

THINK ON THESE THINGS (Philippians 4:8)

# God's Side

OUR FAMILY NEWS

**Pray:** Josiah, Wayne and Cathy, Helen Spicer, Peggy, All health care providers and especially for Scott and his family.

**Traveling/Working:** Slope workers. Eddie and Susan will be traveling from December 4-14; Carla and Bella remained in TN for a while to help her mother.

**Ladies Class:** The Ladies Class has started up again. It is held here at the church's building. See Terry Campbell for details.

**Men's Business Meeting:** There will be a men's business meeting immediately following worship next Sunday December 13, 2020. All the men are encouraged to attend. Get any agenda items you want discussed to Ed by Wednesday evening at the Wednesday Bible Class.

**Friday Class:** There will be no Friday evening class this coming Friday December 11, 2020.

**Girls Tea and Ornament Exchange:** Jennifer Kelly will host a Girls Tea and Ornament Exchange beginning at 6:30 PM this evening. See her for additional details.

**Radio Programs:** Listen to "Searching the Scriptures", our weekly radio program and our "One Minute for God" series which airs three times a day six days a week on KMBQ 99.7.

**Today's Scripture:** "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

**Matthew 6:24 (KJV)**

**Wisdom for Today:** "I called upon the LORD in distress: the LORD answered me, and set me in a large place. The LORD is on my side; I will not fear: what can man do unto me?" **Psalms 118:5-6 (KJV)**

Attendance Last Sunday 54/44: Our Record: 107

For more detail, please go to the web site.

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**God's Plan of Salvation**

Hear..... Romans 10:17  
 Believe..... Mark 16:16, Hebrews 11:1-6  
 Repent..... Acts 2:38, II Corinthians 7:10  
 Confess..... Romans 10:9-10, Matthew 10:32-33  
 Be Baptized ..... Mark 16:16, Acts 22:16  
 Arise & Walk in Newness of Life ..... Romans 6:4

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth..."

CONTACT INFORMATION

**MEETING TIMES**

Sunday:  
 Bible Classes: 10AM  
 AM Worship: 11AM  
 PM Worship: 5PM

Wednesday:  
 Bible Study: 7PM

**OFFICE HOURS**  
 Tue./Thur. Call or Ck Web

**COME JOIN US!**  
 The church of Christ at Wasilla meets at:  
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Visitors Always Welcome; Members Expected

## God's Side

It is likely that all of us at one time or another have been a member of a team of some kind. Sometimes the teams were selected by a player, sometimes they were formed up by a paid coach and other times they were teams that you joined because you were interested in the activity that they were promoting. Often this process wasn't any fun at all. I still remember my high school years. I was the smallest kid in high school, as a junior I was barely five feet tall and weighed under 90 pounds. So, as you might suspect, I was always one of the last persons selected and most of the time the last one selected, when the kids were forming teams for local games. And when I went out for school sponsored teams, I was either not allowed to even try out or was the first one cut by the coach. Finally as a senior, I was allowed to try out for football on the condition that I weighted at least 125 when tryouts began in August. On opening day I weighed exactly 125 and was allowed to try out and made the team. I was finally a member of our side, but it turned out to be the losing side that year.

Regardless of how we feel about our local teams, the professional teams we support or even the Olympic Teams, they pale in comparison to the most important team in the universe. There are only two sides that matter when we consider our futures. One side is headed by Satan. Peter identifies him as our adversary; *"Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour."* **1 Peter 5:8 (KJV)**. The other side is headed by God. Joshua told the Israelites to choose whose side they were on; *"And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."* **Joshua 24:15 (KJV)**

When teams compete there are only two choices that people have. You can choose to be for one and against the other, or support the other and oppose the one. This is the situation that Joshua told the Israelites that they were in. They could choose to be on God's side or on the side of the foreign gods. Today we have a similar choice. We can choose to be on God's side or on the side of the devil. We usually don't view God and Satan as being opposite sides, but that is precisely what they are. And that is the way that we should look at them. Jesus taught us this; *"No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."* **Matthew 6:24 (KJV)** We cannot play for both sides at the same time, we cannot be for God and the Devil. We can not be spiritual and worldly. We cannot ride the fence, we have to make a choice.

The question is whose side will you choose? We have been given some insights that participants in other competitions do not have. No one can know which

Sermon by: Tom Betti ; Article by: Bill Beebe

team will win in a football game. No one can know for sure who will win an Olympic hockey match and no one can know with certainty which team will win the World Series. But in the competition between God and the Devil, we already know who will win. The Bible, especially in Genesis 3, the book of Daniel and the book of Revelation clearly teach that God has already won. God told us in **Genesis 3:15 (KJV)** *"And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."* It is clear that God, in this passage, predicted the defeat of Satan. In Daniel we read about how Daniel was protected in the lions den (Daniel 6:11-24) and how Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were saved from the fire when they made their choice (Daniel 3:16-18). They choose God's side and it was the winning side. And the book of Revelation can be summarized by the single statement "Jesus has won, death and Satan have been defeated!" When Jesus rose up out of that grave, Satan lost. When Jesus came out of the tomb, death was defeated.

We know who wins in the final battle, so why would we want to join the losing side? We know what will happen when this time ends. Paul has told us; *"But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive and remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep. For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words."* **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (KJV)** Jesus also told us what the outcome was going to be; *"When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left."* **Matthew 25:31-33 (KJV)** Jesus goes on to say that those on the right hand would inherit the kingdom prepared for them and those on the left would be thrown into everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

Today may be the last chance you have to choose whose side you are on. Considering that we already know which side wins, the choice seems simple, but most people will make the wrong one. Will you?

# Choose God's Side!