

**Sunshine Baskets for 1/4/2009**

Mary Nell Flatt, Nell Haney, Betty Smallwood,  
Lorene Haney, Barbara Scott, Rita Gentry

**Happy Birthday to...**

Megan Phillips (12/29), Ronnie Martin (12/31),  
Melissa Robinson (1/1), Rita Strong (1/1)

**Happy Anniversary to...**

Burton & Shelia Young (1/2/1977)

**Announcements & Upcoming Events...**

**December 30<sup>th</sup>:** Tuesday mid-week Bible Study due to New Year's Eve.

**December 31<sup>st</sup>:** Ambre & Jeremy Kirby would like to invite everyone out to a get-together at their home on New Year's Eve! This will start at 7:00pm. We will have games, food, & fun, fellowshiping with one another. Guys, please bring drinks & chips. Girl, please bring desserts. They ask that you please let Ambre or Jeremy know if you are coming so they know how many to prepare for. There is also a sign-up sheet on the table in the back. All are welcome!!! ☺ If you need directions, feel free to ask Ambre or Jeremy! ☺

**New Year's Eve Party:** Mary Nell Flatt's basement. If you would like to play the "Chinese Christmas" game, please bring a \$10-\$12 gift. Other games & finger foods will also be provided. The New Year's Eve Party begins @ 6:00 pm.

**Challenge Youth Conference:** February 27-March 1, 2009 in Gatlinburg, TN @ the Gatlinburg Convention Center. For more details visit <http://cyconline.com/> **We ask that you please turn in your money for this as soon as possible!** If you are unsure how much you need to pay, please see Kristina Hammock asap.

**\*\*\*There are sign-up sheets in the back of the auditorium for the new adult classes. ☺**

**These start next Sunday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009!**

**Requested Prayers:** Ora Lee Knight

**\*\*\*The Gospel Broadcasting Network comes on channel 9400 on Dish Network @ 11 am daily, and on channel 323 on Direct TV @ 7 am daily.**

**Privileged To Serve January 4<sup>th</sup>, '09**

- Ushers..... Alton Mayberry
- ..... Corky Trisdale
- ..... Brian Dawson
- ..... Charles Mitchell
- Announcements..... Burton Young
- Song Leader..... Mike Martin
- Scripture Reading..... Larry Howell
- Speaker..... John Mabery
- Opening Prayer..... John Anderson
- Closing Prayer..... Roy Flatt
- Oversee Lord's Supper . Sjon Gentry
- Prepare Trays..... Chris Mabery
- Scripture Reading..... Titus Anderson
- Serve..... \*Rellon Burris
- ..... \*Robert Crabtree
- ..... \*Sjon Gentry
- ..... Alan Burris
- ..... Roger Robinson
- ..... Ronnie Martin
- Alternate to Serve..... Burton Young
- ..... Roy Young
- Dismiss Classes..... Neal Chaffin
- Count Contribution..... Dale Dennis
- ..... David Wilson
- ..... Blake Maberry
- ..... Tracy Jenkins
- Response Card..... Jerry Young
- Power Point..... Tyler Trisdale

**Sunday Night (1/4/2009)**

- Speaker..... John Anderson
- Scripture Reading..... Steve Hensley
- Song Leader..... Bobby Haney
- Opening Prayer..... Carl Call
- Closing Prayer..... Neal Chaffin
- Power Point..... Brian Trisdale

**Tuesday (1/7/2009)**

- Song Leader..... Billy Scott
- Devotional..... Chris Mabery
- Opening Prayer..... Ted Ragland
- Closing Prayer..... Farlin Flatt

\*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

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Number 52

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

*By John Mabery*

*If I were the devil's preacher I would distort the meaning of saving faith!* Few people will deny the importance of faith in God (Heb.11:6); however, there is a growing number of people who do! More and more people are leaning toward the doctrine of "Universalism" (i.e. grace has appeared to all men [Titus 2:12], therefore, all men will be saved – eventually). If the devil can convince people that faith in God is all that's required, then he can easily achieve his goal.

