

The Encourager

September 26, 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

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
Online & In Home
Correspondence

Food Pantry

By Appointment

Minister

John Stephen Smith

540-635-2613

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How Well Do You Know the Real Enemy?

Many names, one enemy!

4) **In Giving.** The Enemy says, "You know God really doesn't need your money. What about all those God-given responsibilities you have?" "Children need things, good clothes, nice house, expensive toys. . . .oh, don't forget your pensions and insurances. The mortgage, holidays, and two cars to maintain?" Does God really care about your giving to the church? Well what does the Bible say about giving, after all God does not need our gifts. He does not ask us to give for His sake!

If we develop a giving, Christ-centered heart, if we learn to stretch the dollars we spend on ourselves so we have dollars left to give away, we will be blessed. **Read Malachi 3:10.**

Fact #7: The Enemy Never Attacks from the Front

There are some sins that every believer condemns. The clear cut moral sins: unfaithfulness, unchastity, dishonesty, false belief. These sins have a big impact because everyone agrees they are wrong. Then you have the socially acceptable sins because most are so wide spread, Christians have covered them with a conspiracy silence. And yet the socially acceptable sins have the greatest long-range negative impact upon you, your family, and the body of Christ. **Continued on page 4**

See the front Bulletin Board on Coats for Vets.

Read Michael P. Reese's Letter on Bulletin Board on mission trip to Kenya.

**10:00 Sunday morning Bible Study
1 Samuel 30-31 & 1 Chronicles 10**

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

Tuesdays Ladies Bible Class on "A New Spiritual You" @ 11:00

**Wednesday Bible Study "Resisting Satan"
Come and learn more about this enemy of God's people.**

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



The Cracked Acorn

Carson van arsdall

"In today's culture some people think it is not proper to tell others they are wrong. Many believe all religions are equal and the Bible contains legends as charming as the stories of other great faiths. Children are allowed to believe in all or none of many teachings. Many people believe they can make it to heaven on their own or all ways lead to God. What is the result of this freedom?" from OPEN WINDOWS-Life Way

The preceding came from a denominational magazine in a local doctor's office, I thought it noteworthy to quote it:

"Many of the religions are advocating we all should find a middle ground and come together to bind us all together in one faith and one religious people. This may be a good thought but what does it accomplish in the sight of our God and Savior and the Scriptures."

My former supervisor loved to tell one of his college experiences. The lecturing professor had been underway for most of the hour, writing formulas on the blackboards, for some reason my boss said loudly "That is all wrong!" The professor turned and asked "Who said that?" Bill sheepishly raised his hand and the professor said "You may leave for today and you don't have to take the next exam." The professor had been writing mathematical nonsense waiting for someone to stop him. The religious world is putting us to the test. Lately, we have noticed if you quote a Scripture to a friend or someone interested in what you believe, the response is "where did you get that?" -well it came from the Word of God, the Bible, the Scriptures, we didn't make that up!!! or the reply can be "From what version or translation are you using?" There was a

The Truth

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time when brethren used only the King James Version, not any more.

One of the recent obituaries in the metro paper listed the passing one of the most noted Biblical translators of this age: who had degrees in all the ancient languages that had formed the first written Bible. The last efforts were to clarify the Revised Standard Version for modern mankind. How much clearer can we make God's Word for everyone out on the street today is either a figurative or literal question. The Church Of Christ has always taken the stance of "speaking where the Bible speaks and being silent when the Bible is silent." We have to be alert lest we are speared by the sharp point of our intelligence and let the chance go by to say, "That is wrong."

Do we live so close to the Lord today, Passing to and FRO on life's busy way, That the world in us can a likeness see To the Man of Calvary?

Can the world see Jesus in me? Can the world see Jesus in you? Does your love to Him ring true, And your life and service, too?

Do we love, with love to His own akin, All His creatures lost in the mire of sin? Will we reach a hand, whatsoever it cost, To reclaim a sinner lost?

As an open book they our lives will read, To our words and acts giving daily heed;

Will they be attracted, or turn away From the Man of Calvary?

(an ancient hymn)



Brenda Born, Virginia Wright, Sharon Derflinger, Danny Derflinger, Linda Adam, David Born, Carol Ritenour, Gail Tewalt, Bonnie Kerns, Anthony Kerns, Freddie Funk, **Philip Funk**, Paul Sullivan, Bobby Jo Henderson, Kenny Henderson Jr, Rita Mullins, Ruth Martin, Pat Derflinger, Mary Steele, Gloria Kinney, Buddy Adams, Charlie Alder, Stephanie Steed, Sue Adams

Those Battling Cancers

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

Sharon Derflinger to have surgery to replace port.
Bob Baleskie surgery 22nd , Moved to 363 hoping to be home by Friday.

