



Chalmette Church of Christ

February 15, 2009

“Love”

It is alarming to see brethren who claim to be children of God “bite and devour one another” and if they are not careful they will be “consumed one of another”. This contention is not defending doctrine, but a matter of judgment. It is a sin, the sin of disposition. This should not be, because we have been called out of sin to live **holy lives** before God and are designated as saints (1 Cor. 1:2).

Being part of one another we are described as being members of a body (1 Cor. 12:12, 27). When all is proper with a physical family, they enjoy brotherly love, (philia). Barclay's comments on the noun “philia”, and the verb “phelein” states, “There is a lovely warmth about these words. They mean to look on someone with affectionate regard—best translated ‘to church’—they have in them all the warmth of real affection—all beautified words to express a beautiful relationship— closeness and affection”. God has planned for His spiritual family to practice and rejoice in love of the brethren (Heb. 13:1; 1 Pet. 1:22; 2 Pet. 1:7).

First Corinthians 1:10 tells us we are brethren in Christ. What does it mean to say we have Jesus Christ as our Lord? **Lord** implies servants who are to obey. **Jesus** implies that sinners are to be saved by His grace. **Christ** which

means prophet, priest, and king implies the necessity of believing His word, accepting His sacrifice for sin and obeying Him, for all authority in heaven and on earth belongs to Him (Mat. 28:19,20). This divine name is, in itself, a strong appeal to abandon this ugly spirit (1 Pet. 2:21-23).

God gives us another word in the Bible that is to direct our lives. If we fail in this we are taking a disastrous path because it eventually results in the damnation of the soul. That word is love (agape). William Barclay: Agapan (verb form) has none of the warmth that characterizes philein—There is a warmth in philein, not in agapan—agape has to do with the mind; it is not simply an emotion which arises unbidden on our hearts; it is a principle by which we **deliberately** live. Agape has supremely to do with the will. It is a conquest, a victory, an achievement—The basis of every conceivable right relationship is the love (agape).

If I have agape love it means I will try to think, speak, and act toward you in the way that is best for you, not for me, regardless of my feelings about you.

Why should people love? God has so commanded (1 John 5:2,3; 2 John 6; Rom. 13:10). Love is the synonym of “God”.

Love transmutes every thread throughout the whole web of relation into a golden ray, and bathes the soul in a new and sweeter element.

Love hides a multitude of evil. Everything is beautiful viewed from the point of **love**.

"Love is a fire that kindles its first embers in the narrow nook of a private bosom caught from a wondering spark out of another private heart, which glows and enlarges until it warms and beams upon multitudes of men and women."

Love is omnipresent in nature. Oh, how much tenderness, how much devotion, how much sacrifice is couched in this little word of four letters.

Think how many poor souls are groping their way in darkness and despair, how many are fainting by the wayside, and how many are sinking into perdition daily for the lack of love.

God is love (1 John 4:16). How can I be a follower of God and fail to practice love? It takes practice to make anything perfect in anything. The word is not a playground, but a school room; life is not a holiday but an education; and the one final lesson for us all is, to learn to love.

Love "thinks no evil," imputes no motives, sees only the bright side, and puts the best construction on every action. Can you think of anything more needed in this cold uncharitable world than "love"? It is possible to cry, Lord, Lord, very loudly, and to have none of the spirit of Christ (Mat. 7:21-23).

~By: E.L. Whitaker, Jr.~

Dear Brethren,

I hope and pray that all is well in Chalmette and that the work continues to go well there and that it brings glory and honor to our Father in heaven.

Our new semester has started in earnest and we look forward to another good quarter of studies. This semester we will be studying the Old Testament books of Ezekiel,

Daniel, and Isaiah, plus New Testament studies in Galatians, Ephesians, and Colossians along with Old Testament Expository sermons, continuing studies in Greek and also Denominational Doctrines (debate) included.

This quarter will conclude with our annual Memphis School of Preaching lectureship starting on March 29th, 2009. I hope that some of you will be able to make the trip here to Memphis and be enriched by the tremendous week of sermons given by brethren from all over the country.

The week after the lectureship the entire student body will board two buses and participate in a Restoration Trip that will bring us throughout Tennessee, Kentucky and other places where the likes of Barton Stone, Alexander and Thomas Campbell and others help restore the church here in America. All of the students and their wives are looking forward to this journey. Thank you for your recent support which will help us toward this trip.

Please continue to pray for us as we continue to thank God for good brethren like you who continue to support the school and its students both prayerfully and financially. May our Lord continue to richly bless you for your love and concern for His church and her future ministers of the word.

Your brother in Christ,

Chris Kramer

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Gospel Broadcast Network

House to House Heart to Heart

Two students at the Memphis School of
Preaching

Curry Montague— Budapest

Morrne Stephanus- In Africa

Roger Scully- Morgan City Church of
Christ

Kid's Korner

See if you can answer the following questions:

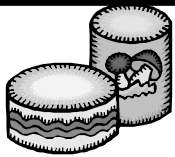
Answers from last week:

1. Ahab
2. His pursuer cautioned him to stop following him, then smote him under the ribs with the blunt end of a spear
3. Offered his son as a burnt offering
4. Absalom

“Who Was...”

1. Who was the first polygamist mentioned in the Bible?
2. Who was the first individual mentioned by name in the Bible that was slain by God because of some evil doing?
3. Who was the first man in the Bible to die a natural death?
4. Who was the father of such that dwell in tents?
5. Who was the man whose sons divided and occupied the isles of the Gentiles?

Tune in next week to see if you got all the answers correct!



The food pantry at the Church Building is running very low. Please remember to bring non-perishable items if possible!



Cleaning Schedule

Month of February— Jackie

Upcoming Events

February 15- Singing and Fellowship Meal

February 27- Ladies Game Night

May 10-13 - Gospel Meeting with Keith

Mosher

Prayer List

Mary Jo Lance
Malcolm Vasquez
Muriel Jones
Joe Riley
Alice Riley
Maggie Fletcher
Bill Burchett
Buck Hall
Sherry Towle
Bob Spurlin
Catherine Grant
Kathleen Grant Dunn
Sonny Adams
Betty Grisham
Paul Roberts
Melinda London
Loyce Sexton



*All of our brethren scattered
across the United States

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504-279-9438

Services of The Church
Sunday

Bible Classes 9:00 am
AM Worship 10:00 am
PM Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:00 pm

Elders

Mark Lance 504-250-8492

J. V. Russell 504-277-0251

Charles Whitley 504-277-4717

Evangelist

Mark Lance 504- 250-8492

gospelpr@cox.net

Deacons

Scott Russell 504-232-4120

Wayne Schulz 504-392-3999

Butch Snyder 504-682-0051

Mike Swanner 504-271-2465

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Grass Cutting

Schedule

