

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

July 12, 2015

Coldwater church of Christ

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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

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:

Ron Hutchison

Opening Prayer:

Wesley Tucker

Scripture Reading:

Kyle Hobbs

Lord's Table

Mitchell Smith
Josh Fulcher
David Dodd
Josh Price

Closing Prayer:

Hyland Darnell

Greeters (East)

Richard and Rita

Greeters (West)

Josh and Jennifer

LESSONS

AM: Marriage to a
Non-Christian

Scripture reading:

Deuteronomy 7:2-4

PM: Jesus is the
Way to Salvation

Scripture reading:

John 14:1-6

THE BEST OF TIMES, THE WORST OF TIMES

BY: Alan Adams

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way - in short, the period was so far like the present period, that some of its noisiest authorities insisted on its being received, for good or for evil, in the superlative degree of comparison only.

Our title is the sentiment from the opening of Charles Dickens' *A Tale of Two Cities*, which was about Paris and London before and during the French Revolution. In many ways it is eerily familiar. It reminds us that our view and assessment of the times can be interesting, if not ironic.

This "times" business is serious. In David's army building days, he had men from Issachar, who "had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do" (1 Chronicles 12:32). The historians recorded, so later generations could learn "the times that went over him, and over Israel, and over all the kingdoms of the countries" (29:30). Human beings foolishly imagine their complete control of things. God "changeth the times and the seasons; he removeth kings, and setteth up kings" (Daniel 2:2). No less than Jesus, the Lord, emphasized the importance of our "discern[ing] the signs of the times" (Matthew 16:3).

"These times" are pretty good if the measuring stick is economic security, technological ease, health and longevity. In such times, we ought to be able to saturate this globe many times over with the "word of the truth of the gospel" (Colossians 1:5). That, of course, is not happening. There ought, given the "fatness of our house," (Psalm 36:8), to be faithful churches of Christ in every nook of our country, yet more and more, there are less and less.

Despite all the hype about people being under stress, the fact is, in our society people have more free time than any civilization has ever known. That ought to translate into people having more time to study the Word, pray, assemble to worship, visit and evangelize. Yet, in reality, there is a dearth of each. We enjoy an unparalleled freedom of movement, freedom of speech, and freedom to believe what we will. Far too many use this freedom to move away from God, His Will and pure religion. Many, even Christians, use "freedom for a cloak of wickedness," rather than as the prerogative and privilege to be "bondservants of God" (1 Peter 2:16).

We should be sober and circumspect about the "times"; "Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil" (Ephesians 5:15). From the get-go, the Spirit said the "last days" of Earth, the Christian Age, would be "evil."

But know this, that in the last days grievous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, haughty, railers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, implacable, slanderers, without self-control, fierce, no lovers of good, traitors, headstrong, puffed up, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God; holding a form of godliness, but having denied the power thereof. From these also turn away. (2 Timothy 3:1-5)

Yet, it is not a time to be cynical, rather a time to double down and and strive to see that the church of Christ in these times is a "city set on a hill" (Matthew 5:14). It is a time to "desire a better ...an heavenly," believing that "God is not ashamed of [us] to be called [our] God, for he hath prepared for [us] a city" (Hebrews 11:16).

—Via Main Street Monitor

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ⇒ Hyland and Norma (12th)
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell (15th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah
- ⇒ **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.
- ⇒ **Personal invitation handouts** are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
- ⇒ **School Supplies:** Team 1 is hosting a back to school supply drive. A list of needed items is on the bulletin board. Please help bring in supplies and give to someone on team 1.
- ⇒ **Congregational fellowship:** On Sunday July 26, we will have a homemade ice cream and finger food fellowship. It will begin at 5:00pm and be here at the building. Please see someone on team 1 to sign up what to bring.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: **Dish soap**

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Clemmie Black (At Spring Creek room # 420 B in station 4)
- ⇒ Ray Stembridge
- ⇒ Ima Barnes
- ⇒ Tonya Jones
- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Johnny Downs
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ Norma Darnell (Has found out she has Parkinson's disease)
- ⇒ Shirley Rule (Continuing to improve)
- ⇒ Weston Hobbs (fell and broke his collar bone)
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ Jana Ward (cancer)
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ 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
- ⇒ Lashell Jones
- ⇒ Michael Inman (Tonya Jones' stepdad)
- ⇒ Brooke McNutt (On bed rest)
- ⇒ 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

Habakkuk 2:15 "Woe to him who gives drink to his neighbor, Pressing him to your bottle, Even to make him drunk, That you may look on his nakedness!"

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: methuskō (μεθύσκω)

Pronounced: meth-oos'-ko

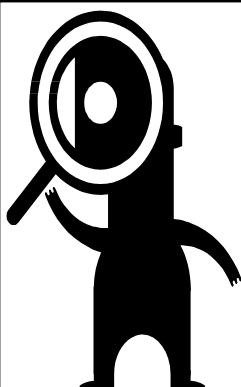
Translated into the word we use today: **DRUNK, or INTOXICATED**

Meaning: according to Strong is: to intoxicate: - be drunk (-en). Thayer adds, to intoxicate, make drunk, or to get drunk, become intoxicated.

Supporting verse: Ephesians 5:18 And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit,

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

All throughout God's Word we see many warnings given about the dangers of being drunk. In Proverbs 23:29-35, we see just how bad that it is to be drunk. Not only do we see warnings about becoming drunk, but also we see the sin of drunkenness. In Galatians 5:21, it is listed in the works of the flesh and it notes that any who practice these things, including drunkenness, "will not inherit the kingdom of God". We could look at all that drinking does, all the statistics on drinking and driving, and drinking and violence that occurs with it, but we must also understand that taking the first drink leads to becoming drunk. There are many today that want to say that "social drinking" or drinking in moderation is okay. This simply isn't true. Looking back at Eph 5:18, many say that this shows drinking in moderation is okay, but does it? NO! As a matter of fact, Eph 5:18 shows us just the opposite. It is telling us that we should not even begin to moisten the lips with anything that can make us drunk. Why? Because letting something that can make us drunk touch our lips is an excess of riot or unsavedness. Just think of the dangers of becoming drunk and the sin of it, then ask yourself why would I want to start it? If you never take the first drink, then you will never become drunk!



Bible question: Where is it prophesied that some would cast lots for Jesus' robe?

Last week's question and answer: What was Moses' mother's name?

Answer: Jochebed (Exodus 6:20)

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