

The Devil

1. According to Jude's epistle, who disputed with Satan over the body of Moses? Jude 9
2. What animal does Peter compare Satan to? 1 Peter 5:8
3. In what epistle is Satan referred to as "the god of this world"?
4. What, according to the New Testament, is the final place for Satan? Rev. 20:10
5. In what Gospel does Jesus refer to Satan as "the prince of this world"?
6. What is Satan the father of? John 8:44
7. What prophet spoke of the fallen Lucifer?
8. According to the parable of the sower, what happens when someone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it? Mt. 13:19
9. According to John's Gospel, Satan was from the very beginning both a liar and a _____. John 8:44
10. In what epistle does Paul call Satan the "spirit that worketh in the children of disobedience"?
11. What Gospel uses the name Beelzebub?
12. What book of the Bible speaks of the demonic fiend Abaddon and Apollyon, both names for Satan?
13. What apostle spoke of the contrast between Christ and Belial? 2 Corinthians 6:15

Answers: 1. The archangel Michael; 2. A roaring lion; 3. 2 Corinthians (4:4) 4. A lake of fire and brimstone; 5. John (14:30; 16:11); 6. Lies; 7. Isaiah (14:12); 8. The wicked one snatches from the heart what was sown; 9. A murderer; 10. Ephesians (2:2); 11. Matthew (12:24); 12. Revelation (9:11); 13. Paul

The Sick:

Amy Pittman is scheduled to have her gall bladder removed tomorrow.

Susie Kaiser is improving from her bout with pneumonia. She continues to suffer with chronic back pain and knee pain.

Louis Mullen continues to have health problems and is currently in serious condition in the hospital in Smyrna.

Continue to remember those who are recovering from surgery & illness and who struggle with physical infirmity, including: **Xenna Gooch, Mildred Gammill, Katherine See, Ronald Miller, Larry's father, James Tanksley, Burton Brown** (Bettye's brother), **Pansy Hensley** and **Lucille Hall**, Ethel Wohlrabe's mother.

News & Notes: **Group 3** will meet today in the Library after the morning service.

ELDERS: Doug Driver
Johnny Felker
DEACONS: Ralph Brown
Mark Claypool



Service Times

SUNDAY
Bible Study—9:00 am
Worship—9:55 am & 6:00 pm

WEDNESDAY
Bible Study 7:00 pm

Perry Heights Weekly Bulletin

Perry Heights church of Christ
423 Donelson Pike
Nashville, TN 37214
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"...let us consider how we may encourage one another"
Heb. 10:24

October 4, 2009

Our Present Suffering

It would be the exceptional person indeed that travels very far in life without experiencing some of its less than benevolent offerings. We may pass through our early years with a naïve disregard for the difficulties we are destined to face. We may feel immune to adversity. But with the passing of time, we are invariably confronted head-on with powerful, and sometimes protracted situations, the end of which we cannot see.

The Bible is able to speak, as only our Creator can, to these sufferings. We can gain insight and comfort by studying how Old Testament characters dealt with adversity in their lives.

Imagine being abandoned and so despised by siblings as to be sold into slavery, as was Joseph. Or think of the distress that Daniel must have felt being taken as a slave away from his beloved Jerusalem and forced to live in the barbaric and idolatrous nation of Babylon. Even more well known for enduring adversity is the apostle Paul who lived a lifetime filled with physical pain and hardship and the isolation of imprisonment.

In looking at these examples, there is a distinguishing quality that each of these men possessed. They had a perspective on adversity fashioned by their faith in God. Joseph and Daniel lived their lives with a focus on the Almighty that enabled them to keep their present suffering in perspective and to cope with the seemingly withering circumstances in which they found themselves. The apostle Paul, too, not only persevered through opposition, but also gave us inspired insight into how he was able to do it.

Consider Romans 8:18 where Paul paints a stark contrast between the suffering being experienced and the glory that would await the faithful. He does not promise that the problems would go away nor did he even suggest that they might be abbreviated. What he does say is that there is no comparison between the reward in serving the God of heaven and the suffering being presently endured. If we can focus on heaven and continue to look at our adversity from this vantage point, then come what may, we too can prevail through difficult and trying circumstances.

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Preacher's Pen points

Taming the Storms of Life (Caring for Aged Parents)



Challenges of Aging Parents

E _____ toll F _____ hardship
Geographical _____ Wearing many _____
Lack of parental _____ Reversing _____
Unhelpful _____ P _____ exhaustion
L _____ go

Accepting the Challenge

Realize that “honor” means accepting _____ for the _____ of parents.
(Eph. 6:2-3; 1 Tim. 5:3-4)

Be willing to accept the life-style _____ that this may create.

Providing Excellent Care

Get yourself _____ ahead of time about your parents' life situation.

Encourage parents to take care of _____ matters before they're needed .
_____ constantly for strength and wisdom.

Focus on your parents' _____ of life.

Ask other siblings to do their part; but don't become _____ if they don't.

Get _____ from competent people who can assist with day to day care.

Give yourself time to _____.

Reaffirm the _____ of being able to give back.

As you go through the challenges of this period of life, you may sometimes wonder, “Will I get through this storm?” With the Lord's help you'll not only get through it, but you'll become spiritually richer and stronger through it—because He still calms storms!

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Figuratively speaking, it is not easy to hit a target that you can't clearly see. Paul was so focused on serving God that he could confidently teach others not to be overwhelmed by their problems, but to place those problems in God's hands and invest themselves fully in service to the Lord.

James helps to keep us “in perspective” when he asks us in James 4:14, “*What is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.*” Our time of adversity is but a vapor in comparison to the eternal blessings we will one day inherit if we do not lose our vision of them.

In 2 Corinthians 4:16-18, Paul repeats his theme from the beginning of the chapter, “*we do not lose heart.*” Discouragement is often a direct result of ongoing and unrelenting challenges which face us. His counsel to us is that we do not let discouragement consume us.

How could Paul continue to have a positive outlook on his work? Why was he not brought low by his afflictions? He was able to look beyond the immediate troubles which confronted him to see the greater goal of eternal life. What we focus on will make a great deal of difference in how we respond to adversity, in whether we see it as overwhelming or our “*momentary light afflictions*”. Through Paul's example of keeping his sufferings in perspective we can learn to find the strength that comes from focusing on and trusting God. This will enable us not only to come through our adversity but to experience the strengthening blessings which God brings to us through it, helping us withstand the temptation to become disheartened or bitter.

At the end of the day one compelling thought remains: Suffering will come and we must choose how we are going to respond to it. It is within our power to choose to focus on our problems and become disillusioned, perhaps even separated from God, or to choose to trust God and realize as Moses did in Deuteronomy 31:6: “*Be strong and of good courage...He will never leave you or forsake you.*”
Steven Huff, *Christianity Magazine*

“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16