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Meeting Times:

Sunday:

Bible Study9:45 AM
Worship10:40 AM
Care, Inc. Service 2:30 PM
Worship 6:00 PM

Wednesday:

Ladies Bible Class.10:00 AM
Bible Study 7:00 PM

Elders:

Gene Bannister..... Billy Chism

Deacons:

Mike Bannister..... Don Smith

James Thomas

Preacher:

Johnny McCaghren

Works We Support:

Cherokee Home for Children

Gospel Broadcast Network

Heart of Texas Bible Camp (Bangs)

House to House, Heart to Heart

Mission Printing

Rohan Jones, Africa

The Truth in Love

World Bible School

Kernels of Knowledge From our Daily Bible Reading

Beware of Satan's Tactics

The book of Job is a marvelous piece of ancient, Scripture. Although scholars are uncertain who the author of the text actually is or the exact time period when it was written, they have speculated that it may be the oldest book in the Bible. As ancient as it may be, there are many valuable lessons for us today in this inspired work.

The first five verses of the book provide us with valuable insight regarding the kind of man Job was. More important than "where he was from" or "what era he lived in" are the personal insights we gain here. Job was a very godly, family-oriented man. Obviously well blessed with not only a tremendously close family and great wealth, Job was, without a doubt, a shrewd business man who could manage a large estate, many servants, and large herds. As a man of great integrity, Job was able to maintain a high degree of spirituality for himself and his family while achieving material success. Job was complete, mature in character, and took his relationship with God very seriously; in fact, it was the most serious aspect in his life. Of course, early in the book of Job, Satan sought permission from God to test Job's faith. In the successive chapters, Satan will dig deep into his "bag of tricks" and unleash his arsenal of diabolical tactics upon Job, trying to crush his faith. Individuals today can derive an applicable lesson from reading about the devil's assault on Job: We can familiarize ourselves with his tactics, so that we, like Job, can strengthen our own defenses against the evil one.

Tactic One: Our Possessions

Satan asked God, "*Have you not put a hedge around him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. But stretch out your hand and touch all that he has, and he will curse you to your face*" (Job 1:10,11).

In essence, Satan says Job has lived in a bubble! Satan believes if Job's earthly possessions and blessings are taken from him, he will turn from God. Satan is banking on a certain premise: Job's faith is grounded more on his earthly possessions than upon God. By deploying this tactic, Satan hopes Job will, after losing all of his "things," think negatively about God—even blame God!

Can this tactic work against us today? Can Satan use our worldly possessions to undermine our faith? He most certainly can. Satan undermines our faith by slowly nudging us to become consumed with our materialism. Today's society is all about having more and more things—doing more and more things. If we don't keep our focus on God, before we know it, these "things" become the center of our life. If we are not careful, our desires for wealth and the accumulation of worldly goods are more important than our relationship with God. It's at this point in our life that Satan can capture our soul!

Tactic Two: Personal Tragedy

After losing most of his possessions, Job was then told, "*Your sons and your daughters were eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house, and behold, a great wind came across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young people, and they are dead*" (Job 1:18,19).

(Continued on page 2)

Let us know if you want to study
the Bible to know more about
Christ and His Church.



"There was a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job, and that man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.... And the Lord said to Satan, "Have you considered my servant Job, that there is none like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, who fears God and turns away from evil?" **Job 1:1,8**

(Continued from page 1)

Job lost seven sons and three daughters tragically in one day. Can you imagine the death of ten children (in Job's case all of his children) in one day? I have to be honest with you. I cannot even begin to relate to such a loss. The two children that I have in my life have brought to me a love that I have never known. I'm certainly not underestimating the love we have for our spouse or our parents or grandparents; it's just that one's love for his/her own child is really unique. I just can't imagine losing one, not to mention all of them, under any circumstances. We should thank God every day for our children and their health. Likewise, we should remember to stay firm in our faith in the event tragedy does strike.

Satan can use our strong love we have for our children against us. Regarding individuals who have lost a child, how many of these people have become bitter and even blamed God for the loss of that child? How many have departed the faith because of such a loss? When tragedy besets us, we must remember there are faithful Christians we can turn to for support and guidance. Find a brother or sister who has been through such a tragedy and lean on them; ask them to pray with you and for you! Paul says, "that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together" (I Corinthians 12:25,26). We must also remember to turn to our Lord during times of tribulation and anguish; He is always there to comfort us, if we will simply ask.

