



CPC QUARTERLY

A Quarterly Publication of Christ Presbyterian Church: Meeting at 2210 Hawk Creek Road, London KY
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From the Pastor's Pen

Satan's Game Plan

One of Satan's chief schemes is to persuade us to doubt God's goodness and love. He wants us think ill of God. This was his plan of attack in the Garden of Eden. He comes to Eve suggesting that God is closefisted by asking if God had said they could not eat from any tree in the garden. He then explicitly charges God of being selfish by asserting that God forbade her from eating the fruit of that one tree because he does not want her to be like him. Even though God had abundantly blessed Eve, she believes the lie and eats.

If this strategy worked when Adam and Eve were righteous and enjoyed perfect fellowship with God, it will certainly work on us today who know and experience God's anger and judgment. And so like a good coach, Satan keeps running the same effective play. The puritan Thomas Manton wrote:

“[Satan] seeks to hide God's goodness, and to represent him as a God that delights in our destruction and damnation, rather than in our salvation; as if he were inexorable, and hardly entreated to do us good. And why? That we may stand aloof from God, and apprehend him as unlovely. Or if he cannot prevail so far, he tempts us to poor, unworthy, mean thoughts of his goodness and mercy.”

I once heard the story of a young man who was paralyzed in an accident. One day he was sitting by a window watching people walk by; watching kids playing in the street; and seeing young couples hold hands. The scene became too much as he felt imprisoned by his wheelchair. His sorrow was compounded by the fact that it seemed like Satan himself was there, telling him that God doesn't

really love him: “Look at you! Look at what God let happen to you! You could have been out there holding the hand of a young woman but now you are stuck here in this chair and all because God does not love you. He may love those other people, but certainly not you.”

I am sure that there have been circumstances in your life that have made you doubt the goodness and love of God. Does he really care? Why should I believe and obey God if he is out to get me anyway?

This is why it is so important to know and grasp the love of God. If we view God as harsh and mean, then we will run *from* him. But if we come to know and understand that He is good and that he is love, even to horrible sinners, then we will run *to* him for grace and salvation through his son the Lord Jesus Christ.

The way the young man in the story above resisted the temptation to doubt God's love was to look to the cross because there he saw how much God truly loved him. God so loved us that he gave his one and only son to suffer and die so that we might have eternal life. So when you find it difficult to believe that God truly loves you, remember what he did for you. Contemporary hymn writer Stuart Townsend has written:

*How deep the Father's love for us
How vast beyond all measure
That he would give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure*

-Pastor Ramsey

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- There is a monthly bible study in Jellico, TN, at the Boll home. Please contact John Boll for the date and time of the Bible study, which will generally meet near the end of the month.
- A London area bible study continues to meet on the first two Wednesdays of the month at the Anderson home, although in November we are meeting on the last two Wednesdays. We are studying the book of Hebrews.
- A paper by Pastor Ramsey entitled “Samuel Rutherford’s Contribution to Covenant Theology in Scotland” is scheduled to appear in the 2009 edition of *The Confessional Presbyterian Journal*: www.cpjournal.com.
- An *ad hoc* budget committee consisting of Mr. Steve Towery and Dr. John Boll has been established by the Session in accordance with the church by-laws to prepare the 2010 budget. Members are encouraged to contribute to this process by contacting the members of the budget committee.
- We will receive contributions to the annual OPC Thank Offering throughout the month of November. This is a very important offering as it supports the various ministries of the OPC. Everyone is encouraged to contribute.
- A congregational meeting has been scheduled for November 22, during the Sunday School hour, to decide on making an offer on a building, pending our financial situation.

Significant Sessional Actions

- Approved the Facility Search Committee and commissioned them to begin the process of searching for a facility better suited to meet our needs.
- Approved Pastor’s vacation for November 2-16.
- Examined and approved the profession of faith of Andrew Ramsey, Madelane Hupp, Lora Boll, Timothy Irwin, Noah Irwin, and Victoria Irwin.
- Approved an *ad hoc* budget committee consisting of Steve Towery and John Boll.
- Approved to convert one of the church’s savings account into a building fund.

Book Notes

- There are three new books in the church Library. *Children at the Lord’s Table: Assessing the Case for Paedocommunion* by Cornelius P. Venema. *Reformed Worship: Worship that is According to Scripture* by Terry L. Johnson. *Already Gone* by Ken Ham and Britt Beemer.

Financial Report

As of 09/30/09	Actual	Budget
Income:		
Expenses:		
Deacon’s Fund:	\$	
Building Fund:	\$	

Denomination News

- The OPC is hosting a Diaconal Summit June 3-5, 2010 on the campus of Wheaton College in Chicago, IL. The flyer for this exciting conference can be downloaded here: http://www.opc.org/opc_deacon_051909b.pdf.

Thought of the Quarter

R.B. Kuiper:

“John 3:16 makes the amazing, incomprehensible, unfathomably profound, well-nigh unbelievable, declaration that the holy God sovereignly loves hell-deserving sinners, and that He loves them so much that he was willing that His only begotten Son, whom He loves with all the love of His infinite heart, should go to hell in their stead.”