



Volume 1, Issue 32

September 8th, 2002

Good News or Bad News?

David Deffenbaugh

The only problem was, there was no good news. As a matter of fact the news was so bad it killed two people. Even a little good news would have been nice.

One who died was Eli. He had served as a priest and judge for Israel. These efforts, unfortunately were overshadowed by his failure as a father of two vile and wicked sons. The fateful news had included the death of these two reprobates but that was not the worst of it. The ark of the covenant had been captured in battle by the Philistines. That was the kicker. "When he mentioned the ark of God, Eli fell off the seat backward beside the gate, and his neck was broken and he died, for he was old and heavy." (1 Sam. 4:18). The other person who died was Eli's daughter-in-law. She was the wife of one of Eli's son, Phineas. "[A]nd when she heard the news that the ark of God was taken and that her father-in-law and her husband had died, she knelt down and gave birth, for her pains came upon her." (1 Sam. 4:19). It was as in childbirth that she died.

Why and how was the ark of the covenant captured by the Philistines? Simply put, it was in a place it should not have been and was being used for a purpose for which it was not intended. Israel had been beaten in battle by the Philistines. They felt God was not with them. Their solution to that dilemma was to bring the ark into battle (1 Sam. 4:1-11). They believed that would insure God's presence and victory. They were wrong; horribly wrong.

The mentality that led Israel to such a blunder on this occasion can be easily repeated; and,

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Kevin's Korner

Well, if I couldn't say that my plate was full before today, I can definitely say it is now.



I want to offer a word of thanks (ahem) to Brent for volunteering me to be the Den Leader for a den of Tiger Scouts. This is the first grade flavor of the Boy Scouts. Yes, I should have plenty of work to do now! Really, I am thankful that members of the community have thought highly enough of me to be involved with this program. Austin is also going to be involved as a Tiger Scout and other of our young people here as well. I spent most of my Saturday in Harrison being "trained" for my new role as Den Leader. I was a member of the Cub Scouts myself when I was younger and I guess now it is payback time! I am thrilled to have the opportunity to be involved in such a great program. Please pray for us as we work with these young boys and help them develop into men.

Roaring River is at the end of this week. I called to the park and spoke to one of the staff there and they said that Saturday is going to be child's free fishing day. This means children can fish free! Bring those fishing poles so those young 'uns can catch supper! You may, however, want to bring your lunch. We are still planning on having our family picnic at the Roaring River picnic grounds starting Saturday about 10:30 AM. If you have some outdoor games, please bring them and we will set them up to play. There is a BIG play place for kids so bring them along too; they will love it!

If you are planning on camping the night before, please let me know ASAP. Because of the big events that weekend, the camping spaces will fill up quick. We may need to send someone up early on Friday morning to reserve a few spots as they are on a first come first serve basis. Let's all plan on being there and having a good time!

Gospel Meeting



Preacher: David Deffenbaugh
of Tahlequah Oklahoma

Sunday October 6th through
Wednesday October 9th

Our Theme:

Jesus Said

9:30 AM Sunday Class

***Why Should We Care What Jesus
Said?***

10:20 AM Sunday Worship
"Come To Me"

6:00 PM Sunday
"You Cannot Be My Disciple"

7:00 PM Monday
***"The Way is Narrow That Leads to
Life"***

7:00 PM Tuesday
"I Will Never Leave You"

7:00 PM Wednesday
"I Will Build My Church"

Be there with us!

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Unfortunately, it often is. The fact that God was not with His people at this time was all too real. That fact is also quite real for many people who find something lacking in their spiritual lives today. What should be done? Israel took the approach of focusing on externals. Surely, they thought, the presence of the ark would do the trick. It is interesting that the presence of the ark did generate a lot of excitement (1 Sam. 4:5). But as the results of the battle illustrate, excitement does not necessarily mean the presence of God. They needed something more than excitement.

The real solution for Israel is no different than the solution today. It has never changed. God will be with His people when His people are repentant, submissive and obedient. "[A]nd My people who are called by My name humble themselves and pray and seek My face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (2 Chron. 7:14). When David appealed to God to not be "cast away from Thy presence", he knew that, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; A broken and a contrite heart, O God, You will not despise." (Psa. 51:17).

When we know God is not with us, rest assured that He can't be coaxed into being there by manipulating externals. There's only one thing to do; "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded." (Jas. 4:8).

It is to those who are with God now that in the last day He will say, "Come...". To the rest, it will be the worst news ever.

"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." (Isaiah 57:15).

Elders: Clay Bozarth, Leon Duncan, Bruce Foster, Bill Fort, Glenn Quigley

Deacons: Ken Smith, Brent Stevens, Rusty Windle.

Preacher: Kevin Cauley 870-423-6707

Times of Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:.....9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class: 10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:.....7:00 PM

What is the Name of the Church?

Kevin Cauley

There are many people today who don't believe that it really matters what the "name" of the church is. We ask the unasked question, "Does the church even have a name?" To that question we answer "Yes" and "No." The New Testament never says, "Name the church this." It does, however provide adequate description of the church so that we can have scriptural authority to distinguish the church from other institutions claiming the same identity. So while there is no clear passage of scripture that says specifically, "This is what the name of the church should be," there are clear passage of scripture that authorize us to call the church by a name.

