

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Hiram Church of Christ

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

“Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you.” Romans 16:16

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

1 Peter 4:11





ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements: Matt Johnson
Opening Prayer: Matt Johnson
Song Leader: Kwame Abdul
Second Prayer: Devin Bryant
Lord’s Table: Melvin J. Bryant III
 Devin Bryant
Message: Melvin J. Bryant II
Closing Prayer: Alex Johnson

Attendance

Morning Hour: 14
Bible Class: 21
Worship: 28
Wednesday: 13
Contribution: \$ TBA

Weekly Service Times

 The Morning Hour 9:00am
 Bible Class 10:00am
 Morning Worship 11:00am
 Wed. Evening Bible Classes 7:30pm

The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

Missions: India & Childhaven

PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30
(Repentance entails counting the cost)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10

When the Temptation is
ALREADY in you!

WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?

WHAT IF WE...

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



What would our lives look like?

ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Sebastian and Erica Suarez, Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Mary Brock's daughter Potts/Williams family, Kilwonia Chandler, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Charlie Griffin, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia), Anita Berger husband Rich, Sis. Carolyn, Ashley (Sis. Erica's sister) and her family, Sis. Proctor, Anita Berger, Charlie Griffin.

PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **The Webb** family lost their daughter Kira. Let us keep them in our prayers.
- ▶ **Anita Berger** test result was favorable, but she is still in need of prayers for complications.
- ▶ **Kwame** is in need of prayer for his citizenship as he has applied for it.
- ▶ **Garrison Ihle**, the 5 month old baby of some friends of the Johnsons had his surgery. Please keep him and his family in our prayers.
- ▶ **Carolyn** is still in need of our continual prayer.
- ▶ **Ron McCurry** has requested continued prayers as he will be having a nuclear stress test this week.
- ▶ **Mary Matthews**, the aunt of Sis. Traci Bryant is being treated for cancer. Let us keep her lifted in prayer.
- ▶ **Bro Clarence** is under the weather and is in need of our prayer.
- ▶ **Brother Melvin** has a co-worker, Dondrea Clay who is in need of prayers as she was injured on the job.
- ▶ **Kaitlyn Hunter** mom passed away last week. Let us keep the family in prayer!
- ▶ **Jamie Franklin** is in need of continual prayers after the lost of her parents.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

✓ October Birthdays

Clarence Proctor - 13th
Matthew Chandler - 24th
Makayla Johnson - 28th

women are encouraged to attend.

✓ Hiram Church of Christ News

Make plans to stay for the last Sunday fellowship meal each month.

✓ Anniversaries

TBA

✓ World Church News

✓ Traveling

Kaitlyn Hunter was baptized on September 15th. Let us keep her in prayer for strength and faithfulness.

Jonathan Reaves was baptized on September 29th. Let us keep him in prayer for strength and faithfulness.

✓ Hiram Church News

Sis. Becky will be conducting a ladies class each third Monday of the month. All women are encouraged to attend.

✓ Local Church News

There will be a "Ladies Day" held at the Central Church of Christ on November 2, 2019 by Heather Scarborough. All

“When the Temptation (or Sin) is ALREADY in You” Part I

Matthew 15:19 - James 1:12-15

By

Melvin J. Bryant II

Many of us are in one of THREE areas.... (1). We are NOW struggling with Sin, (2). We are THINKING about something SINFUL And; (3). We have OVERCOME some Sin! Most of us are in ONE of these three stages! Satan’s influence is AFTER God’s people, and he always has been! First, allow us to get some parameters down....

I. THE WORD TEMPTATION CARRIED SEVERAL DIFFERENT MEANINGS

- A. The “context” ALWAYS determines the proper meaning of a word!
- There is a HUGH difference between “Tempting” someone to SIN and “Testing” someone to see if they will follow your will!
 - **BDAG** defines “Temptation” as, “
 - (1) “To make an effort to do something.” It can ALSO mean;
 - (2) “To endeavor to discover the nature or character of something by testing, try(ing), make trial of, (to) put to the test.”
 - An example of this is found in 2 Corinthians 13:5.
 - This is the SAME “Testing” we find in Genesis 22:1 where God “tested” Abraham.
 - Here, when God “Tested” Abraham, He was testing him to see if he would keep His commandment(s) or not! If he would be WORTHY of the blessings that God would give to him!
 - The verb with a person or object basically means “to test, put to the test....to PROVE.”
 - *In other words*, a person can test another to see whether the other proves worthy! (cf. Deuteronomy 8:2; 1 Kings 10:1; Daniel 1:12).
 - As a matter of FACT, 1 John 4:1 the Bible tells us, “Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but TEST the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.”
 - Question what ANYONE is teaching and practicing against the word of God!
 - God’s desire is for us to TEST one another to SEE whether or not one is of God!
 - (3) Temptation is also defined as, “to attempt to entrap through a process of inquiry.” And;
 - (4) It can be defined as, “to entice to IMPROPER behavior!”
 - This is the one I want us to engage our minds.... “to entice to IMPROPER behavior!”
Nonetheless, did you know that....

