

view

September 18, 2005

This Week's Agenda

September 18, 2005

The Lord's Day

8:30AM & 10:15AM

Sermon: Jeff Carr

5:00PM Sermon: David Posey

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

Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Mark - Dan Singleton, Grant Mulligan
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: Churches of Asia - David Posey, Jr., Jeff Clark

News & Prayer Concerns

Dani and Brady Rembleski, for the recent loss of their unborn baby.

The entire Posey family, for the passing of David's father, LeRoy. Also, remember others who have recently lost loved ones: Sharon Tarrant and the Sterling family.

Carly Cain has been dealing with complications arising, apparently, from the chemotherapy treatments she received. Continue to pray for her and her family.

Continue to keep Ben Thorp and his family in your prayers as he recovers from Lyme Disease.

Remember those who are recovering from surgery: Bertha Hamilton, Pam Ludlow and Nolen Woodside.

Charles Davis' mother is not doing well, as her condition took a recent down-turn. Charles is travelling to be with his mother this week; continue to pray for her & Charles.

Remember the expectant mothers: Janelle Thorp, Carly Posey, Carrie Sadowy and Angie Cain.

Remember those who are fighting cancer: Nita Sellgren, Sharron Wade's mother; Monica Fulton, Dave's mother; Brady Rembleski's grandfather; Justin Ivie's dad; Tom Royston; Ken McClelland; Margaret Everett (San Jose); Cheryl Wilson; Laurieann Reagan; Oliver Sasse.

Continue prayers for those who dealing with constant pain and suffering: Sharon Jones and Becky Woolpert. In addition, remember. Duane Lowe, who has been struggling with his health lately.

Continue to remember Wes Shamblin's grandmother, Doris Phillips; Kathy & Hank Wilson; Jamie Cole.

Larry Thompson, Sharon Bridge's brother, received the wonderful news that he is cancer free, as of his last blood test. He will be rechecked every three months, so keep him

Tuesday

7:30PM - Class on Evidences, at Randy Clark's Home

Wednesday

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

Adult Classes

- Auditorium: Mark - Dan Singleton, Grant Mulligan
- Room 6: Bible Essentials - Dennis Wade
- Room 11-12: (Young Adults) Divorce & Remarriage - David Posey, Sr.

in your prayers.

There are many who have suffered loss due to Hurricane Katrina. Some have even relocated to our area. We are instructed to pray "for all men" (1 Tim. 2:1). Apparently the needs of brethren are being met but we should help others as much as we are able.

Visitors

Jeff and Jana Carr, formerly long-time members at Folsom, are visiting with us this morning. Jeff will be preaching both services - we look forward to his message from God's Word. Remember them in your prayers, as they suffered significant damage to their house during the recent Hurricane Katrina. In addition, Jeff and Jana are expecting their first child, soon.

Out of Town

Becky Woolpert is in Utah visiting Dawn. Charles Davis is in Indiana to be with his mother.

Christians Serving in Iraq

Jeremy Allen, Philip Cain, Steve Ries, Titus Cain. Pray for these men every day.

Other Involvement Opportunities

The Ladies Workshop, a group focused on helping others, meets on the first Monday of every other month. Please see Denise Westphal for details.

Group Meetings

The third round of group meetings are underway. The deacon in charge of your group will be contacting you about the time and place of the meeting, if they haven't already.

On Our Pledge of Allegiance

This article, authored by David Posey, originally appeared in The View on July 21, 2002, when the Pledge of Allegiance was first declared unconstitutional because of the phrase "Under God". Given the recent ruling upholding the original court decision, perhaps this is a good time to again think about the pledge and what we pledge our lives to as Christians.

As I write this, there has been much discussion about the Ninth District Court's declaring the pledge of allegiance unconstitutional because it uses God's name. We could take some space to denounce the decision and offer it up as another example of our nation's corruption. But that is probably not a good use of the space. This court is notoriously liberal and its decisions are routinely overturned by the Supreme Court, especially in high profile cases like this one.

Perhaps it is more profitable to allow the decision to awaken a more personal question: to whom or what do we pledge allegiance? In reading and hearing what some of my brethren are saying, I get the impression that they have pledged allegiance to someone or something other than Christ.

For example, some seem loyal to the past and can see only evil in the present day. One's personal history is given an almost mystical power in the man's life. "It was so much better back then" is the main story line and unless we return to the spirit of those halcyon days, we are doomed.

There are at least two problems with this view: First, the times weren't that good, unless you relish argument, division and disunity. Yes, much of the division was necessary (1 Cor. 11:19). But I'd rather hold up Jesus' prayer that "we all be one" in John 17 as the ideal for which we strive, rather than 1940s & 50s America. Secondly, inspired scripture warns us not to talk like this! "Do not say, 'Why is it that the former days were better than these?' For it is not from wisdom that you ask about this" (Ecclesiastes 7:10).

