

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

July 26, 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:

Josh Price

Opening Prayer:

Andy Johnson

Scripture Reading:

Bradley Smith

Lord's Table

Josh Fulcher
Josh Price
Mitchell Smith
David Dodd

Closing Prayer:

Richard Jones

Greeters (East)

Kevin and Tammy

Greeters (West)

Amber and Boys

LESSONS

AM: Entertainment

Scripture reading:

1John 2:15-17

PM: Change

Scripture reading:

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

“I KNOW I’M SAVED...I JUST KNOW IT”

by: Carl B. Garner

Having confidence in salvation can be good—or bad. Paul, in a final inspired statement, declared: *“I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing”* (2 Timothy 4:6-8).

Just how sure are you that you are in the right way, on the way to heaven? Could you say what Paul said? Is it possible for anyone to “know” they are saved? Or must we live always in doubt, never able to have the assurance of the forgiveness of God? Men in history have declared their doubts, their fears on this subject. Criminal attorney Clarence Darrow wrote, “Life is like a ship on the sea, tossed by every wave and every wind; a ship headed for no port, having no harbor, with no rudder, no compass, no pilot, simply floating for a time, then lost in the waves.” What a sad perspective, with no hope. Bertrand Russell, a renowned skeptic, had a similar view: “the life of man is a long march in the night, surrounded by invisible foes, tortured by weariness and pain, toward a goal that few can hope to reach, and where none may tarry long.” Where do you fit into this issue? Are you with Paul—or with Darrow and Russell? What assurance do you have? And, is that assurance based on the Bible, God’s Word? Or, is it just a “feeling”? **Some have a false assurance!** Claiming assurance is not the same as having real assurance. The same Apostle Paul quoted previously later told King Agrippa he had been mistaken: “Indeed, I myself thought I must do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 26:9). Paul just “knew” that killing Christians was pleasing to God. But he was dead wrong, and he made it right by becoming Jesus’ disciple.

Perhaps some of us are full of false confidence, having convinced ourselves that we are ready to meet the Lord. Jeremiah the prophet told Judah: *“the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to*

direct his steps” (Jer. 10:23). By God’s inspiration, Solomon wrote: *“There is a way that seems right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death”* (Prov. 16:25). We have all been “certain” of some things, only to find later that we were mistaken. We can’t afford to be mistaken about our eternal destiny! There must be a standard, a means by which we can have the kind of assurance the apostle Paul had—and there is, the Bible. God’s divinely inspired Word! See John 12:48. We cannot know we will stay true to God, nor can we know how we will deal with future temptations. However, we can take God’s Word—the Bible—and compare our life, our “conversion” with what God has commanded therein. There we will discover how we stand in our relationship to God. John wrote: *“Hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments. He that says, I know Him, and does not keep His commandments is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoever keep His word, in him verily is the love of God perfected; hereby know we that we are in Him.”* (1 John 2:3- 5).

Compare your life with the Bible’s instructions, lest you have a false assurance. See if your “conversion” is in harmony with New Testament conversions in the book of Acts. Don’t depend on feelings and emotion. **How did Paul gain such assurance?** Paul was assured of his eternal destiny at the end of his life because he had finished his course. He had “kept the faith.” There had been many trials, many temptations to go back to his old way of life. Instead, he “fought a good fight,” beating back each of Satan’s assaults. He ran the entire race. He resisted Satan, and he won the victory. You and I can do the same, but we must let God’s Word be the judge, not our own feelings. Isn’t it about time man learned what God’s Word says about becoming a Christian? A crown of life awaits those who seek the truth and obey it (John 8:32; 17:17). Will you see that way of truth? Will you live by it? That is the only way we can have God’s “Blessed Assurance.”

Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Luke Puckett (30th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah
- ⇒ **Team: 4** 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 by Wednesday, July 29.
- ⇒ **Congregational fellowship:** Today, 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.
- ⇒ **Congratulations:** Brad and Brooke on the birth of Drew.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Instant Potatoes

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Clemmie Black (At Spring Creek room # 420 B in station 4)
- ⇒ 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)
- ⇒ 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

Zep 3:14 Sing, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem!

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: chairō (χαίρω)

Pronounced: *khah'ee-ro*

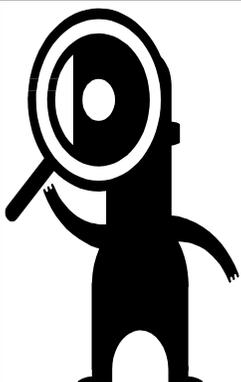
Translated into the word we use today: **REJOICE**

Meaning: according to Strong is: A primary verb; to be full of *cheer*, that is, calmly *happy* or well off; impersonal especially as a salutation (on meeting or parting), *be well*: - farewell, be glad, God speed, greeting, hail, joy (-fully), rejoice.

Supporting verse: Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Throughout the Bible we are told to rejoice. As we saw in Philippians 4:4 we are to “Rejoice in the Lord always.” We saw that rejoice is to be glad or happy in the state you are in. Of course, we should always be glad or rejoicing that we are in Christ, that He is our savior and died to set us free from sin. Is there a greater thing that we should rejoice in? I say no! But as we examine the scriptures we see that a majority of the time when we are told to rejoice in Christ, it is due to us being persecuted. Notice Matthew 5:11-12 and 1Peter 4:13. In Matthew 5, Christ tells us that we are blessed when people revile and persecute us. Then He goes on to say in verse 12 that we should “rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecute the prophets who were before you”. Peter says in 1Peter 4:13 “but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.” When we are made fun of, when we are thrown in prison, and when we are persecuted, then we should rejoice. Why? Because that is what they did to our savior. Should we think of ourselves better than Christ? Do we deserve better than Him? NO! Just think, when bad things happen to us because we are standing with God then that means we are doing something right spiritually. And when we are pleasing to God, then that is something to rejoice in.



Bible question: What Pharisee came to Jesus at night?

Last week's question and answer: Who prayed to God that it would not rain, and how long did it not rain for? **Answer:** Elijah (James 5:17)

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