



A War of Attrition

Lately I've been reading books about the Revolutionary War of the United States: a Biography of Benjamin Franklin, a book on the year 1776, and now a book entitled "George Washington's War." In this latest book, the author points out how Washington was basically waging a war of attrition. The basic concept of this type of war is to wear out your enemy politically and emotionally. It is often employed against larger armies. The smaller army will hit and run and then regroup and return to hit and run again. This keeps the larger army always on the defensive. So long as supplies and money are available, a smaller army can keep up this practice as long as they remain ambitious. The larger army is then deprived of lives and money thus creating political unrest back home. These tactics eventually forces the larger army to withdraw. Obviously this is an oversimplification of the Revolutionary War, but, in large part, that was what contributed to the victory. In considering this type of warfare, I thought that I would note some similarities to our spiritual warfare (2 Corinthians 10:3-5).

First, God's people have always fought in the smaller army. Noah, for example, waged a spiritual warfare as a preacher of righteousness (2 Peter 2:5), yet only eight souls were saved through his efforts. Moses was vastly outnumbered

by Pharaoh's army, yet he was able through God's strength, to lead the nation of Israel out of captivity (Exodus 14:8). Elijah was just one prophet among hundreds of prophets of Baal, yet he prevailed (1 Kings 18:39,40). Indeed, Jesus told us that we would be traveling the strait and narrow way which few find (Matthew 7:14). He told us that the world would hate us (John 15:19) and that we ought to prepare to be in that minority. But we have the greatest ally that can be had, greater than he that is in the world (1 John 4:4). He promises us the victory to overcome the world through the faith (1 John 5:4). So while we may be in the minority, we cannot be defeated; we are more than conquerors (Romans 8:37).

Second, God expects us to never give up. This is a must if one is going to wage a war of attrition. If the smaller force gives up, then the war is over. Winston Churchill said it well: "Never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never, in nothing, great or small, large or petty, never give in except to convictions of honor and good sense." But the principle is biblical. Paul wrote to the church at Corinth, "Wherefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labor is not vain in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 15:58). The word "can't" simply isn't in the Christian's vocabulary be-

cause we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength (Philippians 4:13). Let us then press the battle and engage the enemy as a good soldier of Jesus, the Christ (2 Timothy 2:3).

Third, we must continually battle the enemy again and again. Satan is a tough adversary. He doesn't give up either, but God has promised that if we resist him, he will flee (James 4:7). Jesus faced Satan and prevailed because he trusted in the power of God's word (Matthew 4:1-11). Peter tells us that we must withstand him steadfast in the faith (1 Peter 5:9) and Paul tells us to equip ourselves with the entire panoply of God so that we can resist him (Ephesians 6:11). God has given us the tools in order to do spiritual battle and it is up to us to war the good warfare (1 Timothy 1:18). If we continue to attack, then Satan will be defeated.

George Washington was not merely a commander in chief consigned to his desk. There were several occasions where he mounted his horse and led his troops into battle himself. We too have a great leader who has Himself led our army into spiritual battle, the Captain of our Salvation, Jesus, the Christ (Hebrews 2:10). He has lead the charge and fought and conquered the enemy (Hebrews 12:2) and through Him we will prevail!

Kevin Cauley

Does It Matter How We Dress When We Come To Worship?

Jerry Jenkins and Mack Lyon



“A true spirit of awe, reverence and worship dictates that Christians going to worship would not dress as Christians going to some sporting event.”

I am absolutely appalled at the attire of some church members. Is this my age showing or is there a problem developing? When I was growing up, I recall so vividly my mother, every Saturday night, getting our clothes ready for Sunday. It was the one day of the week that we would “look our very best.” We were going to worship God! Now I see young and old coming to worship this same God in clothing that would not meet our local school code.

Psychologists have known for a long time that dress does have influence on behavior. Slouchy dress creates slouchy work in school. This has led some high schools, colleges, universities, and even some workplaces to insist that their students/employees dress as though they were serious about their work. I am not sug-

gesting that every man wear a white shirt and tie. I am saying that the importance of worship should cause us to want to give some special attention to our appearance.

Make no mistake about it: Shorts, tank tops, T-shirts advertising beer, rock groups, and beer taverns send a message about the wearer. Most respectable eating places have a sign, “No shirt, no shoes, no service.” Are we approaching the day when such signs would be appropriate for the house of worship?

What has happened to the human race? Have we no self-respect? People appear in public everywhere unbathed, unwashed, uncombed, unshaven, untrimmed, unshod, even undressed, and generally unkempt, with no apparent shame at all! Is there nothing appropriate?

Or immodest? One might expect this from those who walk after the flesh, but who would have ever dreamed that Christians who are led by godly principles would be so much like the world? Even elders’ and deacons’ children come to services with seemingly little regard for the example that church leaders’ families should set.

