

# view

June 12, 2005

This Week's Agenda

June 12, 2005

## The Lord's Day

8:30AM & 10:15AM

Sermon: David Posey

5pm Sermon: David Posey

5:30pm: Classes for all ages from 18 months and up

### Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Sunday - Randy Clark, James
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Young Adults, Marriage- David Posey

## Wednesday

7:30 PM - Classes for all ages 18 months and up.

### Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Dennis Reagan, Current Issues
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Young Adults, Marriage - David Posey

## News and Prayer Needs

### Welcome!

Simon Benjamin Caisse has arrived. Congratulations

### Prayer Concerns

Janelle Thorp has been confined to bedrest due to complications with her pregnancy. Please check to see what you might do to help the family.

Don Hopper had triple bypass surgery and, as of this writing, is still in the hospital. Please pray for his recovery.

Boots Royston is facing serious surgery on Tuesday at UC Davis Medical Center. Please pray for the success of that surgery and that she will have a full and complete recovery.

Tom received some good news recently on his cancer treatment; he wants the church to know he appreciates our prayers and continues to ask for them.

Continue your prayers for: Wes Shamblin's grandparents; Tim Dickey; Sharon Jones and Becky Woolpert; Carly Cain; Kathy Wilson (Parkinson's disease) and Hank; Jamie Cole, Kristen Sanderson's sister; Jason Songer (friend of Justin Ivie). Those who are fighting cancer: Larry Thompson; Justin Ivie's dad (cancer); Dave Fulton's mother, Monica (Monroe, WA); Tom Royston; Ken McClelland; Margaret Everett; Cheryl Wilson; Laurie Ann Reagan; Oliver Sasse.



## Bible Reading

Sunday - I Kings 13-15; Psalm 81

Monday - I Kings 16-19; Psalm 82

Tuesday - Reflection

Wednesday - I Kings 20-22; Psalm 83

Thursday - Jonah; Psalm 84

Friday - Philemon; Psalm 85

Saturday - II Kings 1-4; Psalm 86

Continue prayers for all the new children born recently and for the remaining expectant moms: Melissa Fields, Janelle Thorp, Amber Karlsson and Carly Posey.

### Out of Town

Troy and April Franklin, until June 14th. The Browns. Tom and Boots. Carl and Arlene.

### Christians Serving in Iraq

Jeremy Allen, Philip Cain, Steve Reis, Titus Cain, Philip Cain. Keep these good men in your prayers each day.

### Other Involvement Opportunities

The young mom's class meets this Thursday, June 16th. Please see Christie Posey or Angie Cain for information.

The Vacation Bible School (VBS) is scheduled for August 1-5 this year. If you would like to help or need more information, please speak to Chandra Brown, David Byrd or one of the elders. See the back page for details.

The Ladies Workshop met last Monday. Please see Denise Westphal for information or Kristen Sanderson for a copy of the minutes.

The View contains news and articles of interest to the members of the Folsom Point church of Christ. Announcing an activity or event does not necessarily imply that we financially sponsor the event or that the elders specifically endorse every component of that event, since it may not fall under the direct oversight of the elders. The church's work and the elders' oversight is limited by Scripture. We will not announce events that are primarily social in nature. However, we do want to publicize those activities that provide an opportunity for you to be a more involved and active member of the body.

Editor

# The Four Objectives of Satan

“Be of sober spirit (discipline yourselves), be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” (1Peter 5:8). This is particularly good advice as we increase our efforts to share the gospel with our community. Satan, or the devil, will look for any way possible to get us to doubt the Word of God, distract us with personal pursuits, disable us from the Lord’s service, and even destroy our bodies if we let him. Peter is wrapping up his first letter and is offering some general instruction for “...all of you...to be humble and keep on the alert” (5:5b). His letter is written as instruction to Christians trying to live Godly lives in a hostile world. Well, that certainly fits our social climate today.

