

Sunshine Baskets for 11/16/2008

Donna Young, Sherri Merwine, Rita Strong, Essie Young, Lois Burroughs, Jo Ann Young

Happy Birthday to...

Chelsea Maxwell (11/9), Dakota Burris (11/10), Brian Dawson (11/13), Plytha Petty (11/13), Jack Honeycutt (11/14)

Happy Anniversary to...

Roy & Betty Smallwood (11/9/1963)

Announcements & Upcoming Events...

November 9th: TONIGHT! Area-Wide Youth Night HERE! Sean Flatt of the Double Springs congregation will be speaking. Snacks & finger foods to follow! Invite all those that you know out to worship God with us! **All who can, PLEASE bring plenty of sandwiches, sodas, chips, etc. since we'll be having visitors but we have no estimate of how many! All help is GREATLY appreciated!**

November 23rd: Jackson Co. 4th Sunday Singing HERE @ 2:00 pm.

November 25th: Tuesday mid-week Bible study due to Thanksgiving.

November 30th: The collection for this day will go entirely to the building fund.

November 30th: All Male Member Meeting @ 1pm

December 14th: Nursing Home Services @ 2 pm.

December 21st: Christmas dinner after morning worship with 1:00 pm worship service in place of the 5:00 pm service.

December 23rd: Tuesday mid-week Bible Study due to Christmas Eve.

December 30th: Tuesday mid-week Bible Study due to New Year's Eve.

Challenge Youth Conference: February 27-March 1, 2009 in Gatlinburg, TN @ the Gatlinburg Convention Center. Sign-up sheet in the back. This year the registration fee & fuel cost for each person are being paid for, but the cost of the room will be divided evenly among everyone. For more details visit <http://cyconline.com/> **The last day to sign up is Sunday, November 30th, 2008!**

Privileged To Serve November 16th

- Ushers..... Tracy Jenkins
..... Glen Haney
..... Jeff McDowell
..... Ben Young
Announcements..... Billy Scott
Song Leader..... Roy Young
Scripture Reading..... Jimmy Strong
Speaker..... John Mabery
Opening Prayer..... Jeremy Kirby
Closing Prayer..... Burton Young
Oversee Lord's Supper . Chris Mabery
Prepare Trays..... Carl Call
Scripture Reading..... Kevin Moss
Serve..... *Charles Whitaker
..... *Charles Mitchell
..... *Neal Chaffin
..... Titus Anderson
..... Alton Mayberry
..... Brian Dawson
Alternate to Serve..... Dale Dennis
..... Greg Scott
Dismiss Classes..... Rellon Burris
Count Contribution..... Corky Trisdale
..... Earl Jones
..... Blake Maberry
..... Roy Flatt
Response Card..... Burton Young
Power Point..... Jonathan Conner

Sunday Night (11/16/2008)

- Speaker..... Randy Duke
Scripture Reading..... Bobby Haney
Song Leader..... Jerry Young
Opening Prayer..... Larry Howell
Closing Prayer..... Jonathan Conner
Power Point..... Brian Trisdale

Wednesday (11/19/2008)

- Song Leader..... Farlin Flatt
Devotional..... Sjon Gentry
Opening Prayer..... Charles Whitaker
Closing Prayer..... Robert Crabtree

*Take to the sick & shut-in. Let Jerry Young know if you can't serve.

Elders:

- Ted Ragland 268.9387
John Mabery 268.0651
Cell: 265.3835

Deacons:

- John Anderson 268.2406
Billy Scott 268.0569
Robert Crabtree 268.4417
Raymond Haney 268.2493
Rellon Burris 268.4738
Carl Call 268.2040
Sjon Gentry 268.3273
Bobby Haney 268.2754
Jerry Young 268.2215

Ministers:

- John Mabery 268.0651
John Anderson 268.2406

To Be Saved, JESUS Said We MUST...

Believe Him (Jn.8:24; Heb.11:6)
Repent of our sins (Lk.13:3, 5)
Confess Christ (Rom.10:9-10)
Be immersed in water for remission of sins (Mk.16:16; Acts 2:38; 22:16; Rom.6:3-4)

Volume 7

November 9, 2008

Number 45

If I Were the Devil's Preacher ... (Part VIII)

By John Mabery

If I were the devil's preacher I would try to hide God. I know what you're thinking, "No one can hide God!" The existence of God is undeniable; but, there's a sense in which one can hide Him. If a person could paint an inaccurate portrayal of the Lord, and persuade people to believe it, hasn't he, for all practical purposes, hidden God from them? The god these people learned to trust and love doesn't even exist - except in their own mind. Meantime, the one, true living God would remain unknown to them. "What's the advantage of that?" you might ask. Well, Jesus said, "And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent." John 17:3 (emp. jm)

One must know the Lord to love and trust Him, and these two characteristics precede salvation (Mat.22:37-38; Heb.11:6). But if the individual has only seen a false portrayal of the Lord and not the Lord Himself, can they really love God with all their heart, soul, mind, and trust Him?

I know this approach is sneaky, underhanded and deceptive, but isn't that the business of the devil? His intentions are quite simple; i.e. thwart the goals and aims of the Lord. If he can keep people from loving and trusting God, then hasn't he accomplished his goal?

The reason for hiding the Lord seems apparent enough; the real question is, how does one do it? That, too, is easier than it seems. I think it's possible to hide God from people by doing nothing more than redefining terms (i.e. change the meaning of words)! Before you laugh, think about it; God reveals His existence through the natural world (Psa.19), but how does He reveal His nature? The only things you and I can know about God is that which He reveals to us by means of - words! For example, the creation reveals the intelligence and power of the Creator, but we can only know that "God is love" because He, Himself, revealed that fact with words! (1 John 4:8)

Continued inside...

