

The Messenger

COLDWATER CHURCH OF CHRIST

Feb. 6, 2011



QUESTIONS FROM THE BACK OF MY BUSINESS CARD PART 1

by Clifton Angel

This past week, I placed an order for much-needed business cards, so that when I come in contact with various people (lost or saved), I can leave with them identification of myself and the meeting place of the Coldwater Church of Christ. Furthermore, I will be leaving with each person six important and thought-provoking questions that every person should ask with an open mind--ready and willing to accept the evidence. It is my wish (as is with others that have used this same avenue) that some will seek the answers to these questions and agree to open the Bible in a search for the Truth. Therefore, I believe it will be beneficial to us all if we examine each question in the publishing of this bulletin.

The first question: "Is there a God in heaven?" For those of us that believe that the Divinely-inspired Word of God is found within the pages of the Bible, the answer to this question seems rather elementary. For, we could open to the first verse and see that the Bible demands the existence of God and there are no questions about it: *In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth* (Gen. 1:1). Also, we could reference the exclamatory statement of young Daniel when he said to Nebuchadnezzar, *There is a God in heaven* (Dan. 2:28). However, if we were to set our Bibles aside just for a moment, (so that we might answer the question for those that have no clue what the Bible is and for those that have yet to believe from Whom it came) the answer can become more serpentine.

Now, how are we going to go about answering the most important question of the existence of God without the Bible? Let us open up our...

This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you... (1 John 1:5).

VISITORS, WELCOME!

Sunday:

9:30 a.m. Bible Class

10:30 a.m. WORSHIP

5:00 p.m. WORSHIP

Wednesday:

7:00 p.m. Bible Class

We have Bible classes for
all ages & Pew Packers
on 1st & 3rd Sundays at
4:15 p.m.

P.O. Box 321

2008 Hwy. 306

(1.2 miles east of I-55)

Coldwater, MS 38618

(662) 622-7951

emailus@coldwatercofc.com

ELDERS

Billy Bland

W. Timothy Wilkes, Sr.

Jim Jackson

DEACONS

Jason Bayless Jared Brown

Jerry Davis Jeffrey Ferrell

Ron Johnson Andy Ratliff

PREACHER

Clifton Angel

science textbooks and physics textbooks and notice the parts of those books that contain things that have been proven, things that have been tested in a laboratory. The metaphysical (supernatural) cannot be tested in a lab, but if there is a Higher Being, and there is, and if He is a Creator, and He is, then it is possible that His creation can be tested in a lab in order to point to His existence.

First, we must be of the realization that *matter* exists. For those of us who are still of a sound mind, it is no doubt that *matter* exists. Our bodies, the earth, the stars, and so many other things could be listed which are made up of the physical substance called *matter*. Why does *matter* matter? We are concerned with it in the study at hand because of the continuously proven law of physics known as the **law of conservation of energy/matter**, or the First Law of Thermodynamics. This law states that *matter* can neither be created nor destroyed. Does that pose a problem for us? It is obvious that *matter* is here, but how did it get here?

Before applying any scientific laws, there are only three possibilities to the existence of *matter*: (1) It is eternal. It has always been here and always will be here. (2) It came from nothing. It randomly appeared at some point out of the vast nothingness that was before. (3) It was created by Something or Someone above scientific law--Supernatural. Number two can be thrown out immediately. It has been proven over and over that from nothing comes nothing. To believe that nothing could generate something would require much more faith than believing in an all-powerful, all-knowing, all-present God. It violates the well-known First Law of Thermodynamics mentioned above. It is of necessity that we next address number one. Can the eternity of matter be disproven? We must consider the Second Law of Thermodynamics. Whereas the first states that matter/energy can neither be created nor destroyed and that it can only be changed into different forms, the second law further defines the conservation of energy as matter changes from one state to another. No energy is created, and no energy is lost in the process of these state changes; however, energy is continuously making its way to a form that is unusable. Once energy reaches that form, the process cannot be reversed. Because of this truth, it has been determined that the universe as a whole (which contains all matter) is steadily losing usable energy. Therefore, *matter* cannot be eternal. We are left with only one option: *Matter* was created by Something or Someone above scientific law. If there were a Being so powerful, and there is, would it not be sensible to think that He could make Himself known to His creation? Such is the case, and such will lead us to our question for next week: "Is the Bible really from God?"