**Doubting God’s Word** is Satan’s primary goal for us. He will try anything possible, because he knows if he can win that battle he’s won the war. He will send people into our lives who will challenge our thinking and faith in God’s Word. This will be especially true as we try to teach His Word to non-believers. We will face arguments that God’s Word is confusing, contradictory and full of inconsistencies. We will hear arguments that the Bible is open to personal or private interpretation. And that theologians and Bible scholars can’t agree, so what hope is there for me? And if we allow these doubts to creep into our thinking, then Satan wins, and he knows it. It’s important to remember that God’s Word isn’t confusing to the one who takes an honest approach to it. In fact, it is as clear as crystal. Certainly some passages are more difficult than others, but it is God’s power to save mankind, Romans 1:16. It is penetrating and effective in changing the lives of believers, Hebrews 12:4. It is our assurance that we have eternal life, 1John 5:13.

Satan will also use our **Personal Pursuits** to distract us. He will try to keep us occupied with anything other than pursuing God. He doesn’t have to

stop us from doing God’s will, serving others, reading and studying God’s word or even praying. He merely needs to get us to do something else, and it really doesn’t matter what. We have noble pursuits in this life. Most of us want to find a fulfilling career, marry,

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raise children, possibly get a formal education, travel, prepare for retirement, etc. All these, and many others, are noble and certainly approved of God. But Satan’s task is to get us to focus all, or most of, our attention on these pursuits INSTEAD OF pursuing God; read, James 4:7-8. Christ said that we should seek His kingdom and righteousness first, and our physical needs will be provided, Matthew 6:33. Satan will tell us to “be all we can be”, “go for the gusto”, that “we only come around this way once”, and “to look out for number one.” We are constantly bombarded with messages in the media about how deserving we are of all that this life has to offer. And that we should sacrifice nothing in our pursuit of happiness. As we try to share the gospel with others we will be confronted with people who have these messages ingrained into their thinking. And if we don’t stay alert it sometimes will be easy for these messages to persuade us.

Satan will try to **Disable Us From God’s Service**. He will remind us of our past sins, of our unworthiness, and that often our good intentions go nowhere. He knows that if we focus on our guilt we will allow ourselves to be paralyzed in our service to God. He will capitalize on our unworthiness because of the guilt we carry around. He doesn’t want us to think about God’s grace, he wants us to remember that our

sins are a daily part of our life. And that because of the guilt associated with it, we may as well give in. He knows we won't go very long before we sin again, and wants us to remember that fact. He also wants us to distract us from doing the good deeds we plan to do, James 1:27, "This is pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father, to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world." If Satan wins, then we feel unworthy to participate in any meaningful way in public and private worship. We will feel hypocritical and guilty. We withdraw from other Christians and may even get critical of them. Because after all, we all sin. And we won't feel worthy to talk about the gospel to others.

Finally, Satan will try to **Destroy Us**. Literally. He will entice us with alcohol, drugs, sex, and lusts of the flesh. He will place these enticements before us in such a way that they seem attractive and fulfilling. He will use our "so called" friends to break down our resolve to resist. He will use various forms of media. Just consider some of the commercials that get sandwiched in between our favorite TV shows (hopefully we're discretionary about those programs). Their messages, not nearly so subtle as they used to be, can break down our resolve. If we give in to these enticements they will literally destroy our bodies. We don't need a preacher or an elder to tell us about the ill affects of alcoholism, drug abuse, illicit sex and general over indulgence. We merely need to look around at co-workers, neighbors, and people we see "on the street." We see the homeless, the discarded men and women whose bodies are ravaged by the abuse of these substances and lifestyles. It's no surprise that the media doesn't portray these side-affects of the products their sponsors air on our TV sets. Instead we are sent messages that if we drink their products, eat their food, wear their clothes, drive their cars we will be successful, live in luxury houses with extravagant furnishings, drive a Mercedes, and be surrounded by young, beautiful/handsome and shapely adults. Enticements. The truth is that a lifestyle full of self-indulgence will destroy our bodies. Satan knows that if our bodies are wracked with the effects of this abuse and if our minds are dull from self-indulgence then we are not good ambassadors for Christ. Satan wins. Paul tells us that even our bodies are not our own,

"Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body." 1Corinthians 6:19-20.

Satan doesn't want us to be a living example of God's Word. He doesn't want us to teach and share it with others. He doesn't want us to keep our personal pursuits in check while we make serving God our priority. He doesn't want us to focus our attention on service to God and our fellow man. And he doesn't want us to take care of our bodies. As we reinvest our time and energy into taking the gospel into our community, let's be on alert for Satan and understand his objectives. God knows that if we do, then He can use us to His glory and honor and praise.

