Ephesians 4:11-16

PM: Preaching Christ
Crucified.

Scripture reading:
1 Corinthians 1:20-31

MY GOD, MY STRENGTH

By: Glenn Head

What can one learn from 2 Samuel 22 and Psalm 18 in a day and age so removed from the time of David? Why are these two passages so important that they are in His Word twice? Is it that it was important to God, or to His people? Have the sorrows of death compassed you about in your life? Have the “floods” of ungodly men made you afraid? Have the sorrows of hell compassed you about at one time or another? Have the snares of death confronted and come upon you? What makes David so sure when he says, “I will love thee, o Lord, my strength?”

2 Samuel 22 opens by David speaking to God in words set to song, declaring that the Lord had delivered him from his enemies, and out of the hand of Saul. This was a major feat in the mind of David. Notice what he gives in return. He calls unto the One that is worthy to be praised. (2 Sam. 22:4) David declares his love to the God who is his strength. (Psalm 18:1) And then he describes the magnificence of God: the earth shook and trembled and the foundations were shaken, because He was wroth. God is pictured as one with smoke coming out of His nostrils and a devouring fire coming out of His mouth. He discomfited the enemies of David even as he cried unto Him! David rejoices in the fact that God destroyed those that were his strong enemies, those that hated him and lastly and humbly, those that were too strong for him.

Do we serve the same God as David? Yes, we do! Do we recognize that the god of this world (Satan) has no chance against the God we serve? We should. In the book of Revelation we read of Christ meting out justice for wrongdoing similar to what David wrote in song. Not only that, but we have promises from God that He will execute vengeance and justice on those that persecute us and oppose Him. (2 Thes. 1:6-9, Rom. 12:19) Do we find satisfaction when we read in Isaiah 63:1 concerning the one who came that is glorious in His appearance, traveling in the greatness of His strength, that is mighty to save? It was said of Him, “For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.” (Isa. 63:4) God will not let the enemies of His people escape judgment. He will not let HIS enemies be unavenged, therefore they will see condemnation and the fire of hell firsthand. We can be assured of this!

What if the sorrows of death have compassed you about? Is your faith stronger or weakening? What did David say? “The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer!” (Psalm 18:2) What does it mean in your life for Christ to be that Rock? What about God being your fortress? What about Him being your deliverer? If you are faithful, He will not move and His words of comfort stand sure! If your faith stands strong through

the shadows of death He will be your first line of defense in prayer and your last line of defense in walking through the valley of the shadow of death. If you have been faithful you will not be alone. He will deliver you where there is no fear of evil.

Do you fear the ungodly and the destruction they leave in their wake? They will challenge you to stand fast in your faith. Do you tremble and fall or do you stand the test as David did? “My God, my strength, in whom I will trust,” was said by the faithful one. (Psalm 18:2) My strength, my strength, is my God in whom I will trust. My God is my refuge in whom I will confide in and have assurance of everlasting hope against my enemies! David is amazing and poetic in his use of words. Through Christ we have the hope and promise of eternal life where there will be no more enemies.

The sorrows of hell here on this earth are nothing compared to the condemnation of hell if we fail God as a Christian. David said, “The Lord is my buckler, and the horn of my salvation.” (Psalm 18:2) A buckler is a shield, a sure defense that compasses one about to protect him or her from the fiery darts of the wicked. Paul wrote in Ephesians 6:16 that our buckler is the shield of faith! The horn of our salvation is Christ. He is the peak of our deliverance. In Him we have gained the victory over the sorrows of hell. One must not fear those sorrows of hell while here on earth, but rely wholly on Christ and the power of His Word!

Finally, the snare of death – Christ has overcome this powerful enemy and in Him we shall overcome too. David said that God was his high tower. This is a place where we reach God and it is inaccessible to the things of the world. This was a place for David where he and God came together as one and they could commune without interference. Whether it be in thought or prayer or song or tear, this was a place that was sacred to David. We each have a place that is unique in our lives that we feel closer to God. This is not nature. This is not skipping out on worship and finding a “more holy place.” This is where we can pour our hearts out and pray to the Father or go to His word and search diligently for answers. This is a place where we can come unmolested by the world. This may be many places, but it is sacred to you and is a place of refuge. Like David, we are servants to the most high God. While living and serving our God and our Savior, we have these many advantages over the worldly ones. Therefore, I will love thee, O Lord, my strength!

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ⇒ Rhonda Tracy (13th)
- ⇒ Maddie Johnson (16th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Jeremiah
- ⇒ **Team workgroup:** Team 2 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!
- ⇒ **Congregational visit:** We will visit Mount Olive on 3-27.
- ⇒ **Monthly Men's Class:** April 5th at 6:30pm here at the building.
- ⇒ **Gospel Meeting:** April 10-13 with Alan Adams. Make plans to be here this week.
- ⇒ **Congratulations:** Tracy Armour for obeying the gospel last Sunday.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Cooking Oil

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)
- ⇒ Lucetria Hutchison (Ronnie's mother)
- ⇒ Jay Kolb (Friend of Bill and Maria has brain tumor)
- ⇒ Caleb Teasly (Kevin's cousin's son, 4 years old)
- ⇒ Bob Austin (having tests run for issues with his lungs)
- ⇒ Paula Fulcher (Back surgery)
- ⇒ 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

Jeremiah 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withheld, And there has been no latter rain. You have had a harlot's forehead; You refuse to be ashamed.

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: epaischunomai (ἐπαισχύνομαι)

Pronounced: ep-ahee-skhoo'-nom-ahee

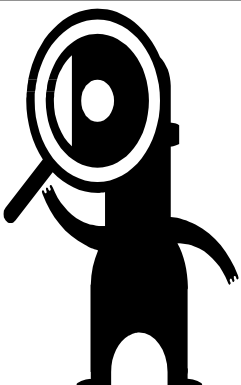
Translated into the word we use today: **Ashamed**

Meaning: according to Strong is: From G1909 and G153; to *feel shame* for something: - be ashamed.

Supporting verse: 2Timothy 1:8 Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God,

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Have you ever done something and then later been ashamed of what you did or said? Maybe you were only ashamed after you were caught doing or saying something. Even more importantly, have you ever been ashamed of what you have done spiritually? Have you looked on your life and the wrong you have done and said "why did I do that" or felt shame for the hurt that you have caused God? This should be our reaction when we sin. We should be ashamed of the wrong we have done. That should lead us to obey God or come back home. Unfortunately, we live in a time and place where people have no shame. They will openly sin and rejoice in it. They don't care about the hurt they are causing God or the consequences of their actions. They only care about themselves and what makes them feel good. There is a lack of morals. Many are not ashamed to be immoral or to commit sin openly, not only this but to boast in it. This is something that needs to concern us: that sin is openly accepted, to mock and sin against God is okay. To not be ashamed in this but to promote it is something that we need to speak out against and to remind those about God and His love for them and also about the consequences of their actions. We should always be ashamed of sin, but we should never be ashamed of God, His word, or to take a stand with Him.



Bible question: What prophetess is mentioned as to have put fear in Nehemiah?

Last week's question and answer: What group of Israelites were to separate themselves from wine and strong drink?

Answer: Nazirite (Numbers 6:2-3)

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