

# THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

**March 29, 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**

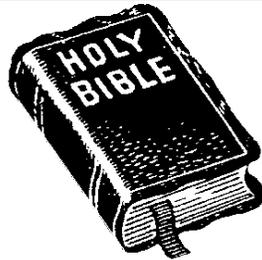
Bible Class: 9:30  
AM Worship: 10:15  
PM Worship: 1:00

### **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:**

Richard Price

### **Lead Singing:**

Mitchell Smith

### **Opening Prayer:**

Ron Hutchison

### **Scripture Reading:**

David Dodd

### **Lord's Table**

Andy Johnson  
Josh Fulcher  
David Dodd  
Johnny Downs

### **Closing Prayer:**

Richard Price

### **Greeters (East)**

Kay and Linda

### **Greeters (West)**

Kristin and Elizabeth

### **LESSONS**

AM: Love God With  
The Mind

Scripture reading:  
Matthew 22:34-40

PM: Song Service

# “EASTER—WHERE’S THE AUTHORITY?”

By: Jonnie Hutchison

“Easter Sunday” falls on the 5th day of April this year according to the official calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. An article entitled “*Easter in the Catholic Church*” contains the following information:

*“Easter is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. On this Sunday, Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. For Catholics, Easter Sunday comes at the end of 40 days of prayer, fasting, and alms-giving known as **Lent**. Through spiritual struggle and self-denial, we have prepared ourselves to die spiritually with Christ on **Good Friday**, the day of His Crucifixion, so that we can rise again with Him in new life on **Easter**”<sup>1</sup> (Emphasis mine J.H.)*

Many of the Protestant denominations, evangelicals, and other so-called “Christian groups” follow many of the Roman Catholic traditions associated with the celebration of Easter. “Easter Sunday” sunrise services have become a very popular part of this tradition as has **Ash Wednesday** which marks the beginning of the **Season of Lent** (A 40 day period of fasting, prayer and giving of alms). **Maundy Thursday** (the Thursday of Easter week—also called “Holy Thursday”) traditionally commemorates the “Last Supper” of Jesus with the Apostles. **Good Friday** is said to commemorate the crucifixion of Jesus and His death on the cross. **Holy Saturday** is said to be a day of “somber reflection” regarding the death of Christ and what His death means to the world.. **Easter Sunday** is said to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Each of these days have particular requirements. For example, on **Ash Wednesday** participants smear ashes on their foreheads as a sign of “penance.” The requirement for **Good Friday** is a day of “strict fasting and abstinence”. In the United States every person 14 years or older must abstain from meat (and items made with meat) on **Ash Wednesday**, **Good Friday** and every Friday during **Lent**.<sup>2</sup>

While we do not question either the motives or the sincerity of those who follow the traditional aspects of **Easter**, it must be asked, where does God sanction such? Where in the Bible does God

authorize the religious celebration of **Easter** and the various traditions associated with it? Where does one read of **Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday** in the New Testament? Where is there even one example of any New Testament church keeping the traditions of **Easter** or any apostle or other inspired man commanding they be kept?

The church we read about in our New Testaments did not celebrate **Easter! That’s right! They did not celebrate Easter!** Rather than keeping a once a year human religious tradition, New Testament Christians remembered the death of Jesus every first day of the week in partaking of the Lord’s Supper as commanded by the Lord (Matthew 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:23-29). Easter and its various human traditions originated with the apostate Roman Catholic Church not with the God of heaven.

Is it a good thing for people to be reminded of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus from the dead? Yes, but only in the way that God has prescribed in His authoritative Word! “If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God....” (1 Peter 4:11). The inspired John warned of the necessity of abiding in the “doctrine [teaching] of Christ” (2 John 9). How can one do so and embrace human religious traditions which are found nowhere in our Lord’s teaching? We must remember that the Lord did teach that the religious traditions originated by men leads to vain worship (Matthew 15:8-9).

To be faithful to God requires us to accept the Bible only as the final authority in all that we teach and practice. The religious celebration of Easter has no authority from scripture!

1[http://catholicism.about.com/od/holydaysandholidays/p/What\\_Is\\_Easter.htm](http://catholicism.about.com/od/holydaysandholidays/p/What_Is_Easter.htm).

2[http://catholicism.about.com/od/catholicliving/f/Fasting\\_Rules.htm](http://catholicism.about.com/od/catholicliving/f/Fasting_Rules.htm)

—Via the Green Plain Proclaimer

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries**

⇒ David Dodd (4th)

## **Announcements**

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Joel, Amos, Obadiah
- ⇒ **Team:** No team meetings today, remember to visit Kirksey.
- ⇒ **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!
- ⇒ **Potluck:** After morning services today
- ⇒ **Congregational visit:** We will visit Kirksey at 6:00 tonight.
- ⇒ **New Directory Pages:** Info for the Hobbs', Hutchison's, Whitley's, and new birthday pages are available. Please see Luke or Amber to pick these up so you can add them to your directory.
- ⇒ **Gospel Meeting:** April 12-15 with Robert Hatfield; Potluck after morning services
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Pancake Mix

## **Prayer/Sick List**

- ⇒ Ray Stenbridge—Sick with an ear infection/Back trouble
- ⇒ Ima Barnes
- ⇒ Tonya Jones
- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs (Received great news from the doctors :)
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Jordan Hobbs (pneumonia)
- ⇒ 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 Stenbridges, has brain cancer)
- ⇒ Richard & Rachel Guill
- ⇒ Lashell Jones
- ⇒ Amanda Griechen (Bob and Susanna Austin's Granddaughter)
- ⇒ 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.



# LOVE GOD WITH THE MIND

What does Christ say is the greatest commandment in the law? \_\_\_\_\_

## 1. The Challenge to Love God.

- a. What are two basic reasons to love God? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. What are some challenges you face in loving God? \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. The Original Declaration.

- a. Where is this command originally found? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Why was the command given under the old law? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Why did Jesus say this was the greatest commandment in the law? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. When and where should we teach to love God? \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. The Response Of A Lawyer.

- a. What did the lawyer ask Christ? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. Why did he ask Christ this? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. What was Christ's response? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. What must we do to inherit eternal life? \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. The Great Commandment.

- a. What other things had Jesus been questioned about? \_\_\_\_\_
- b. How are we to love God? \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Do we love God out of force or voluntarily? \_\_\_\_\_
- d. What two choices do we have to love? \_\_\_\_\_
- e. What will we do if we love God with our all? \_\_\_\_\_

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_



**Bible question:** What epistle is addressed to a woman?

**Last week's question and answer:** Who had four daughters who were prophetesses?

**Answer:** Phillip (Acts 21:8-9)

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