

# The Encourager

August 8, 2021

## Welcome Guest

We are so glad you've come for worship today! Our prayer is you will be blessed by your time with us. Please feel free to ask us any questions you may have concerning our worship.

### Church of Christ

140 West 15th Street

Front Royal, VA, 22630

540 635 2613

[FrontRoyalChurchofChrist.com](http://FrontRoyalChurchofChrist.com)

[SimpleBibleLessons.com](http://SimpleBibleLessons.com)

### Sunday Service's

Bible Study 10:00 am

Worship 11:00 am

Afternoon 2:00 pm

**Wednesday** 7:00 pm

### Personal Bible Study

[SimpleBibleLessons.com](http://SimpleBibleLessons.com)

Online & In Home  
Correspondence

### Food Pantry

By Appointment

### Minister

John Stephen Smith

540-635-2613

[ministerfrcoc@gmail.com](mailto:ministerfrcoc@gmail.com)

## How Well Do You Know the Real Enemy?

### Many names, one enemy!

**This enemy is known by many names:** *Great Deceiver, Lucifer, Evil One, Tempter, Father of Lies, Angel of Darkness and The Wicked One, and the god of this world !*

His whole purpose is to destroy you in ways that are so subtle that it takes someone who can tell us what to look for and acknowledge just what is going on.

**Look at Acts 20:28-30** Savage wolves **will** come in among us (the church) and also from among ourselves to draw away the disciples of Christ! No congregation is safe. Take an active, vibrant church that seeks to win the lost and equip the saints. One or two individuals come into the church and start to introduce new ideas. They might say things like, "We need to move in a different direction. We need to do some social service, some counseling, etc." Gently, and with arguments so subtle it's hard to refute them, they move the whole congregation out of the will of God. As a result, the mix of the membership changes. Pretty soon you have a congregation that has become both dead and deadly.

Very seldom does a direct attack hit. Satan is too clever for that, this is a fight that is an invisible war.

Remember! How well you know the REAL ENEMY,

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10:00am Sunday Bible Study is REVIEW of Church of Christ.

New study booklets on "MAKING DISCIPLES" available

2:00 pm. Services will be on new study "Making Disciples".

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
"Resisting Satan"

Come learn more about this enemy of God's people.

**August Blood Drive**  
Red Cross will be conducting August 9th, 3:00 to 7:00 pm.  
**Here at the building.**  
See Tabitha for questions.

**R.S.W. Jail**  
Please be praying for souls to be saved.

**A tote of school supplies is in dining hall if someone knows of a school that needs them?**  
**Please take them.**

### HIGHLIGHTS

**MON**

JEREMIAH 26-29

- Jeremiah Threatened
- Nebuchadnezzar Served
- False Prophet Hananiah
- Famous Letter to Exiles

*Many don't like today's leadership.  
How can we learn how to live from Jeremiah's famous letter to the exiles?*

**TUE**

JEREMIAH 30-31

- Promises from God

*What does the note of hope in these chapters tell us about God's love?*

**WED**

JEREMIAH 32-34

- Jeremiah Buys a Field
- Promise of Restoration
- Zedekiah's Warning
- Slaves Freed, Retaken

*What sins did the people commit here, and why was God so horrified?*

**THU**

JEREMIAH 35-37

- The Rekabites: An Example
- Jehoiakim Burns a Holy Scroll
- Jeremiah Imprisoned

*Jeremiah was imprisoned over a lie.  
What are some lies that circulate in our media today?*

**FRI**

JEREMIAH 38-40;  
PSALMS 74, 79

- Thrown into a Cistern
- Zedekiah seeks Advice
- The Fall of Jerusalem
- Jeremiah Freed
- Gedaliah Rules

*Why were the officials afraid to seriously injure or kill Jeremiah?*

**SAT**

2 KINGS 24-25;  
2 CHRONICLES 36

- Jehoiakim & Zedekiah Kings
- Fall of Jerusalem
- King Cyrus Moved by God

*Was God controlling King Cyrus, and if so, does he control us all?*

**SUN**

HABAKKUK 1-3

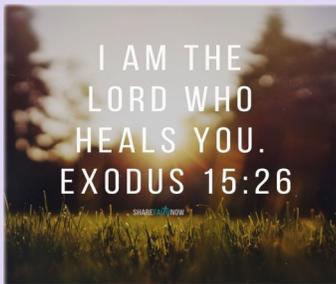
- Habakkuk Cries out to God
- God's Reply: About Babylon
- Habakkuk's Worship Reply
- Habakkuk Calls to God
- God Gives Woes for Extortion, Greed, Sins
- Habakkuk's Beautiful Worship