Tactic Three: Personal Suffering

"So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head" (Job 2:7).

Next, Satan can and will use sickness and pain in our life as another tactic against us. Yes, there certainly are faithful Christians today whose health has deteriorated such that they are no longer able to serve God as they once did. However, we all must guard ourselves against allowing a few more "aches and pains" to become an excuse to "sideline us" in our service to God. Do you know anyone who isn't attending worship regularly or getting involved in church work simply because they now have a few more "aches and pains?" If so, encourage and pray for these individuals not to succumb to this tricky strategy of Satan.

Tactic Four: Our Friends

After all of Job's trouble had befallen him, three of his friends came initially to sympathize with him and comfort him (Job 2:11). The text reveals, however, they do more condemning instead of comforting. In essence, all three of Job's friends suspect that Job has committed some hideous sin causing all of his troubles. Satan can and will often use our friends to destroy our relationship with God. There are many different ways Satan can use friendship as an offensive weapon against us. One very effective method is peer pressure—especially for younger people. He starts early, attacking our children at a young, tender age, yet the attack is subtle, almost innocent. Children want to be liked and accepted. They want to fit in. At first Satan's snare may disguise itself as simply wearing the clothes that everyone else is wearing or having the same hair style as everyone else. As time goes on, Satan slowly, methodically, turns up the heat. Almost unaware of the attack, our kids are being pressured to go a little farther to continue to fit in. They may contend with dirty jokes or a few curse words, all in the name of fitting in. Later, they may even be pressured to "break away" from their parental bond. At this stage, parents are no longer their most trusted confidants, rather their friends are. Children under this attack may see parents as "out of touch" and "old-fashioned."

But his strategy isn't Satan's full attack; he's still holding back. He will continue slowly and meticulously to push our kids farther away from us. Once the bond has been broken between parent and child and their friends mean everything to them, Satan then hits them with all he has. They are then pressured to take that first alcoholic drink or smoke that first joint, or even go "all the way" on a date. Why? It's simple. The reason hasn't changed from the beginning. It's the same reason they were to wear the clothes, or to have the same hair style. Why? Because everyone else is doing it! That's it. That's Satan's finest tool in his arsenal—because everyone else is doing it!

Don't be fooled my friends. Satan is a real being who can be very subtle and extremely crafty. He will use anything and everything to distract, disappoint and defeat us! If we are constantly aware of Satan's devices, we are much less likely to fall prey to him. Satan's goal isn't simply to tempt you to sin, he wants you as one of his own! We need to know our adversary and resist his attacks. Most of all, we need to rely on our advocate—Jesus Christ!

Adapted from an article by Rickey Shive

Television

The Truth In Love (Robert Dodson)

Sunday @ 7:00am on KTAB

In Search of the Lord's Way (Phil Sanders)

Sunday @ 7:30am on KTAB

Life In The Light (Chris McCurley)

Sunday @ 10:30am on KTAB

Radio

Preaching the Word (Michael Light)

Sunday @ 9:00am on KOXE 101.3

Internet

TheGospelRadioNetwork.org

Gospel Broadcasting Network (Gbnv.org)

God's Plan for Redeeming Man

Hear Learn the saving message of Christ's sacrifice (1 Cor. 1:18; Rom. 10:17).

Believe Jesus is the Son of God (John 8:24)

Confess Jesus as your Lord, Lawgiver, and King (Rom. 10:9-10; Matt. 10:32-33)

Repent of your sinful conduct (Luke 13:3,5)

Complete your initial obedience to the gospel by being **baptized** for the forgiveness of your sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)

Live faithfully (Rev. 2:10; 2 Tim. 4:7-8)

Bible Reading Schedule

Jan. 11 Job 29-31

Jan. 12 Job 32-34

Jan. 13 Job 35-37

Jan. 14 Job 38-39

Jan. 15 Job 40-42

Jan. 16 Genesis 12-15

Jan. 17 Genesis 16-18

Jan. 18 Genesis 19-21

"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

(2 Timothy 2:15)



- ◆ Each Sunday night immediately before the evening worship. Last week **22 contacts** were made.

