

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

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

August 30, 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:

Kevin Smith

Lead Singing:

Josh Price

Opening Prayer:

Josh Fulcher

Scripture Reading:

Gerald Rule

Lord's Table

Richard Jones
Richard Price
Hyland Darnell
Gerald Rule

Closing Prayer:

Bill Vincent

Greeters (East)

Kyle and Tiffany

Greeters (West)

Andy and Maddie

LESSONS

AM: Age of
Accountability

Scripture reading:

Luke 2:41-43

PM: Singing

WHEN THE GOVERNMENT TRIES TO REWRITE THE BIBLE

By: Brad Harrub

What is sin? The dictionary defines sin as “an immoral act considered to be a transgression against divine law.” Reread that—a transgression against divine law. If one were asked who defines what is sinful the logical answer is that the divine one or deity. For centuries, people around the world have concluded that sinful behavior is doing something condemned by God in the Bible.

In what can only be viewed as religious persecution, the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice revoked the credentials of chaplain David Wells because he refused to sign a statemandated document promising to never tell inmates that homosexuality is “sinful.” In their eyes, homosexual behavior is not sinful.

For thirteen years Wells had worked with juvenile offenders, volunteering his time and energy to help get young people back on the straight path. However, as Todd Starnes reported, “Chaplain David Wells was told he could either sign a state-mandated document promising to never tell inmates that homosexuality is ‘sinful’ or else the Kentucky Department of Juvenile Justice would revoke his credentials.”

Help me understand this logic: Sin is defined as a transgression against divine law, but yet, the state of Kentucky has decided it has the right (and obligation) to define what is and what is not sinful? Surely the politicians in Kentucky do not view themselves as deity?! Do they not see the lunacy of their own policy?

Paul in writing to the church in Corinth clearly stated: “Do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived. Neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor homosexuals, nor sodomites, nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners will inherit the kingdom of God” (1 Corinthians 6:9- 10). In previous times even an elementary student would conclude those behaviors to be sinful. Today, however, Kentucky has rewritten what is an abomination to God.

Wells remarked, “They told us we could not preach that homosexuality is a sin – period. We would not have even been able to read Bible verses that dealt with LGBT issues.” Clearly Christian persecution has arrived in America.

According to reporter Todd Starnes, Superintendent Gene Wade informed David Wells, “We sincerely appreciate your years of service and dedication to the youth served by this facility. However, due to your decision, based on your religious convictions, that you cannot comply with the requirements outlined in DJJ Policy 912, Section IV, Paragraph H, regarding the treatment of LGBTQI youth, I must terminate your involvement as a religious volunteer.” **Is one not**

supposed to be convicted about his/her religious beliefs? Friends it is quickly reaching the point in America where you can be convinced God is real in America, as long as you do not show any conviction about it. In other words, they don’t have a problem with you being a Christian inside a church building 2-3 hours per week—just don’t bring God out of that building. One wonders how much longer until the government tries to start defining what is “sinful” inside church buildings? Make no mistake about it, “nonprofit” organizations (which include churches) will also be told what is and what is not sinful by government agencies.

The Kentucky regulation states, “DJJ staff, volunteers, interns and contractors shall not imply or tell LGBTQI juveniles that they are abnormal, deviant, sinful or that they can or should change their sexual orientation or gender identity.” Ironic, is it not, that a prison system—full of individuals who have committed crimes—has taken it upon itself to determine what is sinful and what is not. So what happens in five years when pedophiles, using the same “tolerance” and “civil rights” arguments, are able to make speech against their behavior wrong? Does that mean it is no longer a crime? Or what about incest?

What started out in the military is spreading like a grassfire in late August. Chaplains across the country are being told they cannot pray in Jesus’ name and that they cannot speak out against homosexual behavior. **Christians should be outraged that a nation that has turned its back on God is now trying to dictate to the citizens what behaviors are or are not sinful!**

The article by Starnes concludes, “‘Pastors and all Americans must wake up to the reality of expanding efforts to cleanse our nation of all moral truth,’ APN President Sam Rohrer said in a statement. ‘When pastors and all Christians...are forced by government agents to renounce sharing the very reality of sin, they are in fact being prohibited from sharing the healing and life-changing potential of redemption.’ Folks, I warned you this would happen. The Christian purge has begun – and it’s only a matter of time before all of us will be forced to make the same decision Chaplain Wells had to make.”

If our nation and politicians are so adamant that we must have a separation of church and state— then by all means we should have a separation of the state from the definition of sin. If you don’t like my God then please stop trying to put words into His mouth.

————Back to Bible, West Jefferson, NC

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- ⇒ Ron and Joanne (30th)
- ⇒ Josie Price (2nd)

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** Philippians and Colossians
- ⇒ **Team:** No team meeting 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!
- ⇒ **Workday:** Thanks to all who helped out.
- ⇒ **Potluck:** today. Team 3 is providing the food. Thank you, Team 3!
- ⇒ **Visit:** As a congregation we will visit Union Grove tonight. They start at 6:00pm
- ⇒ **Lasagna Supper:** Team 2 is providing lasagna on 9/6 at 5:30.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Pancake mix

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)
- ⇒ 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)
- ⇒ Ricky Puckett (Luke's uncle)
- ⇒ Marie Thrasher (Maddie's Mom had hip replacement)
- ⇒ Remember Peggy Bazzell's family in the passing of her mother
- ⇒ 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

Col 3:1-2 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. (2) Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: zēteō (ζητέω)

Pronounced: dzay-teh'-o

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

Meaning: according to Strong is: Of uncertain affinity; to seek (literally or figuratively); specifically (by Hebraism) to worship (God), or (in a bad sense) to plot (against life): - be (go) about, desire, endeavour, enquire (for), require, (X will) seek (after, for, means)

Supporting verse: Mat 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

“But **SEEK FIRST** the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.” Matt 6:33. Notice here we are told to “seek first”. Do you remember playing the game hide and seek as a kid, or an adult? Maybe you played different versions of it like sardines, but the objective is still the same. Someone hides and someone is seeking. If you were the one seeking, you would do whatever you could to find what you were looking for. Are we this way when it comes to seeking God? Are we diligently searching for Him? And is He first in all our efforts? See, God is your creator and sustainer, and He deserves to be number one in our lives. If we are truly seeking Him then we will and can find Him. After we find Him, we can become one of His own children, if we are willing to obey Him and follow Him. Are you following God and seeking Him first in all that you do? Or is there something or someone else that is first in your life? Are you seeking to please men or God? Are you seeking after worldly, material things, or are you seeking after spiritual things? Remember, if we seek God first, then He will take care of us and our needs.



Bible question: What judge of Israel was visited by an angel whose staff caused meat and bread to be consumed by fire?

Last week's question and answer: Who had a wedding feast before giving the wrong bride to Jacob? **Answer:** Laban (Genesis 29:22-25)

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