

Crossville Church of Christ

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Dale Hennessee
Mike Isaacson
David Kerley
Doug Loveday
Greg Maxwell
Don Napier
Tom Parham
Mark Roberts
Roger Smith
Jason Wyatt
Jerry Wood

Ministers:

Barry Kennedy
Ken Mears

Missionaries: (India)

Don Iverson
Jim Waldron

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9 AM
Sunday Worship	10 AM
	6 PM
Wednesday	6 PM

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

Ladies Bible Class	
Tuesdays	11AM
Prayer Meeting	
Tuesdays	10 AM
Joyful Generation (Youth Devotional & fellowship)	
1st Sunday	7:00 PM

COMPASS

Using God's Word to Chart The Course
Of A Congregation

www.crossvillechurchofchrist.org

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December 20, 2015

FAMILY TIME

*One looks at the clock and stands there in shock,
As he realizes time will not stand still.*

*For life is in motion and each moment he grows older
and closer to date with eternity.*

*Where will he be or his family you see when time on
this earth finally ends?*

*For those who in Christ are faithful in life, the end will
be time of beginning.*

*For then in that life it will be blessings sublime,
Because then will be family time eternally.*

— Barry Kennedy



SATAN'S INSIDIOUS ATTACKS ON THE CHURCH

Ivie Powell

The first verse of Genesis 1 introduces mankind to the existence of God, "In the beginning God." The first time Satan introduces himself to mankind is in the garden of Eden in the form of a serpent (Gen. 3:1-6). The first time he is mentioned by the name of Satan is in Job 1:6-12. Therefore, one cannot believe in the existence of God and not believe in the existence of Satan!

Various terms are used throughout the Scriptures to describe the "evil one" that opposes God and His children: Satan, "adversary" (Zech. 3:1), The devil, "slanderer" (Matt. 4:1; Rev. 12:9), The god of this world (2 Cor. 4:4), The prince of the power of the air (Eph. 2:2), The father of lies (John 8:44), Murderer (John 8:44), The great dragon (Rev. 12:9), Serpent (Rev. 12:9; 2 Cor. 11:3), Deceiver (Rev. 12:9), Beelzebub the prince of the devils (Matt. 12:24), The wicked one (Matt. 13:38), The prince of this world (John 12:31), Ruler of darkness (Eph. 6:12), The tempter (1 Thess. 3:5), Accuser of the brethren (Rev. 12:10), The enemy (Matt. 13:39), A roaring lion (1 Peter 5:8), Belial, "worthless, wicked" (2 Cor. 6:15), Angel of the bottomless pit (Rev. 9:11).

Satan's ultimate destination, along with his angels, as well as all whom he is able to destroy, is everlasting, unending damnation in hell (Matt. 25:41,46). As one seriously contemplates these facts, he cannot help but tremble at the very thought of being lost!

As powerful as Satan is, he can be resisted and overcome, "Be Sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: Whom resist steadfast in the faith..." (1 Peter 5:8-9). This is why Christians are to "put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil" (Eph. 6:11).

John's inspired words truly give us strength to press on, even in the hottest of confrontations with the evil one. "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world" (1 John 4:4). In addition to this, God has not left His children defenseless. On the contrary, "According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue" (2 Peter 1:3). It is truly comforting to know that God is with us every step of the way in our journey to heaven as we "walk in the light" (1 John 1:7). "...I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee" (Heb. 13:5).

The Bible gives numerous examples of Satan's insidious attacks on the body of Christ: Persecution (Acts 4,5,9,19), Certain brethren making circumcision a condition of salvation (Acts 15), Conspiracy of certain Jews to kill Paul (Acts 23), Forming of factions (1 Cor. 1), Brother living in an incestuous and adulterous relationship and the church accepting it (1 Cor. 5), Making a gluttonous feast of the Lord's supper (1 Cor. 11), Some denying the resurrection (1 Cor. 15), Perverting the Gospel of Christ (Gal. 1), Peter siding with the Jews (Gal. 2), Two sisters at odds with one another (Phil. 4), Works of the flesh (Gal. 5), Malicious use of the tongue (James 3).

Satan wants to ultimately destroy every soul so they will be with him and his demons to suffer eternal punishment. Satan is the father of all lies. He is constantly tempting the Lord's people through the "lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life" (1 John 2:16). He greatly rejoices when children of God live by the "iron rule" and not the "golden rule" (cf. Matt. 7:12). He and all of his demons rejoice when the "lust of the flesh" (Gal. 5:19-21) reigns in the heart of Christians instead of the "fruit of the Spirit — love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness and temperance (Gal. 5:22). The father of all lies is constantly trying to divide the body of Christ through bitterness, wrath, anger, clamour, evil speaking and malice (Eph. 4:31). When this takes place, evangelism, benevolence and edification come to a screeching halt!

Be assured that the devil knows every faithful Christian. He knows you and he knows me. If he can get us to yield to him (Rom. 6:16), then doubt, discouragement, envy, strife, hatred, jealousy, covetousness, as well as all works of the flesh, will put us well on the road to destruction. Even when this takes place, those who have gone back under Satan's rule can repent of their sins and be restored >

(Gal. 6:1-2; James 5:19-20; Jude 23)!

Through Christ's death, burial and resurrection, Satan has been "bound," thus destroying his works (1 John 3:8; 2 Tim. 1:10; Heb. 2:14-15). Every Christian has been given assurance that we can overcome any and all temptations if we will look for the way of escape. "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it" (1 Cor. 10:13). John wrote, "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down with my Father in his throne" (Rev. 3:23).

Remember, God, Christ and the Holy Spirit wants every Christian to be with them in heaven (Rev. 22:17)! Brethren, don't allow Satan to distract you from serving the Lord! Continue to "fight the good fight of faith" (1 Tim. 6:12). "Put on the whole armour of God" (Eph. 6:11). Be "unmoveable, always, abounding in the work of the Lord" (1 Cor. 15:58). You will hear the welcome words of the Savior one day, "Come, ye blessed of my Father inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world" (Matt. 25:34)!

WHAT'S IN YOUR CART

Bob Prichard

According to a recent study by the Barna Group, many Christian parents are purchasing media for their children this year, even though they have strong misgivings. According to Barna, 78% of Christian parents are buying movie or TV show DVDs for their kids, but 26% don't feel quite right about buying them. For CDs, 60% are buying, but 33% don't feel comfortable with their purchases. For video games the numbers are 39% and 46%!

George Barna comments on the study's findings:

Millions of Christian parents want to appear to be relevant in their children's eyes, and to provide gifts that fit within the mainstream of postmodern society. The problem is that many of the entertainment products that meet those criteria conflict with the moral precepts of the Christian faith. Parents have to make a choice as to what is more important: pleasing their kids' taste and sensibilities, or satisfying God's standards as defined in the Bible ... Many Christian parents are striving to serve two conflicting masters: society and God. They refuse to believe they cannot satisfy both (barna.org 11/19/07 stats).

We are all familiar with those extensive Christmas want lists, and the whining that comes for certain desired items on the list. What are we to do? We want our children to love us and know that we care for them, and we want to give them the coveted items—but when do we become adults? It is a hard thing to be an adult sometimes, but when it comes to teaching our children, we just have to be adults and make adult decisions. If the DVDs, CDs, or games are not good for them, then we have to make that adult decision to do what is right.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it" (Proverbs 22:6). Surely this proverb applies to teaching our children to be discerning in their media choices. Be an adult this year! They'll soon be making their own decisions.

