

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

July 27, 2014

Coldwater church of Christ

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ELDERS

Richard Price
Kevin Smith
Bill Vincent

DEACONS

Bob Austin
Johnny Downs
Josh Fulcher

PREACHER

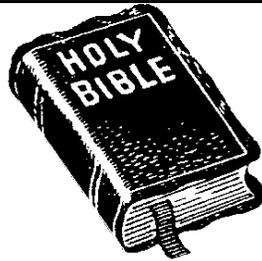
Luke Puckett

SUNDAY SERVICE

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

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class: 7:00pm



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:

Josh Price

Opening Prayer:

Ron Hutchison

Scripture Reading:

Ray Stembridge

Lord's Table

Wesley Tucker
Andy Johnson
Josh Price
Josh Fulcher

Closing Prayer:

Gerald Rule

Greeters (East)

Andy and Maddie

Greeters (West)

Bill and Maria

LESSONS

AM: The Way of Cain

By: Luke Puckett

Scripture reading:

Jude 1:5-13

PM: Are You Ready to
Die?

By: Luke Puckett

Scripture reading:

Acts 21:8-15

FORGIVENESS—WITHOUT REPENTANCE?

By: Guy N. Woods

Children of God should love all men, even their enemies, and when they repent, forgive them. Occasionally, I am asked if it is our duty to forgive those who sin against us when they neither ask for nor desire forgiveness. It is not only not our duty to do so, were we so disposed, but it is an utter impossibility.

The question recurs because many people persist in disregarding what the Scriptures teach is involved in genuine repentance and by substituting their concept of what they feel forgiveness should include. Those who do this imply, whether they intend to or not, that forgiveness is simply the cancellation of all bitter, revengeful, and uncharitable feelings toward those who sin against us, and the substitution of a disposition of kindness, love, and warm regard for the offending one or ones -- a disposition, they urge, which should always be characteristic of faithful Christians.

But many devoted and dedicated disciples of the Lord never experience bitter, revengeful, and uncharitable feelings toward those who sin against them, however cruel and heartless such actions may have been. This attitude of a kind disposition is not forgiveness, anyway. God never entertains "bitter, revengeful, and uncharitable" feelings toward even the most vile of sinners, but He forgives only those who repent.

Our Lord, in the shadows of Gethsemane, prayed for those who hated him so much they sought and obtained His execution, but He did not forgive them until they repented. Amid the agonies of the cross, He said to His Father. "Forgive them; for they know not what they do" (Lk. 23:34) a petition not unconditional in nature, since by His own words first uttered in the Great Commission (Mk. 16:15-16) and later applied by Peter it was intent that pardon be bestowed only on the basis of repentance and obedience to the commandments He gave (Acts 2:36-38).

The words "remission" and "forgiveness" often translate to the same Greek word *aphesis*, the meaning of which is "release," the "sending of sins away" and the consequent restoration of the peaceful, cordial, and friendly relationship formerly existing. Unless the offender wants this "peaceful, cordial, friendly" relationship, it is impossible for the offended to affect it, however much he may desire and seek it.

It is at this point people often say, "Yes, but we must be ready to forgive always," as indeed we ought, but it should be recognized that such readiness is not forgiveness. Our Lord made crystal clear our obligation in all such cases when He said, "Take heed to yourselves; If thy brother trespass, rebuke him; and if he repent, forgive him. And if he sin against thee seven times...turn again to thee saying, I repent, thou shalt forgive him" (Lk. 17:3,4). Thus, the divine edict is, if one sins against us, we are to rebuke him; and when he repents, we are to forgive him.

It is the duty of all children of God to love all men, even their enemies, actively to seek their good, and pray for their well-being; and, when they repent, to forgive them. It should ever be borne in mind that reconciliation is an integral and essential element of the relationship resulting from penitence on the part of the offender and forgiveness on the offended, and that is occasioned by an adjustment and settlement of all differences that led to the alienation. We must be sure that no action or attitude of ours deters the proper response of others to us because our fellowship here on Earth and our salvation in Heaven hereafter are matters intimately involved.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

⇒ Luke Puckett (30th)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Joshua
 - ⇒ **Team 4** meets today
 - ⇒ **Area events:** Please see bulletin board for more info. Several meetings 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!
 - ⇒ **Baby Shower:** For Josh and Jennifer Price on 7-27 from 2:30-4 in the multi purpose room.
 - ⇒ **New Directory:** Information forms are on the back tables. Please take one and fill it out, and turn in to Luke or Amber.
 - ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Hand Soap
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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)
- ⇒ Gerald Kilcoyne (Andrea Fulcher's Grandfather)
- ⇒ James McAbee
- ⇒ Michael Inman
- ⇒ Dorothy McNeely (Richard Adams' sister, has cancer)
- ⇒ Derek Adams (Richard Adams' grandson, has leukemia)
- ⇒ Mallory Harrison Berry (friend of Stembridges, has brain cancer)
- ⇒ Richard & Rachel Guill
- ⇒ Teri Hale (Recovering from back surgery)
- ⇒ Tonya Jones
- ⇒ Ray Stembridge
- ⇒ Glen Burse (bone cancer in left shin)
- ⇒ James Jenkins (Whitney Price Jenkins' father-in-law)
- ⇒ 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.



THE WAY OF CAIN

When a woe is pronounced, is it bad or good? _____

1. Human Opinion.

- a. What were Cain and Able told to bring to God? _____
- b. Was Cain's offering accepted? _____ Why, or why not? _____
- c. Did Cain do what pleased him or God? _____
- d. Who must we obey? _____

Notes: _____

2. Hatred and Jealousies.

- a. Why did Cain hate and have jealousies towards his brother? _____
- b. Are hatred and jealousies wrong? _____
- c. What are we to demonstrate towards all men and especially our brethren? _____

Notes: _____

3. Murder.

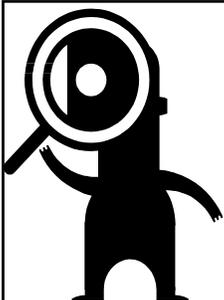
- a. What did Cain's hatred and jealousies lead to? _____
- b. Is murder sinful? _____
- c. What must we do not to let hatred turn into murder? _____

Notes: _____

4. Cursed or Lost.

- a. Was Cain cursed, and what happened to him? _____
- b. What will happen to all of those who go their way instead of God's? _____

Notes: _____



Bible question: What New Testament man prophesied a great famine throughout all the world?

Last week's answer: They must cause trouble or mischief (Proverbs 4:16)

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