

WORKS WE SUPPORT

John Shafer, Foreign Evangelism
Peter and Pooi Fun Chin, Four Seas College of Bible & Missions, Singapore
"Seek The Old Paths"
Chuck Northrop, Bible Institute of Missouri (Instructor)
Billy Daugherty III, Memphis School of Preaching (Student)
Dustin McCrickard, Bible Institute of Missouri (Student)
Phillip Vanwinkle, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Kent Eakins, Hermitage, MO
Scott Klaft, Mt. Pleasant, MI
Harrison Morgan, Memphis School of Preaching (Student)
"Whom Do You Serve?" Television Program
"Bible Questions with Bible Answers" Television Program

UPCOMING SERMONS SUNDAY AM

Feb. 2 Are Christians to be THAT different?
Feb. 9 Until Jesus comes
Feb. 16 Why do we give?

SUNDAY PM

Feb. 2 I do not like what I read (455)
Feb. 9 He said it; he will do it (456)
Feb. 16 What is a denomination? (457)

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www.webbervillechurchofchrist.org
<http://sermons.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>

To see our services live:

<http://live.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>
Sundays: 11 a.m., 3:30 p.m., 6 p.m.

Services:

Sunday

Bible Classes: 10 a.m.

Worship Assembly: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

February 2, 2014

To our visitors, we want you to know that we are honored by your being with us today. We welcome any questions you may have. All materials that you see are free of charge and if there is any other information you would like, we will be happy to provide it.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Nancy Pardon; Pete Darling; Rusty Darling; Phyllis Darling; Raymond Heinz; Teresa Heinz; Carolyn Jensen; Margaret Coats; Doug McArthur; Cheryll Akers; Kathy Briggs; Robert Van Alstine; Jewel Warfield; Ed Warfield; Marilyn Smith; Carol Wilson; Lillian's brother; Tom's mother; Clayton Peck

READING OF SCRIPTURE:

AM: 2 Cor. 6:16-18 PM: Jer. 36:22-24

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Feb. 16 – Potluck, Packages, Business meeting

Feb. 23 – Singing at 5 p.m.

April 20 – Chuck Northrop to speak

Seminars for 2014 – March 28, June 27, Sept. 26, Dec. 26

July 28 – Aug. 2 – Ingham County Fair booth

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I TAKE PLEASURE IN

Charles Coats

Generally speaking, if we were to look at the things we take pleasure in, we would probably have a list of good things that have happened to us – good job, good family, the church, etc. It might even be an event that happened to us, such as our marriage or our baptism into Christ. It would be safe to say that there would not be any bad things in our list of things we take pleasure in.

Therefore, we may find it odd that Paul took pleasure in infirmities, reproaches, necessities, persecutions, and distresses (2 Cor. 12:10). He even went so far as to say that when he is weak, then he is strong. This may sound as strange to us as James telling us to count it all joy when you fall into manifold temptations (Jas. 1:2).

However, when one truly understands the statement in 2 Cor. 12:10 and the work of a Christian, it can easily be understood why Paul took pleasure in these things. The key to understanding 2 Cor. 12:10 is a statement that follows the list of things he took pleasure in – “for Christ’s sake”. Paul was not rejoicing in bad things happening to him. He was not saying it is a good thing if you wake us sick or get injured during the day. He was, though, saying that he took pleasure in suffering for Christ, for the work that he did for Christ.

Paul’s life as a Christian is a great example to us that those who live godly will suffer persecution (2 Tim. 3:12). In 2 Cor. 11, we find a list of things Paul suffered in his work for Christ. And even though he suffered these things, these did not deter him from doing the work of a Christian, even if it meant he had to die in his service to Christ (Acts 21:13).

Paul recognized that these problems we would face as Christians would only make us strong. James knew it would build patience (endurance) in us (Jas. 1:3). Paul understood that the prize was worth the cost and was willing to do all that was necessary and suffer what needed to be suffered to spread the word of God throughout the world (2 Tim. 4:6-8).

Peter gets in on the discussion when he teaches us not to suffer as evildoers, but if we suffer as Christians to glory God (1 Pet. 4:15,16). In the same chapter, in the previous three verses, Peter also reminded us that suffering for Christ was not a strange thing and that we should count it all joy when we do suffer for Christ.

Peter later teaches us that we are to stand fast in the faith and resist the Devil, not only because it is the right thing to do, but because there are other faithful Christians suffering also (1 Pet. 5:9). That is, you are not alone, so get up and do the work. Elijah has to learn this same lesson in 1 Kgs. 19.

In our lives today, are we willing to suffer for Christ? Do we count it joy when people mock us or speak evil against us because we are Christians? Are we willing to die for Christ?