II. YOU CAN BE ENTICED TO IMPROPER BEHAVIOR

- A. In the Old Testament, we find several example of one being enticed to improper behavior! (See 2 Kings 5:20ff).
- Here we find a man named, “Gehazi,” And with Gehazi, the SIN was already in him! He ALREADY had the SIN in his heart!
 - He was ENTICED with money, with things, with possessions *and mind you*, this man was a servant of God!
 - What did Naaman bring with him for Gehazi to feel this way? Verse 5 tells us that he took, “...ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten changes of clothing!”
 - Now, let’s keep this in mind, when a servant of God did a miracle, it was NEVER for the purpose of gaining wealth! (cf. Acts 8:18 of Simon).

- B. Gehazi pursues Naaman because of his GREED! (2 Kings 5:21-22).
- When the SIN is already in you, it will have you to LIE about ANYTHING to get what you want!
 - Gehazi even LIED on his master Elisha to get what he wanted!
 - And, Gehazi is PREYING on the KINDNESS of Naaman and saying that other men are in need of help!
 - What does this remind us of? Thirsty greedy tv evangelist and organizations that prey on the innocents of people's emotions!
 - They will have some poor child from a foreign country looking impoverished and will PREY on you and your kind heart!
 - MOST of them are LYING! They are NOT helping these children with those donations!
 - What does the Bible tell us about this? (1 Timothy 6:10; Titus 1:11)!
 - People (even many so-called preachers) will use spiritual positions for earthly and material gain!
 - Jesus said in Luke 12:15, "**Take HEED and BEWARE of Covetousness, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.**"
 - AND; here it is, once the opportunity presented itself, Gehazi acted upon what was ALREADY in his heart! The SIN was ALREADY in him!
 - This is why we are to be CAREFUL not to allow SIN to sit and harbor in our heart!
- C. The Kindness of Naaman (2 Kings 5:23-24).
- Does this not remind us of Achan in Joshua 7:21 who took the beautiful Babylonian garment, two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold weighing fifty shekels and hid them in the earth in the midst of his tent! Here is the AMAZING part that even people today don't realize....GOD SEES EVERYTHING! (cf. Hebrews 4:13)!
 - What made Achan THINK that he could have hidden ANYTHING from the Lord?
 - What makes us think that we can HIDE ANYTHING from the Lord! Gehazi stored his new found wealth in the house and then sent the men away!
 - There are a few things I want to point out here....
- (1) If you notice, when Naaman said to Gehazi, "**Please, take two talents.**" And URGED him, Gehazi took it! However, Elisha, when urged, did not take anything (2 Kings 5:15-16)
 - (2) A "talent of Silver" is equivalent to around \$16,500.00 today!
 - So, it was quite a bit of money in that day! Gehazi, being a servant of God just could NOT understand why Elisha turned down the gift that was offered to him!

III. WHEN THE IMPROPER BEHAVIOR CATCHES UP TO YOU

- A. Gehazi was Elisha's faithful servant!
- There was no one closer to Elisha than Gehazi. He was there when Elisha performed his miracles, *remember*, when Elisha raised the widow's son in 2 Kings 4:34-35? Gehazi was right there and WITNESSED it!
 - He was an Israelite, a child of God, BUT his heart was in the wrong place, SIN was already lurking in his heart!
- B. Gehazi LIES to his master Elisha (2 Kings 5:25).
- When sin is in your heart, you will LIE to cover it up! I don't believe that Elisha was searching for an answer to where Gehazi went, he already knew, (see verse 26)! I believe he was affording Gehazi an opportunity to tell the truth, but SIN and GREED would not have him to do so!
 - What do we learn from this? God is NOT a respecter of persons when one of His children sins against Him! That God sees and knows EVERYTHING that we do in the light and in the dark! (Romans 2:16). Let us be encouraged to rid ourselves of anything that can hinder our walk in the Lord (Matthew 5:29). Until the last Amen.....