

SLIDELL CHURCH OF CHRIST

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July 12, 2015

Preacher's Point

By Dan Schillinger



When Christians Sin

When we are baptized for the forgiveness of our sins (Acts 2:38), in order to be saved (1 Peter 3:21), God takes away every sin we have ever committed (Acts 22:16). He wipes our slate clean (1 Corinthians 6:11). He gives us a new beginning and we are begotten from on high as a child of God (John 3:3,5), born again, raised to walk in newness of life (Romans 6:3-4).

But after we have been baptized and God has taken away all of our sins, what do we do when we commit other sins? How do we get forgiveness of these sins? We find our answer in the Epistle of First John, which is addressed to people who are already Christians.

1 John 1:7 says, ***But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanses us from all sin.*** Here we are taught that we must be doing two things so that the blood of Jesus Christ will continue to cleanse us of all our sins: 1) We must ***walk in the light***, that is we must be following God's word in the Bible, and 2) We must ***have fellowship one with another***. But how can one do this if one is not regularly worshipping God in his church and working with other Christians? The original Greek word that is translated ***cleanses*** in this verse means that there is a continual cleansing going on. Herein lies the problem with those who have become unfaithful in their assembly to worship. Because they are not having

Today's Sermon

a.m. "What God Wants Most"

Matthew 9:13

p.m. *Opportunity for discussion and reflection on the morning message*

fellowship one with another, they are no longer receiving forgiveness of their sins.

Then the next verse states, ***If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*** (1 John 1:9). If faithful Christians repent and ask God to forgive them, he will. When we stand before the Lord on the Day of Judgment we will have no sins and we will be with him forever. It is so very comforting to know that we can be continually cleansed!



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Welcome Visitors

We are pleased to have the opportunity to welcome you to our service. We think you will find our congregation family to be one that enthusiastically embraces newcomers and warmly welcomes them into our fellowship. We hope you feel right at home as you join us in worship, praise and thanksgiving.

“REMEMBER IN PRAYER

& ENCOURAGE”



With Visits, Calls, & Cards

The flooding victims, and relief workers, throughout Texas.

Angel Mangus (of Houston, TX, niece of Carl Mangus) - afflicted with inoperable stage 4 brain cancer.

Charles Espadron (Claudia's brother, in Atlanta) - diagnosed with cancer in one lung.

Elery Martin (friend of the Caseys, near Montgomery, AL) - five year old girl experiencing seizures, has had tests re-scheduled for tests on July 23.

Zach Steele - for success and healing through the process of receiving his long-awaited bone marrow transplant.

Cecilia McDonald (Kate's mom, in Pleasanton, Texas) - her recovery from heart weakness is better than expected. Pray that his continues while she receives in-home care.

Karen Besser (friend of Kathy Pederson's granddaughter) - has pneumonia and a lung clot.

Dorothy Bryan - suffering hearing loss.

Walter Acker - thanksgiving that he now has sight restored to one eye, following recent cataract surgery.

Rosa Nuñez (good friend of the Vargas family) - having serious painful health problems.

Ken Cheri (Courtney's brother) - healing well following recent successful hip replacement surgery. He is getting around with a cane.

Jessica Fowler (Jesse and Shirley's granddaughter, and a resident of Lockport, LA) - has some vexing problems besetting her.

Sharon Evans - having equilibrium problems.

Shirley Ervin - thanksgiving that she is feeling better from a recent bout of pleurisy.

Van Kreh (Margaret's eldest brother, in Estill Springs, TN) - thanksgiving that he is eating and drinking better, despite suffering from Alzheimer's and Parkinson's diseases.

Terri Jones - pray that she'll continue to feel better through the cycles of her Epstein-Barr disorder.

Dale Epperley - Awaiting a date to be set for surgery to remove a 70% blockage from his right carotid artery. Later, another surgery is supposed to be scheduled to remove the 40% blockage on his left side.

Gerald Molina - tests have indicated that his lower-back pain issues are confined to that area. He has an appointment to see a surgeon on 03 Aug. for possible scheduling of surgery in the near-future. He also thankfully now has less fluid build-up throughout his body.

Margaret Schillinger - thanksgiving she is finally experiencing significant relief from pain and stiffness following a recent slight fall.

