

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

May 01, 2016

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
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:

Josh Fulcher

Lead Singing:

Bradley Smith

Opening Prayer:

Wesley Tucker

Scripture Reading:

Kyle Hobbs

Lord's Table

Kevin Smith
Richard Jones
Chris Smith
Nathia Whitley

Closing Prayer:

Hyland Darnell

Greeters (East)

Helen and Peggy B.

Greeters (West)

Kay and Linda

LESSONS

AM: My

Responsibility in the
Church

Scripture reading:

1Corinthians 12:12-20

PM: Beyond What is
Written

Scripture reading:

1Corinthians 4:6-10

FACING LIFE WITH GOD

By: Dale E. Andrews

Jeremiah's words fell on deaf ears. The men of Judah refused to listen to the word of the Lord, arguing that they were better off without God! "Since we left off to burn incense to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto her, we have wanted all things, and have been consumed by the sword and by the famine," they said (Jeremiah 44:18). How could God's people be so blind? Did they really believe their own words? Had they swallowed hook, line, and sinker the devil's deception? It seems that they had.

I cannot imagine facing life without God. He is light, and in Him is no darkness. John also informs us that "God is love" (1 John 4:8). Although God is so much greater than we that we do not comprehend Him, where would we be without Him? Life is tough, and as one song says, "I cannot bear these burdens alone." On the other hand, when

God is our all, life becomes much easier. That is not a promise of health and wealth, as is so commonly taught, but with God at our side, what have we to fear? What harm can man do to us that has eternal consequences? None at all!

Exodus 1–2 covers centuries, but in a few words Moses gives a description of how things went after Joseph died. Times became extremely difficult for Abraham's descendants, just as God had said: "They shall afflict them four hundred years" (Genesis 15:13). The king of Egypt imposed laws that brought fear and anguish and death.

In their agony, the Israelites cried out. God heard their cries, saw their burdens, and remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (Exodus 2:23–25). Israel was about to witness the power and mercy and wrath of the God of their fathers. Their deliverance from bondage was imminent.

Moses, who had grown up in Egypt, came back to the country with a message from God: "Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness" (Exodus 5:1). Pharaoh, with a hard heart and a stiff neck, would hear none of it. Instead of release, Israel's burdens increased! The people cried out, accusing Moses of being the cause of their increasingly difficult lives. God was not finished, however, and in His time He delivered His people from the oppression of their taskmasters. In the plagues He sent on Egypt, He showed His power over all the gods of the Egyptians. God prevailed in Egypt, He prevailed in the wilderness, and He prevailed in Canaan. We wonder, therefore, why Israel turned her back on Him.

This is not about Israel, however; it is about you and me. How steadfast are we in walking with God? Do we trust Him enough to give Him our all? Are we willing to go where He leads and do as He says, trusting Him to meet our needs? Is God always in our thoughts? Is

our every decision designed by God's will? What part of our lives are we unwilling to yield to His will? Ponder these questions carefully before you answer them, and be honest with yourself.

The day is gloomy as I write this. It's spitting rain, and perhaps your plans had to go on the back burner because of the weather. Work outside had to be postponed, because of the threat of rain. Maybe the trip to town was canceled because of a flat tire. The washer doesn't wash; the dryer doesn't dry. A phone call turns our world upside down, because a longtime friend is angry with us and doesn't tell us why. Need I go on? Life seems to attack at times. Nothing seems to go right. Murphy's law blindsides us. What are we to do?

Could we talk with the apostle Peter, he would surely tell us to keep focused on Jesus. Remember the time when he stepped out of the boat and walked on the water? Imagine the courage it took to step into that tempestuous sea! Scripture tells us that Peter walked on the water until he saw the wind; then he began to sink. What happened? He obviously lost his focus on Jesus. In his helpless state, Peter cried out, "Lord, save me" (Matthew 14:30). Therein lies the beauty of the story. Peter knew the source of his salvation. Like David, he could say, "In God is my salvation and my glory: the rock of my strength, and my refuge, is in God" (Psalm 62:7).

