



# The Caller

A Weekly Newsletter of the Elizabethtown church of Christ  
Vol. XXXV May 18, 2008 No. 19

## Confidence Corner John F. Board

As we continue on our life long journey of building our faith, let us consider some thoughts on the Fall of Man and the Grace of God. The antagonists of Christianity tried in many ways to destroy Christianity.

One such man was Celsus. He hated Christianity and tried everything in his power to defeat it. Because he had such a hatred of Christianity, he would often make irresponsible charges against the Christian faith; he did not understand at all the one true religion of the one true God.

Consider what Celsus wrote regarding Genesis 3:9. In this passage we read "And the Lord God called unto the man and he said unto him, Where art thou." Celsus tried to use this verse to discredit God. He said that this verse indicated that God was trying to figure out the whereabouts of the man He had created.

Celsus, because he did not look into Christianity very deeply, misunderstood many things regarding God and His word. In Genesis 3:9 God is not trying to figure out the whereabouts of man at all. The passage rather indicates God's grace toward man who had been disobedient to Him. After man sinned, God did not turn His back on man nor did He give man what he deserved—death! Genesis 3:9 indicates that God lovingly sought out man who had turned from Him.

Notice though that God sought man to rebuke him for sinning. Later, God would use prophets like Nathan to point out the sins of people. In Genesis 3:9, God himself points out man's sin.

This passage uses two Hebrew verbs. These verbs are translated as "called" and "said." Literally the passage is translated "God called saying." Did you catch that? God graciously "called" to man; in calling to man though, He instructed man "saying."

This reminds me of what Titus wrote to Christians. He recorded that "the grace of God hath appeared bringing salvation to all men, instruction us..." (Titus 2:11-12). Whether at the beginning or in the last age, God has made His grace available to all men. He has done this through instruction that man must be willing to accept to access His grace.

Isn't the love of God amazing? Even men like Celsus, if they would have so chosen, could have turned to God, and He would have granted him salvation.

## Ray's Ramblings Ray Pack

### Tract of the Week

*"Seven Things God Hates—  
A Lying Tongue"*

As we continue our look at Proverbs 6:16-19, a lying tongue is the second of the things God

hates. Consider these two facts about lying, 1) the average person tells one lie per day and 2) the average person is lied to once every five minutes. These facts indicate that lying is accepted behavior in today's world. The scripture gives a totally different perspective about lying. This week's tract gives some beneficial Biblical information regarding lying.



Thanks to David & Claudia Woodring for hosting this month's devotional for the young people. Attendance was down over the past several months. However, those who went were uplifted and encouraged by being there. Parents, why not see to it that your child is in attendance at these devotionals?



Let me emphasize that the June 1 lunch is for the entire congregation to honor our graduates. Terry has posted a sign up sheet on the bulletin board for food that is needed.



### Sentence Sermons

Some Christians are like a wheelbarrow - They must be constantly pushed

Good intentions have never been accused  
of doing anything

Prayer does more than help us get what we want, it  
helps us become what God wants

The darkest hour is only 60 minutes long

### Sunday's Sermons:

A.M. - *When I Am Hurting*  
John 14:1-3

P.M. - *When I Am Struggling*  
Galatians 6:9; 1 Corinthians 15:58

# CONTRAST OF ATTITUDES

As a seventy year old man looked back on his life he wrote, "My whole life has been a succession of disappointments. I can scarcely recollect a single instance of success in anything that I ever undertook." By itself, this statement is sad indeed but consider who it was who made this statement. The man who wrote this statement was John Quincy Adams.

John Quincy Adams held more important offices than anyone else in the history of the U.S. He served with distinction as president, senator, congressman, minister to major European powers, and participated in various capacities in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and events leading to the Civil War. By all human standards it would appear Mr. Adams led a full life of great accomplishment—but this was not how Mr. Adams viewed his life.

