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In the opening scenes of the book of Job, the reader meets a man whose life is in perfect order. Like his friends, he probably believes that good things always happen to good people and that bad things always happen to bad people. He is a man with so much money and social clout that a bit of snobbishness is almost inevitable. Evidence of this appears in one of Job's laments. "Now they make sport of me," Job complains, "men who are younger than I, whose fathers I would have disdained to set with the dogs of my flock" (Job 30:1).

But the Job presented in the closing scenes of the book has grown spiritually. By bitter experience he has learned that people innocent of any secret sin or wretched crime against heaven can and do suffer miserably. He now knows that pat answers to painful questions answer nothing, that affliction calls for compassion and not smugness, and that God manages the world wisely even when suffering people cannot see his purposes. His horrific ordeal has completely humbled him. "I have uttered what I did not understand," Job confesses, "things too wonderful for me, which I did not know" (Job 42:3).

Sermon

Matt. 28:18-20

Barnabas Brought Him (a.m.)

Superior to the Angels (p.m.)



The Worker

3108 Hamburg Pike, Jeffersonville, IN 47130 Ph. (812) 284-3125

Volume 2 Issue 37

www.hamburgpikecofc.org

September 15, 2013

Watch Your Words

At one time or another, we have all said things we later regretted. No one is immune to the foot-in-mouth disease. James wrote: "For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body" (James 3:2). The tongue is a dangerous thing when unbridled.

Paul warned against the misuse of the tongue when he wrote: "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another" (Colossians 3:8,9). Christians should not slander others, should not use profanities or vulgarities, and should not lie. In a positive way, what we say should be kind, pure, and true! Every word we speak should be examined to make sure it passes this threefold test. Is it kind? Is it pure? Is it true?

It is not only important that we say the right things but that we say them in the right way. "A soft answer turneth away wrath; but grievous words stir up anger" (Proverbs 15:1). When someone shouts at us, "I'm not angry!" we can be confident they are. That is why James also wrote: "...let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath" (James 1:19).

--Roger Rush preaches for the Sixth and Washington Street Church of Christ in Marietta, Ohio.

The Doily Box

As a new bride, Aunt Edna moved into the small home on her husband's ranch near Snowflake. She put a shoe box on a shelf in her closet and asked her husband never to touch it.

For fifty years Uncle Jack left the box alone, until Aunt Edna was old and dying. One day when he was putting their affairs in order, he found the box again and thought it might hold something important.

Opening it, he found two doilies and \$82,500 in cash. He took the box to her and asked about the contents. "My mother gave me that box the day we married," she explained. "She told me to make a doily to help ease my frustrations every time I got mad at you."

Uncle Jack was very touched that in 50 years she'd only been mad at him twice. "But what's the \$82,500 for?" he asked.

"Oh, that's the money I made selling the doilies."

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 Robby Stocksdale
Second Prayer Ernie Marshall
Scripture Grover Blanton
Sermon David Wright
Lord's Supper Luke 23:1-35
Message Joe Sweeney
Attendant Marc Owens
Attendant Brandon Montgomery
Closing Prayer David Blackwell

PM Service

Song Leader Clint Smith Jr
Bible Reading Hank Tincher
Selection 63
Prayer Leon Stocksdale
Sermon David Wright
Closing Prayer Irvin Williams

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

AM & PM Services

Announcements Harold Tincher
Lord's Supper Greg Blanton
Offering Hayward Blanton
Usher Jerry Montgomery
Count Offering Robby Stocksdale
Assist Count Marc Owens

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

Sitting among the Ashes

David Wright

Job is introduced to the Bible reader as a wealthy Arab sheik. His 10 children are his delight, and he enjoys the deep respect of a community that admires his wise judgment and generosity to the poor. Job revels in the knowledge that God is good to him. He is a man at peace with the world and its Creator, a man of remarkable integrity who reveres the Lord and hates evil.

After losing his children and all his possessions, “Job arose, and rent his robe, and shaved his head, and fell upon the ground, and worshiped” (Job 1:20). Shortly thereafter, he lost his health too. Covered with oozing and itching sores, Job “sat among the ashes” (2:8). In spite of stupendous suffering, Job continued to trust the Lord. But why should anyone rely on God when everything goes terribly wrong?

Because suffering can yield rich spiritual rewards. The operative word is “can.” Suffering itself is no guarantee of deeper faith, improved character, or greater dependence on God. The horrors of the Holocaust, for example, tempted many survivors to become atheists.

Healthy people sometimes ask the disabled if the loss of one sense heightens the senses that remain. The answer is no. Blindness, for instance, is commonly accompanied by other limitations. Diabetes, a leading cause of blindness in the U.S., deadens feeling in the fingertips and therefore makes learning Braille difficult or even impossible.

Nevertheless, it is true that people who cope well with physical limitations have learned to depend on their remaining senses. A blind person can safely cross a busy street by relying on his hearing and the information transmitted through the tip of his white cane. Even though unable to hear sirens, train whistles, and horns, a deaf person can maneuver safely through busy traffic by relying on his vision. What is the point?

Satan insinuates that if Job loses everything—his possessions, his children, his health, the support of his wife, his standing in the community, the respect of his friends—he will have nothing left. But Job sees his ordeal differently. When he loses everything, he still has something. God. No matter how desperate he feels, Job continues to depend on the Lord. “Though He slay me,” says the man of Uz, “yet will I trust Him” (Job 13:15, NKJV).

This firm decision to depend on the Lord is what transforms “can” into “will.” The suffering person who trusts God not only can but also will enjoy rich spiritual rewards. In Job’s case, grievous pain produces deepened intimacy, insight, and faith. “I had heard of thee by the hearing of the ear,” Job says, “but now my eye sees thee” (Job 42:5).

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Prayer Requests

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), THRESA TEMPLE, FERN TINCHER, Fulton Wilson (Ann)

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

Hamburg Pike Happenings

Men and Young Men, you are encouraged by the elders to volunteer as a Wednesday evening devotional speaker during the fall quarter. Please sign the volunteer list posted on the bulletin board. Lessons should be well prepared and only 3 – 5 minutes duration.

Our youth will have a time of fellowship and a devotional after the evening service on Sunday September 29. Matt Johnson will be the speaker. Moms are encouraged to bring finger foods. And the young people are encouraged to bring their friends.

Baptisms

Brittaney Welsh was baptized Wednesday night September 4th.

Maurice Proctor was baptized Sunday afternoon September 8th.

We rejoice with the decision that these young people have made. We welcome Maurice and Brittaney as our new brother and sister in Christ.

What Makes A Great Church?

What makes a great church?

Not big budgets, but big hearts;

Not money received, but service rendered;

Not tall buildings, but lofty vision;

Not record-breaking attendance, but God’s presence;

Not frantic motion, but dedicated action;

Not soft seats and bright lights, but courageous leadership;

Not loud talking, but quiet doing;

Not members in beautiful clothes, but members stressing truth,

Not actions in the past, but things being done now!