Center Grove Church Of Christ

3857 Grundy Quarles Hwy.
Gainesboro, TN. 38562
931.858.7460 or 931.268.0651

Schedule of Services

Sunday: Bible Classes @ 9:00 a.m.
Worship @ 10:00 a.m.
Worship @ 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Bible Classes @ 7:00 p.m.

Our A.M. Service is Televised on Monday on Cable Channel 16 @ 6:00 pm

Radio: "The Lord's Word" on WLIV 920 AM 10:10 a.m. Monday - Saturday

(We broadcast Thursday, Friday and Saturday)

Website: www.centergrovecoc.com

E-mail: centergrovecoc@gmail.com

Have you ever wondered why Jesus is called “*the Word*”? (John 1:1-3; 14:6) A *word* is the *vehicle* or *means* used to transfer thoughts, ideas, feelings, etc, from person to person. Jesus, the “Word”, became flesh (John 1:14), and revealed God by means of words and actions. Just as words are *our* means of communication, even so the Divine Word is God’s communication to us (cf. Deu.29:29).

Since the Lord described Himself in words, one can, for all practical purposes, *hide* God by assigning new definitions to the words the Lord used to reveal Himself. For example, the Lord speaks often about love; even that He, Himself, is love (1 John 4:8). When the Lord spoke of love He had something specific in mind, something He wanted us to know and understand about love *and about Him*. But what happens when one assigns a *different* meaning to the word love, something different than what the Lord had in mind? For example, the devil’s preacher can say “*Love won’t punish the object of its affection. God loves the world* (John 3:16), *therefore, God won’t really sentence anyone to hell.*” Even though Jesus said some *would* be sentenced to “everlasting punishment” (Mat.25:46), some believers will doubt the words of the Son of

God because the devil’s preacher redefined the characteristics of Divine “love”.

This creates a great dilemma for some believers. Because they misunderstand the love of God, they can’t believe He will sentence people to hell; but Jesus said He *would!* **Contradiction**; can God contradict Himself? From the devil’s point of view this is good news! First, believers don’t know the love of God; their understanding of God is defective. Second, believers doubt the reality of hell which leaves them with two possible conclusions: (1) Jesus was wrong; (2) the Bible is not inspired of God.

If the devil’s preacher redefines more words (e.g. grace, mercy, faith, etc) **and is never challenged**, he will have created an atmosphere of confusion that will lead very sincere people astray. He will, for all practical purposes, have *hidden* God from many!

But the work of the devil’s preacher isn’t done! There’ll always be a remnant that love and seek God. They’ll study His word, know the truth and be freed from the devil’s lies (Jn.8:31-32). Therefore, the devil’s preacher is forced to return to his bag of tricks.

To be continued ...

Noah’s Ark---Not a “Rough” Draft

By Kyle Butt of Apologetics Press

(Taken from <http://www.apologeticspress.com/articles/1647>)

When reading through the exciting story the Flood, it often is very easy to miss the importance of certain verses. For instances, Genesis 7:19-20 states: “And the waters prevailed exceedingly upon the earth; and all the high mountains that were under the whole heaven were covered. Fifteen cubits upward did the waters prevail; and the mountains were covered.”

At first glance, it might just look like these verses are telling us that water covered every high mountain. But to those who are familiar with shipbuilding, this verse means much more than that.

As workmen construct a ship, designers must take into account its draught, which is the measurement of how far into the water the ship will sink when it is fully loaded. Were you to confer with shipbuilding guides, you would discover that the draught for large barge-type vessels generally is approximately one-half of their height. Since the ark was 30 cubits high, it would sink 15 cubits into the water. It therefore would need 15 cubits of water above the highest mountains in order for its bottom not to scrape against those mountaintops.

Interestingly, God not only designed the perfect vessel for the trip, but also sent the correct amount of water to prevent that vessel from smashing into the top of a submerged mountain peak.

When the Holy Spirit inspired the Bible, He did not include information “just to take up space.” Each verse in the Bible is important for one reason or another. Let us all work hard to discover those reasons.

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***Our Sympathy Goes Out to the Families of:** Kenneth Goolsby, Fred Shouse, and Raymond Anderson

****There is a list of names in the back of the auditorium of those who are age 65 and older. Please check to make sure that your name is on it, especially if you just turned 65 this year! ☺***

Sandy Haney
Ruby Dunn
Zella Charles
Roberta Hix
Dorothy Burris
Don Chaffin
Charlie Ward
Ruby Ward
Deleann Strong
Bessie Young
Bill Coe
Jerry Young

Prayer List

Hugh Young
Billy Stafford
Opal Pippin
Anna Lou Flatt
Reba Mayberry
Joann Ledbetter
Connie Garret
Zola Flatt
Linda Jenkins
Phil Johnson

Bill Wisdom
Ozelma Martin
Elaine Hayes
Wynell Ballard
Sheldon Warren
Aline Whitaker
Marie Shoemake
Bobby Elkins
Mildred Elkins
Catherine Mabery
Jo Burris
Billy Joe Stafford

Area Hospitals:

Cookeville: Billy Stafford, Bobby Elkins, Earl Crabtree

Vanderbilt: Chris Heady

Michigan: Mary Curnutte

St. Thomas: Charles Jones

Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:

NHC: Alice Pippin, Joe Anderson, Mary L. Dudney

Mabry: Plytha Petty

Mabry Assisted Living: Edna Roberts, Velvia Denson

Bethesda: Donald Hensley

Masters: Wynell Ballard

Please remember to keep each of these individuals in your prayers every day! They appreciate it greatly!