

# MESSENGER



VOL 5 April 16, 2023 ISSUE 16

1014 South Jog Rd. West Palm Beach, FL 33415

**OFFICE:** 

P 561-684-8114

Hours: 10:00am-1:00pm

Monday-Thursday

Halle Johnson, Secretary secy@cocopb.org

**GOSPEL PREACHER:** 

**Heath Johnson** 

preacher@cocopb.org

**LEADING MEN:** 

leadership@cocopb.org

**TIME OF SERVICES:** 

Sunday Bible Study: 9:00am

Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00pm

If you are interested in a home Bible study or would like a free Bible correspondence course with which to study by mail, please inform the minister or any of the men leading worship services. We are glad you are

# **Spiritual Security**

Let us begin by identifying the source of spiritual security. Jude, the Lord's brother, wrote: "Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever" (Jude 24-25). Throughout his brief letter Jude warned God's people against false teachers and their influence. He concluded with the good news that God is able to prevent His children from falling. This should give us confidence so we can say with the apostle Paul, "If God be for us, who can be against us?" (Romans 8:31). In His infinite wisdom, the One who is able to prevent falling has given us some important responsibilities that provide spiritual security. Let us consider two of these responsibilities. First, in Ephesians 6:13 we read: "Wherefore take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand." The various items of the armor of God are listed in Ephesians 6:14-18. Putting on all these items of armor will enable a Christian to stand and persevere. Second, the apostle Peter wrote: "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: for so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 1:10-11). Please note that doing certain "things" with all diligence will enable God's people to avoid falling. What are "these things?" The context (vs.5-7) shows that they are "the Christian graces": faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, and love. Even though a child of God can fall and lose his soul, there is good news. By trusting in God who is able to keep us from falling, putting on the whole armor of God, and developing the Christian graces with all diligence, we can have spiritual security.

## IS ORGANIC EVOLUTION A FACT?

## **WELCOME!**

Welcome to the services of the church of Christ of the Palm Beaches! You are our honored guest!

We are a congregation of the church of which you can read in the Bible. We strive to do Bible things in Bible ways and to call Bible things by Bible names; to be Christians and Christians only. It is our goal to simply and plainly preach and teach New Testament Christianity.

You will find our worship simple and according to the New Testament pattern. We worship the same way that Peter, Paul, and John worshipped—In spirit and in truth (John 4:24).

Our Headquarters is in heaven, our Creed is Christ and our book is the Bible. The Bible only will make Christians only and that is our plea.

We certainly hope that all we do will be encouraging and uplifting to you. Please take a moment to fill out a visitors' card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the card holder at the end of the pew.

In most circles in our society the Darwinian "theory of organic evolution" is widely accepted as fact. It is taught in public schools as a fact. It is held to be a fact by most institutions of higher learning. It is stated as a fact in the media. Those who reject organic evolution are viewed as either religious fanatics or an ignorant, unenlightened "fundamentalist minority." Is the theory of organic evolution a fact? The very definition of a theory suggests that which is speculative and conjectural. If there is sufficient evidence to prove a theory, then it ceases to be a theory. Some have theorized that earth is being visited by aliens from another planet. Yet, merely advancing such a theory does not make it a fact no matter how many people may believe it. Such is the case with the theory of organic evolution. Where is the evidence that takes it from the realm of theory to fact? Consider this, there is no scientific evidence that life has or can be produced from non-life by purely natural means. Yet, this is a necessary tenet in the theory of evolution. Evolutionists assume that life created itself by a process known as biogenesis or spontaneous generation. In essence this process involved a dead rock which begin to ooze non-living "primeval, prebiotic, organic soup" which was then struck by lightning and the soup came to life. This is, of course, a non-provable assumption. Where is the evidence that such occurred? Since biogenesis is unprovable so is the theory of evolution for biogenesis is required for organic evolution to be a reality. The Bible identifies the origin of life. "And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being." (Genesis 2:7). "Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things" (Acts 17:25). Which is more reasonable to believe - that life created itself by a mere chance occurrence from non -living material, or that an intelligent, all powerful, eternal God produced all life by His creative power? The Psalmist wrote, "The heavens declare the glory of God; And the firmament shows His handiwork" (Psalm 19:1). The intricate design of this material universe is evidence, not only of the existence of God, but that He is responsible le for its origin. The placement of the sun and the moon relative to the earth allows life to exist. Is this a mere chance occurrence or by divine design? The existence of gravity which prevents us from floating off into space – is it merely a chance occurrence or is it by divine design? The theory of evolution is unproven and unprovable. On the other hand, there is abundant evidence that "God created the heavens and the earth." (Genesis 1:1)

