



The Sentinel

of the

Southern Ridge Church of Christ

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

October 15, 2017

Volume 17, Number 42

Far From the Edge

"Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!" - Matthew 16:22

There are those people who believe we are each set to a predestined fate. If they are correct, nothing we choose is of our own accord, or matters. For, every choice has already been set for us, and the conclusion is already in hand. Contrary to such a belief system, the Bible has constant reminders of choice. From God's dealings with Adam and Eve to the confronting of Saul of Tarsus, personal choice and consequences have been evident.

Many a mother has warned her child (as I have been so warned), *"If you do that, you will be in trouble!"* At such a moment, choices are weighed in a youngster's mind. For, even at a young age it can be known that the circumstances of the future will be affected by the choice of the moment. A contrary choice will almost certainly bring wrath. A cooperative choice will enhance a relationship of peace. In other words, that child can determine whether to make that mother mad or not. The only predetermined matter is the divergence of consequences.

Peter believed he could keep Jesus safe. He was a man that was willing to draw his sword in the defense of Jesus, even against overwhelming numbers. So, as Jesus spoke clearly, depicting the suffering before Him, Peter believed he could change that course. He loved Jesus. He believed in Jesus. He wanted to secure the cause of Jesus. Peter believed he could.

Why would he not believe in a different outcome? It had been his choice to follow Jesus. He could have remained a simple and honorable fisherman. If his own choice could alter his life in such a dramatic fashion, surely the outcome of Jesus life could be moved in an alternate direction. It was not necessarily arrogant. Still, it was identifiably selfish, and contrary to God's desire. Later, Jesus reminds Peter that the set course could be altered by His own request, but it would not be, in order to fulfill the greater cause.

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Generally, it is good advice to stay as far away from danger as possible. Still, I have to ask, "How far is far enough?" For example, one might want to view the scenic beauty of some great canyon. It might be foolish or dangerous to stand with feet over the edge, but how far from the edge is safety? If safety grows at every foot of distance from the edge, wouldn't it be safest to go nowhere near the canyon at all? To apply such an idea, there would be little that we could do in life. For, almost any activity or opportunity has dangers available. Lack of caution, careless behavior, or simple denial of the danger can take an action from safety to great harm in a moment.

There is another consideration to bring forward. Jesus did not promise His dedicated followers a life without risk or cost. He promised fulfillment. Consider, it may be safe to stay far away from the edge of the canyon, but the wondrous beauty of it would never be known. We can stay far from the edge and live lives of limited challenge. We can eschew danger with mortal fear, and perhaps avoid risk. In that way we may live uneventfully. Another course may be to heed the call of faith and see where it may lead. Sure, there may be chasms of danger in which to fall, but the adventure of being so close to Jesus will make it worth it all. — Russ

God is Good! -
- All the Time!

- October - Daily Bible Reading**
- 15. 1 Samuel 7-9; Ephesians
 - 16. 1 Samuel 10-12
 - 17. 1 Samuel 13-14; Ephesians 6
 - 18. 1 Samuel 15-16; 2 Peter 1
 - 19. 1 Samuel 17-18; 2 Peter 2
 - 20. 1 Samuel 19-21; 2 Peter 3
 - 21. 1 Samuel 22-24; 1 Timothy 1
 - 22. 1 Samuel 25-26; 1 Timothy 2

Happy Anniversary

Walter & Carolyn McFadden 10/26

Happy Birthday

<u>Dwayne Ross</u> (belated)-	10/10
Donovan Huff - - -	10/15
Keith McDougal - - -	10/17
Jackie Tran - - - -	10/19
Lauren Gustafson - - -	10/20
Mason MacDonald - - -	10/20
Sherri Weingartner - - -	10/20
Richard Lowrance - - -	10/21
Emma McDougal - - -	10/27
Connie Marshall - - -	10/30

Homebound or Limited:
Aline McDaniel
Ella McKeel
Marguriete Shobert

Who Said?

- ♦ **Who said:** - *"Is there not still a prophet of the Lord here, that we may inquire of Him?" - Answer next week*
- ♦ **Last Week:** Obadiah (servant of Ahab, said to Elijah) 1 Kings 18:9

News That Is of Interest to You

Keep In Prayer

- ◆ **Dwain Thacker** continues to struggle with a severe and painful case of shingles.
- ◆ **Wayne Haynes** - chemo treatment for leukemia.
- ◆ **Riley Baldwin** - had another surgery last Tuesday.
- ◆ **Norman Bagger** undergoing treatment for his cancer.
- ◆ **Mattie Ruble**—has experienced a decline, as her dementia has gotten worse. Hospice is working with the family.
- ◆ **Avileigh Lowrance** will have outpatient surgery on October 25.

Coming Events

Monthly Fellowship Meal this morning (October 15), following worship. Stay and enjoy.

The Ladies' Coffee meets on the 1st Friday of every month at the church building at 10 am, and is studying the book of Daniel.

Special Fall Events:

- The annual **Trunk or Treat** will take place on Friday evening, **October 27**. A participation list is posted on the bulletin board, as well as menu list for the meal. Check it and sign-up today.
- It will be followed by the **Pumpkin Carving** on Sunday evening, **October 29**. **Note:** Give donations to Mandi Lowrance for the purchase of the pumpkins, and pizza.
- The Annual **Holiday Dinner**, with its display of amazing talents, will be on Friday, **December 1**.

Mark Your Calendar

Sunday, October 29, 2017

Speaker: Logan Cates, preacher for the 7th and Beech Church of Christ in Durant, OK.

Christians in an Electronic - Social Media World

Logan will be sharing three lessons with us on that Sunday:

9:00 am—**Social Media: The Controlled Substance**

10:00 am—**Unlimited Data, Talk & Text**

5:00 PM.—**Families Uniting - Not Dividing When Satan Attacks**

Make your plans to be here and invite someone to come with you.

Mission Support: We presently send monthly financial support to 9 works. We will list one of them each week in the bulletin. You may also check the mission board in the foyer and read the communication reports we receive from them.

This week's work to consider:

Apologetics Press: Dave Miller and co-workers produce the "Reason & Revelation" magazine. They also conduct seminars and meet speaking appointments to address evidences of God, and Christian evidences. We support them with \$1200.00 per year.

- **The Next** (scheduled) **Men's Breakfast** will be on Saturday, January 27, 2018.

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Scheduled to Serve Next Week

(10/22/2017)

Announcements

Randy Vance

Greeters

Don & Anita Worden

Dwain Thacker

George & Pat King

Lord's Table (am)

Prayers: Dewayne Ross

Dwain Thacker Fred Babbit

Fred Jones Michael Gustafson

Gerald Harden Walter McFadden

Keith McDougal Sam Greenroyd

Lord's Table (pm)

Layne Adams Bill Fleming

Prayers (am)

Dale Crews Roy Cowan

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:

Romans 15:4

Prayer

Song - 154

Give Me the Bible

Song - 895

Thy Word

Song - 59

Break Thou the Bread of Life

Comments

Lord's Supper

Collection

Song - 253

How Shall the Young Secure
Their Hearts?

Sermon

Your Word Is ...

Song — 653

The Way of the Cross

Song — 248

How Firm a Foundation

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