



The Sentinel

of the

Southern Ridge Church of Christ

2237 SW 134TH OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73170 (405) 378-0701

January 21, 2018

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Dismantle With Doubt

"But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one." - Matthew 5:37

We are raised to be skeptics. We are told to not believe everything we see, hear, or read; regardless of the source. The old salesman's adage states, "There is a sucker born every minute." The statement could be true. We just don't want to be the one described in it.

Skepticism is at the heart of one of my favorite stories from the association of Jesus and Peter. As several disciples struggled with a boat in contrary weather and the darkness of the night, Jesus came to them. He wasn't in a boat. They came to realize that He was literally walking to them on the surface of the turbulent water. I know of no other story that had anyone walking on the surface of water. For his own reasons, Peter called to Jesus and asked to be allowed to walk to Him. Jesus gave permission, and the fisherman did something he had never done, or contemplated doing. Peter stepped from the boat and began walking on the surface of the water in the likeness of his teacher. Perhaps, even Peter was uncertain of how many steps he had taken, but there is no questions that he was one of two people who have every miraculously tread upon the surface of a body of water. It could not have been many steps, but at some point the wind took his attention and the reality of the natural laws made themselves known. Though his feet were still above the water, doubt filled the mind of this lone disciple. His faith failed. He sank into the troubled water. He cried to Jesus, and was pulled from the grip of the water. Poised in that unique position upon the water, Jesus asked, "*O you of little faith, why did you doubt?*" To do justice to the event, when they got into the boat, the troubling wind died. Even with all he knew about Jesus, Peter was still a skeptic.

As children, my generation was taught some skepticism. We were not to engage in talk with total strangers. We were to never accept candy from strangers. Mothers even searched through Halloween bags. Still, there were

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people we were to trust without question. Parents, teachers, police, and definitely preachers. It wasn't that any of these would be correct in every circumstance, but the motives of each would be above doubt. Perhaps it was a bit naïve, but it sure was a lot more comfortable.

It appears that we have come to a time in which everyone is placed beneath the microscope of skepticism. Anyone, no matter what age, feels empowered to question, or even criticize. We tend to see an underlying "skeleton" in even the seemingly most altruistic individual. We wonder what is being hidden, or when "the other shoe" will drop.

Why are we so skeptical, or even cynical? In part, we have been disap-

pointed many times. We want to avoid the hurt and embarrassment of foolishly believing something that proved to be wrong. We definitely want to dismiss the possibility of trusting someone we shouldn't trust. Still, there is another part. We have a growingly permissive society that allows the freedom to believe and express as we choose. From those two things, a ready harvest of critical skepticism grows.

In such a skeptical society, there is a loss. It is the loss of respect for things that deserve respect. There is a loss of real honor, realized integrity, and genuine faith. It strikes me that if we lose faith in our guardians, teachers, leaders, and even preachers, we have few places to put our faith. Perhaps we can do better. My thought would be that if we all live honorably with respect for one another, and especially for God, perhaps we can again learn to trust one another. — Russ

January - Daily Bible Reading

- 21. Isaiah 1-2
- 22. Isaiah 3-4; Mark 1
- 23. Isaiah 5-6; Mark 2
- 24. Isaiah 7-8; Mark 3
- 25. Isaiah 9-10
- 26. Isaiah 11-13; Mark 4
- 27. Isaiah 14-16
- 28. Isaiah 17-19; Mark 5

God is Good! - -

- - All the Time!

