

Two Kinds of Leaven

By Dan Jenkins

It had to be frustrating for the Lord as He tried to prepare the apostles for the time when they would be at the forefront in the growth of the church. An illustration of this can be seen in how those men responded to the words of Jesus. "Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the Sadducees." The apostles totally misunderstood what He said about this leaven.

They had just traveled across the Sea of Galilee and had failed to bring any bread with them. When Jesus mentioned leaven, they immediately thought He was talking about this. However, our Lord had far more in mind than actual bread.

Jesus first reminded them that they were not dependent on ordinary means to find food. They had just fed five thousand men and then four thousand men with just a few loaves and fish. Jesus asked them to recall these two miracles, and the apostles began to finally understand that this kind of bread was not what he was discussing.

It was not actual bread, but the false teachings of the Jewish leaders He was discussing. "Then they understood that He did not tell them to beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees" (Matt. 16:5). False teaching is so much like leaven.

Think of how often the Bible mentions that a little leaven leavens the entire loaf. It does not take large quantities of leaven to impact everything that is around it. It does not take large quantities of false teaching to bring disaster into the lives of men. Sometimes we so easily overlook this.

When you first open the door to allow just a small element of false teaching to enter you may never be able to close that door. So often so much more that is wrong comes rushing through. This is why Jesus sounded the alarm with the words, "Take heed..." There is such grave danger at times like this.

The brothers of Joseph probably did not think that being jealous of Joseph's coat of many colors could lead to so much evil. However, that sinful "leaven" of jealousy lead them to plan to kill their younger brother. It lead them to bring unbearable grief to their father, Jacob. When you open the door to allow smaller matters to enter, far more may enter that open door.

There is little difference in the sin of these brothers and the embracing and teaching of false doctrine. Any sin when left alone weakens those involved. The Bible is filled with illustrations of this truth. The tragedy is that while personal sin is devastating to the individual teaching of false doctrines is devastating to an entire church or nation. How should we deal with it? Beware of it and close that door when it begins opening.

Serving AM & PM today and next Sunday AM:

Sunday Rotation	April 30, 2023 AM	April 30, 2023 PM	May 7, 2023 AM
Greeter	Jerry Thompson	Rick Ferris	Dustin Desarro
Announcements		Jerry Thompson	Jason Bang
Song Leading	John McGiffin	John McGiffin	Owen Whittington
Opening Prayer/Usher Left	Owen Whittington		Seth Arrell
Lord's Supper Comments	Duane Kemp	Tom Muter	Tom Muter
Scripture Reading	Tim Bang	Owen Whittington	Duane Kemp
Sermon	Tom Muter		John McGiffin
Closing Prayer/Usher Right	Seth Arrell	Duane Kemp	Tim Bang

Things you should know about...

We would like to send donations to the Disaster Relief Fund quarterly. If you want to contribute, mark it as "DRF" or give the money to Jason. The next donation will be sent after the end of June.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Marjorie Seiber 5/1

Doug Hoff 5/18

Ezra Rohr 5/6

Curt Thompson 5/22

Mackenzie Cruze 5/6

Owen Whittington 5/28

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Happy Anniversary!

Tim & Dianna Bang 4/30

John & Laura McGiffin 5/8

Doug & Marjorie Seiber 5/13

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Ladies you are invited to a Ladies Luncheon & Tea

Saturday, May 13th @ 11:30 am

Please see Chelsea to grab an invitation to give a lady you'd like to bring with you! Also, RSVP by May 10th and be sure to check the sign up sheet to bring an item for the luncheon.

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May 21st - Brief Men's meeting after AM services
If you have anything that needs addressed, please see John or Jason.

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Ladies Bible Study - The God of All Comfort

Thursday, May 25th @ 6:45pm

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Please help get some Spring cleaning done at the building.
We will meet to work on Saturday, May 27th @ 9:00am.

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Join us at our Family Life Workshop on June 24-25:
Parenting in the Digital Age, presented by a team from the Lebanon Rd.
Church of Christ in TN.

Please call or email John (jmcgiffin.yayo@gmail.com) with any prayer requests or announcements you have for the congregation.

This week's Bible Verse

“The Lord God is my strength, He will make my feet like deer’s feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills.” Habakkuk 3:19



Lord’s Supper Reflection

To Deliver Us from the Present Evil Age

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins to deliver us from the present evil age, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.” Galatians 1:3-5

Offering Meditation

Your Gift to God Contributes to the Needs of the Saints

“Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality.” Romans 12:9-13



Remember in Prayer:

- *Our Country & leaders
- *Phyllis Caldwell - encouragement
- *Rena Morgan - Shut in, health
- *Ernst & Helen Sherrill (Bro/Sis in Christ from TN) - shut ins with ongoing health issues
- *Larry Bey - Parkinson’s
- *Orville Thompson (Jerry Thompson’s dad) - health
- *Sally Westover (Carrie Thompson’s mom) - health, comfort
- *Maxine Jones (Laura McGiffin’s mom) - having issues with her vision and dementia
- *Debby Braefield (Alena Brown’s Aunt) - health
- *Caroline Stine - health
- *Rosalee Yoder - neck/shoulder issues
- *Cathy Degarma (friend of McGiffin’s) - dealing with dementia
- *Family and friends of Marlene McCans (Jerry Thompson’s aunt) grieving her passing

- *Arlene (Carol Kemp’s sister) - recovering from knee replacement surgery
- *Carter Buckingham - needing an ultrasound on spleen/stomach area to find cause of pain
- *The Bang’s travelling this weekend
- *Tim Bang - health/pain
- *Josh Bang and family (family of the Bang’s) - things going on in their family
- *Terry & Dorene McGiffin- both sick with COVID
- *Seth Arrell - got hurt at work

How can we be praying for YOU?



Attendance and Contribution Record

Sunday, April 23		Wednesday, April 26	
Bible Classes	28	Bible Classes	24
AM Attendance	34		
PM Attendance	12	Contribution	\$863.00

Welcome to the Greenville Church of Christ



April 30, 2023

Worship Times:

- Sunday Morning Bible class: 9:30am
- Sunday Morning Worship: 10:30am
- Sunday Evening Worship: 6:00pm
- Wednesday Evening Bible Study: 7:00pm

Minister, John McGiffin

4599 Children’s Home Bradford Rd
Greenville, OH 45331

www.greenvillecoc.org

We are blessed that you have chosen to worship with us today! If you are visiting, we would love to have you back with us again. Please take a moment to fill out a visitor’s card and let us get to know you.