

# Morning Worship

October 23, 2016

Worship Leader — Tim Waters      Piano — Sharon Waters

**As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.**

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship Allan/People

Hymn # 227      *Praise Him! Praise Him!*      Tim/People

Worship Prayer Allan Lane

## Chorus # 222      *I've Come to Tell*      Tim/People

Video Clip *Operation Christmas Child*

Anthem      *I Bowed on My Knees and Cried "Holy"*      Worship Choir

Hymn # 515 *There's A Land That Is Fairer Than Day* Tim/People

Hymn # 528      *My Savior First of All*      Tim/People

## Offering Prayer Fred Kerns

## Children's Worship (Children are dismissed)

## Scripture Reading Allan/People

Message Allan Lane

Hymn # 305 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* Tim/People

Chorus # 205 *Jesus Is the Sweetest Name I Know* Tim/Peo

# The Battle for the Heart

Romans 7:14-25

October 23, 2016

*What is it that defines you as a person? Some of us are defined by our ethnic heritage, the brand of car we drive, even by our accents. Some of us are defined by our appearance, by our strengths and weaknesses. We may be defined by our work. Sometimes people define Christians by their noble demonstrations of Christ-like behavior. But more often than not Christians are known by their failures. Paul reminds the Romans of the battle we face that defines who we are in Christ.*

## **1) Christians sin .**

This is how the Apostle Paul spoke of the influence of sin in his life:

- "...I am sold into slavery, with sin as my master." 7:14
- "...I know what is right but I don't do it." 7:15
- "I know what I am doing is wrong..." 7:16
- "...sin inside me makes me do these things." 7:17
- "I know I am rotten through and through..." 7:18
- "When I want to do good, I don't." 7:19
- "...sin within me is doing it." 7:20
- "...I inevitably do what is wrong." 7:21
- "...this law wins the fight and makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me." 7:23
- "...who will free me from being dominated by sin?" 7:24
- "...because of my sinful nature, I am a slave to sin." 7:25

However, the fact that we sin does not mean that we want to sin.

## **2) Christians do not want to sin.**

Once again, from the experience of the Apostle Paul:

- "I really want to do what is right... instead I do the very thing I hate." 7:15
- "...my conscience shows that I agree that the law is good." 7:16
- "I want to [make myself do what is right], but I can't" 7:18
- "I love God's law with all my heart." 7:22
- "...who will free me from this life dominated by sin?" 7:24
- "...in my mind, I really want to obey God's law..." 7:25

When you find yourself doing what you don't want to do but desperately want to do the right thing, you know you are in for a struggle.

## **3) Christians are engaged in a life-long struggle .**

The June 23, 2008 issue of Newsweek ran a feature article "The Mythology of Munich" cited a gathering of the War Cabinet in London to consider an offer from Hitler in which, if Britain would agree to stop fighting, he would let them keep most of their empire.

While many were thinking it expedient to attempt to appease Hitler, Churchill would have none of it. It is said that he contemptuously growled, "If this long island story of ours is to end at last, let it end only when each of us lies choking in his own blood on the ground." Then on June 4, 1938 he spoke those memorable words to the people of Britain, "We shall fight on the beaches... we shall fight on the fields... we shall never surrender." (Evan Thomas, The Mythology of Munich, Newsweek, June 23, 2008, p. 23)

Churchill's spunk reminds me of the II Corinthians text where Paul described the spiritual spunk that characterizes the life of the person who persists in the Christian life.

In this struggle against sin we do not always win but, aren't you thankful that in failure,

#### **4) Christians are covered by grace .**

This is actually quite a liberating text. Despite the fact that we are engaged in a struggle to live good and godly lives, we sometimes fail at it. And when we do, God forgives us.

It is liberating in another sense as well. This truth reminds us that in our struggle against sin, we are not trying to qualify for God's grace, i.e., "for by grace you are saved through faith, not of works." There is nothing we do that entitles us to God's grace.

We are not pigs swimming in the muddy filth of sin and degradation, knowing that when we get good and dirty we can swill at the trough of God's grace. And yet, we are pigs for in truth, there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus."

#### **Conclusion**

We are to be reminded that we are not alone in our struggle to be devoted followers of Jesus Christ. We are not left alone to fend for ourselves in our desire to be good and godly people.