Another man, as he approached the end of his life wrote, "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved his appearing." (NKJV)

This man, the apostle Paul, had been educated and he held an extremely high position in the Jews religion. Some say he was a "Trophy Israelite." Yet by man's standards, when he gave all of this up, many viewed him as a failure. Paul went from one who had a great position of honor, to a man who was imprisoned, beaten, shipwrecked, hungry, tired, and often on the run from men who sought his life. Yet at the end of his life as he looked back, Paul seemed to feel he had something to look forward to because of the way he had lived his life.

What made the difference in the attitude of the two men as they looked back over their lives? The difference was found in their pursuits in life. John Quincy Adams was a man who had accomplished much in worldly pursuits; they were good in and of themselves, but they were not pursuits that brought him lasting happiness. Paul, though his pursuits were not viewed by the world as successful, recognized the value of living a life of service to God and others.

Earlier in his life Paul had written, "For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain." Regarding the things he had accomplished in the Jews religion he wrote, " But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ." The amazing fact about these statements written by Paul is this—he was in prison when he wrote them.

A key to Paul's attitude is found in the passage from 2 Timothy 4: 6-8. Notice Paul wrote "I have fought **the good fight** (emphasis mine jfb). Paul had realized that there was only "one fight/ cause" that actually mattered. He was about the greatest cause of all. Because of this, he could look back on his life and see the value of it; he also could look forward to eternity. His life given in service to God and others, provided him great hope.

Here is my point. I am not saying that a Christian cannot or should not be a part of any other cause outside of Christianity. There are many good things that can be accomplished by Christian people. What I am saying is that in the end, if your life has not been given to the greatest cause of all, first and foremost, nothing else will matter and as you look back on your life there will be an emptiness. As you contemplate eternity, only the life given to "the good fight" will provide comfort as you face the end of your life. May we all realize the need to give ourselves wholly to the cause of Christ.

John F. Board  
Elizabethtown, KY

# News and Notes

**DAVID KEISTER** had back surgery Thursday at Norton Hospital in Louisville. **NEIL BURDEN** had a bone scan Tuesday at Hardin Memorial. **DIANE LEWIS** underwent some outpatient tests Wednesday. **BARBARA UNDERWOOD** has been dealing with some health problems. **GRACE SPEER** continues to deal with bronchitis.

## MEMBERS TO INCLUDE ON PRAYER LISTS

Betty Addington	J Martin
Neil Burden	Tom Morgan
Larry Clack	Kevin Nowland
Elonda Crafton	Herb Pence
W. C. Davis	Marie Rose
Dana Fox	Terry Showers
Howard Gardner	Grace Speer
Bernard Gillim	Wilma Stull
Faye Guess	Barbara Underwood
Nellie Hart	Lonnie Underwood
David Keister	Mary Walker
Kent Lane	Lawrence Wells

Let us continue to remember the following military personnel in our prayers: Dave Fulbright, Robert E. Wooten, Justin Gardner, Kelly Leverett, George Edwards, Joe Betterton, Myles Brothers, Dale Martin, Terry Turner, Cameron Ponder, Brett Fleming, Mike Chandler, Nathan Blair, Nathan McClain, Willie Mitchell

**Additional Prayer List:** Jan Allen, Weita Anderson, K.C. Avery, Christa Bradley, Grace Brown, Sue Cantrell, Michael Clymer, Betty Davis, Evelyn Davis, Marie Dennison, Sydney Dover, Ellen Duvall, David Fant, Berna Jean Goff, Betty Goheen, Priscilla Gratton, Renee Green, Terry Griffin, Jane Hack, Don Hatcher, Louie Hodge, Rose Johnson, Michelle Lawson, Lina Lee, Bruce LeFevre, Gayle Massey, Erman McClaskey, Lucinda McCune, Terri McDonald, Susan Moller, Julie Murphy, Riley Nelson, Lynn & Carla Parsons, Joe & John Pawley, Ann Peters, Patsy & Joe Richter, Paul Jacob Sells, Sara Sharp, Roge-Ge-Neal Smith, Ginny & Ron Stanley, Florence Stull, Reiko Tarasavage, Patsy Taylor, Juanita Tillery, Laura Walker, Kevin Weaver, Nora Wilkins, Butch Yates, Bobby White

