

“I Was Lost, But You Were In A Hurry to Go Home!”

I attended your services Sunday evening. You would not remember me. I was there looking for something—I think I would have found it had you not been in such a hurry. You sang hymns about a loving Lord. I felt a tight choking sensation, and my heart beat faster. Your preacher’s message was thrilling. I realized I was lost, and from the way he spoke, it seemed important for me to have a Savior.

The preacher finished his appeal and asked you to stand and sing another of those beautiful songs you know so well. I swallowed a lump in my throat and wished I knew the joy of which you sang. I was about to answer the call of the Gospel, when I heard a buzzing beside me. In front of me were whisperers and gigglers. A couple had already headed for the door. The song leader eliminated a couple of stanzas of the hymn. The ushers rushed about stacking chairs and opening doors. Beside me, you were frowning at your watch as if time were running out.

Seeing what I saw, I didn’t want to look anymore. My eyes burned, my throat hurt, my feet wouldn’t walk down the aisle. I could see that you really didn’t care. This salvation the preacher had been talking about was not as important to you as getting out “on time.” I only wanted to get away. I waited until services were over and walked out among you—alone—unnoticed—lost. Lost because you were in a hurry. Lost because it appeared you really didn’t care if I was saved.

-Copied, Tomlinson Run Church of Christ website-

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

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CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 88
Carthage, TN 37030
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SMITH COUNTY LIGHT

“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.”(Matthew 5:16)



MEETING PLACE OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M.

6:00 P.M.

12:30 P.M. last Sunday of month

Bible Study

Sunday Morning

10:15 A.M.

Wednesday Evening

7:00 P.M.

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
(615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
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Website: www.carthagechurchofchrist.net

Sunday & Wednesday Services broadcast on Facebook & YouTube

FREE Bible Correspondence Courses, Tracts or Home Bible Study/ Videos.
(615-735-0114 or 615-735-2462)

For Transportation to Services
615-735-0114 or 615-418-6637

“VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME”

THE CARNAL CORINTHIANS

Edward L Anderson

“And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to **spiritual** people but as to **carnal**...” (1 Corinthians 3:1, emphasis added.)

First century Corinth was a corrupt and licentious city. Paganism was a major part of the culture. However, when Paul departed from Athens and arrived there (Acts 18:1), the gospel’s power was again demonstrated as “many of the Corinthians, hearing believed, and were baptized” (Acts 18:8). One “Crispus, the chief ruler of the (Jewish) synagogue” where Paul did his initial teaching (Acts 18:4), was among those converted (See 1 Cor. 1:14).

The word “carnal” translates the Greek *sarkikos*, which means “fleshly” (Young, 144). W. E. Vine comments that it comes “from *sarx*, flesh”, and “signifies having the nature of flesh, i.e., sensual, controlled by animal appetites, governed by human nature instead of by the Spirit of God” (169). The English “carnal” is defined as “in or of the flesh...material or worldly, not spiritual; sensual; sexual” (New World Dictionary, 222). The contrast is clearly set forth in this passage between being “spiritual” and being “carnal”. They were yet “babes in Christ” and still in need of “milk” and not “meat” (3:2; compare Heb. 5:12-14.).

The apostle sets forth unmistakable proof of their carnality: “For you are yet **carnal**: for whereas there is among you **envying, strife, and divisions**, are you not **carnal**, and walk as men?” (v. 3, emphasis added). They were “behaving like mere men” (NKJ), not like followers of Christ. Chloe’s family had reported the troubling divisions to Paul (1:11). Each one seemed to have a preference and partiality concerning preachers – Paul, Apollos, Cephas, and Christ (1:12). All seemed to have their “favorite”. Such behavior is a sign of carnality whether then or now. Should not our “favorite preacher” be the one we are listening to, so long as he is faithfully preaching the gospel of Christ?

“Envy” is another sign of carnality. It is said to be “the feeling of displeasure produced by witnessing or hearing of the advantage or prosperity of others” (Vine, 37). “Strife” is the third signal of carnality. It is related to the “contentions” which had earlier been called to Paul’s attention (1:11). The word in the original language is *eris* and denotes enmity. It is sometimes translated “debate(s)” or “variance”.

The flesh and its works are at variance with the Spirit and its fruit (Gal. 5:19-26). Peter lovingly intreats: “Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul...” (1 Peter 2:11-12).

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

VISITORS! A warm welcome is extended to you. We are delighted you came our way. If you are traveling, may your travels be safe and may God cause His face to shine upon you (Num. 6:24-26). If you recently moved to this area, we hope you will be with us regularly. "Come now and let us reason together" (Isa. 1:18).

The elders announced Sunday morning that there will be a change in the schedule for Lord's Day services with the "fall back" to CST on November 6. The new schedule will be on a trial basis until the return of DST in March, at which time they will reassess the matter based on results and input from the membership. They solicit your comments and thoughts. The new schedule is as follows: 9:00 AM – Morning Worship; 10:15 AM – Bible Classes; 10:45 AM – Young Children's Class; and 11:00 AM – Final Worship. It is hoped this will be helpful to those who have difficulty getting here for the current 6:00 PM service. The last Sunday of the month, whether fourth or fifth, will have a meal following the Bible classes with the final service of the day following the meal at 12:00 Noon. Let us resolve to be faithful in attendance, fervent in spirit, and followers of the Lord.

We recently packed approximately seventy MAGI boxes for needy children in distant places. The needed items were purchased in bulk by some of our ladies instead of by individual families as in the past. Several had a hand in packing the boxes which have been delivered for shipping. The result was a considerable decrease in expense. If you wish to assist with monetary donations for whatever number of boxes you usually send, the cost per box is \$18-\$20. You can give your contribution to one of the elders or to Chris Hicks (treasurer). Thanks for your participation!

