

September 27, 2020

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
P.O. Box 683
Olney, IL 62450
217-218-0803
www.olneychurchofchrist.org

Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Elders: Mike Gerber, Travis Hall

Deacons: John Frost, Dave Goff, Roger Sholders

Visitors are welcome

We offer Bible classes for all ages

We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

“Fleeting Pleasures of Sin”

By Michael Hickox

Hebrews 11:24-25 says, “*By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*”

The ESV refers to the pleasures Moses rejected as the “*fleeting pleasures of sin.*” Sin’s ultimate consequences are lasting, but its pleasure is not.

Consider the description of strong drink given in **Proverbs 23:31-32**: *Don’t look at the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly. In the end, it bites like a snake, and poisons like a viper.*

This is the nature of sin. It may look enticing, promising fun, pleasure, and satisfaction. Yet its end is destructive.

Even in a temporal sense, sin often produces hardships, as **Proverbs 23** alludes to. More significantly though, sin leads to eternal destruction for those who choose this path. The temporary pleasure sin yields is not at all worth spending eternity in hell.

Living for sin’s fleeting pleasures is foolish. We must, like Moses, see through Satan’s deception and realize that sin “*bites like a snake, and poisons like a viper*” in the end. May we realize this and choose to turn *from* sin and *toward* God.

Job's Perseverance

By Michael Hickox

James 5:7-8 commands Christians to be patient, having a faith that endures through suffering. **Verse 10** exhorts us to look to examples of *others* who have persevered. A *specific* example is given in **verse 11**, which says, "***Behold, we call them blessed who endured. You have heard of the perseverance of Job, and have seen the Lord in the outcome, and how the Lord is full of compassion and mercy.***"

The account of Job begins by noting that he was "***blameless and upright, and one who feared God, and turned away from evil***" (**Job 1:1**). He had great earthly blessings (**Job 1:2-3**), leading Satan to claim that Job's faith was due to God making things easy for him (**Job 1:9-11**).

Satan desired to tempt Job by taking away some of his blessings (**Job 1:11**). God had to *permit* Satan the power to tempt Job. Satan could not *force* Job to sin or tempt Job in a way that God did not *allow* (**Job 1:12**).

This is a key lesson for us. With every temptation we face, we will always have the choice to avoid sin and do what is right. God is faithful to provide a means by which we can endure (**1 Cor. 10:13**).

After God permitted Satan to tempt Job, Satan first took away Job's children, servants, and animals (**Job 1:13-19**). Job responded with faith (**Job 1:20-21**). **Job 1:22** says, "***In all this, Job didn't sin, nor charge God with wrongdoing.***"

Satan next tempted Job by harming him

physically. Satan "***struck Job with painful sores from the sole of his foot to his head***" (**Job 2:7**).

This led Job's wife to assume that the sensible response was to "***renounce God, and die***" (**Job 2:9**). She asked her husband, "***Do you still maintain your integrity?***" She viewed integrity as something to have as long as God gives us what we want. Job recognized the folly of this (**Job 2:10**), as we must.

At the end of the book, God restored Job's fortunes. **Job 42:12-13** says that God "***blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning. He had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand female donkeys. He had also seven sons and three daughters.***"

This occurred after much deliberation between Job and his friends about why his sufferings came upon him (**Job 3-37**). The book makes it clear that they did not know the reason, but were merely speculating (**Job 38-41**).

Like Job, we often fail to know exactly why things happen as they do. Yet, biblical examples such as Job's help us build faith through trials by showing us that God will reward us if we endure and serve Him faithfully. He may not give us the temporal blessings Job had, but He *will* grant us *eternal* comfort in heaven if our faith is steadfast (cf. **Rom. 8:18**).

Area Gospel Meetings

Walnut Chapel Church of Christ:
Oct 18 – 23 (with J.R. Bronger)
Sun: 9:30, 6:00; M-F: 7:00

God’s Plan for Saving Man

God’s Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ’s Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit’s Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner’s Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner’s Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner’s Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner’s Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian’s Work	James 2:24
Christian’s Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian’s Endurance	Revelation 2:10

Words to Consider

“The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower... The heavens declare the glory of God. The expanse shows His handiwork.” – Psalm 18:2; 19:1

Prayer List

Holly G
Sandy S
Mabel H
Cheryl S
Norma C
Raymond & Maxine
Ken & Chris F
Brandon O’s Grandmother (Lung Cancer)
Jeanette’s Mother, Fontella
Jerry S (Prostate Cancer)
Carlyle (Hip)
Heather’s Friend, Courtney
Roger H
Barbara G (Cancer)

Daily Bible Reading

September 27 – Psalms 33-34; Acts 24
September 28 – Psalms 35-36; Acts 25
September 29 – Psalms 37-39; Acts 26
September 30 – Psalms 40-42; Acts 27:1-26
October 1 – Psalms 43-45; Acts 27:27-44
October 2 – Psalms 46-48; Acts 28
October 3 – Psalms 49-50; Romans 1

“The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes.” – Psa. 19:7-8

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, September 27, 2020

Bible Study: Jim

Worship: Travis

Evening: Dan D

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Dan H

Assignments

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Reading: See

Announcements: Bulletin

Table: Board

Serve:

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

Invitation:

Clean Building

Cynde (Sep) / Julzy (Oct)

Prepare Communion

June / Julzy

Anniversaries

October 6 – Travis & Jessica

October 11 – Mike & Paula

October 27 – Carlyle & Donna

Birthdays

October 2 – Carlyle

October 4 – Norma

October 20 – Alita

October 21 – Dave

October 22 – Janice

October 23 – Craig

October 29 – Morgan

Upcoming Reminders