On the Calendar

- ◆ Mar. 29 - Apr. 1—**Spring Gospel Meeting** with **Chris McCurley**.
- ◆ Oct. 10—**4th & Stewart Ladies Day** with **Nancy Wheat**.
- ◆ Oct. 11-14—**Fall Gospel Meeting** with **Bobby Wheat**.

Preaching in Africa

My grandfather Loy Mitchell is one of the best preachers I know. I don't say that flippantly or because I am his granddaughter. I have heard a lot of preachers—I am related (by marriage and by blood) to many preachers—I know many more. I think most of you would agree with me that he is blessed with the talent of preaching.

But many of you have only ever seen him in the States. And as good as he is here, he moves into his element in Zimbabwe.

He is among his own people there—he is home. He is with family. It's not just Christian family (though there is an element of that). It's that he has spent so long there and learned so much of the Shona culture and language. Now he is a *sekuru* (grandfather) there. They know who he is. They know how much he loves the people, the land, the lost, there especially. And it's as if it's in his blood. He comes alive in the pulpit. He switches between English and Shona—it's all melded together in his mind—the lines are blurred and no longer there between English and Shona. He smiles and the people smile back. They love him because he has become one of them. The Shona people there are a much livelier and active listening audience. They respond to him with *amens*, laughter, and nods.

He has dedicated most of his life to spreading the gospel, in Zimbabwe especially. And when he goes back, the Shona people see it as a homecoming. He has left us, his physical family, with a legacy—a life rich in the fruit of the spirit, drenched in the sweat of hard days of mission work and ministry. An example to follow, like Paul: "*Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ*" (1 Corinthians 11:1).

Teaching in Africa

God's people are God's people wherever you are—Poland, Zimbabwe, Oklahoma, Paraguay. And although we may be separated by cultures or languages, climates or foods, we are bound together by the ultimate tie—the blood of Christ.

And we can still teach the same truths, comfort each other with the comforts with which we have been comforted with, love with the same love.

I was confronted with this unifying thought after one of the ladies' classes. I had taught for about 20 minutes and then Debbie had followed with a short lesson as well. She then opened up the floor for questions.

One brave woman bared her heart to all of us there. Her husband was not a Christian, and this was the burden she laid before us: she knew what that meant for him in eternity and she could not persuade him to do otherwise.

And Debbie shared her own story, of a time in her life when her first husband was not sure of his faith in God. Of the heartache she had felt and the despair. And of how she prayed and lived the life she knew to be right. Finally, she shared of how her husband came back to the Lord—and of how he reached and taught many people the gospel with renewed faith.

There wasn't a dry eye in that group of women. All of us were brought to the realization that we really aren't all that different. The things that we treasure in our hearts, the quite desires of our spirits are the same across boundaries of race and culture and money. If we know the Lord truly, we want (and especially for those we love the best) for others to know and obey Him too.

Tracy Watts

(her observations and insights about teaching in Zimbabwe, July 2014)

Celebrate

"Rejoice with those who rejoice..." (Romans 12:15)

January Birthdays: Tom Wilcox (17), Anita Boyd (19), Jaceton Evetts (20), Mattison Churchwell (25), Karen Bland (29) and Judie Turner (29).

January Anniversaries: None

Mistakes? Left Out? Let Johnny know...



Records

	Dec. 28, 2014	Jan. 4, 2015
Bible Class	37	39
AM Worship	55	56
PM Worship	44	39
Wednesday PM	30	36
Contribution	\$1,493	\$1,666

Privileged To Serve

"...be ready to every good work" (Titus 3:1)

