

Readings Today: AM: 1 Peter 1:13-16 Obedient Children

PM: Psalm 19:7-14 The Words of God

Elders:

Bob Alley Jerry Brinkley
Cary Ashton Gary Watt

Evangelist:

Steve Wolfgang

Deacons:

Curt Frechmann Bryce Cann
Loren Hueter Greg Jones
Dave Malcomson Eric Paige

Worship Service Schedule

Sunday

Bible Classes 9:00 A.M.
Worship Service 9:55 A.M.
Worship Service 6:00 P.M.

Wednesday

Bible Classes 7:30 P.M.

Phone (630) 968-0760

Web Address www.dgcoc.org 885

Opportunity may knock once, but temptation bangs on your front door forever.

Politeness should never be interpreted as weakness.

The Bible is to a thirsty soul, what water is in a barren land.



Order of Worship Today

Morning services

Evening services

Greeting and Announcements
Song Leader
Scripture Reading
Prayer
Contribution – Leader
Contribution – Prayer
Lord's Supper – Leader
Cup – Prayer
Assist
Assist
Assist
Speaker
Closing Prayer

Gary Watt
Bryce Cann
Blake Whitby
Charles Prince
Eric Paige
Trent Dutton
Eric Paige
Bill Brinkley
Nick Pippenger
Johnathan Hill
Justin Elam
Mark Ames
Ramon Rodriguez

Gary Watt
Cary Ashton
Gary Watt
Jim Kolze

Bill Brinkley
Trent Dutton

Charles Prince
Ralph Ford

Greeters —Jerry Brinkley and Peter Jetton

Welcome to our Visitors: Please fill out a white visitor card - and give it to a greeter at the close of services.



**Downers Grove
church of Christ
1236 63rd St
Downers Grove IL 60516**

HIGH LIGHTS

**"THE LORD SHALL BE
THINE
EVERLASTING LIGHT"**

March 28, 2015

Fighting Giants—David's Other Goliaths

David, the young shepherd boy, in slaying Goliath, the giant of Gath, has long provided God's people with many lessons of life. One of which is how to face adversity larger than themselves and with God's help overcoming is assured. This provided a message of confidence in standing for the right and completely destroying the difficulties of life. We see in this that God is not limited by the size and strength of our problems that confront us.

What should also be recalled is that David had more than one giant to face. More than one Goliath causing problems that had to be dealt with. David as king and at an advanced age was assisted in battling the second giant, Ishbi-Benob (2 Sam. 21:16). After these, there were the giants Saph, then the brother of Goliath the Gittite (the staff of whose spear was like a weaver's beam) and the unnamed giant who had extra fingers and toes. These four were born to the giant in Gath, and fell by the hand of David, and his men. (2 Sam 21:22) NIV

As all five of these giants were related, and it has been pointed out that David originally picked up five stones by the stream in Elah. David's victory over Goliath was a great victory for the people of God, but it was only one victory in the continuing battle of David's life.

Difficulties in the form of evil or sin or temptations come at us unendingly. The devil doesn't stop with a single defeat. There are constant challenges to God's people to defeat them with seemingly overwhelming odds. The Israelites in the valley of Elah didn't want to fight the giant, fearfully staying on the sidelines. Their Goliath was not trusting in the Power of God.

We are still faced with "Goliaths" of unbelief, worldliness and apathy as they taunt the people of God. Lack of confidence that God is by our side results in defeat. We must have courage and faith in God to face our "dreadful giants" and we too will be victorious. —Bob Alley

The Role of Obedience in Salvation

How Obedience Saves

How or why does obedience save? How does it fit in God's eternal purpose? **In the first place**, obedience saves because salvation is conditional. This principle can be seen in the Mosaic Age. When Israel came into the Promised Land, God gave them Jericho as a gift (Josh. 6:2); yet to receive it, they had to march around the city as God required. "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down, after they were compassed about seven days" (Heb. 11:30). Reception of the gift was conditioned on obedient faith. When Israel settled in the land, God appointed Mounts Ebal and Gerizim as perpetual reminders of this principle. He promised a blessing "if ye obey" and a curse "if ye will not obey." That word "If" makes the promises conditional. In the Gospel Age, sinners are commanded to believe and be baptized to be saved (Mk. 16:16). Christians are "created in Christ Jesus unto good works"-thus they must continue to walk "as obedient children" (1 Pet. 1:14). Meeting the conditions for a gift does not earn, deserve, or merit anything. That is a primary point missed by denominations and brethren who have drifted into denominational thinking.

Secondly, obedience coupled with faith demonstrates our reliance on God. The majority of the religious world believes obedience to God is an effort of man to rely upon himself-which completely misses the point! When Israel obeyed God's command to march around Jericho for seven days, Israel demonstrated reliance on God. They did not attack the city and fight after the normal manner (Josh. 6:1ff).

Thirdly, obedience glorifies God. When Nadab and Abihu offered strange fire on the altar which God had not commanded, fire from heaven destroyed them. Why? God said, "I will be sanctified . . . I will be glorified" (Lev. 10:1-3). Men may be very pleased and impressed with their own efforts to serve God, but such does not glorify Him. 1 Corinthians 1 argues that when men searched for God by their own wisdom and could not find Him, God revealed the Gospel as His own wisdom and power unto salvation. "That no flesh should glory in his presence . . . according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord" (vv. 18-31).

Obedience saves because salvation is conditional, because it demonstrates reliance on God, and because it glorifies God. If there is any salvation without obedience, it is unrevealed, unknown, and unknowable to man.

Ron Halbrook



News and Notes

Prayer List

Our Members:

Those coping with on-going health and mobility difficulties:

- Jean Freeman.
- Steve Richardson has a serious heart condition.
- Sal Scarpitti is in Provident Healthcare and Rehab facility, 3450 Saratoga Ave. Downers Grove, 60515 (630-969-2900) room 10A and he welcomes visitors.
- Mary Brown has been confined to home for some time and enjoys visits, cards and calls.
- Janeen Holmstrom has been dealing with multiple health issues.

Prayers for Loved Ones

- Blair Elam's mother, Helen, (Elaine Petry's sister) coping with multiple medical issues is in a facility that deals with Alzheimer's patients.
- Walter Purcell's brother-in-law, Louis Woods, dealing with serious health issues.
- Mary Hall's sister in Wis. Sula Maxey, and her bro-in-law in Alabama, Joe Basham, dealing with health issues.
- Theresa Clark's father is in Edward Hospital.
- Juanita Saladino's mother is in hospice care in KY.

Edification Group

Group leaders will meet today in the library. Check with Eric Roper for the meeting time.

Travelers

Those that are away traveling or recently returned. Joan Watt is in Houston returning on Wed. Steve And Bette Wolfgang will be away this coming week returning Saturday. Juanita Saladino and the Fuss family going to Kentucky.

Children's Bible Study

This class meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 5:30 P.M.

Tuesday Ladies class

This class meets Tuesdays at 10 AM in the library.

In Sympathy

We express our condolences to the Wolfgangs on the passing of Steve's father, James Harold Wolfgang. His funeral was yesterday in Indianapolis.

Speakers Next Sunday

Mark Ames will speak next Sunday Morning and Charles Prince will speak in the evening while Steve Wolfgang is away.