THE TEN PLAGUES

D E K J T R O Z J P U F B O F
A S K T A I F S J J W I D F P
R G Q E N L V H E H D X R S G
K D J J R S S E I L F P C T K
N E S R E V I L E D W H G S B
E P B Z P T N M A G Y A R U U
S Z B Z I F S L W E P R G C L
S C R K Q A V E C I L A N O N
F N R O B T S R I F Z O G L U
H C B C D S L I O B W H Z L M
A Q N O R A A S L M B G J L B
W I K T J Y M V Z L O Y P M L
L I V E S T O C K I M S N S O
X W E I Q Y A O X A W P E Z O
P Z F O S G O R F H U Y U S D

AARON DELIVERS HAIL LOCUSTS
BLOOD FIRSTBORN LICE MOSES
BOILS FLIES LIVESTOCK PHARAOH DARKNESS FROGS

Black Creek Church of Christ

3216 County Road 218
Middleburg, FL 32068
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Sunday Morning:
Bible Class: 10:00 AM
Worship: 11:00 AM

Sunday Evening:
Worship: 6:00 PM

7:00 PM midweek BIBLE CLASS

Visit our website at:

www.blackcreekchurchofchrist.org

- **Bible Call**
- **Georgia Mission (Soperton Church of Christ, Soperton, GA)**
- **Bible Correspondance Courses & Tracts (By Request)**

Works of Benevolence:

- **Hospital Benevolence Basket ~ Orange Park Medical Center)**
- **Raintree Village Children's Home (Valdosta, GA)**

Works of Edification:

- **The Black Creek Courier**
- **Black Creek Christian School**
- **Visitation Program**
- **Vacation Bible School**
- **Bible Classes For All Ages**
- **Keenagers Group (Over –50)**

What Must I Do To Be Saved?
Hear the Gospel (Matthew 7:24-27; Romans 10:14,17) → Believe the Gospel (Mark 16:16; Hebrews 11:6) → Repent of My Sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30) → Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32-33; Romans 10:9-10) → Be Baptized (Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21) → Be Faithful Unto Death (Matthew 10:22; Revelation 2:10).

The Black Creek Courier

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"For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:20).

August 2, 2009

What Do I Owe?

When the Lord Jesus Christ looks down from Heaven upon the lives that we live, is He pleased? Certainly, we would like to think that when Jesus looks down on us as husbands and fathers He would say, "Yes! That is what I had in mind when I gave Myself on the cross. He is doing the things I would have him do; he is abstaining from the things that are wrong. His language is good, he treats others well, he loves, he is kind, he is evangelistic, he studies his Bible, and that is what I had in mind when I gave Myself on the cross for him." Hopefully this is the case, but is it possible that when Christ looks down from Heaven upon our lives as men that He says, "No! That is not what I had in mind. He is not doing the things I have commanded; he is not abstaining from evil. His language is not good, he is mean and cruel, he is not evangelistic, he does not study his Bible, and that is not what I had in mind when I gave Myself to die on the cross." Is it possible when Jesus Christ looks down from Heaven upon our lives that He is not pleased? How important is it that we be pleasing to God? We live in a world that is satisfied with its relationship with God. Many believe "As long as **I** do what **I** think is pleasing to God, then God will be pleased. **I** can do what **I** believe to be right, abstain from what **I** believe to be wrong, worship the way **I** want to worship, and as long as **I** believe that **I** am doing right, then God will be satisfied."

We also live in a world that is constantly questioning God. This becomes obvious when we hear statements such as, "If God really were a God of love, then we would not have the sickness and diseases that we have today. If God really were a God of peace, then we would not have the violence and wars that we have today. If God really did care for man, then children would not be born into broken homes and abusive families." We live in a world that is constantly questioning God as if God owes us something. Rather, we should view our lives for what they really are, lives that are indebted to God. It is not God who owes us, but it is we who owe God. The question is what do I owe?

We know we owe something. Paul said, "For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's" (1 Corinthians 6:20). We have been bought at a price and because of this, we owe God. We will never understand what it is that we owe until we understand the price that was paid to purchase us. No passage better explains the price paid for us than when the profit Isaiah wrote, **"Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all (Isaiah 53:4-6).**

In this passage, Isaiah explained the fact that Christ took our sins upon Himself when He was crucified. Crucifixion has been described by many as the worst way to put a human being to death. Scripture gives us just a glimpse of the horrific trial and death of our Lord and Savior. The Bible indicates that Christ was scourged, stripped, mocked, beaten, spat upon, a crown of thorns put on His head, nails driven through His hands and feet, and He was hung on a cross to die. Isaiah said, "He was oppressed and He was afflicted, yet He opened not His mouth; He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before its shearers is silent, so He opened not His mouth" (Isaiah 53:7). They treated our Lord like some dumb animal, and they slaughtered Him. They slaughtered Him violently, maliciously, and vehemently. However, the truly amazing thing is that at any point Christ could have ended it. He could have called legions of angels to bring this world to an end (Matthew 26:53). With a word our God created this world and with a word He could

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have ended it. Yet Christ allowed Himself to be treated spitefully and killed. He endured the humiliation, physical pain, and mental anguish. So we ask, **why**? Why did our Lord go through what He went through? If we are honest with ourselves, we already know the answer-He did it for you and for me. Christ came to this earth to live perfectly and be crucified because we have all sinned (Romans 3:23). He did it because our sins separated us from God (Isaiah 59:1, 2) and sentenced us to death (Romans 6:23). Christ died to redeem us from sin and give us hope.