In connection with this, some have glorified certain men in a way that seems most inappropriate. For example, I know that Foy E. Wallace, Jr. was a great speaker who could keep audiences spellbound for hours at a time. But does that make him "the prince of preachers," as one writer



observed? Perhaps so, if preachers are measured only by style and speaking ability. But if measured by the things Paul seemed to believe were important - hard work, being an example, and staying true to the gospel - then no, brother Wallace, with all due respect to his abilities, is not the prince of preachers. In his later years, he forsook the truth and cast his lot with brethren who did not appreciate the authority of scripture. And, really, brethren, isn't there only one true "Prince" of preachers?

Today, some have exalted certain men or groups of men in the same way. A man once told me in a letter that evangelism consists in getting people to "line up behind you." Others have trumpeted the importance of surrounding oneself with "counselors." Yes, "in the abundance of counselors there is victory," as the proverb says (11:14). But that victory is totally dependent on whom we choose for our counselors. If we only choose counselors of a certain stripe, we make ourselves vulnerable to the error of Rehoboam, who chose the wrong counselors and split the kingdom of Israel (1 Kings 12). Jesus warned of those who choose their "counselors" for the purpose of justifying themselves before themselves (Luke 16:15), and Paul warned against the fool-

continued on following page...

Stressed Out?

Produce, get it done, succeed, get ahead...that's our world! That push often results in stress - either by self-motivation to get something done or by pressure exerted by someone else to perform. Then, like a chain of events, stress causes irritability, which can lead to angry words, and even bitterness towards our co-workers, family members or fellow Christians. Each link of the chain seems to feed off the other and compound the problem. Many people don't leave time in their lives for calmness and serenity, time to enjoy the simple pleasures of life. How can this behavior be avoided or, at the very least, be dealt with successfully?

Everyone has heard: "If you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen!" Well, there are times when I don't want to be in the kitchen, but somebody has to cook. When we are "in the kitchen" where the heat is, we can relieve some stress by simply shouldering our own responsibilities. When we accept responsibility, we may also relieve stress on those about us - nothing probably irritates people more than having to do someone else's job. On the other hand, when I see someone weak and struggling, I am to help him with his load (Galatians 6:2). The strong are to bear the infirmities of the weak and not to please themselves even as Christ pleased not Himself (Romans 15:1-3).

Some degree of stress is unavoidable in life.

Stress can be either diminished or increased depending simply on how we react when faced with it. Someone said that happiness comes from either increasing our ability to provide the things we want or diminishing our wants - the latter is usually easier and will produce a greater amount of satisfaction. The Bible addressing this problem - "Be not anxious...seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all these things will be added unto you" (Matthew 6:25-33); "Be careful (anxious) for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication with all thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God and the peace of God, that passeth understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ (Philippians 4:6-7); "Casting all your cares on him, for he careth for you," (1 Peter 5:7); "And having food and raiment let us be content"; and finally, "But godliness with contentment is great gain" (1 Timothy 6:8,6).

When I am stressed out and upset, it is not always easy to remember what the Lord said and be able to manage life's stresses successfully. I often fail miserably. But, as a Christian, I know I will be "in the kitchen" a lot, and that when I am, there is no better "stress management" than doing the best I can, praying to and trusting in God, and casting my cares on Him.

written by Jim R. Everett

On Our Pledge of Allegiance (continued)

ishness of those who measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves among themselves (II Cor. 10:12). That's the sectarian spirit - lock, stock and barrel.

Once we pledge our allegiance to the Lord, everything else, and everyone else falls in behind Him. Ultimately, that's the only pledge that counts.

*David Posey
July 21, 2002*



"Every day God lets some of the water out so there's room to play on the beach."

Sermon Outline

Evil & Suffering

1. Limitations on our study

- A. This is not a theodicy
- B. This is not only a "Christian" problem

2. The problem stated

- A. God is omnipotent and omnibenevolent
(So why does evil exist?)
- B. Logical (Reconciliation) & Existential (Should we enter into a relationship with God who allows suffering?)

3. Problems with the problem

- A. What is evil?
- B. Different categories:
 - *Moral (Moral choices)*
 - *Natural (Floods, Tornadoes, etc.)*
 - *Physical (Pain)*
- C. Apparently pointless suffering?

4. Biblical perspectives:

- A. Some suffering is retribution (Prov. 13:15; Ezek. 18:4; Heb. 12:11)
- B. Some suffering is for testing us with a view to our improvement (Jas. 1:2-4; Rom. 5:3-5; 1 Pet. 1:6-7)
- C. Some suffering is to the glory of God (Jn. 9:2-3)
- D. The Bible says clearly that not only does man suffer, but God Himself suffers too! (Mt. 26:53)

5. The answer is that there is no answer

The larger picture – We need God!
(Job 42:2-6; Eccl. 12:13; 2 Cor 12:7f)

This outline follows along with this morning's sermon that will be delivered by Jeff Carr.

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Services

Sunday Morning Assembly
8:30AM & 10:15AM
Sunday Evening: 5:00 PM
Wednesday Bible Study
7:30 PM
Classes for all ages.
Private classes arranged at your convenience.

For more information,
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www.folsomchurch.com

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Editor