Jonnie Hutchison

### **PRIVILEDGED TO SERVE**

**Sunday Morning Worship** 

**SONG LEADER: Norman DeLong** 

**OPENING PRAYER/ SCRIPTURE** 

**READING: James Roberts** 

**PRESIDING: Joe Lewis** 

**SERVING: Richard Gray, Warren** 

Sparks, Jon Jordan & Joel

Blackshear

**CLOSING PRAYER: Chuck Canteen** 

**Sunday Evening Worship** 

**SONG LEADER: Sterling** 

**Frederick** 

**OPENING PRAYER/SCRIPTURE** 

**READING: Chuck Canteen** 

**PRESIDING: Tom Ramsey** 

**SERVING: Warren Sparks** 

**CLOSING PRAYER: Jim Rogers** 

**Wednesday Bible Study** 

**SONG LEADER: Terry West** 

**OPENING PRAYER: Chuck Canteen** 

**CLOSING PRAYER: Richard** 

Gathright



#### **COCOPB Members**

Rick Reitano, is undergoing cancer treatments.

Joel Blackshear, is having health issues.

Norma Golaub, continues to need prayer as she recovers.

#### **Family of COCOPB Members**

Janet Morrison, Erika Trevino's Mother, is recovering from surgery.

Joshua Jordan, Maureen Machan's son, is back in the hospital and will be going to rehab in the future.

Keith Lewis, will possibly be having his leg amputated.

Cleanita Barote, Jennifer Jordan's sister-in-law's mother, has health concerns and needs prayers.

**Young Shim Ko,** Young DiNetta's sister, is improving but continues to need prayers.

Roberto Naranjo, Melva Pollard's father, will be having his pacemaker replaced in the future.

James MacDougall, Donna MacDougall's nephew, is recovering from surgery.

**Sonja Morris,** Tiffany Harts mother, continues to need prayers for her health.

Troy McQueen, Tiffany Hart's, grandfather, is in hospice with heart and breathing issues.

Charles Maden, Nancy Sparks brother, is not doing well and needs prayer.

Virginia Whetsel, Wynona Bowman's sister, needs prayers for her health.

Bryan Ogden, Shea Ogden's husband, is continuing treatments for cancer.

#### **Friends of COCOPB Members**

Bruce Crouchfelt, A friend of Ron Cullom, needs prayers for his treatments for cancer.

Josie Wert, a friend of James Roberts, is having multiple issues and needs our prayers.

Monika Sinclair, continues to have news regarding her health and we want to continue to pray for her.

#### **COCOPB Members Traveling**

Tom & Young Dinetta (Cruise), Carlos Echeverria (work travels).

**Missions We Support** 

John Grubb (Indonesia)

Ronnie Gootam (India)

Joshua Ankiah (South Africa)

