Upcoming Events

Meet Up Open Bible Study: For study subject and location: see church website

Thanks to our Speaker Today

Shannon Hudson

Scriptures to Remember!

"Suffer hardship with me, as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. No soldier in active service entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life, so that he may please the one who enlisted him." 2 Timothy 2:3-4

February Birthdays

8 Zoie Perales

Regular Meeting Times Sunday9:45 a.m. Sunday10:45 a.m. Sunday6:00 p.m. Wednesday7:00 p.m.	<i>Church of Christ</i> 81-377 Ave 46 Indio, CA 92201 (760) 342-1859
Preacher: (Vacant)	(Address Service Requested)

Indio Informer

Vol. 32 No. 7

February 14, 2021

The Battle for Men's Mind is Raging By Dan Jenkins

We are at war! Being a follower of Christ means we have enlisted into the army of the true Commander-in-Chief of the universe and now are committed to follow Him in the battle against unrighteousness. Paul described this battle in these words. "For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled" (2 Corinthians 10:3-6).

We have weapons! Our leaders have equipped us with weapons to be used as long as we live in the flesh. Paul said, *"We do war according to the flesh."* The tactics and weapons used by others in the flesh are not the ones we have to use.

We have weapons, but they are not carnal. Many in the first century thought that the King of kings came to establish an earthly kingdom where He would sit and rule on a throne like other kings. (Some today make the same mistake about the nature of His kingdom). When Pilate, who thought Jesus' purpose was to be an earthly king, asked Jesus, "*Are You the king of Jews?*" Jesus forever settled this matter when He replied, "*My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world My servants would fight, so that I should not be delivered to the Jews*" (John 18:33, 36). We are at war; we are armed with weapons; our weapons are not the same weapons used by regular armies.

We have weapons designed to destroy everything which exalts itself against God. Note that Paul said they are mighty (in the Greek, the word is the same word for dynamite). They are designed to pull down (the Greek indicated the tearing down of walls of a castle where the enemy felt he was secure). They are designed to pull down strongholds and every high thing (even castles where men in their pompous reasoning have taken fortification). Ephesians 6:10-20 shows His word is the basis of all our weapons!

We have enemies and we know his name. Paul said the enemies we must defeat are the arguments that seek preeminence above Christ and holiness. Our enemy is seeking to condone abortion, homosexuality, pre-marital sex and fornication. We know the enemy who seemingly is winning the battle for the minds of those around us.

We have to take up our weapons now! We know the issues before us. We no longer can keep silent! To fail to speak boldly about these matters is to surrender to hell!

God's Word is Always Relevant By Joe Chesser

It really shouldn't be surprising that the word of God is current to every culture and generation. Since God is timeless and cultureless, it shouldn't surprise us that His word is also that way. Though it's not surprising, it is none-the-less amazing!

It is true that the Bible is set in time and culture as the plan of God was slowly revealed through the centuries. The people in the Bible were real people who lived in various cultures at various times. But as God intertwined their backgrounds and futures, He let the world in on the plan He had before the world was created (Ephesians 1:4). He chose to develop through the Jewish people His plan for redeeming the entire world. When God became flesh and lived on earth (John 1:1, 14), He did so in Jewish society. Yet, when Jesus

went to the cross, He broke down those cultural barriers and opened up for the entire world His gospel (Ephesians 2:12-16). Jesus wanted to be relevant to every generation and culture.

At this point you might be wondering where all this is going, so let me tell you. There are people every day who are searching for relevant help to deal with their personal problems of life. Many of these people go to church every week. Many of them pray often. Yet, they seem to wonder if God really understands their unique situation, and if so, does He have something significant to say to help them. These people live all around us, and perhaps, even in our own homes. But they also live in Nepal and Argentina and Scotland. No matter when or where people may live, no matter what their culture or customs may be, people are longing for, needing, a word from God. No one is exempt from needing to hear from God. And the Bible is just the place to look. It's the only place to look.

Since God created us, He knows all of our needs. And since God transcends time and culture, He's not locked in to only one way of doing so. He not only knows us inside out as individuals, He also knows what's going on around us. But the really amazing thing is that whatever my needs may be, the Bible can help us. The word of God is living and active. It penetrates the soul and spirit and can judge all of our thoughts and attitudes (Hebrews 4:12). The Bible may be thousands of years old, but it is amazingly relevant to every one of us.

There is no need to struggle through each day wondering if anyone cares, if anyone can help. God cares and He has given us His word to be our source of direction and comfort. Read it every day. Meditate on it. Study it. Learn it like never before. Then, when Satan tries to defeat us, like Jesus, we can draw from God's word just the help we need (Matthew 4:1-11). We'll be amazed at how relevant God's word is!