RC

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**Services**

Sunday Morning Assembly  
8:30AM & 10:15AM  
Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM  
Wednesday Bible Study  
7:30 PM

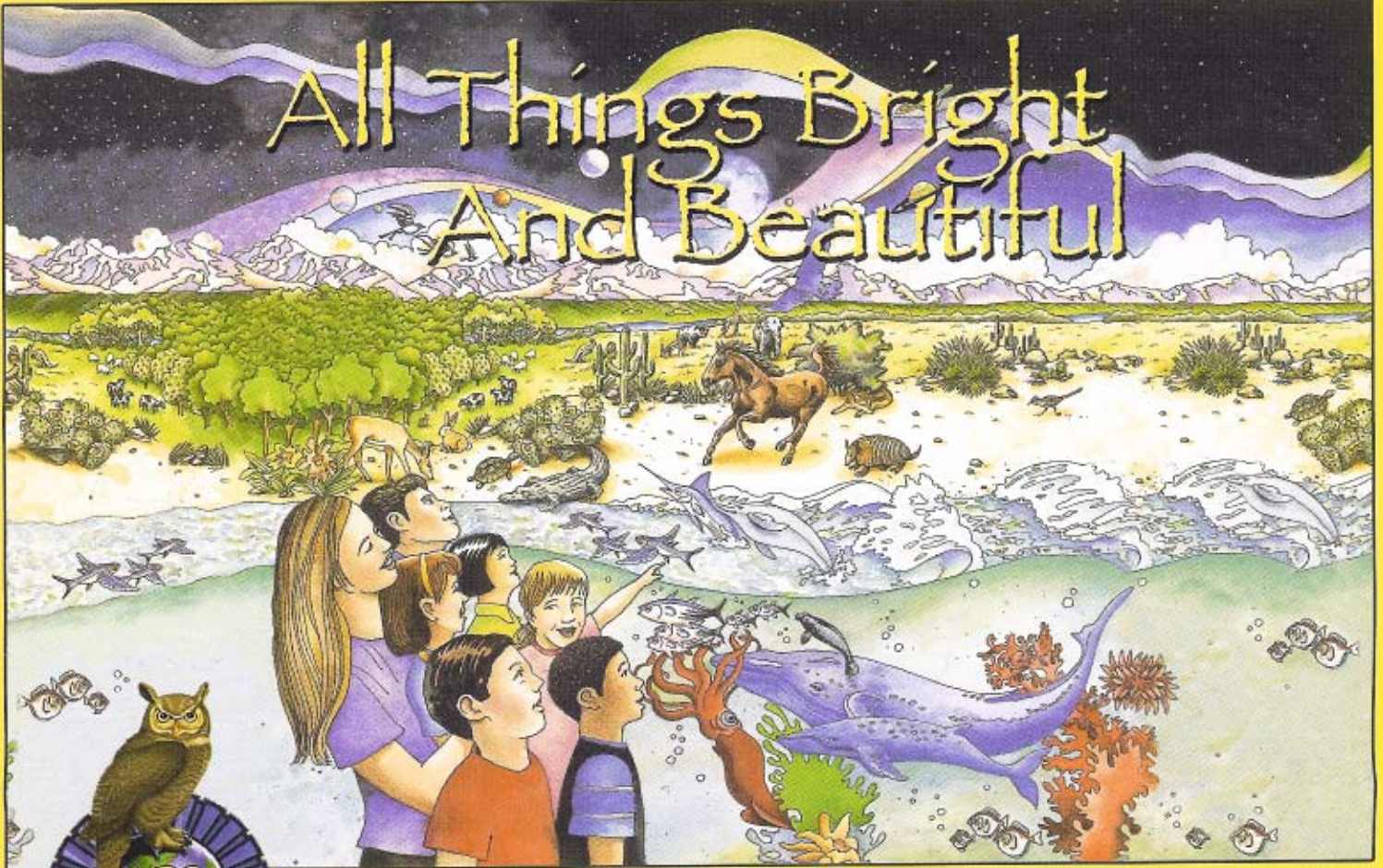
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