

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1449

November 27, 2022

Ezekiel 14:11, *“That the house of Israel may go no more astray from me, neither be polluted any more with all their transgressions; but that they may be my people, and I may be their God, saith the Lord GOD.”*

We live in a beautiful rural area with a lot of scenic drives through open land as well as wood lands. Each time of year brings a different beauty. From the new growth of Spring to the color of Fall, it's always nice to drive and see the beauty the LORD has created for us.

Nothing detracts from this beauty more than seeing trash that has been thrown out along side the highways. It's not only against the law to do such, but common sense should tell one not to do such. Yet, people continue to pollute. Not only is it unsightly, but it's a danger to animals.

The LORD told the people to no longer be polluted. What were they polluted with? The pollution was with the transgressions of the people round about them. The LORD had early in the Bible told them not to mingle with the people and not to marry even out of their own tribes. The LORD knew they would be polluted with the sinful ways

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Sunday 9 AM & 5 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

of non-Israelites. (They were not to even marry out of their tribe to preserve the inheritance. Numbers 36:6-7)

When one pollutes the earth, the earth begins to absorb the trash. If one pours out oil or containers with oil and other chemicals, with time, the containers break down and the chemicals become part of the earth thus contaminating it.

If someone were to throw out a container containing a polluting liquid, you might be able to quickly pick it up and properly dispose of it. The longer the container lays there, the more likely the liquid inside will leak and will be impossible to remove from the earth.

Likewise, the longer we pollute ourselves with the sins of the world, the harder it becomes to remove those things from our lives. We need to be very careful not to let ourselves become polluted with shows, movies, music, etc. Once that pollution is in our minds, we cannot unsee or unhear it. The damage of the pollution has been done.

This doesn't mean we cannot be forgiven. We can. But the more pollution in our hearts and minds, the harder it is to rid ourselves of it. Just like physical pollution, the more there is, the harder it is to clean up.

Even if we have polluted our lives, let's cleanse ourselves and turn to the LORD. Let's be able to say the words of Ezekiel 4:14, *“Then said I, Ah Lord GOD! behold, my soul hath not been polluted: for from my youth up even till now have I not eaten of that which dieth of itself, or is torn in pieces; neither came there abominable flesh into my mouth.”*

This doesn't mean that Ezekiel had lived a sinless life. He made sure he did not overtly do things that would pollute his soul. Pollution can contaminate our very soul. If left uncleansed, we will lose our soul. Let's clean up our lives and souls and live unpolluted and pure lives before the LORD.

—Marty Edwards❖

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Vanderstoep, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Clay Bozarth, Becky Hatcher, Joanna Locke, Rachel Riffle, Linda Terry,, and Larry Compton. Sherry Crabtree** continues to recover from the effects of a stroke. She is much

better but still has some issues.

—We extend our sympathies to the family of **Betty Story** who passed away Monday in Mississippi. She is the grandmother of Lauren Candela, and Matthew, Ben, and Abby Edwards. They lost both grandmothers within 3½ days.

—Thanks to **Mark Crabtree** for installing a security light on the front of the building. With Walgreens closing next door, it has become much darker when leaving evening services.

☆☆☆

Isaiah 55:1, “*Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.*”

This past Friday is commonly called “Black Friday.” Google even now lists it as a holiday. It’s called such because it’s the biggest day of the year for sales and buying. It’s the one day that many retailers depend upon to put them “in the black.” That is an old term meaning “to make a profit.” If someone had a negative balance sheet, it was printed in red. To be “in the black” was to be making a profit.

I’m sure all of us have received many fliers in the mail and numerous emails advertising the things for sale this past Friday. Some started “Black Friday” weeks early, and many retailers will continue it on. Even with the sales, it takes a lot of money to purchase many of the items. Some of the most popular are computers, cell phones, and toys. People often go into debt just to be able to purchase these items in order to have gifts for people at this time of year.

The best possible thing you can buy can be bought without money. In the above verse Isaiah is talking about buying wine and milk and not having to pay for it. This is obviously a metaphor for “purchasing” the good things of the LORD. That is salvation. It

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Sunday, November 20, 2022		
Classes	9	Matthew 27:23-34
Preaching	13	Matthew 6:25-34
Contribution	\$1312.38	
Evening	6	Hosea 9:1-10:15
Wednesday, November 23, 2022		
Classes	4	Galatians 6:1-18

Bible Quiz

What had Paul written with his own hand?

Last Week’s Answer— In truth (II John 1:4)

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cannot be purchased with money. It’s “purchased” by our giving ourselves to the LORD. Jesus is the one who paid the price by his death on the cross.

In the next verse, Isaiah asks, “*Wherefore do ye spend money for [that which is] not bread? and your labour for [that which] satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye [that which is] good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness.*” Why were they wasting their money on things that did them no good? People even at this moment are purchasing things that will decay and eventually end up in a landfill. Buy that which is eternal. Buy spiritual things that will never fade.

—Marty Edwards❖

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and 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 (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)