

(continued from page 2)

However, it is the senselessness of bitter suffering that compels God's people either to accept or reject his true character. Wilhelm Vischer explains that "the ground and meaning of the whole creation is that God wills to have man face to face with him as a creature who lives by his goodness and for his goodness, and who loves not some abstract good, but God himself, as God loves him" ("God's Truth and Man's Lie: A Study of the Message of the Book of Job," *Interpretation* 15.2 (1961), p. 132). Suffering people who love God simply because he is God give him greater honor than their successful neighbors ever could. The anguished prayer of the Christian who loses his young wife and two toddlers in a house fire speaks far more eloquently of God's worthiness than any hymn of praise sung by a brother who is healthy, happy, and secure.

²⁰ Then Job arose and tore his robe and shaved his head and fell on the ground and worshiped. ²¹ And he said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return. The LORD gave, and the LORD has taken away; blessed be the name of the LORD."

²² In all this Job did not sin or charge God with wrong. Job 1:20-22

Sunday Sermons

2 Pet. 3:14-18

The Books of the Bible (a.m.)

The Radiance of God's Glory (p.m.)

Leadership

Elders Hayward Blanton, Jerry Casey

Deacons Clint Smith Jr, Robby Stocksdale
Joe Sweeney

Pulpit Minister David Wright

Associate Minister Irvin F. Williams

Panama Missions

Evans Campbell Pablo Sanchez

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Class 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 PM

We Offer Free Personal Bible Studies and Bible Correspondence Courses - Phone (812) 284-3125

Visit Our Website: www.hamburgpikecofc.org Email: church@hamburgpikecofc.org

Those Privileged to Serve

AM Service

Song Leader Michael Hawkins
First Prayer Clint Smith Jr
Second Prayer John Keaton
Scripture Greg Blanton
Sermon David Wright
Lord's Supper Luke 23:13-48
Message Rick Martin
Attendant Art Patrick
Attendant Haydn Blanton
Closing Prayer Harold Tincher

PM Service

Song Leader Robby Stocksdale
Bible Reading Leon Stocksdale
Selection 62
Prayer Clint Smith Sr
Sermon David Wright
Closing Prayer Joe Sweeney

*If unable to serve please call:
Art Patrick 502-819-9481 or
Harold Tincher 502-409-3511*

AM & PM Services

Announcements Clint Smith Jr
Lord's Supper Hank Tincher
Offering Grover Blanton
Usher Ernie Marshall
Count Offering Art Patrick
Assist Count Hank Tincher

*Do not be slothful in zeal,
be fervent in spirit, serve
the Lord. Rom 12:11*



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Freedom from Temptation!

By Gary Knuckles

Scripture is filled with references to Satan and his work of temptation. He is referred to as our adversary, the accuser of the brethren, a liar and a murderer, the tempter, and so on. All of which is intended to help us understand that he is not our friend and that he works against us, not for us. I doubt if many of us want a friend like that!

Satan's greatest work is done through temptation to sin. Regardless of the sin, you can be sure that Satan has a method to employ in causing your fall. He may tempt you by making sin look good, telling you there is no harm in it or that it will actually benefit you in some way. In some cases the appeal is so strong that we give in without a moment's thought or by thinking that we will not let it become a habit. After all, one or two things are not bad as long as we don't engage in them too regularly...right?

In truth, all sin will cause us to be lost and any sin practiced on a regular basis will eventually become a part of our lifestyle. Once wrapped up in it, we may find escape almost impossible. We will never have total freedom from temptation, but we can handle it when it comes our way. Here's a few things to consider in our efforts to be free from temptation.

- God's Word—Jesus used scripture to stave off Satan's advances. (Mt. 4:4, 7, 10)
- Prayer—Jesus taught his disciples to pray, "Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil..." (Mt. 6:13)
- Learn Satan's Methods—Paul said that we are ignorant of Satan's devices. (2 Cor. 2:11)
- Active Resistance—Telling ourselves we will NOT give in. (1 Cor. 9:27)
- Avoid People/Situations That Lead To Sin—Some things are just "too close for comfort." (1 Cor. 15:33; Gal. 5:13)
- Remember the Judgment—All of us will face it and answer for what we have done! (2 Cor. 5:11)

- Gary Knuckles preaches for the Briensburg Church of Christ in Benton, KY. He may be contacted through the congregation's website: <http://briensburgchurchofchrist.org/>

When Things Go Wrong

David Wright

A city dump is a wasteland of rusting appliances, broken furniture, soggy cardboard, and bags of trash. But worse than the ugly sights is the smell. The rotting refuse assaults the nostrils with an unforgettably sour stench. Does such a place remind the visitor of the beauty of God's creation? Does a dump invite worship or reflection on the Lord's infinite wisdom?