## Pantry Item of the Week

Week of 5/25/08 Canned Vegetables

**NOTE:** The church office will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

## Welcome

Kathy Ferguson was immersed for the remission of her sins last Sunday evening! We rejoice with her and ask our members to encourage Kathy as our newest sister in Christ. She lives at 600 Claysville Landing, Apt. 1A, Elizabethtown, KY 42701. Phone # is 270/590-1580. Welcome, Kathy!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- **TAYLOR CHRISTIAN CAMP STAFF, CAMPERS & PARENTS MEETING**, Sunday morning, **May 25**, in Room 10 immediately after services. This is a very important meeting to discuss some particulars for Bible camp.
- **SINGING AT ATRIA**, Sunday afternoon, **May 25**, at 3:00 p.m. Last month 15 of our members joined in singing with the residents of Atria. Your participation is always appreciated.
- **BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY GET-TOGETHER**, Sunday night, **May 25**, in the South Wing. CSG #3 will host and its members are asked to bring finger foods. Those having birthdays or anniversaries and their families are invited to stay.
- **YOUTH BANQUET**, Sunday, **June 1**, in the South Wing to honor our high school graduates. Everyone is invited to attend. A sign up sheet is posted on the bulletin board for food needed.
- **BRIDAL SHOWER** for Leanna Stough & Bryan Allen, Sunday, **June 8**, in the South Wing following evening services. Leanna & Bryan are registered at Belks, Kohls, Wal-Mart & Bed Bath & Beyond.
- **DIANA SINGING, June 13-14**, Diana, TN
- **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, June 22-26**. Lessons will focus on Elijah, King Josiah, Jehoshaphat, Naaman & Jonah.

## OUR RECORD FOR May 18, 2008

Sunday Bible Study	158
Sunday Morning Assembly	218
Sunday Evening Assembly	129
Tuesday Ladies Bible Class	16
Wednesday Bible Study	128
Contribution (Budget -- \$5,905)	\$6,397

Elder/Coordinator for May  
Mike Pence

Elizabethtown Church of Christ  
P. O. Box 652  
1211 N. Dixie Ave.  
Elizabethtown, KY 42701

Church Office: 765-6446  
Fax # 737-0491

**Elders:**

Ron Carter 358-5792  
Henry McAlister 765-7386  
Mike Pence 737-8123  
Rick Whobrey 769-9267

**Ministers:**

John Board 763-1677  
Ray Pack 982-3460  
cell # 723-7564

**Secretary:**

Kim Whobrey 769-9267

Email: churchofchrist@kvnet.org

Visit us on the World Wide Web:  
www.etowncofc.org

**Bible Question**

*This Week's Bible Question: What prophetess led the women of Israel in a victory dance?*

*Last Week's Bible Question: I was pardoned by David after I confessed my sins and plead for mercy. Who am I? The correct answer is Shimei, 2 Samuel 19:18b-23. Lisa Treadway, Joyce Pack, Edna Ashlock, Kay Thomason, and Bloria Taylor correctly answered last week's Bible question.*

*Please write down your answer and give it to Ray, put it in the box outside the church office before next Wednesday or email your answer to ray.pack@kvnet.org by Tuesday afternoon. Please include the Scripture reference and your name.*

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship 10:30 A.M.  
Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.

**Tuesday**

Ladies Bible Class 10:30 A.M.

**Wednesday**

Evening Bible Class 7:00 P.M.

Daily Bible Reading Schedule  
1. Job 12:13-16:10  
2. Job 16:11-20:11  
3. Job 20:12-24:12  
4. Job 24:13-29:13  
5. Job 29:14-32:10  
6. Job 32:11-35:16  
7. Job 36:1-39:12

May 25 — Singing at Atria  
May 25 — Birthday/Anniversary Get-together  
June 1 — Youth Banquet  
June 8 — Stough/Allen Bridal Shower  
June 8-13 — Taylor Christian Camp  
June 13-14 — Diana Singing, TN  
June 22-26 — Vacation Bible School

**PARTICIPATION**

Are You Part of the

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Elizabethtown, KY 42702

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