There are a multiplicity of other arguments that can be considered when studying the existence of God. It has been my purpose in this article to only briefly answer a question that contains such depth. However, the existence of God has been proven in this brevity. I do not claim originality for any of these ideas or definitions. I encourage all to study further on this subject. Some great sources are www.apologeticspress.org and such material as the Warren-Flew Debate on the Existence of God, which debate can actually be viewed for free at <http://www.thebible1.net/video/warrenflewdebate/>. May we ever keep such knowledge at hand so that we might be ready always to give a defense of the hope that is within us (1 Pet. 3:15).

Visit our Website!

www.coldwatercofc.com

It is there that you can:

1. Learn more about the Coldwater Church of Christ.
2. Be introduced to some leaders within the congregation.
3. Learn about some of the works of the congregation.
4. Find opportunities to support these works.
5. Read past bulletin articles.
6. Listen to past sermons on audio.
7. Request the audio of sermons no longer linked.
8. Be updated on some of the monthly events taking place.
9. Request an in-home Bible study!
10. Request a free Bible Correspondence Course!
11. Contact us for any questions that you might have.
12. Find links to other useful and sound websites.

Sermon Review

BLESSED ARE THEY WHICH DO HUNGER & THIRST AFTER RIGHTEOUSNESS

(Matthew 5:6)

*Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after
righteousness, for they shall be filled.*

- I. THE SAVIOR'S ADDRESS
- II. OUR SPIRITUAL APPETITE

O.T. SUPPORT FOR N.T. SINGING

(Rom. 15:4)

- I. STRIKING THE ROCK
(Ex. 17:1-6; Num. 20:1-11)
- II. STRANGE FIRE
(Lev. 10:1-2)

NEWS & NOTES

Please Pray

Elizabeth Baker is continuing to recover. It was good to have her back with us recently.

Betty Tuggle was sick Wednesday among various other health problems that she deals with continuously. Let us remember her and Wiley in our prayers.

Tim II, Rachel, & Titus Wilkes--Tim, Rachel & Titus need our prayers as they get started and seek support for their full-time mission work, which is overseen by Coldwater.

For the Bible studies and correspondence courses that are on-going, and the students & administrators of the studies.

Tim & Lynn Wilkes working in Hawaii with the Fishers of Men program. They plan to return Feb. 12 and to be here for 2 weeks before going back to Hawaii to complete the classes. Let us pray for their safety and the success of this great work.

Family & Friends

Doyce "Doc" Hunt--Jared Browns grandfather.

Brianna Edwards had a tumor removed from her brain stem. She is recovering well, having to re-learn many things. She is the 12-year daughter of a co-worker of Ginger Bayless.

Joe Culbreath--several serious health issues.

James Angel--His cancer is in remission. He may still have a tumor.

Ann Embrey; Dunn Family; Steve Angel;; Dave Leonard, Sr.

Let us not forget to pray for the works being done through Fishers of Men, Far East Missions, and the Open Door Ministry.

February Birthdays

Jackson Staten	2/11
Sydney Thompson	2/11
Terry Bland	2/12
Ashby Johnson	2/13
Eric Jackson	2/14
Tyler Holmes	2/16
Cathy Thompson	2/21
Betty Tuggle	2/25

Get Involved!

Sunday Night for the Savior
February 6 after PM Services.
Bring Contacts and Finger Foods!

Young Adults Valentine's Party
February 11 at the Ratliff's house.

Bible Bowl--February 12
10:30AM at the Looxahoma building.
STUDY Matthew 13-15!

Young At Heart Valentine's Lunch
Feb. 13 after AM services,
the youth will serve lunch to our elder members.

Grief Seminar @ Independence
February 19 & 20 - Keith Mosher, Sr.

Privileged to Serve

Sunday, February 6

Morning

Prayer Before Class	Jim Jackson
Announcements	Caleb Baker
Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Lord's Supper:	
Preside	Shane Staten
	Jeremy Moore
Assist	Adam Sowell
	Chris Holmes

Opening Prayer	Jeffrey Ferrell
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Closing Prayer	Jerry Davis

Evening

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Opening Prayer	Jason Bayless
Sermon	Clifton Angel
Lord's Supper	Jeremy Moore
	Adam Sowell
	Ron Johnson
Closing Prayer	

Wednesday, February 9

Song Leader	Andy Ratliff
Prayer	Wiley Tuggle
Invitation	Clifton Angel
Prayer	Caleb Baker