

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)
March 20, 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:
Josh Price

Opening Prayer:
Richard Price

Scripture Reading:
Bradley Smith

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

Closing Prayer:
Richard Jones

Greeters (East)
Josh and Andrea

Greeters (West)
Johnny and Mae

LESSONS

AM: Whose Blood Is On
Your Hands?

Scripture reading:
Ezekiel 33:1-9

PM: The Reality of
Revelation

Scripture reading:
Romans 1:14-19

DEMONS

Many believe that evil spirits, called demons, can take over people's bodies today. This was widely accepted in Europe hundreds of years ago. It is still believed by many in Africa in areas where the influence of Christianity is not strong. It is also a growing belief in America. A study revealed that about one third of all Americans believe that demons can take over the bodies of people. Is it true? Should we fear demon possession today? What does the Bible teach?

The Bible clearly teaches that evil spirits exist (James 2:19). They are called "devils" in the King James Version and "demons" in other translations of the Bible. These devils or demons must not be confused with the Devil, Satan, the Tempter (Matthew 4:11). There is only one Devil, but there are many demons.

In the Bible, we learn that demons entered into people and controlled them (Matthew 8:28-34). They were under the power of Satan (Beelzebub), the chief of all evil spirits (Matthew 12:24). They often caused sickness in the people they entered such as not being able to speak or see (Matthew 12:22); insanity or madness (Luke 8:26-36); personal injuries (Mark 9:14-26); and other bodily infirmities (Luke 13:11-17).

These demons also knew who Jesus was. They knew why He had come into the world (Luke 4:41). They believe in God (James 2:19). They fear the Judgment and eternal punishment (Matthew 8:29). This clearly shows that demons are not diseases as some have suggested. They are spirit beings who think, speak, and act. Jesus often cast demons out of people (Matthew 8:16). He also gave the ability to cast out demons to His apostles (Luke 10:17; Mark 16:17,18; Acts 5:16; 8:7; 16:16-18; 19:12). The apostles were able to give miraculous gifts to others by laying their hands on them (Acts 6:6-8; 8:14-21; 19:1-6). This included the power to cast out demons (Acts 8:5-8).

An account of Jesus' casting out a demon is found in Mark 5:1-20. When Jesus came to the country of the Gadarenes, a man met him. He had an "unclean spirit" (demon). This demon possessed man lived in the tombs. He wore no clothes. He was not in his right mind. He cried day and night and cut himself with stones. He also had great strength. When others had bound him with chains, he broke them and escaped. The evil spirit in the man knew who Jesus was and begged Him not to torment him. Jesus asked the evil spirit, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion; for we are many." When Jesus commanded the demons to come out of the man, they begged him to send them into pigs who were feeding nearby. Jesus

did so. The pigs ran to the cliff, fell into the sea, and drowned. When the people of the area came to Jesus, they saw this man "sitting, clothed, and in his right mind." When the demon was cast out, the man was restored to health of body and mind.

Do demons still possess people even today? Zechariah, an Old Testament prophet, spoke of the time when Christ would come. He said: "In that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, for sin and for uncleanness" (Zechariah 13:1). This fountain was opened when Jesus shed His blood on the cross for the sins of the world. Zechariah then said: "It shall be in that day, says the Lord of hosts, that I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, and they shall be no longer remembered. I will also cause the prophets and the unclean spirits to depart from the land" (13:2). Following the time when the Lord would die for our sins, prophets (men who spoke by the Holy Spirit) and unclean spirits (demons) would no longer be in the land (earth). When did this happen?

We have learned that the apostles could give to others the ability to work miracles. The purpose of these miracles was to confirm (prove) God's Word (Mark 16:20; Hebrews 2:2-4). Paul said these gifts of the Holy Spirit would fail, cease, and vanish away (1 Corinthians 13:8-10). These miraculous gifts would cease when that which is perfect had come (v. 10). This refers to the New Testament, which is called the perfect law of liberty (James 1:25). One of these gifts was the power to cast out demons. Therefore, evil spirits possessing men, along with the power to cast them out, ceased when the New Testament was completed and confirmed. If demon possession continued today, Satan would have more power than God, for he could send his demons into people, but God's people could not cast them out.

God permitted demons to possess certain people in the time of Christ and the apostles so that His power could be seen. Not only did Christ have power over nature, disease, and death, but He also had power over the spirit world. The Devil and his demons were proved to be powerless before the Son of God (Colossians 2:15; 1 John 3:8). Demons still exist, but they do not possess people today. Today, we need to be concerned about Satan, the Devil, who tempts us to sin (James 1:14; Matthew 4:3; 1 Peter 5:8).

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ⇒ Joanne Hutchison (20th)
- ⇒ Vicki Wilson (25th)
- ⇒ Helen Tidwell (26th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Jeremiah
- ⇒ **Team workgroup:** 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!
- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Toothpaste

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 18:6 "O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter?" says the LORD. "Look, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel!"

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: kerameus (κεραμεύς)

Pronounced: ker-am-yooce'

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

Meaning: according to Strong is: From G2766; a potter: - potter. It is one who shapes clay into their desired form

Supporting verse: Romans 9:21 Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

There is a hymn written by Adelaide A. Pollard called "Have Thine Own Way Lord". These lyrics are found in this hymn. "Have Thine own way Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art the Potter, I am the clay. Mold me and make me, after Thy will, While I am waiting, yielded and still." As we think about these lyrics, we need to understand what is being said. God is the one in control. He is the potter, and we are the clay. That means that we have humbled ourselves and are giving our lives to Him, that He can mold us into what He wants us to be. Just like a potter can take clay and spin into a bowl or whatever shape that he desires, we are like that clay, allowing God to mold us into what He desires. See, we have a right to choose, but if we choose God, then we have to let Him be in control and must do as He says. Christ says in Matt 7:21, "Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father in heaven." If we want to be pleasing to God and Christ, then we must submit to Them and do as They want. Let us ask ourselves are we letting God be the potter? Are we being the clay? Are we letting Him mold us into His will? If we are willing to read, study and obey God's law, then we can become that good piece of clay. God will be the potter, and He will mold us into what He wants us to be. That is a faithful child of His.



Bible question: Whose enticing dance proved fatal for John the immerser?

Last week's question and answer: What prophetess is mentioned as to have put fear in Nehemiah?

Answer: Noadiah (Nehemiah 6:14)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Helen Tidwell, Peggy Newsome