

THE WAY IT'S ALWAYS BEEN

Psalm 12:1

Help, Lord, for the godly man ceases to be, for the faithful disappear from among the sons of men.

Let's do away with this "woe is us" mentality when it comes to the world in which we live. Somewhere along the way, we got to thinking that, from a morality point of view, things are worse than they've ever been.

Is it really the case that things are a lot worse today? I've been hearing that for a very long time. Since I was a boy, I've been hearing people say that times are worse than they have ever been. That seems to be the one thing that every generation has in common.

The Psalmist made an interesting observation when he cried "help, Lord, for the godly man ceases to be." The things of which he went on to complain serve as an accurate description of mankind in any age of history. The world has always been filled with sin. That's why Jesus had to die.

Maybe Christians ought to be a little more concerned about the mandate Jesus gave them in Matthew 5:13, 14. That mandate calls for us to be both salt and light. Eleanor Roosevelt was correct when she observed "it's easier to curse the darkness than to light a candle." We need to focus more on "lighting candles" than on cursing darkness. God will take care of the darkness. He gave us the responsibility to be a powerful and positive influence. Let's light some candles.

--Ron Harper--

You Are What You Eat

“Therefore, I desire that men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In the same way also, I desire that women adorn themselves in decent clothing, with modesty and sensibleness, not adorned with braiding, or gold, or pearls, or costly clothing, but with good works, which becomes women professing godliness.” 1 Timothy 2:8-10.

“You are what you eat.” My mother told me this growing up and honestly, as a child, it scared me. I loved popcorn! (Still do...) Every day, or almost every day after school I would come home, pop a bag of extra butter popcorn, and eat the entire bag in a matter of minutes. While this was obviously not the best, healthiest choice, my mother would say, “If you keep eating that stuff, you’re going to turn into popcorn!” As humorous as it is now, it was scary for a seven-year-old boy who took everything literally. I didn’t want to spend my life smothered in butter!

There is a great image presented when Jesus said he would separate the sheep from the goats. Sheep have a well-balanced diet and are grass grazers. Goats, on the other hand, eat bark, leaves, and even trash. In other words, what we take in effects what comes out. If we take in trashy things like inappropriate media, bad relationships, or even our own temptations, it will be seen in our everyday lives. However, if we take in the things that are healthy for our spiritual growth, we will produce the fruits of the Spirit. In either case, the ones who are around us will notice.

So what does this have to do with the verse at the top of the page? It’s simple. We (and yes, I say WE) are allowing ourselves to be influenced by the trash that we see on a daily basis. We think we have to dress or talk or act in a certain way to be liked and accepted by society. *NEWS FLASH!* We aren’t part of society! We are members of a kingdom with a dictator as our Lord and Ruler. What he says goes. Paul writes as inspired by the Spirit in this passage for men and women both to live in a way that would be noticed by others as Godly and moral. Yes, that includes the way we dress and speak and act.

So, let’s recap. What goes in must come out so don’t eat trash. God calls us to holy and transformed lives not conformed to this world. God loves you so much that he sent his son to die so we can be transformed. *Let’s live for him!*

Joshua Houston

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

We extend sympathy to the family of **Martha Devore**. Her funeral was conducted yesterday at Woodbine Hickory chapel. She was the sister of Imogene Bozeman.

We extend sympathy to the family of **J. T. Edmunds**. He passed away on Wednesday, May 25th. He was the nephew of Nancy Colvin and grandson of Helen Wade.

SICK:

Nell Jernigan, Kinley Mobbs

TAKING TREATMENTS:

Lois Arnold

SHUT INS:

Rita Reed, Mabel Robertson, Houston Henry, Oleta Bullard

PRAYER REQUEST:

Shirley Bibb, Opal Jones, Dan & Lorene Stephens, Wayne Mobbs, Marie Fleming, Lorene Maddox, Selma Boyd, Janneil Brown, Gerald Wiseman, Jeanie Young, Oleta Bullard, Mabel Robertson, Ernestine Taylor, Janneil Brown, Kinley Mobbs, Jackie Sims

NURSING HOMES & ASSISTED LIVING:

*MEMBERS

ADAMS PLACE: Nora Fann*

DIVERSICARE OF SMYRNA: Jean Nickens*

NHC: Sue Reeves*, Lizzie Bush, Geri Melton*, Ernestine Taylor*

STONES RIVER MANOR: Edna Vance*, Virgie Leonard*, Margaret Davidson*, Jeweldean Hall*, Laura Wiser*, Lillian Whitworth, Louise McKnight*

MILITARY:

Tony Berry

There will be a Baby Basket Shower
for

Jason & Tori Melhorn

They are expecting a baby boy in June.
The basket will be located in the foyer near the kitchen.



The Visitor

IN MEMORY DONATIONS

We have received donations In Memory of **Jane Smith** to the Building Fund and Scholarship Fund by the following:

***Ron Meers**

***Sandra Borrás**

NEWS & NOTES

WELCOME! To our new members:

***Joyce Pulse**

***Kasey Troupe**

***Wendell & Rita Mingle**

***CONGRATULATIONS** to the Minelli family! Brittany had a boy, John Thomas, on Wednesday, May 25th.

***Pew Packers** today @ 5:15 p.m.

***MYM** – Tuesday, May 31st @ 7p.m. Walter Hill church of Christ. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer.

***Concord Road Church of Christ** - Area-Wide singing for College Age and Young Professionals on Saturday, June 11th.

***4-man Golf Scramble** on June 18th at Champions Run Golf Course. It will start at 1:30 and the cost will be \$45 per person. Payment due to Robert McKnight by June 5th.

***Inner City**- the cost per camper is \$125 or less would be fine. Money is due by Wednesday, June 8th to Fred Rogers. Make checks out to Murfreesboro Inner City church of Christ.

***We have 27 people** going to Nicaragua and they would love to receive cards of encouragement. Sign-up sheet is in the foyer. Mission Trip is June 24th -July 1st.

***The Middle Tennessee Christian School Golf Classic** will be held at Champions Run Golf Course on Friday, June 24th. The cost is \$100 per player, \$400 per team. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Go to mtscouagrs.org for all the details or call 615-893-0601 ext. 114

May 29, 2016

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office@salemcreekcoc.org

We're on the web!
www.salemcreekcoc.org

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday
 Morning Worship 9:00 am
 Bible Classes 10:15 am
 Evening Worship 5:30 pm

Wednesday
 Ladies Morning Bible Class (Sept-May) 10:00 am
 Evening Bible Classes 6:30 pm

ELDERS

B.K. Ham
 Jim Hatfield
 Jon Holland
 Andy Mitchell
 Randall Phifer
 Keith Short

MINISTER

Ron Harper

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Joshua Houston

DEACONS

Larry Benson Andy Melton
 Michael Bowman Brian Melton
 Craig Buckner Alan Pepper
 Bob Hoover Wendell Wilson

FOR THE RECORD

May 22, 2016

Sunday	AM worship	168
	Bible classes	140
	PM worship	128
	Contribution	\$4,954.05

Wednesday	PM Bible classes	105
Wednesday	AM Ladies Class (Sept-May)

GREETERS

*Please be at the door
 15 minutes prior to services!*



May 22

Robert & Mary Ann McKnight

May 29

Drew & Amanda Mitchell

To Our Honored Guests...

We are happy you chose to worship with us today! Please stay after our assembly so that we can get acquainted with you and your family. We invite you to come back as often as you have opportunity!

We were honored by your presence!