Prayers for our nation at this time for peace and calmness in light of Afghanistan, the border crisis, the severe storms, and wildfires.

HIGHLIGHTS

PROMPTS

MON
MATTHEW 1;
LUKE 2:1-38

- The Legal Genealogy of Jesus
- Joseph's Dream

Many say the Lord speaks to them when they're sleeping, as the mind is more relaxed.

Have you ever had a dream you felt God inspired?

TUE
MATTHEW 2;
LUKE 2:39-52

- The Magi
- Flight to Egypt
- Bethlehem Genocide & Egypt
- Return to Nazareth
- Jesus Disappears at Age 12

The Bethlehem genocide likely took around 20 baby boys.

How corrupt can religious leaders become?

Describe Herod's corruption.

WED
MATTHEW 3; MARK 1;
LUKE 3

- Ministry of John the Baptist
- Baptism of Jesus
- Genealogy from Jesus to Adam

Luke 3 holds one of four genealogies to include Adam.

What does this say about his historicity?

THU
MATTHEW 4; LUKE 4-5;
JOHN 1:15-51

- First Disciples
- Three Temptations
- Early Ministry & Miracles
- John the Baptist

Jesus was tempted with food, power, & riches.

What are the biggest temptations you face?

FRI
JOHN 2-4

- Jesus' First Miracle & Healing
- First Trip to Jerusalem
- Jesus & Nicodemus
- John the Baptist's Ministry Ends
- Jesus with the Woman at Well

This reading contains some of the most popular scriptures in the Bible.

Write out a couple that are most special to you.

SAT
MARK 2

- Paralytic through the Roof
- Matthew/Levi Called to Follow
- Jesus' Disciples Pick Grain

People are surprised Jesus was not more annoyed when the paralytic came through the roof.

Why wasn't he?

SUN
JOHN 5

- Jesus' Second Trip to Jerusalem
- Healing at the Pool
- Early Lessons on Jesus' Thinking

Jesus said he came to save, not to judge.

How should we act toward non-believers?



Birthdays & Anniversaries



Mason Clark 9/28

Susan Clark 10/6

Brooke Callaway

10/19, Tenia Smith 10/23,

Marian Lozier 10/31



The Callaways

9/30, The Pepin's

10/14

Danny & Sharon

Derflinger 10/27

Here is a list of sins that express conflict in our ordinary life.

- Gossiping and murmuring
- A critical spirit
- An unforgiving heart
- Rebellion against God's principles in marriage and home.
- A husband's abdication of spiritual responsibility in the home
- A wife's resentment of her husband's spiritual leadership
- A child's refusal to obey parents
- A desire for self-promotion
- Putting others down
- Spiritual pride and jealousy
- Divisiveness and rebellion against spiritual authority

Because of these socially acceptable sins, situations in which believers ought to be coming closer together in the Spirit? Instead friction, disharmony, and pride abound.

Continued

Tina and Stephen are gone this weekend and will be worshipping in Farmville Va. Enjoy brother Ken Goodmiller preaching and Mike McCool filling in on the classes.

Speak to Us Smooth Things

Much of the world's "political correctness" is in the Lord's church, just as it was in Isaiah's day. In Isaiah 30:9-10, God says, *"This is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the law of the Lord, who say...do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits."* Many did not want to hear God's truth then, and they do not want to hear it now. Paul said the time would come when people *"will not endure sound doctrine; but, having itching ears, will heap to themselves teachers after their own lusts; and will turn away their ears from the truth, and turn aside unto fables"* (2 Timothy 4:3-4).

Many in the church do not want to hear what the Bible says about hell, drinking alcohol, dancing, adultery, lying, instrumental music, denominationalism, marriage, divorce, and remarriage, or any sinful activity that will cause people to be lost. For this reason many in the church are not preaching the whole counsel of God. Some are preaching ONLY what the people want to hear. Many of the sermons being preached would be readily

acceptable in any denominational church.

We must have a desire to hear the truth of God's word, Paul says: *"Because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie, that they may be condemned who did not believe the truth"* (2 Thessalonians 2:10-12).

Those who refuse to preach all of what God says will be held accountable. God states: *"When I say to the wicked, you shall surely die and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked man shall die in his iniquity; but his blood I will require at your hand."* We become guilty when we refuse to preach all the truth of God's will. Paul says: *"I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I have not shunned to declare to you the whole counsel of God"* (Acts 20:26-27). If we refuse to preach *"the whole counsel of God,"* we will cause others to be lost, and we will also lose our own soul when we stand before the Lord in the Judgment. We must teach all of the Lord's will so we can be pleasing to Him and go to Heaven.

Ron Boatwright