**Memphis School of Preaching** 

# Two Sides Of The Father

We are told throughout the scriptures of the goodness of God. We are also told of the wrath of God and the severity of the punishment that will be inflicted on those who fail to serve God faithfully or refuse to serve Him at all. We have a passage in Romans 11:22 which speaks to two sides of the Father at the same time. Behold therefore the goodness and severity of God: on them which fell, severity; but toward thee, goodness, if thou continue in his goodness: otherwise thou also shalt be cut off. I am afraid that many are willing to take note of, or remember the goodness of God and refuse to think of the severity of God as if that will cause them to be the recipients of only the good and possibly shields them from any punishment which they deserve if they do not do the Will of God. That's like thinking a tornado will not damage your home if you simply refuse to think about it, or that disease cannot afflict you if you don't acknowledge it. Many want to point out the goodness of God by quoting verses like John 3:16 and then staking their soul's eternal destiny on a misapplication of the verse. For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. This verse in no way states that just because Jesus died, and just because one believes he or she "shall" have everlasting life. It clearly states that He died so that those who believe in Him "should not perish, but have everlasting life". This shows He provided the means whereby those who believe in Him can be saved. This is the goodness of God extended toward us. Eternal life is in Christ, and outside of Christ one cannot have the promise. If one believes in one God, they will believe in the Christ. But, this belief alone still does not save. James 2:19, in the discussion of faith and works makes this abundantly clear. Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble. They do more than some people do; at least these devils tremble. Most folks go through life asserting that Jesus loves them and God loves them and hoping that this in itself will make a difference for them at the judgment. We do know that a certain amount of the goodness of God is directed to all of humanity. The fact of creation itself attests to that. Also, as Jesus pointed out in Matthew 5:45 in the Sermon on the Mount, . . . for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. Now, does it not make sense that since God shows His love for all of mankind in expressing His goodness upon us all that He will also punish all who refuse to love Him and follow that which He has directed in His Word? No amount of refusal to believe on our part will nullify what God has said in His Word. 2Thessalonians 1:7-9 are Words given to Paul by the Spirit to write to these brethren which were troubled because of the persecution of the wicked. These Words are still applicable today. And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, 8 In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ: 9 Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; We are also told in Romans 12:9 that we need not worry about avenging the evil that is directed toward us because this belongs to God and He will take care of it. Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. God will punish those who refuse to obey Him, and He will also reward those who follow His Word in faithful obedience. In Colossians 3:24-25 we are told that all will receive their "reward" in accordance to that which they have done in this life. God does not respect anyone's person. Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance: for ye serve the Lord Christ. 25 But he that doeth wrong shall receive for the wrong which he hath done: and there is no respect of persons. Let's make the right choice; God has left that up to us to do. If we think only of the goodness of God we might think the Lord is on our side. Rather, as Moses offered the choice to Israel in Exodus 32:26 let's be obedient and be on the Lord's side. Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? let him come unto me. Then let us look forward to the reward of God and not be on the receiving end of the severity of God.

## NEWS AND NOTES...



## ϔ Birthday's & Anniversaries 🎾









Robert Gaucin 4/2

Janet Moreland 4/14

Angie Gaucin 4/15

Maggie Curet Canteen 4/18

Joe Lewis 4/22

Steve Vasquez 4/30

Robert & Angie Gaucin 4/6

## **ATTENDANCE APR 9TH**

Sun. Bible Study: 27

Sun. A.M: 84

Sun. P.M: 33

Wed. Bible Study: Contribution: N/A

**Weekly Budget:** \$4,535.00

Variance: N/A

## **TODAY'S SERMONS**

AM: "HOW TO HANDLE STRESS"

PM: "THE ETERNAL GOD"



We will be making an updated directory for this year! If there is any information about you that has changed or you would like a new photo, Please see Halle Johnson!



We are in need of **grocery gift cards** for our pantry. If you have gift cards to donate, please see Maureen Machan. Thank you.



Sister Nancy Sparks is offering a ride to any of the ladies that RSVP'd for Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ's ladies day on April 20th. If you are interested, please contact sister Nancy Sparks.



We want to remind our members that this month is a 5th Sunday month! We will be taking a special collection this month as well as having our 5th Sunday Q&A on **April 30th**! There are questions slips and a Q&A box on the table in the foyer.



If any members would like to have digital copies of the sermon PowerPoint presentations, please see Halle Johnson and provide her with your email.



## DO YOU WORSHIP "OR GO TO CHURCH?"

The word "worship" is an action that God requires. We are to "worship" God in "spirit and in truth" (Jn. 4:23-24). Often, we speak of "going to church." Technically speaking, this is not accurate. The saved are added to the church (Acts 2:47), and the term "church" means "called out" (ekklesia). The saved are in the church all of the time, but they meet for worship on the Lord's Day (Acts 20:7). Maybe our language reflects some improper views. If we "go to church," we may have the idea that we are going to see an event (like going to a movie, or a play), to view the performance. However, if we spoke of going to worship, we would be more inclined to think of how I am personally involved in offering worship to God. The NT word "worship" is from the Greek word proskuneo. It means to make obeisance, and to reverence (literally, "to kiss towards"). Worship is not watching a performance; it is personally adoring and reverencing God in the assembly with God's people! Let's come together to worship, not watch!



#### **GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION**

**Hear God's Word** 

Romans 10:17

**Believe the Gospel** 

John 20:30-31

**Repent of Your Sins** 

Luke 13:3

**Confess Faith in Jesus** 

Romans 10:9-10

**Be Baptized** 

Acts 2:38

**Live Faithfully** 

Revelation 2:10

#### **Darwin Hunter**



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