

Those to Serve

(B) Mike Mallett
(FV) Judd Wall
(O) Doug Pruett
(A) Calvin BURks
1st prayer Keith Stifflemire
2nd prayer Kyle Stifflemire
Announcements: Jack Wall
Singing: Kevin Grant

Happy Anniversary

Will & Autumn Vann

June 14th

Happy Birthday

Cassidy Stapp June 2nd

Loyd Crownover June 5th

Jeret Burks June 7th

Dates to Remember

May 26th

Noon Fellowship

May 27th

Memorial Day

June 2nd

Mission Sunday

Prayer List:

Mike Lovell
Letha Sheldon
Ruby Jones
Loyd Crownover
Pray for our Nation
Our Troops
Law Enforcement
Rescue Personnel

A CONGREGATION OF ADDICTS

There was a family in Corinth that is mentioned in First Corinthians that is of particular note. It is the household of Stephanas. Paul taught and baptized this great family. What a blessing they became! They were wonderful helpers to the apostle. Stephanas supplied a service when it was needed most. (1 Corinthians 1:16; 16:17) This man and his family were so zealous for the Lord and so close to the Master that it was said of them that they addicted themselves to the ministry (1 Corinthians 16:15). Addicted? What a wonderful term to describe their love and service to Christ. As I considered this statement, I thought about the great work being done by Christians who are addicted to the work of the church. Let us get into the work of the church where we are with all our hearts, so that folks, seeing our good works, can say that we are a congregation of addicts addicted to the Word and work of the Lord Jesus Christ. John Wright

Edifier

Evant church of Christ

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Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."

Sunday Worship:

Will Vann, Preacher

9:30 am Bible Study

863-899-0987

10:20 am Worship

Email: wvann@yahoo.com

12:30 pm Afternoon

www.evantchurchofchrist.org

Wednesday Night

6:00 pm

Has the Bible Been Changed?

We are frequently asked about the reliability of our Bibles. Specifically, how can we be sure that the Bibles we are reading today are true to the original messages delivered so long ago? In particular, can we be sure that the New Testament has not been altered and changed in the almost 2000 years since it was written?

The answer to these questions is a resounding YES, we can be absolutely certain that we have good, reliable copies of the messages as they were originally written. To illustrate how we can have this confidence, consider this illustration:

- * At a potluck dinner, Sally has a delicious dish and several other ladies ask for her recipe.
- * - Sally makes three handwritten copies of her recipe and gives them to Anna, Betty, and Clara.
- * - A good while later, Anna pulls out that recipe and is preparing to fix the dish. She calls Sally to confirm the ingredients, but Sally has lost her original copy of the recipe.
- * - Is there any way for Anna to confirm the accuracy of her copy?
- * - YES, although the original has been lost, Anna can compare her copy to those of Betty and Clara. If all three agree, she can have good confidence that her copy is exactly like the original.

Now, take this illustration and apply the same principle to the New Testament. Admittedly, the original 'autograph' copies of these documents are all lost and unavailable. But, there are literally thousands of copies of those originals, many dating back to the immediate time frame in which the originals were written. By comparing these thousands of copies, and by observing their nearly perfect similarities, we can conclude that our Bibles today are true to the originals. In fact, there is no book of antiquity that comes even close to the Bible in being able to provide this sort of documentary evidence for authenticity and accuracy.

YES, you can trust your Bible!!! - by Greg Gwin

Does The Devil Make Us Do It?

By Mike Riley

When Eve succumbed to Satan's ploy (Genesis 3:1-6), he played a role in her choices, but she had some faulty thinking about temptation and sin. The devil tempts us, but he doesn't make us sin.

James tells us that God isn't to blame either: "Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone" ([James 1:13](#)).

So who is to blame when we sin?

The inspired writer James answers:

"Each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed" ([James 1:14](#)).

Just as a fisherman uses bait to lure his prey, our unchecked desires lead us to giving in to temptation and sin.

When we disobey God by sinning ([1 John 3:4](#); cf. [Romans 3:23](#)), let us not shift the blame or try to justify our actions with any faulty "the devil made me do it" theology (cf. [Exodus 32:19-24](#)).

Instead, let us take full responsibility for our actions ([2 Samuel 24:10](#)), confess our sins to a gracious and forgiving Father ([1 John 1:9](#); cf. [Psalm 32:5](#)), and then pursue godly living again ([1 Timothy 4:8](#); cf. [1 Timothy 6:1-6](#)).

Evil Company

J. Mike Johnson

The story is told of two parrots who lived near each other. The one was accustomed to singing hymns while the other was addicted to swearing. The owner of the latter obtained permission for it to associate with the former in the hope that its bad habit would be corrected. Instead, the opposite happened as both learned to swear!

The little story reminds us of a passage in [1 Corinthians 15:33](#) which says, "Do not be deceived: 'Evil company corrupts good habits.'" (NKJV). A person may feel like he can associate with wicked people and not be hurt. He may think that he can be a good influence on the godless person. Perhaps he can, but influence can go in two directions, and there is a great danger of the wicked person influencing the good person. If a person thinks otherwise, he may be "deceived." Young people, as well as older people, need to choose their friends carefully. Remember, "Evil company corrupts good habits."