

SUNDAY MORNING

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

Lord's Supper

Rodney Ellis Bill Brittenham
Cole Meador Preston Ellis

Prayers

Dee Minter Wendell Mobley

SUNDAY EVENING

Announcements

Randy Ellis

Song Leader

Cory Easley

Lord's Supper

Rodney Ellis Preston Ellis

Prayers

Bill Rinehart Mark Davis

WEDNESDAY

Announcements

Clay Morris

Song Leader

Cory Easley

Prayers

Gerald Eaton Dave Massey

Invitation

Joseph Barry

ABOUT US

Elders

Jack Calvert Rodney Ellis

Deacons

Jon Barry Bill Brittenham
Mike Davis Dave Massey

Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday

Bible Study9:30 A.M.
Worship10:15 A.M.
Worship6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Study7:00 P.M.

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GOD'S PLAN FOR SALVATION

Hear the word of truth Romans 10:13-17

Believe the truth..... Hebrews 11:6; John 8:24

Repent from all sins Luke 13:3; Acts 2:38

Confess the name of Christ ... Matthew 10:32-33; Acts 8:35-30

Be Baptized in His name Mark 16:16;
1 Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12

Walk in newness of life and **be faithful** unto death Romans 6:1-4; Revelation 2:10

Think On These Things

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Christian, Arm Yourself Now!

Bryan Garlock

It is no surprise that this world is becoming more and more godless. This has been especially amplified by the recent outbreak of sexual harassment claims and the continued pressure from the homosexual and newly-formed transgender communities for all Christians to conform to their subjective feelings. What's more, we are experiencing mass murder brought on by abortion and terrorism from evildoers who simply do not value life. Since we live in a godless world where lawlessness has increased because the love of many has grown cold, it is crucial that we are not caught off-guard – that we arm ourselves.

Many Christians do not arm themselves properly, leaving themselves susceptible to evil forces and random attacks. These deadly attacks happen everywhere – malls, schools, work-places, and unfortunately, even in church buildings. It is a shame that many do not take advantage of their rights and privileges as citizens. Consequently, when there is an assault, the Christian is left with no defense. No wonder we have

lost so many people. Therefore, it is past time that Christians arm themselves.

Peter wrote, "Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead..." (1 Peter 4.1-5)

Peter teaches us to arm ourselves with the mind of Christ! After receiving a cleansed conscience during baptism (1 Peter 3.21), we are to cease from sin and live the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for the lust of men, but for the will of God. Simply put, Peter says "Enough is enough." Subsequently, we are to arm

FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Bonnie Allgor, Max Thomas, Maxine Burnham** and **Mary Alice Turner**. Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

Continue to pray for **Max Thomas**. He is still in very serious condition in the hospital. Please keep him, **Ann** and **Mark** continually in your prayers.

Wendell Mobley had extensive dental surgery recently.

Sonny Monaghan is scheduled for a stress test this week. The test was rescheduled from last week.

cont. from pg. 1

ourselves with the same “way of thinking,” that is, we need to have the “mind of Christ” (cf. 1 Peter 2.21-24; Phil. 2.1-5; Col. 3.1-3) when it comes to suffering or any threats we may face. Additionally, those who have armed themselves have ceased from sin because they have died to sin (see also Rom. 6.1-26). It may be that the one who arms himself may suffer at times because he has chosen a lifestyle of righteousness and stands opposed to those who continue in sin. Therefore, it is necessary to mature to the point where obedience trumps our desire to escape suffering; else we will run (compromise our faith) at the very first indication of suffering for righteousness’ sake.

In keeping with having the mind of Christ, we are told to take every thought

captive to obey Christ. “For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds. We destroy arguments and every lofty opinion raised against the knowledge of God, and take every thought captive to obey Christ....” (2 Cor. 10.3-5) If we are not mentally armed, we are not ready to fight the spiritual battle we face daily nor are we able to cause every thought we have to be subject to Christ. That means when evil crosses our mind, we might just give in.

Additionally, the Bible teaches us to put on the armor of God and that this armor is to be worn always. Paul wrote, “Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil. For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm. Stand therefore, having fastened on the belt of truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and, as shoes for your feet, having put on the readiness given by the gospel of peace. In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints...” (Eph. 6.10-19)

We face daily threats and random attacks from the evil one at school, at work, and

unfortunately, even at church. He “prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (1 Peter 5.8) and yet when we are armed we can “resist him” (1 Peter 5.9) and “he will flee...” (James 4.7). As citizens of the kingdom, we ought to take advantage of the rights and privileges afforded to us – like God’s word and prayer – so that we are not caught off-guard and defenseless. We have lost too many brethren to this evil world because they were not properly armed. Christian, are you armed? If not, arm yourself now! In love, BG

Whom Do You Fear?

Bryan Garlock

“And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10.28, ESV)

This author truly understands the fear created by evildoers and criminals, and more specifically, terrorism. Fortunately, the Holy Spirit has given us comfort through His word. In Matthew 10.28, Jesus reminds us that we should not fear those who can kill the body. Why? Simply put, because they cannot kill the soul. It is comforting to know that no matter what happens to us in this life – up to and including death – our soul cannot be affected. Therefore, what is there to fear from man?

In fact, God has promised, “‘...I will never leave you nor forsake you.’ So we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?’” (Heb. 13.5-6). Elsewhere, the Holy Spirit said, “Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or

danger, or sword? As it is written, ‘For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.’ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.” (Rom. 8.35-39) Once again, the faithful have nothing to fear because the faithless can do nothing to our soul.

Whom, then, shall we fear? Jesus said, “...fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” If we live for unrighteousness here and now, we will experience true fear on the day of judgment. However, if we live for righteousness, there is nothing to fear. John taught, “Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love” (1 John 4.15-18).

Whom do you fear? If you’re a faithful Christian you have nothing to fear – whether you are facing an earthly threat or the judgment seat of Christ. BG