This Week: 1/11/15		Next Week: 1/18/15		January 2015 Make Announcements: Don Smith Prepare Communion: Billy & Peggy Chism Clean Building: Jack & Judie Turner Keep Grounds: James Fuller February 2015 Make Announcements: Joe Dennis Prepare Communion: Peggy Moore Clean Building: Johnny & Cindy McCaghren Keep Grounds: Tom Wilcox
Sunday AM:	Song Leader: Mike Bannister	Song Leader: Mike Bannister		
Greeters	James & Cindy Fuller	Joe Dennis Family		
Opening Prayer	Allen Griffith	Tom Wilcox		
Communion	Garrett Barnum*, John Barnum Ken Maninger, Chase Churchwell	Don Smith*, Gene Bannister John Barnum, James Fuller		
Closing Prayer	Gene Bannister	James Thomas		
Attendance Cards	Chase Churchwell	Caleb Dennis		
Sunday PM:	Song Leader: James Fuller	Song Leader: Joe Dennis		
Opening Prayer	Tom Wilcox	Ken Maninger		
Scripture Reading	Hank Wheeler	Allen Griffith		
Communion	Garrett Barnum	Don Smith		
Closing Prayer	John McCaghren	Billy Chism		
Wednesday Devotionals:	January 14 Garrett Barnum	January 21 Joe Dennis	January 28 Allen Griffith	February 4 Tom Wilcox

Search the Scriptures

Be like the Bereans who "received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11)

Studies for the week of January 11, 2015	Sunday Class Acts 2:33ff Wednesday Class Back to the Bible: Lesson 2
<p>The Christian Leader's (Elder/Deacon/Preacher/Etc.) Wife</p> <p>I. Role of a Christian leader's wife.</p> <p>A. A man's wife can disqualify him as a Christian leader.</p> <p>B. A wife is to support her husband, love God and love the church.</p> <p>II. General Qualifications for a Christian leader's wife.</p> <p>A. As a Christian, her life must be an example to the believers "in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, in purity" (1 Tim. 4:12).</p> <p>B. So what makes the wife of a Christian leader different from any other woman in the Lord's church?</p> <p>III. Specific Qualifications listed for a Christian leader's wife.</p> <p>A. Her place is so important that, after listing the qualifications of elders and deacons, Paul made this statement: "Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things" (1 Timothy 3:11).</p> <p>B. Be dignified [grave].</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Wives should take their work seriously and conduct themselves in a way that relates to being a godly woman. The wife of a Christian leader must be dignified in all their attitudes and duties toward their husband and the church. She should be an example of the "imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which in God's sight is very precious" (1 Peter 3:4). <p>C. Not slanderers. Gossiping should not be done by any Christian.</p> <p>D. Sober-minded.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Means "self-control" This covers every phase and every act of one's life – speech, in drink, in eating, and in every possible condition of life. <p>E. Faithful in all things.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Just as Christian leaders must be faithful – so should their wives. <p>IV. She supports her husband.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> By setting a good example. By being willing to share him with others. By being there for him to talk to. By praying for him. By understanding the commitment he has made to serve God. <p>While each Christian should support the leadership in their work for the Lord – no support is more important than the support a leader receives from his wife.</p>	<p>1 John 5:1-12 – Tests of Faith and Love</p> <p>III. God is Love 3:1-5:12</p> <p>A. TESTS OF FAITH AND LOVE 5:1-12</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God. This is not "Faith Only," neither "Love Only" nor "Practices Righteousness only." It takes all three: Faith, Love and Obedience! Love God and obey his commandments. Keep. To keep, observe, obey for ourselves. Burdensome. Indicates a heavy and oppressive burden. Overcomes the world. Their faith enabled them to overcome everything that is opposed to God. Overcomes. A continuous struggle – there is continual victory only because there is continuous struggle. By our faith in Jesus as the Son of God, we are so united with Him that His victory becomes ours. We conquer only by His power! By water and blood. Some Gnostics were saying Jesus came by water, but not by blood – John denies any such claim. The Spirit is the one who testifies. John and the apostles bear witness to the truth of what they have seen and heard (1:2; 4:14), but behind their witness is the witness of the Holy Spirit (3:24; 4:13). Note textual difference between KJV, NKJV and other translations. There are three that bear witness – The Spirit, water and blood. If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater. Reasoning from the lesser to the greater. We do accept the testimony of men; thus we should much more readily accept the testimony of God who is greater. Has the testimony in himself. Has made Him a liar. An insult to God's truthfulness! Eternal life...in His Son. Jesus proclaimed Himself as the "resurrection and the life." Those who are united to Him by faith enjoy eternal life in prospect – right now. But those who reject Him are "condemned already". Has life. Since having the Son is conditional on faithfulness and obedience to Him, it follows that the life (eternal) contemplated here is also conditional.