



The Parable of the Two "Waters"

A man was dying in the desert when he came upon a tent. Inside the tent were two people. One of those people appeared friendly, warm, and inviting. The other person appeared ugly, cold and repulsive. In front of both people were large baskets and inside one of those baskets was life-giving water, but inside the other basket was deadly poison. The one who appeared friendly said, "Come and drink the water that is in my basket." Then the ugly person said, "No, he is a liar. Do not drink of that bowl for it contains poison." The friendly person replies, "I can't believe that you are so unloving and impatient. Can't you see this man is thirsty? Can't you see that he needs a drink? Where is your love and compassion for this man?" So the dying man asked, "Do you know if there is water in your basket?" The "friendly" man replied, "I don't claim to know everything, I'm just on a journey like everyone else." The dying man asked the other, "Do you know if there is water in your basket?" He replied, "Yes, I know there is water in my basket." Then the "friendly" person says, "I can't believe that you would be so arrogant as to claim that you have the only water in your basket." The friendly man turned to the dying man and said, "Surely you are an educated man who understands that we are all in this journey together and that there is not really anything that we

can truly know." The unattractive person replied, "If you drink of the bowl that he offers, you will die." The attractive person responded, "I can't believe that you would be so self righteous as to think that someone would die from drinking out of my bowl. Do you think that I am some kind of idiot or fool? Where is your love, your compassion, your concern for this poor soul?" He replied, "I love this man enough to tell him the truth. I want him to live. If he



will but drink of the bowl that is in my basket he will." Then he turned to the dying man and said, "Why don't you test both substances with this litmus paper and see which is which." The attractive person said, "I can't believe you would ask him to do that. I'm offended that you would even suggest such." Then he turned to the dying man and said, "If you do that, then I will be offended." So being persuaded by the words of the attractive person who obviously loves him (after

all he knew because of his pleasant and loving appearance, didn't he?), he drank together with him of his bowl, but before the liquid reached the back of their throats, they realized that it was poison; it was too late. As they died, the attractive person said, "I'm so sorry, but I told you I didn't know." The man who had the water lamented, "If only he had used the test to know the truth." The question of this parable is: who was truly the most loving out of the two?

In regard to eternal life, we each have something in our possession. Some have truth and some are deceived by lies. But there is a way to test who has truth and who doesn't, by comparing the words that are spoken with God's word, the Bible (2 Timothy 2:15, 3:16,17). The outcome of our decision is no less critical than the situation above; it is, in fact, even more critical. Why? Because we are not merely speaking about our physical life, but our eternal life. When it comes to questions that affect our salvation, why would we seek to gamble with our soul? We do that when we trust someone who says, "I don't know" yet appears warm, caring, and sensitive.

On the other hand, there are others who say, "This is truth and you ought to believe it. And here is the way that you can test whether what I am telling

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The Parable of the Two Waters (cont.)

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“In regard to eternal life, we each have something in our possession. Some have truth and some are deceived by lies.”

you is truth or not." They give it to you straight, because they understand that if you do not accept it, then your soul will be in jeopardy (2 Corinthians 5:10,11). They warn you of the terrible consequences that await those who fail to believe the truth, and they point out the fact that others are out there, deceived and speaking lies about God's plan for man's salvation (Matthew 7:15-20). Yet some criticize them and say that they are unloving, unkind, and lack communication skills. Truly, who is the most loving? Is it the one who allows another person to drink poison all the while acknowledging that he does not know if it is or isn't? Or is the one who warns about the danger and frankly tells the truth to others? Who, truly, has shown the greater love?

So it is in our power to test which one is speaking the truth and which one is not (1 John 4:1). Will we, fearful of of-

fending someone, follow our emotions and make our decision based upon the mere appearance of love, sensitivity, and concern? Or will we, regardless of who may be offended, test the things that are said against the standard of truth that God has given to ensure that our beliefs are in harmony with God's truth? I hope that we will choose to test the things that have been told us by others by comparing them to God's word. Then, the only thing left for us to do is believe that which is true.

Kevin Cauley

An Old Farmer's Advice (1)

Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.

Keep skunks and bankers and lawyers at a distance.

Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.

A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.

Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.

Meanness don't jest' happen overnight.

Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.

Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.

It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.

You cannot unsay a cruel word.

Every path has a few puddles.

When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.

The best sermons are lived, not preached.

Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.

Don't judge folks by their relatives.

Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.

