

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

May 04, 2014

Coldwater church of Christ

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ELDERS

Richard Price
Kevin Smith
Bill Vincent

DEACONS

Bob Austin
Johnny Downs
Josh Fulcher

PREACHER

Luke Puckett

SUNDAY SERVICE

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

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class: 7:00pm

LADIES CLASS

Tuesdays at 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:

Kevin Smith

Lead Singing:

Mitchell Smith

Opening Prayer:

Bob Austin

Scripture Reading:

Ray Stembridge

Lord's Table

Bill Vincent
Wesley Tucker
Richard Jones
Josh Price

Closing Prayer:

Hyland Darnell

Greeters (East)

Johnny & Mae

Greeters (West)

Kay & Linda

WELCOME

New Pathways

GREATER WORKS

By: Virgil Hale

In speaking to His Apostles, our Lord made the following statement: “Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.” (John 14:12). Some might read this and wonder to whom our Lord is referring. Was it to the Apostles only? I want us to examine the statement and see what our Lord really meant.

Observe that Jesus said, “Greater works than these shall he do.” He did not say, “greater miracles” because this would be impossible. After all Jesus was able to, and did, raise the dead. It would be impossible for anyone to perform a greater miracle than this. However, the Apostles did perform some of the same miracles that Jesus had performed. Jesus healed a man who had been lame for thirty-eight years (Jno. 5). Peter and John (by the power of the Holy Spirit) healed a man who had been lame from birth (more than forty years) (Acts 3; 4:22). Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11), and Peter raised Dorcas from the dead (Acts 9). The miracles that our Lord performed attested to the fact that He was the Son of God. Nicodemus said, “for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him” (Jno. 3:2). What is written has been written to produce faith in Christ (Jno. 20:30-31). The miracles performed by the Apostles were for the purpose of confirming their words. We read, “And they went forth and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following.” (Mark 16:20). Again we read that what they taught “was confirmed unto us by them that heard him: God also bearing them witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will.” (Heb. 2:3-4). The Apostles were able to transfer the power of the Holy Spirit to others by the laying on of their hands (Acts 8:12-18; 19:6). Miraculous power ceased when the last Apostle died, and the last one on whom they had laid hands died. By then God’s perfect revelation to man was completed.

As mentioned earlier, Jesus did not say, “greater miracles” but He said “greater works.” He was speaking of the work done during His personal ministry, and not of what would be accomplished after His return to the Father. The Gospel was not preached in its fullness and completeness until after Jesus had ascended back to heaven. The work, of which He was speaking, was what would be accomplished through the preaching of the Gospel. Let us notice how this was “greater” than what our Lord did while here on earth.

First of all, it was greater in SCOPE. Jesus’ primary mission was to “... *the lost sheep of the house of Israel*” (Matt. 15:24). However, the Apostles and others were to preach the Gospel in all the world to every creature (Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16).

Secondly, this involved greater VISIBLE RESULTS. Our Lord left but few followers when He left the earth, but the Apostles were able to make thousands. On the day of Pentecost when the Gospel was first preached, there were “*about three thousand souls*” converted (Acts 2:41). By the time you get to Acts 4:4 “...*the number of the men was about five thousand.*” Read the rest of the book of Acts and you will find the number multiplying greatly.

In the third place, there were greater BLESSINGS IMMEDIATELY RECEIVED. Jesus opened the eyes of the physically blind (Jno. 9). However, the Apostles opened the eyes of the spiritually blind. (Acts 26:17-18; 2 Cor. 4:1-4).

(continued on page 4)

Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Richard Jones (4th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Song of Solomon
- ⇒ **Team 1** meets today
- ⇒ **Bible bowl:** Congratulations to all who participated in Bible Bowl this year!
- ⇒ **Area events:** Please see bulletin board for more info. Several meetings, singing classes 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!
- ⇒ **New Pathways items:** Needing cleaning supplies, food, or juice.
- ⇒ **Guest Speaker:** Rick Burse from New Pathways will give a report and message today.
- ⇒ **Potluck:** Following service this morning. All are invited to stay.
- ⇒ **Homecoming:** 5-25-14 with Brad McNutt
- ⇒ **Workday:** 5-31-14 at 8:00am
- ⇒ **VBS:** 6-14-14 at 9:00am. Theme is Hall of Faith; Hebrews 11
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Chili

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Ruby Arnett (Heritage Manor nursing home in Mayfield Room 307)
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Norma & Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ J.D. Lamb (Fern Terrace)
- ⇒ Wanda Riley (Josh Fulcher's Aunt)
- ⇒ Delbert Newsome
- ⇒ Marilyn Dvorak (friend of Bob and Susanna, has esophagus cancer)
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Jim Pool (member at Green Plain)
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison Berry (friend of Stembridges, has brain cancer)
- ⇒ Garret Austin (Bob and Susanna's grandson, recovering from surgery)
- ⇒ Richard & Rachel Guill
- ⇒ Tonya Jones
- ⇒ Ray Stembridge
- ⇒ 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. You will find
bulletins, sermon outlines,
and other helpful links
and material.



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Jesus healed the sick (Matt. 4:23), but the Apostles healed sick souls by preaching the gospel which is "...the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1:16).

Jesus restored the ear of Malchus that had been cut off (Lk. 22:51), but the preaching of the gospel restored the soul (Acts 20:32).

Jesus fed the hungry (Jno. 6) where about five thousand men were fed, but the Gospel is able to feed the soul (Matt. 4:4; 1 Pet. 2:2).

Jesus raised the dead (Jno. 11) but the Gospel can raise those who are dead in sin (Eph. 2:1; Rom. 6:1-6; 2 Cor. 5:17).

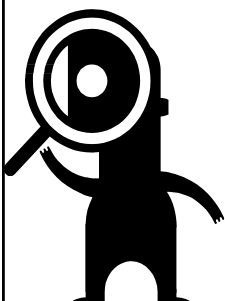
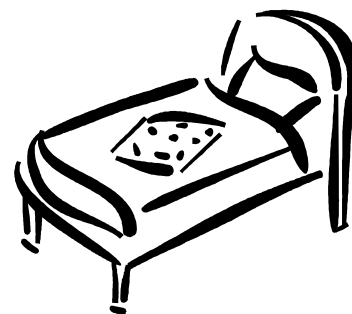
From the above, we can begin to see what Jesus had in mind when He said, "greater works." He concluded by saying, "because I go to my Father." This shows that He was comparing His work done while He was on earth with what they would be able to do later. In reality, what the Apostles did was done for Christ, as is what we accomplish to-day. When we teach God's Word we are doing the greatest work that any human can ever do. Let us be busy sowing the seed of the kingdom, and wait for God to give the increase.

If we ran a list of those who could have been present but chose to intentionally miss worship services last Sunday morning, Sunday night, and Wednesday night in this bulletin, would your name be on it? Remember, God keeps a record too.

- ⇒ "For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." (Eccl. 12:14).
- ⇒ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." (2 Corinthians 5:10).
- ⇒ "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together" (Hebrews 10:25).



Thanks to all who helped supply bedding for the new girls home!



Bible question: What sorcerer was blinded at Paul's command?

Last week's answer: Ezekiel (Ezekiel 24:16-18)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Peggy Newsome, Clemmie Black, Bob & Susanna Austin, Helen Tidwell, Rachel Adams