There is no one name to call the church, but there are scriptural and unscriptural names to refer to the church. The apostles and writers of the New Testament referred to the church as the "church of God" some eight times in the New Testament (1 Cor.1:2; 2 Cor.1:1 ;Gal.1:13, etc.). It is interesting to note that at least one of these references refers not to God the Father, but to God the Son (Acts 20:28). We also see that the church is referred to in regard to the individual local congregations as "the churches of Christ" in Romans 16:16. The writers also refer to individual congregations in the scriptures such as the church of the Thessalonians and the church of Ephesus (1 Thess.1:1; Rev.2:1).

In contrast to these descriptive names of the church, there are specific names that are condemned as divisive in the scriptures. It would be a sin to name a church in such a way. The principle set down in this regard is found in 1 Corinthians 1:10-12. To name the church after a man or to use a name in such a way so as to perpetuate a sectarian spirit is sinful according to this

passage.

So how should one go about naming a church? We have already discussed that the name should reflect what is already found in scripture. The name thus should be something that honors Christ, as it is His church. The name should honor the Husband of the church just as a bride in our society seeks to honor her husband by taking his name. The name of the church should honor her King and Creator. The name of the church should honor her Lord and God. It is for these reasons that we have the name "church of Christ." As we mentioned earlier, this is not exclusive of any other scriptural name, but it should not be turned into a name that is sectarian in nature.

One last point regarding the name; just because you have a name that is found in the Bible or that honors our Lord and God, does not necessarily mean that what the church is DOING is scriptural. In order to be the church that we find in the New Testament other identifying features must be observed as well. The church must have scriptural organization; the church must have scriptural worship; the church must have a scriptural mission; and the church must preach scriptural terms of salvation and the proper way to live the Christian life. This is what truly identifies the New Testament church.

Does the name of the church you are a member of reflect and honor our one Lord and God Jesus the Christ? I hope so. I also hope that the church of which you are a member reflects the true identity of the New Testament church. If your church does not reflect that then I would like to suggest that you find a church that does reflect these things. At the church of Christ we are striving to do just that and we invite you to come and judge us in this regard. In fact, we want to be the first to know if we are not so we can be transformed to the identity of Christ.

Sunday's Sermons

For 09/08

Morning9/11 and the Problem of Evil
Scripture..... Job 1:8-12
EveningQ&A
Scripture..... NA

Our Record

Week of 09/01

Sunday Class	65
Sunday A.M.....	81
Sunday P.M.	65
Wednesday	67
Contribution.....	\$1517.47

News, Notes and Prayer List



- Please remember the following in your prayers: Michael Collins, Evelyn Johnson, Denna Dickey's brother-in-law and grandson, Jo Nimmo and Pam Pinkley.

- We are thankful that several mentioned in last weeks announcements are doing much better.
- Lucille Wright is in room 504 of the Berryville nursing home.
- Jessica Lovelady is also in the nursing home in room 307.
- Edith Mischler is in the nursing home in Eureka Springs.
- Next week there will be an elders and deacons meeting.
- Tonight will be our Questions and Answers night.
- The children's home can banks are due in to Brent Stevens.
- Brian Scheller made known to the congregation that he wished to place membership this past Sunday night. Brian resides at 4475 CR 702, Berryville AR, 72616; 870-423-5682.
- If you have not signed up to take Art lunch on Sunday's please put your name on the list. Art really appreciates this and I know our God appreciates it!
- Our Gospel Meeting draws nearer and nearer. Be sure to get the word out to everyone in our community. Make use the flyers that we have in the back in your local businesses. Please pray for this event.
- Time is even nearer for Rusty and Kevin's trip to Costa Rica to encourage the brethren at the Tres Rios congregation. Please pray for their safe travels and prosperous journey.
- The Pantry Item for this week is Can Fruit Cocktail.



Men to Serve

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Next Week</u>
Sunday Morning:	September 8th, 2002	September 15th, 2002
Song Leader:	Brent Stevens	Ken Smith
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	George Eddings	Bob Moore
Scripture:	Ken Smith	Perry Foster
Lord's Table:	Bill Fort	Glenn Quigley
	Leon Duncan	Clyde Atchley
(assist)	Raymond Kimes	Brent Stevens
	Brandon Foster	Bruce Foster
Closing Prayer	John Gass	Bill Fort
Sunday Night:		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Glenn Williams
Preacher:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Clay Bozarth	Bruce Foster
Scripture:	Glenn Williams	Dale Pinkley
Lord's Table:	Leon Duncan	Ray Duncan
	Rusty Windle	John Gass
Closing Prayer	Dale Pinkley	Rusty Windle
Wednesday		
Songs:	Hugh Atchley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bill Fort	John Gass
Invitation:	Ken Smith	Leon Duncan
Closing Prayer:	Dale Pinkley	Ken Smith
Monthly Assignments		
Announcements	Rusty Windle	
Worship Coordinator	Brent Stevens	
Communion Prep	Tiffany Windle	Joann Bragg
Communion Carry	Bob Moore	Glenn Quigley

The "Berryville Bible Beacon" is published by the Berryville church of Christ. Please contact Kevin Cauley at work at (870) 423-3068 or at home at (870) 423-6707 or e-mail bvccoc@alltel.net to contribute information.

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