Job thought he experienced life without God, but the Lord had simply pulled down the hedge and let Satan work his work. We can take heart in Job's story, for it teaches us that God is in control of all the situations in our lives. Not one

tear falls from our eyes without God's seeing it. Pain, whether physical or emotional, is seen by God. He hears every cry, knows every sorrow, and is with us to take every care that we release to Him. Nothing in our lives goes unnoticed by our Father.

Sitting at the right hand of God today is Jesus Christ, who lived in the flesh, suffered more than we can imagine, felt physical, emotional, and spiritual pain, and experienced death, not because of disease or natural decay of His body, but death by crucifixion. On the cross, He bore the penalty pronounced by His Father: "Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree" (Galatians 3:13). He knows the pain of sin; He understands our needs.

With Jesus Christ as our Intercessor, Mediator, and Advocate, we have an audience with God. In the storms, He is our shelter. In the battle, He is our shield. When our heart breaks, He is our comforter. When we are weak, He is strong. God understands us because Jesus understands, and it is He who promised, "I am with you always." Life with God is good.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Richard Jones (4th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Deuteronomy
- ⇒ **Team workgroup:** Team 1 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:** Tuesday, May 3rd at 6:30pm here at the building.
- ⇒ **Workday:** Thanks to all who helped!
- ⇒ **Cemetery Workday:** May 7th.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Sugar

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Tiffany Hobbs (tests)
- ⇒ Tonya Jones
- ⇒ Shirley Rule (recovering from broken arm)
- ⇒ Virgil Hale
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ 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)
- ⇒ Jay Kolb (Friend of Bill and Maria has brain tumor)
- ⇒ Caleb Teasley (Kevin's cousin's son, 4 years old)
- ⇒ Bob Austin (having tests run for issues with his lungs)
- ⇒ Paula Fulcher (Recovering from back surgery)
- ⇒ Shane Black
- ⇒ 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

Deuteronomy 1:29-30 "Then I said to you, 'Do not be terrified, or afraid of them. (30) The LORD your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eyes,

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: agōnizomai (ἀγωνίζομαι)

Pronounced: ag-o-nid'-zom-ahee

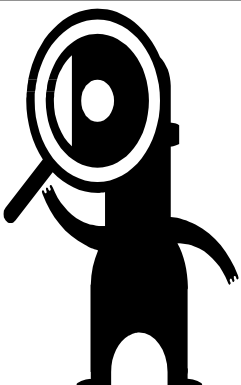
Translated into the word we use today: **Fight**

Meaning: according to Strong is: From G73; to *struggle*, literally (to *compete* for a prize), figuratively (to *contend* with an adversary), or generally (to *endeavor* to accomplish something): - fight, labor fervently, strive.

Supporting verse: 1Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

God promised the land of Canaan to the descendants of Abraham. As a matter of fact God made three promises to him: 1) that his descendants would be a great number and a great people, 2) that they would inhabit a land of milk and honey, the promise land, and 3) that all nations of the earth would be blessed through his seed, that is Christ. This was promised not only to Abraham but also to Isaac and Jacob. The Israelites would eventually make their way to the promised land. Once they got there the land was still inhabited by great arms, giants and walled cities. How were they to defeat them and take the land which God promised to them? They would do it by the power and help of God! God told them they He would fight for them. As long as they obeyed God, He was on their side, and they would take the land. The same is true today. We are in a battle fighting for our promised land, that is our spiritual home, Heaven. In Ephesians 6, we see that we are to put on the armor of God. He is with us in this battle. We don't face our adversary, Satan, alone. No, No, No, God is with us. He is fighting for us. "If God is for us, who can be against us?" Do you understand and realize that God is on our side? That we are not alone in this battle, but God is helping us? Let us lean on God for truth, strength and salvation.



Bible question: What animals, considered rather loathsome in Bible times, ate the carcass of Jezebel?

Last week's question and answer: Who sent a "threatening" letter designed to discourage Nehemiah from his plans to rebuild Jerusalem?

Answer: Sanballat (Nehemiah 6:5-7)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Peggy Newsome, Rachel Adams