

THE COLDWATER CONTENDER

"...ye should earnestly contend for the faith..." (Jude 3)
October 23, 2016

Coldwater church of Christ

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ELDERS

Richard Price
Kevin Smith
Bill Vincent

DEACONS

Johnny Downs
Josh Fulcher
Josh Price
Wesley Tucker

PREACHER

Luke Puckett

SUNDAY SERVICE

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

WEDNESDAY

Bible Class: 7:00pm

LADIES CLASS

Tuesday: 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:

Richard Price

Lead Singing:

Josh Price

Opening Prayer:

Kevin Smith

Scripture Reading:

Nathia Whitley

Lord's Table

Mitchell Smith
Josh Fulcher
Andy Johnson
Kyle Hobbs

Closing Prayer:

Chris Smith

Greeters (East)

Ron and Joanne

Greeters (West)

Kay and Linda

LESSONS

AM: Above the
Bright Blue (part 1)

Scripture reading:

John 14:1-6

PM: Presentation
about PTP from Josh F
and Wesley T

Scripture reading:

GOD, FREEWILL AND PROBLEM SOLVING

By: Richard Mansel

So many people leave the Lord because their thinking is based on a misunderstanding of God's methods. Our Father in heaven is constantly blamed for things that aren't his fault.

Seeing God properly is liberating as it strengthens our mental, spiritual and emotional health. We must calm our emotions enough to take problems apart and see them as individual entities.

A person is suffering at work because of bullying and they pray and plead with God to remove the problem. When they find silence, they assume God doesn't care and they turn their back on the Lord.

Let's break this down and examine the pieces. In doing so, we'll possibly find angles we've not considered.

Be thankful that we have jobs to provide for ourselves and our families. God expects us to be the best we can be at everything (Colossians 3:23).

We must glorify God in every part of our lives (Ephesians 4:1) and do all we can to bring souls to God (Matthew 28:18-20). Plus prayer is always a line for the faithful to find God's ear (Psalm 145:18).

We don't know everyone's motivations and we'll never agree with everyone we encounter (Romans 12:18).

God isn't ruled by human actions or beliefs (Isaiah 55:8-9). Since his Word existed before time, we can't change his standard of truth (Psalm 119:89). God has absolute power (Psalm 147:5), yet the Lord limits himself by giving us choice (Ezekiel 18:19-22).

The bully has freewill given by God. Their behavior has a motivation. Whether we agree with it or not is immaterial. Likely all we can do is deal with it as it is.

Basically, God will not violate someone's freewill. We're Christians who must be transformed so we can overcome a sinful world (Romans 12:1-2). God is our standard and our response (2 Timothy

3:16-17).

Accordingly, the Lord is not responsible for the bully's actions and God will not violate his divine rules just because we demand it. He isn't our puppet.

Remember that Satan will use everything at his disposal to take us away from our Savior (John 8:44).

God will provide a way to handle the bully and an avenue of escape. However, we're in the situation because of someone else's freewill and ultimately because Satan is evil (1 Peter 5:8).

Consider that our Christian response may bring someone to God. We may need our faith strengthened, even if by trials (Hebrews 11:6; James 1:2-3). We may need to mature in the faith and this is how it occurs. Maybe God is working on a larger plan for us to get a better job.

If God did everything we wanted, providence would cease to exist and all the enormous blessings God has prepared for us would disappear. Finally, remember that persecution is normal to Christians (2 Timothy 3:12; 1 Peter 12-17).

All we can do is trust in the Lord. Then we think soberly and spiritually, fill our minds with God's Word and allow the spirit to find our goals rather than the flesh.

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

Announcements

- ⇒ **Reading plan:** John
- ⇒ **Team workgroup:** 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.
- ⇒ **New Personal invitation handouts** are available . Please make sure to take some and handout or leave with a tip, and invite someone to our service!
- ⇒ **Monthly Men's Class:** Nov 01 at 6:30pm
- ⇒ **Singing and Fellowship:** Thanks to all who came and supported this effort.
- ⇒ **Workday:** Saturday at 8:00am
- ⇒ **5th Sunday Potluck and singing:** Oct 30th
- ⇒ **Visit:** Almo on Oct 30th. They start at 6.
- ⇒ **Pantry item** for this week is: Chili

Prayer/Sick List

- ⇒ Hazel Brandon
- ⇒ Mae Downs
- ⇒ Helen Tidwell (fell and broke her arm)
- ⇒ Peggy Newsome
- ⇒ Hyland Darnell
- ⇒ Norma Darnell
- ⇒ Shirley Rule
- ⇒ Vicki Wilson (having test run)
- ⇒ Kim Scott (Has cancer, she has started treatments)
- ⇒ Paul Brandon (Hazel's brother in-law)
- ⇒ 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)
- ⇒ Billy Irvan
- ⇒ Debbie Edwards
- ⇒ Trudy Smith
- ⇒ James McAbee
- ⇒ Lashell Jones
- ⇒ Michael Inman (Tonya Jones' stepdad)
- ⇒ Caleb Teasley (Kevin's cousin's son)
- ⇒ Bob Austin (having tests run for issues with his lungs)
- ⇒ Romona White (Mitchell's roommate's mother has cancer)
- ⇒ 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

John 14:2-3 In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. (3) And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.

GREEK WORD OF THE WEEK

Word: ouranos (οὐρανός)

Pronounced: oo-ran-os'

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

Meaning: according to Strong is: Perhaps from the same as G3735 (through the idea of elevation); the sky; by extension heaven (as the abode of God); by implication happiness, power, eternity; specifically the Gospel (Christianity): - air, heaven ([-ly]), sky.

Supporting verse: 1Peter 1:4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

“Above the bright blue, the beautiful blue, heaven is waiting for me and for you.” What wonderful words we read and sing in this hymn about heaven. Many hymns have been written over the years about this wonderful home of the soul, and what a joy and spiritual lift it is to sing them. When we think or talk about heaven, we are talking about the place where God is. In the Bible, the word heaven sometimes is used to describe the stars and moon, but usually is describing the abode of God. Christ tells us in John 14 that He is preparing us mansions in heaven. That will be a place that is wonderful and beautiful, where God is. We are also told that only few are going down that road (Matthew 7:13-14), and that only those who “do the will of the Father” will inherit this kingdom (Matthew 7:21-23). Many today think that everyone or “good people” will have heaven as their home when they die, but this isn’t true. Christ is the author of eternal salvation to all those who OBEY HIM (Hebrews 5:8-9). If we want to be in the abode of God and have heaven as our eternal home, then we must do His will!



Bible question: To what church did Paul say the Old Testament was written as a set of examples?

Last week's question and answer: Which king is said to have neither father nor mother?

Answer: Melchizedek—(Hebrews 7:1-3)

Those answering: Kay Robertson, Linda Jones, Peggy Newsome, Rachel Adams