Ultimately there is another power at work in our lives:

- "God who has begun a good work within us, will continue his work until it is finished on that day when Christ Jesus comes back again." Philippians 1:6
- "We are God's masterpieces. He has created us in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good things he has planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10
- "As the Spirit of the Lord works within us, we become more and more like him and reflect his glory more and more." II Corinthians 3:18
- "God is working in us, giving us the desire to obey him and the power to do what pleases him." Philippians 2:13

Let me tell you a story. There was a farmer who was known to be a hard man. He was abusive and foul-mouthed to both man and beast. In time he became friends with a Christian who influenced him to consider becoming a Christian and he did. His life was immediately marked by dramatic change. He cleaned up his language and his behavior. He treated his employees well. He was gentle and patient with his livestock. And he was loving and considerate toward his wife.

One day he became frustrated while working and fell back into his old ways. He cursed the livestock. He spoke harshly to his hired hand. And then, he caught himself and went to the farmhouse where his wife found him sitting at the kitchen table distraught and broken over his failure.

When she asked him, "What's the matter?" He blurted out, "I'm no different than I used to be"

"Oh, but you are different than you used to be," She said. "Then you would never have been sorry or thought you had done wrong. Then you would not be contrite and wanting to be a better person. I see every sign that the Holy Spirit of God is working in you."

No, that guy had not yet arrived but he was on his way. None of us has arrived but we are not who we once were either. That is a sign of grace.

Saint Augustine said, "The church is not a place where the perfect dwell, but rather a hospital where sick sinners get well."

The invitation this morning is to simply receive the mercy and grace of God... if you are in a cycle of sin, confess your sin and receive the forgiveness of God in Christ Jesus and open yourself to letting God continue his work of transforming you into the person you will one day be.

And so it is, we don't let sin define us. Instead, we defy it.

### **Don't Let Sin Define You!**

## **The War Within**

Two men who lived in a small village got into a terrible dispute that they could not resolve. Finally they agreed to allow the town sage to arbitrate. The first man went to the sage's home and told his version of what happened. When he finished, the sage said, "You're absolutely right."

The next night the second man came and told his side of the story. The sage responded, "You're absolutely right."

Afterward, the sage's wife scolded her husband. "Those men told you two different stories and you told both of them they were absolutely right. That's impossible. They can't both be absolutely right." The sage replied, "You're absolutely right."

We have this same type of conflict battling within ourselves. The flesh, when it speaks to us, is trying to convince us that it is absolutely right. The flesh tries to convince us to follow after it's yearning and wants.

Tommy Lasorda, the former manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers (Go Cubs!), describes his battle with the inner self. "I took a pack of cigarettes from my pocket, stared at it and said, 'Who's stronger, you or me?' The answer was me. I stopped smoking. Then I took a vodka martini and said to it, 'Who's stronger, you or me?' Again the answer was me. I quit drinking. Then I decided to go on a diet. I looked at a big plate of linguine with clam sauce and said, 'Who's stronger, you or me?' And a little clam looked up at me and answered, 'I am.' 'Well, I just cannot beat linguine with clam sauce.'"

In Romans 7 Paul is describing his own personal struggle with his battle within. He is describes his struggle with the old nature which is nothing less than a battle with sin and his own flesh. It is a war which does not exist with all of its force and fury until we have accepted Christ as our Savior and Lord.

Most of us are familiar with the book by Robert Louis Stephenson entitled "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." The story is all about the good Dr. Jekyll who is working on a potion that will allow him to actually become another person, Edward Hyde. The two men could not be more different. Dr. Jekyll is a nice and well respected person whereas Edward Hyde is malicious and a cold blooded killer. At first Jekyll can control the Hyde within him. Eventually Hyde takes control of the doctors life.

It is a story of right and wrong, the struggle of good and evil. It's the struggle of the Natural man vs. the Spiritual man. Mr. Stephenson was once asked, "Where did you find the model for your character Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." He said, "I found it in own my nature." Stephenson, a Christian, had learned that there is indeed inside every child of God a beast. Every blood bought Christian is a new creation in Christ Jesus and has received a new nature. Yet the old nature yearns to be in charge and battles within for supremacy. Be assured, the old nature, the beast within is never removed and is never improved.