Jace Roig (newborn son of Colton Roig) - in precarious health during his extended stay in the NICU at Ochsner-Baptist Hospital in New Orleans.

Bill Tansil - most pressing health issue now is pain from arthritis in his back and shoulders.

Phyllis Tansil - finally experiencing substantial pain relief in her lower back.

Sharon Honoré (sister of Anita, and a member at the Crowder Blvd. church) - has advanced breast cancer.

Donald Boudreaux (Joyce LeBlanc's brother-in-law, of the Baratavia area) - fighting cancer in the area of the kidney ureters.

Kimberly Carter - recovering from an injured knee.

Maria Aurelia Alsaro (Marisol's mother, in Costa Rica) - afflicted with kidney problems.

Clara Leonard - still is suffering much pain and can barely walk.

Wyatt (Kristi Ford's son) - for his being well-adjusted as he stays with his dad's side of the family this summer, and for those family members to experience reconciliation with one another.

Bobby Leonard - seeing a kidney specialist.

Carl & Steve Mangus - travelling out-of-state to visit relatives.

Shane Hicks - job-hunting following his recent discharge from the Navy.

Pray for all who are travelling.

Pray for Latino evangelism in our area.

Pray for our elders: Courtney Cheri, Dwight Jones and Gerald Molina.

Pray for President Obama and all our elected officials.

Pray for our men and women in our armed forces, both here and abroad!

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The Epistles: Learning to Think Contextually

Adapted from Fee & Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* (3rd edition)

Studying the Literary Context: The Results

After taking notes on both the historical and literary contexts of our example passages from Philippians, this is what we find. *The occasion* is that Paul is in prison (1:7, 13, 16) and the Philippian church has sent a gift through a member named Epaphroditus (4:14-18). Apparently Epaphroditus became sick and the church heard of it and was saddened (2:25-30). But God spared him, so now Paul is sending him back (2:25-30) with this letter in order to (1) tell them how things are with him (1:12-26), (2) to thank them for their gift (4:10, 14-19), and, (3) to exhort them on a couple of matters: to live in harmony (1:27-2:17; 4:2, 3), and to avoid the judaizing heresy (3:1-4:1).

In 1:27 Paul has just completed the section telling them how he is getting along in his

imprisonment. This new section is a part of the exhortation. Notice, for example, how he is no longer talking about himself as in verses 12-26. Did you notice this clear shift from I/me/my to you/your in verse 27?

What then is the point of each paragraph in this new section? The first paragraph, 1:27-30, begins the exhortation. The point seems to be what we read in verse 27-they should "*stand firm in one Spirit.*" (NIV) This is an exhortation to unity, especially because they are facing opposition.

How does 2:1-4 relate to unity? First, he repeats the exhortation (vv. 1, 2, which now makes us sure we were right about the first paragraph). But the point now is that humility is the proper attitude in order for the believers to have unity.

Now you try it with 2:5-11. What is the point? Why does he cite this hymn about the humiliation and exaltation of Christ? Your answer should be something like this: Jesus in his incarnation and death is the supreme example of the humility Paul wants them to have. (You will notice that when you ask the questions this way, the point of the paragraph is *not* to teach us something new about Christ. He is appealing to these great truths about Christ, to get the Philippians to be like him, not simply to *know about* him).

Go on to 2:12, 13. *Now*, what's the point? This is clearly the conclusion. Notice the word *therefore*. Given Christ's example, they are now to obey Paul. In what? Surely in having unity, which also requires humility.

Finally, in 4:2, 3 Paul addresses two women and their helpers with imperative commands, which are also occurrences of the crucial first person petition verbs. These two, Euodia and Syntyche, were evidently very influential in the Philippian church, and they were not getting along. Their quarreling was no doubt adversely affecting the unity of the whole body there. Paul's petition verbs stress the importance of everyone working together for unity.

(to be continued)

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Our Leaders!

Elders

Dwight Jones
Courtney Cheri
Gerald Molina

Preacher

Dan Schillinger

Deacons

Jesse Fowler
James Richardson
Hector Urbina

Our Services

Sunday Morning Bible Class 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Evening Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Stitches of Love Tuesday 9:30 am