From the Desk of my Mother-In-Law



Bible Studies for the week of June 19th, 2005

- AM Sermon.....To The Work
- Scripture Reading.....Colossians 1:9-11
- PM Sermon..... The Book of Job
- Scripture Reading..... NA
- Sunday Class The Book of Hebrews
- Wednesday Class..... TBA

Kevin's Korner

As most of you know, Mary Lynn and the boys left this past Monday to go and be with my parents in Austin, TX. I will be flying down to pick them up on the 27th which is another week away. And then we will all drive back together the 28th, and 29th. While they have been away, the Rollers and the Quigleys have had me over for a meal and I thank them for their hospitality in this regard.

Our family vacation is now scheduled. We are going to Oregon to visit with Mary Lynn's sister and see some of the sights of the Northwest. None of us have ever been up that way before, so it promises to be a new experience for all of us. We will be flying instead of driving this year and that will be a new experience for the boys. I think they are excited about that. We'll be leaving on July 12th and return on the 20th. We would appreciate your prayers for our safe

travels.

Today during our worship hour we will have a special presentation on our new personal evangelism program. Ken and Bruce will be making that presentation. Since we only have a limited amount of time in order to accomplish this presentation, the elders have ask that we hold all of our questions until tonight when we will have a question and answer period after services. If you have questions regarding this program as it is being presented, please write those questions down and then be prepared to ask them after tonight's service.

Normally I wouldn't be interested in basketball. I don't really keep up with it during the regular season, but I do like to watch the playoffs of a particular sport. And I have an interest because one of the teams is from Texas (go Spurs!). This past Tuesday I had some folks

over to watch the game and we had a good time doing that. The series is now tied up 2 to 2 and tonight they will be playing the fifth game. I sure hope San Antonio can do better than the past two games, but the bottom line is that eternity isn't riding over who wins or loses this game.

There is, however, a competition in which we all must compete on a daily basis. The so called "game of life." This is a much more serious game than that of basketball, football, or any other sport that we can imagine. Paul wrote, "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain" (1 Corinthians 9:24). Paul wasn't speaking of a physical race, but a spiritual one. Our competitors are not our fellow man, but our own difficulties, challenges, and personal failures. We must run this race. Will we run to win?



"Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain" (1 Corinthians 9:24).

Records for the week of June 12th, 2005

Sunday Bible Class	50
Sunday AM Worship.....	64
Sunday PM Worship.....	51
Wednesday Night Study.....	38
Contribution	\$1548.97
Budget.....	\$1662.00



Praises, Prayers, and Proclamations

Announcements

- We are thankful to God for this new Lord's Day. It is the day we honor His Son and the Love that He has shown us through Him. Let us worship in spirit and in truth!
- We express our deepest sympathies to the family and friends of Erma Glander who passed away Monday, June 13th. Visitation is Sunday afternoon from 5 to 8 P.M. at Nelson's. Memorial services will be Monday at 11:00 at the VA National Cemetery.
- Please remember the following in prayer: Helen Gentry, Hughetta Hand, Donna Henderson, Opal Hull, Neva Welch.
- We also express our sympathies to the family and friends of Ruby Cowan who passed away this past Thursday, June 16th. Visitation is Sunday afternoon from 5-8 P.M at Nelson's. Memorial services will be Monday afternoon at 2:00 at the Green Forest church of Christ.
- Our monthly potluck is today! If you are visiting with us, we cordially invite you to stay for lunch.
- Our weekly Bible study at the nursing home will be held Thursday afternoon at 2:00. We are studying the book of Mark.
- The children's home truck will be arriving on July 11th. They are accepting non-expired canned goods and large furniture. If you have any of these items, please bring them to the building before this time.
- Our pantry item is: Canned Peaches.

Welcome!

Visit our web site: <http://www.the-churchofchrist.com>

Family Times for Worship and Study

Sunday Morning Bible Class:	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship:	10:20 AM
Sunday Evening Worship:	6:00 PM
Ladies Bible Class:	10:30 AM
Wed. Evening Bible Class:	7:00 PM

Serving Each Other

	June 19th, 2005	June 26th, 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Bill Fort	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Bruce Foster	Leon Duncan
Scripture Reading:	Barrett Brown	Ray Duncan
Lord's Table	Glenn Williams	Clay Bozarth
	Bob Phillips	Ken Smith
(assist)	Jerry Roller	Dan Hand
	John Gass	Jack Gentry
Closing Prayer	Ken Smith	Matthew Morrell
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Rusty Windle	Glenn Williams
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Glenn Quigley	Michael Morrell
Scripture Reading:	Ray Duncan	Brent Moore
Lord's Table	Jerry Roller	John Gass
	Matthew Morrell	Jack Gentry
Closing Prayer	Dan Hand	Bill Fort
Wednesday		
Songs:	Glenn Quigley	Barrett Brown
Opening Prayer:	Clay Bozarth	Rusty Windle
Invitation:	Kevin Cauley	John Gass
Closing Prayer:	Glenn Quigley	Dale Pinkley

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