The Bible tells us that “...The Lord sees not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart” (1 Samuel 16:7). Are we going to misuse and abuse the Scripture so badly that we endorse a state of decadence? It is true that God does not have a dress code for worship! However, a true spirit of awe, reverence and worship dictates that Christians going to

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Bible Studies for the week of August 21st, 2005

- AM Sermon..... Prophecies Fulfilled—Jesus
- Scripture Reading..... Matthew 1:22-23
- PM Sermon..... The Book of Job
- Scripture Reading..... NA
- Sunday Class The Book of Matthew
- Wednesday Class..... TBA

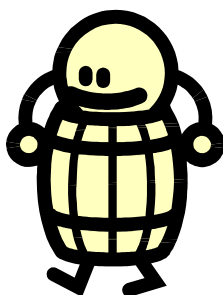
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worship would not dress as Christians going to some sporting event.

I encourage every Christian here...to have a poor and contrite spirit (Isaiah 66:2). Let us have the attitude spoken of by the writer of Hebrews, "...let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear. For our God is a consuming fire" (Hebrews 12:28-29). I encourage our young ladies to wear dresses and skirts that are not so short when they are sitting that nothing is left to the imagination. I encourage our young ladies and young men to be modest in their dress when coming to worship or when coming to work for God. If your parents are unthoughtful, please take the initiative to do right. If you are parents are too old to remember what "lust" is, you dress in such a

manner that you will never be a contributing factor to another's lustful eye.

No! God does not have a dress code for worship and work! Of course, He does not. He assumes that the humble worshiper's heart will dictate proper attire and behavior. A true spirit of awe, reverence and worship dictates propriety in dress and demeanor. God does not command us to kneel or stand, or bow our heads when we pray, but doing so manifests a humbleness of heart that honors and respects the sovereign God whom we praise and petition. So does proper dress.



Kevin's Korner

This past Friday was the first day back to school for Berryville kids. Eureka classes start tomorrow. And our graduates, Brent Moore and Katie Williams, as well have headed off to their colleges of choice. It is back to school time!

Going back to school is always full of exciting new possibilities. With new teachers, classes, and class-mates, we find renewal and reward. And with hard work and determination, we advance in our studies to the next level.

Having a new year at school doesn't mean that we stop being what we have always been, Christian! And that is something that ought never to change even though the season does. We have a great opportunity to influence new friends with our example this year. Let's use it!



"We have a great opportunity to influence new friends with our example this year. Let's use it!"

Records for the week of August 14th, 2005

Sunday Bible Class	59
Sunday AM Worship.....	68
Sunday PM Worship.....	63
Wednesday Night Study.....	45
Contribution.....	\$1620.77
Budget.....	\$1662.00



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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!
- Please remember the following in prayer: Cooper Doss, Bryan Guess, Hughetta Hand, Travis Jackson, Bill Jones, Jimmie Tucker, Wayne Whitely, Billy Wylie.
- Be sure to remember all of our kids in your prayers as they go back to school this week!
- We're saddened to announce that Bob and Carolyn Phillips will be moving away from us and back to St. Joe, AR. We have enjoyed having them with us for the short time they have spent here. We wish them all the best!
- This afternoon will be our monthly potluck. This is our back to school potluck! Please join us today!
- Our Bible study at the nursing home continues this week with the second half of Mark 14.
- Please check our outreach board and see if you are scheduled for any assignments.
- Our pantry item is: Canned Spinach.

God's Salvation Plan

1. **Hear** the Gospel—Romans 10:17
2. **Believe** on the Lord & His Word—Mark 16:16; John 8:24
3. **Repent** of your sins—Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30
4. **Confess** Christ—Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9
5. **Be Baptized** for the remission of sins—Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27
6. Live a **faithful**, dedicated life—Revelation 2:10; 2 Peter 1:5-10

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

	August 21st, 2005	August 28th, 2005
Sunday Morning		
Songs:	Bill Fort	Ken Smith
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Clay Bozarth	Dan Hand
Scripture Reading:	Brent Moore	Brandon Foster
Lord's Table	Glenn Quigley	Leon Duncan
	Bob Phillips	Michael Morrell
(assist)	Matthew Morrell	Brent Moore
	Irvin Hand	George Eddings
Closing Prayer	Rusty Windle	Bob Phillips
Sunday Evening		
Songs:	Barrett Brown	Clay Bozarth
Preaching:	Kevin Cauley	Kevin Cauley
Opening Prayer:	Dan Hand	Bob Phillips
Scripture Reading:	Dale Pinkley	Jack Gentry
Lord's Table	Leon Duncan	Dale Pinkley
	John Gass	Jerry Roller
Closing Prayer	Ray Duncan	Brent Moore
Wednesday		
Songs:	Bruce Foster	Clay Bozarth
Opening Prayer:	Bob Moore	Dale Pinkley
Invitation:	Bill Fort	Dan Hand
Closing Prayer:	Kevin Cauley	Ray Duncan

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