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

## **Opportunities For Service**

**Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan**

### **Sunday, October 23, 2016**

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School ..... 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: ? ? ? ?, Ken Nice,

    Fred Kerns, Don Sharp

Alternate: Isaac Waters

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

### **Monday-Wednesday,**

#### **October 24-26**

Missouri Baptist Convention

### **Wednesday, October 26**

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study .....6:30 pm

Adult Choir ..... 7:30 pm

### **Thursday, October 27**

W Team.....6:30 pm

### **Sunday, October 30, 2016**

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School ..... 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Bill Schottel,

    Ken Kirkpatrick, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Ken Nice

Evening Worship..... 6:30 pm

### **Wednesday, November 2**

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer/Bible Study ..... 6:30 pm

Adult Choir ..... 7:30 pm

### **Thursday, November 3**

Senior Adult Event, First Baptist Church Saint Joseph.....10:00am

G Team.....6:30 pm

### **Up-Coming Events.....**

**October 23 — Diversicare 2:30 pm**

**October 24-26 — Missouri Baptist Annual Meeting, St. Charles, MO**

**November 3 — Senior Adult Event, 10:00 am, FBC, St. Joseph**

**November 7 — Women's World Day of Prayer, 2:00 pm**

— Food Kitchen 5:30 pm

**November 13 — The Insanity of God Simulcast 6:00 pm**

**November 14-21 — Operation Christmas Child Collection Week**

## **GROW Team**

Commit to **GROW!** Everyone make a contact! Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

### **Sunday Nights**

We will have Sunday Evening Service here tonight. Hope to see you here at 6:30.

### **Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study**

We will meet Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Come to Pray!

### ***Just a Reminder ...***

The whole month of October is **Pastor Appreciation Month**. Please let Pastor Allan and Ellen know how much they are appreciated and loved!

**Diversicare  
Nursing Home  
Today, October 23, 2016  
2:30 pm**

Please join us as we minister to those who can no longer attend their own churches.

**SJBA Senior Adult Event  
November 3, 2016  
10:00 am  
First Baptist Church  
Saint Joseph**

**This event will include a catered lunch. Reservations are requested by calling the Mission Center at 816-233-2504 no later than October 28.**

**Patee Park Food Pantry...** Could use our help. They are in need of egg cartons. If you have any extra they would appreciate the donation. Thank You!

**The Insanity  
of God**  
-A simulcast-  
**November 13, 2016**  
**6pm**  
here at  
Calvary Baptist Church

**Operation Christmas Child  
Collection Week:  
November 14-21**

### *For the Record-*

#### Attendance: October 16, 2016

Sunday School.....	46
Visitors.....	4
Total.....	50
Contacts Made.....	7
Morning Worship.....	56
Children's Worship.....	N/A
Sunday Night .....	N/A
Wednesday Night .....	13

#### Financial Record:

Weekly Budget .....	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received ...	\$ 1,976.38

#### Offering Received by Mail:

#### October Counting Team:

Don Beavers and Daniel Waters

#### October Van Driver:

Mike Green

Remember to call 232-3747  
before 8 am if you need a ride.

#### October Birthdays:

03...Don Hart  
08...Brigida Winans

09...Elvera Crow  
10...Fred Kerns  
10...Jaden Schottel  
14...Dillon Burgess  
18...David Schottel  
18...Abby Sutton  
19...Caitlyn Schottel  
22...Angie Liechti  
28...Ellen Lane  
31...Tim Izer

### **October Anniversaries**

Mike and Martha Green  
October 1, 2005

### ***Prayer Requests ...***

Madeline Swink—recovery from falling  
Troy Griswold—cancer  
David Beavers—recovery  
Larry Danner—cancer treatment  
Cynthia Burdick—cancer treatment  
Jim Winans—Laverna Village  
Maxine and George Ferbert—strength  
Sarah Waters—knee rehab  
David Schottel—knee replacement  
Karissa and Matt Long  
Nellie Reynolds—strength  
Betty Campbell—healing  
Pat Puckett—eyes, healing  
Marcia and Don Hart—future plans  
Robbie Hutcherson, Loleta's son  
Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter  
LoLeta Middleton—strength  
Buddy Means—Mary Sharp's nephew  
Ellen Blanton and Lois Ulmer—  
    Elvera's daughter & daughter-in-law  
Stella Davis and Linda Rails—Doris  
    Richardson's sisters  
Audrey Dugan      Bob Barquist      Kathryn Beavers      Ann Riddle  
Louanne Laurence      Keon McKahan  
Jozy Winans      Leona Reynolds  
Kevin Duty      Kenny Duty  
Sue Higgins      Bobby Griswold  
Bill Haskins      Debbie Sands  
Brenda Burgess      Judy Anderson  
Carolyn Houts      Roscoe Lane  
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs  
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church  
David and Deborah Grace  
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People

Our Nation and Leaders  
Our Military Service people  
**Today's Prayer Requests ...**

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**Our Nation and our Leaders ...**

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**Five More New Families...**

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