Not quite. But the city dump was precisely where Job found himself. He "sat among the ashes" (Job 2:8). The ash heap just outside an Arab village was the place to which its inhabitants brought their refuse. Occasionally, the rubbish was burned. The accumulation of ashes often made the ash heap the highest point in the vicinity.

The change in Job's circumstances is stupendous. The man is introduced to the Bible reader as a wealthy Arab sheik. His seven sons and three daughters are his delight, and he enjoys the deep respect of a community that admires his wise judgment and philanthropy to the poor. Job revels in the knowledge that the Lord is good to him. He never imagines that his extraordinary financial success is the result of his own keen intellect or business sense. Job's possessions are gifts, and he knows where they come from. He is a man at peace with the world and the God who made it, a man of remarkable integrity who reveres the Lord and hates evil.

When Satan entered the assembly of the sons of God, he challenged the Lord to "touch all that [Job] has, and he will curse thee to thy face" (Job 1:11). The Hebrew verb "curse" is literally "bless." Speaking euphemistically, the Adversary predicted that the smitten Job would bless God out. Job did indeed bless the Lord—but not in the euphemistic sense Satan had bargained for. After learning of all his grievous losses, "Job arose, and rent his robe, and shaved his head, and fell upon the ground, and worshiped" (v. 20).

What can the Christian today learn from Job's reverence for God? He, too, may find himself sitting among the ashes. A two-year-old daughter dies from leukemia. A cherished spouse commits adultery with a coworker and files for divorce so that she can "be happy again." Or staggering medical bills force a foreclosure on a house almost paid for. Why should anyone bless God when things go terribly wrong?

Because He is worthy. When the Lord draws attention to his upright servant, Satan replies, "Does Job fear God for nought? Hast not thou put a hedge about him and his house and all that he has?" (Job 1:9-10). The Adversary insinuates that God is not worthy of untainted devotion. Job honors God only for the rich rewards worship brings. The Lord-serving man of Uz is, in fact, a self-serving leech. He does not fear God "for nothing."

"For nothing" is a key element in Job's story. In the second heavenly scene, the Hebrew adverb rendered "for nothing" appears again—this time in God's mouth. Job "still holds fast his integrity," the Lord says, "although you moved me against him, to destroy him without cause" (Job 2:3). Without cause. For nothing. This lack of any discernible reason makes Job's ordeal unbearable.

(continued on the back page)

Prayer List: Chandra Akers (Marla), MARTIN BONNEY, JAYNE CRAVENS, Jerry Crick (Ann), Todd Cunningham (Hank), Esther Davis (Marian), JANICE DIMMITT, MYRNA DIMMITT, PATTY DIMMITT, MILDRED ELLIOTT, Zachary Ferguson, Elma Fielder (Marian), Lillian Foster, Diana Fulks (Norma), FRANK & MARY HARRIS, DOUG & JUDY HAWKINS, Pricilla Hudkins, ALLENE HUSTON, RON IVERSON, Bernie Jackson (Harold), Elise Jackson (Christine), Alice Jenkins (Ann), Charles & Marlyn Jenkins (Ann), Arletha Kenty (Nathan), Josephine King (Polly), MERLE & JOYCE KNUCKLES, FRANCES LAWTON, SUE LINNE & Rhea, Shelly Marshall, POLLY MCCLINTOCK, JERRY & SONJA MONTGOMERY, CAROL MOUSTY, Gary Peyton (Jean), Jerrie Phillips, CHRISTINE RHOTON, Cindy Roeder (Christine), Wendell & Betty Smith (Polly), Lynn Sullivan (Ann), THERESA TEMPLE, FERN TINCHER, Fulton Wilson (Ann)

Military Service: Matt Bartram, Stephen Blanton, Scott Viers, Zach West, Jeremy Whitlow

Hamburg Pike Happenings

Special Classes: On Wednesday evenings during the fall quarter, Hamburg Pike will enjoy two special classes. The men (including boy's grades 5 and up) will meet in the auditorium together for a leadership training class. The ladies (including girl's grades 5 and up) will meet for class together in the multi-purpose room.

Think About This...

"It is the man who has done nothing who is sure nothing can be done." – Anonymous

"I am still determined to be cheerful and happy, in whatever situation I may be; for I have also learned from experience that the greater part of our happiness or misery depends upon our dispositions, and not upon our circumstances." – Martha Washington

Real charity does not care if it is deductible or not.

Reputation is a bubble that usually bursts when you try to blow it up yourself.

If you want to change the world, forget about Wall Street—occupy church.

The word listen contains the same letters as the word silent.

You are now as young as you will ever be. You are also older than you've ever been before. Just hope you aren't as old as you are ever going to be.

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