If you have not done so already, please congratulate our young Bible Bowl participants: Makenna Hassler; Ainsley Hassler; Haven Brown; Noah Brown; Jonah Mauldin; Aubrey Hicks; Scarlett Hicks; and Maizy Rutherford. They made up two of the 180 teams participating (720 youths), in the October 8 Bible Bowl competition at Hooper-Eblen in Cookeville. Girls and boys, we are proud of you!

We are presently involved in a Wednesday night study of the "Minor Prophets", or as sometimes described, "The Book of Twelve". The current book being studied is the first, Hosea. There are many practical lessons for present day Christians from these "things written aforetime" (Rom. 15:4). It is eye-opening to consider how similar the dangers, trends, troubles, and solutions of the present are to the past. Bring your Bible and join us for the study. "Soldiers of Christ, arise, and put your armor on"! Hope to see you Sunday!

Edward L. Anderson

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Little Mila Phillips had ear tubes put in place and adenoids removed Monday morning. Jerry Hicks suffered a concussion last week in a truck accident. Collin Gregory, grandson of Jerry and Cheryl Hicks, had surgery to repair a broken arm last Thursday. Good news for Katy Yastic, Robert and Charlotte Henry's granddaughter. She does not have cancer. Rita Apple had a heart ablation last Wednesday and was with us Sunday. Julie Wright has had upper respiratory issues. Gail Vincent is back with us after recent surgery. John Dallas Hassler has been ill but is better. Joseph Law is now in rehab at the nursing facility at Red Boiling. Ruby Fisher is doing well after cataract surgery. Ann Carter has been dealing with vertigo. Prayers are requested for Hudson Anderson (age 9) – grandson of John Foster, as he undergoes treatments. Janice Hicks has been unable to be with us. Lola King continues treatments. Remember Lola and husband Bobby, in prayer. Faye Maberry was unable to be with us Sunday. Dwayne Oldham has requested prayers on behalf of his granddaughter, Annika. Continue to remember Ciera Haffner in prayer. Bob Fisher, Ruby's son, has completed his treatments. Continue to remember Jerry and Mary Phillips. Prayers are requested for: Hannah McDowell (in Vanderbilt/Lebanon); Betty Carter; Tom and Sherry Culver; Sharon Halliburton; Tish Clark (B. J.'s wife), who has cancer; Colton Ferrell; Denise Griffin, Jean White; Mark Goad (Bagdad); Janice Wilson (stroke); Ted Gaw; Mike Shoulders; Brenda Brawner; Dwight Fuqua; Drew Gallagher; Joy Conner; Barry and Teresa Harville; Scott Bane; Jerry Driver; Brenda Aikens; Janet Rose; Ruby Anderson; Joe Armistead; Wayne Hall; Brenda Forrest; and Bea Davis.

NURSING HOME/ ASSISTED LIVING/ SHUT-INS: Wilma Richardson; Mary Lou Smith; Ricky Branham (SCHR); Lonetta Bains, Robbie North, Barbara Billington (Pavilion); Mary Searle, Knoxville nursing home; Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

IN THE MILITARY: Korrey King – USMC (Grandson of Bobby & Lola King); Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (Army); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) and Landon Carter (Coast Guard); PFC Samuel Burton (USMC), Darlene Fariss's grandson; Benjamin Gentry (USMC).

FIFTH SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE: Justin Mauldin will preach October 30 at the 9:00 AM worship hour. We will eat and fellowship following Bible classes. The Young Children's class will be at 12:15 and the PM service with the young men leading at 12:30.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAY/ANNIVERSARY LIST: Dennis Hackett, Drake Washer (2); Regina Rowland, (7); Julieanna & Jacie Morris, Makenzi Galey, (8); Justin Mauldin, Josie Beth Morris (11); Jodie Morris (15); Emma Hicks (17); Chris Hicks, Davey Rutherford (18) Brian Denton; Brian Smith (23); Chris Klamm (27); Courtney Washer, Will Galey (28); Tony Hackett (29); Barbara Jenkins; Joe Hensley (30). Gordon & Barbara Jenkins (11/9/1973).

CONGRATULATIONS: To Eric and Susan Woodard Marvin, on the birth of their son, 3 lbs. 5 oz. and daughter, 3 lbs.3.6 oz. (names to be selected), last Friday, Oct. 14. Congratulations to big sisters, Elizabeth, Grace and Madeline Marvin, as well as grandmother, Carol Woodard.

SYMPATHY: Our sympathy is expressed to the following families: The family of Josh Dillard who died October 9, following a long battle with cancer and lung complications; the family of Daryl Vaughn who died October 9. He was the nephew of Hale & Elaine Wright.

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November (as permitted by covid regulations), 2:00 PM; *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional:* 10/30/2022, 2:00 PM; *Trunk or Treat:* October 31, 5:00-7:00 P.M. in parking lot; Sign Up Sheet posted for food, etc.; *First Sunday SCHC Devotional:* November 6, 2:00 P.M.; *JSCYC 2023:* July 16-21

AREA EVENTS: *Ladies' Day:* Findlay church of Christ (Sparta), Nov. 12, with Shelia Butt: "If the Shoe Fits" (Registration begins at 8:00 AM).

MORE BARBS...with a point

By Mike Riley

Many "mega" churches don't seem to be "mega" when it comes to doctrine.

If deeds speak louder than words, some people aren't saying much and can hardly be heard.

If we confess our sins, but don't forsake them (Proverbs 28:13, the only purpose it will serve is testimony against us in the courts of heaven.

If we don't live within our means, we will soon find life "demeaning" (Luke 15:11-16).

If you don't take that first strong drink, you won't have to worry about the consequences of the second, of the third, and of all that follow.