

## SUNDAY MORNING

### Announcements

Preston Ellis

### Song Leader

Daniel Allgor

### Lord's Supper

Randy Ellis      Sonny Monaghan  
Rodney Ellis      Clay Morris

### Prayers

Cole Meador      Preston Ellis

## SUNDAY EVENING

### Announcements

Preston Ellis

### Song Leader

Hayden Ellis

### Lord's Supper

Randy Ellis      Sonny Monaghan

### Prayers

Joseph Barry      Jon Barry

## WEDNESDAY

### Announcements

Gerald Eaton

### Song Leader

Jack Calvert

### Prayers

Daniel Allgor      Bill Rinehart

### Invitation

Bryan Garlock

## ABOUT US

### Elders

Jack Calvert      Rodney Ellis

### Deacons

Jon Barry      Bill Brittenham  
Mike Davis      Clay Morris

### Evangelist

Bryan Garlock

## SERVICE TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Study .....9:30 A.M.  
Worship .....10:15 A.M.  
Worship .....6:00 P.M.

### Wednesday

Bible Study .....7:00 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

Franklin Drive Church of Christ  
2301 Franklin Drive ■ Texarkana, AR 71854 ■ (870) 772-0746



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## Verbal Brawling

Bryan Garlock

It is not uncommon to see unhinged, loud-shouting and ear-piercing outcries between two individuals or two groups of people. All forms of media are quick to show us people screaming back and forth and shouting past each other. Two obvious features of these shouting matches are the facial expressions and body language. Pure hatred, bitterness, and ugliness is painted on their faces, oftentimes accompanied by their bodies running or jumping around, arms waving in the air, clenched fists, and/or pushing and shoving. All this does is incite others to push back even harder; all kinds of evil are present.

Our holy God is opposed to this kind of conduct. Paul wrote, "Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Eph. 4:31-32)

In Greek, the word "clamor" means "an outcry... where it signifies 'the tumult of

controversy'" (Vine's Expository Dictionary) and "'a loud cry or call, shout,' shout(ing), clamor of excited persons... Of people shouting back and forth in a quarrel... Of people who incite one another to enjoy a spectacle..."<sup>1</sup> Compare this definition with Matthew 25.6, Hebrews 5.7, and Revelation 14.18. In our English dictionaries, the word is defined as "a violent shouting... loud, confused, and usually inharmonious sound [uproar is a synonym, BG]" (Merriam Webster) and "a loud uproar, as from a crowd of people (Ex. the clamor of the crowd at the gates); a vehement expression of desire or dissatisfaction (Ex. the clamor of the proponents of the law); popular outcry (Ex. The senators could not ignore the clamor against higher taxation.)" (Dictionary.com)

Contextually, Paul is not talking about watching a football game that may joyously incite screaming and shouting, but shouting with malicious intent while

## FAMILY TALK

Continue to remember and check on our shut-ins: **Willie Margaret Mobley, Bob Buls, Bonnie Allgor, Lahron McJunkins, Maxine Burnham, and Francine Davis.** Cards, calls and visits are ALWAYS needed and appreciated.

**James Easley** passed away last week. He was **Pat Freeman** son-in-law and **Kinsley Cummings** grandfather.

**Sonny** and **Cathy Monaghan** are improving. **Cathy** is better and **Sonny** is getting better. Please remember them.

**Sherry Brittenham** was in the hospital in Hot Springs last week for chest pains. All tests came back normal and she is back home.

**Vera Ellis** is scheduled for surgery on Monday. Please keep her in your prayers.

Today is the **Minter's** last time with us. We are sad that they are leaving us but glad that they will be closer to family. We pray for a safe move and a long faithful service in the faith. They have been helpful and loving members of the Franklin Drive family and have helped many of us grow in the Lord. They will be missed.

Please check the board in the foyer for **Gospel Meetings** in the area.

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filled with bitterness and wrath that leads to violence and ungodliness (cf. Acts 19.23-20.1; 23.6-10); it is wholly opposite to love, kindness, compassion, forgiveness, patience, self-control, gentleness, peace, and the way Christ conducted Himself.

Clamor is not only produced by those taking to the streets to fight perceived injustices, by two political parties loudly quarreling and protesting about policy or political leaders, or by those resisting and revolting, as we have seen throughout history. It is committed by husbands and wives, parents and children, brothers and sisters in Christ, as well as families and friends. Unfortunately, no matter the reason for the verbal brawl, strife and discord flourishes and potentially unrepairable divisions thrive. Wherever clamor is present, it is accompanied by an ugly exchange of filthy, foolish, and selfish words that only seek to verbally destroy the hearers.

What's more, when people verbally brawl, they seem to lose all consciousness; they become unaware of their words and actions and surroundings. Their thoughts are no longer controlled; their behavior becomes unpredictable and the consequence of their conduct is no longer considered. Even more sickening is when violence and abuse are associated with these outbursts of noisy wrath and malice. What kind of example is it for children to witness their parents violently and ruthlessly screaming at each other? What does it accomplish when spouses verbally cut each other's throats? Absolutely nothing! What kind of example is shown when Christians vociferously shout at one another in public, or scream for some conviction they feel strongly about? What good can possibly come from this cacophonous display? None! Never has there

been a problem solved by a clamorous approach (cf. Prov. 15.1-4)!

For those whose clamor is politically charged, remember these inspired words: "I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth... I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling." (1 Tim. 2.1-4, 8)

Paul strongly taught that when we maliciously scream "to the top of our lungs," we tear down our listeners rather than build them up (Eph. 4.29), we grieve the Holy Spirit rather than honor Him (v30), we imitate our true father, Satan (5.1; cf. 1 John 3.10), we walk contrary to love (v2), we do something that is not fitting for saints (v4), and we have no inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and God (v5). Christians, control your emotions, control your words, and control your behavior. Let us put away *all* clamor. BG

### What Happens to Me When I Die?

Joe Price

The word "sleep" is used at times in the Bible to speak of death without any reference to the condition of the spirit or where one goes after death. For instance, consider John 11:11-14, where Jesus used "sleeps" synonymously with "dead." When the body is dead it appears to be asleep, hence, the figurative use of "sleep." Likewise, when Stephen "fell asleep," this is an expressive way of saying, "he died" (Acts 7:60, note 8:1).

Death means separation. Man dies when the spirit leaves the body (James 2:26).

Luke 16:19-31 is one of the best places to go in the Bible to teach us about what happens to us when we die. Please notice there is nothing stated in the text that says this is a parable. Jesus describes this as a matter-of-fact incident, an event that actually took place. The realm of the dead or the place of departed spirits (sometimes called Hades or the Hadean realm) is here described as consisting of two parts, one a place of comfort and rest (Abraham's bosom), the other a place of agony and torment. There is no passing between these two states (v. 26). There is consciousness as noted throughout this narrative. One's conduct in life determines where he goes upon death (v. 25, 27-31). The living cannot affect or change the condition of those who have died. Neither can the dead change the condition of the living. Our choices in this life determine where we go after we die.

Recall that Jesus said He would be in Paradise after His death (Luke 23:43). Acts 2:27 says Jesus did go to Hades when He died. Because He was without sin, we conclude Jesus was in that part of Hades referred to in Luke 16:22 as "Abraham's bosom" — Paradise. This is where every faithful Christian can expect to go awaiting the resurrection of the dead. The unrighteous can expect to enter a place of flaming torment (Luke 16:24).

At His return, Christ will speak and all the dead shall arise, some to a judgment of everlasting life and others to a judgment of everlasting death (John 5:28-29; II Corinthians 5:10). Are you ready for death? (Hebrews 9:27)