What do I owe? **Everything**. I owe everything to Christ. He purchased me with His own blood to save me from Hell. Without Christ I have nothing and I am nothing. With Christ I have great joy and hope. All that I have been, all that I am, and all that I ever will be is because of Christ. He is the reason I live and the reason I do not fear death. Christ has given those who serve Him the ability to look at death with great eagerness. He has given us everything; therefore, we owe Him everything. We owe Christ our lives; He needs to be the focal point in our lives. His Word needs to guide our lives. When we wake up in the morning and try to find something to wear, Christ needs to make that decision. Is it appropriate? Is it modest? When we go to work or school and converse with people, what kind of language do we use? Do we tell dirty jokes? Do we use foul language? Christ needs to be the reason we say what we say. When we come home from work or school and choose some form of entertainment, Christ's Word should guide us in that decision. Is it clean? Would He approve? When we log on to the Internet, Christ decides what Web sites are appropriate. In every aspect of our lives, Christ makes the decision. We owe everything to Christ; we owe Him our lives. When we speak of the Gospel as Paul described in 1 Corinthians 15:1-5, we often forget the final step. Paul said that after the death, burial, and resurrection Christ was then seen anew. He was seen as someone raised from the dead. We too need to be seen anew after our death, burial, and resurrection. After baptism we need to be different people. We now have been purchased from sin to serve God (Romans 6). We now allow Christ to make our decisions for us. Paul said, "I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). We need to adopt this same attitude. As Christian men who have been crucified with Christ need to understand that we have put ourselves to death and now live completely for Christ. We do this because He loved us enough to give Himself for us.

We need to realize that it is not God who owes us, but we who owe God everything. When we realize this, we will have a better understanding of our lives. We will understand that we need to live in a way that is pleasing to God. We do not make the rules about what is right and what is wrong, but we do the things that God would have us do. We abstain from the things that are wrong. Our language, attitude, conduct, evangelism efforts, study habits, and every aspect of our lives will start to line up with what the Lord wants of us. It is then that our Lord Jesus Christ will look down from Heaven and be pleased. It is then that Christ will say, "Yes, that is what I had in mind."

Garrett Bookout

Consider This...

She sat alone in an old people's home; lonely, and old and gray; She wished that someone, just anyone would call on her that day...Did you?

He lay for hours on his hospital bed. The hours were long and hard; He wished that someone, just anyone would send him a cheery card...Did you?

He was far from home on a foreign soil feeling homesick, lonely, and blue; He wished that someone, just anyone would stop and write him a letter...Did you?

She felt a stranger, that little bride. Her husband with her to church came; She wished that someone, just anyone would stop and call her by her name...Did you?

Her loved one had died a few weeks ago. All sad and broken-hearted she sat, And wished that someone, just anyone would come to her house to chat...Did you?

That matter of Christian service - We are living it day by day. When we help someone, just anyone as we walk along life's way...Did you?

Selected

Black Creek...This Week

Servants For the Month of August

	A.M.	P.M.
Announcements		
Scripture Reading	Gordon Richau	Gordon Richau
Song Leader		
Opening Prayer		
Lord's Table - Directing		
Assistant		
Assistant		
Assistant		
Assistant		
Sermon	Steve Atnip, Sr.	Steve Atnip, Sr.
Closing Prayer		

Prepare Communion	(Aug)	Cindy Lou	(Sept.)	Brenda & Linda
Cleaning the Building	(Aug)	The Evans'	(Sept.)	Brenda & Linda
Nursery Attendant	(AM)	Jan Pope	(PM)	???????

Keep Them In Your Prayers...

Black Creek Family:

Mitchell family, Wanda Cheek, Kathy Moore, Lackey family, Copeland family, Posey family, Morgan family, Dasher family, Shaw family, Sonny Best, Grace family, Dennard family, Dix family, Vaughn family, Blair family, Evans family, and Maloy family.

Away:

Irish family, Bob Teitz, Barbara Lonier, Dot Sitch, Clyde Howell, Brena Bishop & New Baby (Brenda's Niece), Pardue Family, Kay Van Horne, Jayne Imery , Steve Holiday (Mary Dennard's Nephew), Evan Chapman (5 yr. old who was just diagnosed with Leukemia), Thompson Family, Baxter & Mary Louis Forrester , Dwayne Seaman and family, Cindy Anderson, James Smith, Kay Taylor, Dorothy Wilson, Eileen Lacy, Donald Petteway, Gerri West, Terry Thompson, Gary Bartlett, Sloan Hunter, Bob Melson, Catherine Moon and Judy Angelo.

We are so happy that you have chosen to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us, please remain a bit after services so we can become acquainted and let you know how special you are to us. Also, if you have any questions concerning anything you saw in our services today, please ask any one of us here today. We will be more than happy to answer any of your questions.

NEWS & Notes

There is a list on the bulletin board for anyone who could volunteer to watch the little ones during service if the need is present.

Volunteers Needed: There are still some months open for volunteers to do the buildng cleanup and preparing the communion. If you can do these, please sign up on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Mailboxes: Please remember to check your mailboxes weekly.

Hospital Basket: We need to restock our snacks for the Hospital basket. If anyone can contribute, please see Billy Smith or Mary Register.

Ladies Bible Class: Ladies, come join our Bible class on Tuesdays at 10 AM. We are having a great time learning about the book of Acts.

FSOP Class: The Florida School of Preaching will be offering a course beginning August 13. The class is entitled, "Difficult Texts of the OT Explained." It will be held at Wesconnett Church of Christ from 7PM—9:30 PM. It can be taken for credits if it is your desire. Cost for the class is $5.

Updates: If there is anyone on the prayer list that needs to be taken off, please let Cindy know so that she can update the prayer list. Thank you.

SHARE THE GOSPEL