If the devil's preacher doesn't explain the use of synecdoche in Holy Scripture, then he can easily persuade people to believe what isn't even true. "Synecdoche" is a figure of speech. Some say there are more than 100 subdivisions of the synecdoche, but I'm interested in its use where the *whole* of a thing is used for the *part*, or vice versa. It may sound hard, but it's not, it's the way we speak every day. For example, a man trying to lift a couch says, "Son, give me a hand". Does he want the boys' hand, or does he want him to use his entire body to help him move the couch? This is a synecdoche: the *part* (hand) stands for the *whole* (body). A man with fifty *head* of cows doesn't have fifty *heads* in the pasture, he has fifty cows!

The synecdoche, as well as other figures of speech, frequently appears in the word of God. With regard to one of the ten plagues against Egypt, Moses wrote,

So the LORD did this thing on the next day, and **all** the livestock of Egypt died; but of the livestock of the children of Israel, not one died. (Ex 9:6; **emp.** jm)

Bible critics accuse Moses of making a mistake in saying "all" the livestock of Egypt died, for in verses 10 and 19 we read about "beasts" and "livestock" still in Egypt. "*If 'all' livestock died*", they say, "*why were livestock still in Egypt?*" Biased people aren't always pure and honest in their investigations! Surely these learned people know the synecdoche is commonly used in speech and literature. Arriving home from Nashville, I might say "*My car cut out on me **all** the way home.*" But if that statement was *literally* true, my car wouldn't have made it home! *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](http://www.centergrovecoc.com)

**E-mail:** [centergrovecoc@gmail.com](mailto:centergrovecoc@gmail.com)

“For every beast of the forest is Mine,  
And the cattle on a thousand hills.”

(Psa.50:10)

Are there **more** than “a thousand hills” on earth? Do the cattle on hill #1,001 belong to the Lord, or just those on “a thousand hills”? Every created thing belongs to the Lord (Psa.24:1). “The cattle on a thousand hills” is a synecdoche (*part* stands for the *whole*). Someone might ask, “Why didn’t the Lord just say that?” You’ll have to ask Him about that! Ours is to *understand* what the Lord *means*, not *why* He communicated as He did!

Bible students defend both Moses and the Lord in their use of the synecdoche. So why not use the same rules when interpreting other Bible passages wherein a *part* stands for the *whole*, and the *whole* for the *part*? Let’s consider the use of the synecdoche with regard to what one must do to be saved.

“Faith only” advocates eagerly point out Bible verses wherein “faith” is the only thing mentioned (Jn.3:16; 8:24; Rom.5:1; etc.). “This”, they say, “is all the Lord requires!” Is that true or is “faith” used as a synecdoche (a part stands for the whole)? Synecdoche is more likely; James wrote, “*You see then that a*

*man is justified by works, and not by faith only.*” (James 2:24; emp. jm)

“Repentance” is the only thing mentioned in Acts 17:30, and “baptism” in 1 Peter 3:21. Should we conclude that some are saved by **faith only**, others by **repentance only**, and others by **baptism only**? “That’s absurd!” you might say! Indeed it is, and that’s what happens when one handles the will of God deceitfully – we become absurd!

We should treat **all** of God’s word *rightly* and let the truth of God shine! (cf.2 Tim.2:15) “Faith” (like repentance and baptism) is often employed as a synecdoche where **one** part stands for **all** parts of God’s plan of salvation. If we take the “**sum**” of God’s word, which is the “**truth**” of a given matter (Psa.119:160), we’ll discover that all three (*faith, repentance and baptism*) are required by God in order for one to be saved! This is how we treat Moses’ livestock and the Lord’s one thousand hills when dealing with Bible critics! Christians should be honest, shouldn’t we? It’s easy to see why the devils preacher will *not* teach the church about proper Bible interpretation; i.e. they might believe and obey the truth, and that would turn them away from him!