*Have you ever cried out to God about the wrong behavior of groups of people?*

*How would God's reply to Habakkuk be comforting to people in social anguish?*



Bob Baleskie, Virginia Wright,  
Sharon Derflinger, Danny  
Derflinger, Linda Adams,  
David Born, Carol Ritenour,  
Gail Tewalt, Bonnie Kerns,  
Anthony Kerns, Freddie Funk,  
Paul Sullivan, Bobby Jo  
Henderson, Kenny Henderson  
Jr, Rita Mullins, Ruth Martin,  
Pat Derflinger, Scott McCool,  
Mary Steele, Linda York,  
Buddy Adams, Charlie Alder,  
Stephanie Steed, Sue Adams



### Those Battling Cancers

Jody Saffelle  
Shelly Long  
Debra Lawson  
Aiden Thompson  
Micah Brue  
Valerie Cash  
C.R. Newlin  
Priscilla L.  
Jeff Pingley  
Wendy Willoughby  
Robert Jenkins  
Shirley Williams



## The Cracked Acorn

Carson van arsdall

Anger

August 08, 2021

Long ago on a clear summer Kentucky day, my father, Leo Thompson-the sharecropper, & myself "persuaded" our herd Angus bull to go inside the stock barn to receive a vaccination for undulant fever, one of those dreaded cattle diseases. While Dad tethered the big fellow to a post in one of the stalls, Leo & I stood at a safe distance outside the barn, there to witness this outburst of animal rage. It didn't bother my father as he was used to going "where angels fear to tread." Called up at the close of WWII, he would have made a good soldier & the one to have stuck close to in dangerous situations.

We would expect to see anger in animals; it's their God given way to deal with uncertain situations & for survival. Too much of this is appearing in our great society. Schools, highway traffic, & ordinary office building now must deal with unhappy citizens who for no reason go over the edge. I think the word "postal" is the term for unpredicted homicidal action.

Counselors say those who laugh & find humor, put themselves in the other person's shoes, practice trusting other people, use good listening skills, live each day as if it were their last, find opportunities to forgive those that anger you, & (this is my favorite) learn to relax.

Does everyone remember these two? -THE HULK & HARRY POTTER. In the first, the huge green man gets madder & madder & wails the livin' daylight or stomps, throws everything in/out of his path, here is rage taken to the cutting edge, while HARRY solves all his problems or has a wonderful time using magic (occult mystic devices are discovered & used). These comic book characters are harmless, so we think, as long as they are trapped on ink & paper. If they were real, more would seek the help of a higher "power." Leading columnists tell us there are certain benefits for society from these two features; I am still working on this, my mind keeps going back to clear summer morning, when if it had not been for sycamore planking on the stock barn, I would have had to decide whether I was a man or a mouse; I like good cheese!

**1 Peter 5:8** *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.*

**Ephesians 4:26** *"Be angry, & do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath,*

Sing this song every day:

SOLDIERS of Christ, arise, & put your armor on,  
Strong in the strength which God supplies  
Through his eternal Son; Strong in the Lord of hosts,  
And in his mighty power, Who in the strength of Jesus trusts  
Is more than conqueror.  
Leave no unguarded place, No weakness of the soul,  
Take every virtue, every grace, & fortify the whole;  
Indissolubly joined, To battle proceed.

**Humor:** the radio was telling how to get rid of Bermuda grass (wire grass) on your beautiful lawn - there are several sprays that try to kill it when all else fails the answer is: condominium!

## Birthdays & Anniversaries



Terry Lichliter 8/10

Tim Tewalt 8/11

Jacob Lichliter 8/13

Bill Adams 8/13

Mike Efaws 8/15

Efaws address: 13347 John

Marshall Hwy, Linden, 22642



Tabitha & Chuck

Anderson 8/22

## *Pressure to Conform*



### WARNINGS IN SCRIPTURES ABOUT PEER PRESSURE

*Exodus 23:2*

*Proverbs 13:20*

*Proverbs 22:24-25*

*Matthew 10:33-34*

*Mark 8:38*

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depends on your battle plan and intelligence of, also, the resources that are available to help fight this invisible war.

So just how do we get to know the REAL ENEMY? Just like any soldier of war, you start by reading up about them. This is why God's Word is vital to Christians, because His words not only gives us knowledge of, but, tools to fight with when we come face to face in combat with Satan. Knowledge gives strategic advantage; ignorance is death! THE ENEMY USES BELIEVERS! What was that? How can this happen? Just like a soldier in the regular army can easily serve his enemy's purposes, **through cowardice, ignorance, inattention, or lack of resolve.** Half-heartedness is more serious than retreating. Satan looks for your Achilles' heel. **Continued next week.**

### EXAMPLES: BOTH POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE

*John 12:42-43*

*John 9:18-23*

*Mark 15:29-32*

### PRINCIPLES TO HELP US OVERCOME PEER PRESSURE

*Romans 12:2*

*Ephesians 5:11-17*

*2 Corinthians 5:9-10*

*2 Corinthians 5:14-15*