Happy Anniversary

- Darla & Joe Holland - 1/23
- Dennis & Kathy Dodd - 1/26

Happy Birthday

- Karen Ruminer - - - 1/22
- Lisa Wyatt - - - 1/22
- Bernard Floranda - - 1/23
- Joe Holland - - - 1/24
- Larry Baldwin - - - 1/28
- Donna Greenroyd - - 1/28
- Avileigh Lowrance - - 1/28

♦ **Who said:** - *"Please bring me a little water in a cup, that I may drink." And as she was going to get it, he called to her and said, "Please bring me a morsel of bread in your hand."* —**Answer next week**

♦ **Last Week:** Asa, King of Judah — 1 Kings 15:19

News That Is of Interest to You

Keep In Prayer

- ◆ **Dwight Andrews** has had a small stroke, and is in Southwest. Medical Center.
- ◆ **Anna Ruminer's** daughter, **Theresa**, is undergoing chemotherapy.
- ◆ **Arletta Hensley, Linda Vance's** is in extended care.
- ◆ **Terry Roy**—had surgery for a broken wrist.
- ◆ **Wayne Haynes** - receiving chemo.
- ◆ **Riley Baldwin** - throat surgeries.
- Our **Sympathy to Dwain Thacker** on the passing of his cousin, in Amarillo, Texas.

Homebound or Limited:

**Aline McDaniel - Ella McKeel
Marguriete Shobert**

- The **All Church Dinner** is today, January 21, following morning worship. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship.
- **The Next** (scheduled) **Men's Breakfast** will be next Saturday, January 27, at 8:00 am. Come and enjoy the fellowship.
- **The Ladies' Coffee** meets on the 1st Friday of each month at the church building at 10 am, and is studying the book of Daniel.
- **EPIC (Ever Present in Christ)**, is scheduled for April 20-21 this year. Information booklets are available to study. For more information, see Darrell, Brian H., or Russ. .

Teachers

February 4th – April 29th

Nursery 0-2 years

Sunday – Kari Postlewait/Lisa Wyatt

Wednesday – Teah Ausmus/Emma McDougal

2-3 year olds

Sunday – Emily Jaworsky/Michele Haftman

Wednesday – Linda Vance/Camron Jolliff

4-6 years

Sunday – Jennifer Huff

Wednesday - Mandi L./Talsie D.

1st – 2nd grade

Sunday – Sherri Weingartner

3rd – 4th grade

Sunday – Nathan & Julie Henderson

5th – 6th grade

Sunday – Roger Scott

Wednesday

4th-12th grade boys – Joe Downs/
Brian Jaworsky

1st-2nd grade and 4th-6th grade girls
– Paula Dyer

High School

Sunday – Roy Cowan

Sunday Adult Bible Classes

We had had a change in teachers and studies in our Sunday morning adult Bible classes.

- Adult 1 - Russ Dyer is teaching a series on the Judges.
- Adult 2 - Bill Sherman is teaching of lessons on the present culture.
- Adult 3 - Jerry Doyle is teaching a study on our enemy, Satan.

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Scheduled to Serve Next Week

(1/28/2018)

Announcements

Bill Sherman

Greeters

Don & Anita Worden

Jerry & Joretta Doyle

Teah Ausmus

Lord's Table (am)

Prayers: Blue Suarez

Michael Gustafson Nathan Henderson

Randy Vance Richard Lowrance

Roy Cowan Sam Greenroyd

Tres Lowrance Walter McFadden

Lord's Table (pm)

Layne Adams Bill Fleming

Prayers (am)

Dwain Thacker Fred Babbit

Prayers (pm)

Randy Vance Richard Lowrance

Schedule of Services

Sunday

Bible Study 9:00 AM

Worship 10:00 AM

Worship 5:00 PM

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 PM

Order of Service

Announcements

Scripture:

John 1:47-50

Prayer

Song - 350

Jesus, Hold My Hand

Song - 12

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed?

Comments

Lord's Supper

Collection

Song - 680

There's Not a Friend

Sermon

I Saw You

Song — 125

Do You Know My Jesus?

Song — 708

Walking in Sunlight

Prayer

<i>Elders</i>	<i>Deacons</i>		<i>Minister</i>
Kevin Keenan Keith McDougal Horace Phillips Bill Sherman	Joe Downs Josh Dyer Brian Huff Brian Jaworsky	Tres Lowrance Darrell MacDonald Dwain Thacker Randy Vance	Russell Dyer