*One more article to go...*

### Prayer List

Sandy Haney	Hugh Young	Zola Flatt
Ruby Dunn	Opal Pippin	Sheldon Warren
Zella Charles	Anna Lou Flatt	Aline Whitaker
Roberta Hix	Reba Mayberry	Marie Shoemake
Dorothy Burris	Joann Ledbetter	Bobby Elkins
Don Chaffin	Bill Wisdom	Mildred Elkins
Charlie Ward	Bessie Young	Catherine Mabery
Ruby Ward	Ozelma Martin	Joy Hensley
Delenn Strong	Betty Flatt	Mary Nell Jones
Phil Johnson	Gene Burris	Carol Wilson
Cora Jackson	Jean Haney	Charles Jones
Barbara Jones	Cambell Wilson	Stanley Duke
Ora Lee Knight		Jerri Ann Anderson

### Area Hospitals:

**Cookeville:** Charles Haney, Hollis Ramsey

**Lebanon:** Clarence Heady Jr.

### Area Rest Homes & Rehab. Centers:

**NHC:** Joe Anderson

**Mabry:** Plytha Petty

**Mabry Assisted Living:** Edna Roberts, Velvia Denson

**Bethesda:** Donald Hensley

**Masters:** Wynell Ballard

**CRMC Rehab:** Roy Jackson

### Has Satan Always Existed?

*By Eric Lyons of Apologetics Press*

*(taken from <http://www.apologeticspress.com/articles/1640>)*

From a very early age, children learn about the righteousness of God & the wickedness of Satan. We teach children that God is the loving, powerful, & all-knowing Creator & Sustainer of life Who wants them to live right & go to heaven. We also tell them that there is an evil being called Satan who is very influential in the world, & who is doing everything he possibly can to keep them out of heaven. Many Sunday mornings in Bible class, children either sing or study about these two beings. This time of study certainly is worthwhile because children are taught to obey God (John 14:15) & to resist the devil (1 Pet.5:8). In time, however, if young people are not offered additional teaching about the origin of Satan & the eternal nature of God, many inadvertently begin to form a picture in their minds of two opposing “gods” who are at war with each other. Like two heavyweight boxers exchanging punches in the middle of a ring, children begin to think of God & Satan as two equally opposing “forces.”

Although little is suggested in the Bible about Satan’s beginning, we can know that Satan is a created being. Unlike God, the Bible teaches that Satan is **not** omnipotent (1 John 4:4), omnipresent (cf. Job 1-2; 2 Cor.4:4; Luke 4:6; Rev.20:1-10), or eternal (cf. Deut.33:27; Ps.102:27). Furthermore, in speaking of Jesus, Paul wrote: “For by Him **all things** were created that are in heaven & that are on earth, visible & invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him & for Him” (Col.1:16, emp. added). The apostle John was inspired to write: “In the beginning was the Word, & the Word was with God, & the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. **All things were made by him;** & without him was not any thing made that was made” (John 1:1-3, emp. added). Who made all things in heaven & on earth, visible & invisible? Jesus (the Word—John 1:14). Thus, the Bible teaches that Satan is one of God’s created beings. He had a beginning just like you, me, & everything else that exists other than God.

But just because God created Satan, does not mean that He created him as an evil being. Rather, God created him good, & then he chose to become evil. The Bible indicates that Satan was one of the angels who lived in heaven, but he (along with other angels) rebelled against God & was cast out of Heaven. The apostle Peter said that “God did not spare the angels who sinned, but cast them down to hell & delivered them into chains of darkness, to be reserved for judgment” (2 Pet. 2:4). Another inspired writer wrote: “& the angels who did not keep their proper domain, but left their own abode, He has reserved in everlasting chains under darkness for the judgment of the great day” (Jude 6). Since the Bible also refers to the devil as “the ruler of demons” (Matt. 12:24), & speaks of “the devil & **his** angels” (Matt.25:41, emp. added), it is very likely that the devil is the leader of a group of rebellious angels that was expelled from heaven to eventually spend eternity in hell.

Thus, unlike the philosophy of dualism (made popular by the Persian—Zoroaster), which teaches that an eternal good being & an eternal evil being exist & oppose one another, the Bible teaches that the Godhead is the only eternal entity. Although Satan is not to be taken lightly, it is a blessing to know that he cannot snatch us from the love of God if we are unwilling to allow him to do so (Rom. 8:37-39), nor can he tempt us beyond what we are able to bear (1 Cor. 10:13). God alone is deity, & He alone deserves our praise & adoration.