

Prepare for the Battle

Last week I had an opportunity to do a video devotional for one of our churches. The Lord directed me to Mark 4 and Jesus' teaching on the 4 soils. That teaching is also found in Luke 8. In both passages we are taught that Satan, the devil, is waiting to devour the seed of the word which falls on hardened hearts. Besides that, it is clear he also plays a part in leading to the demise and unfruitfulness of other seed which has been sown. Paul, in Eph. 6, teaches us that Satan is scheming against all that God is building, with the hopes of tearing it down.

It is highly likely that Satan is at work in all the chaos we see and are experiencing today. Chaos is complete disorder and confusion. Satan loves chaos, and I believe he is using (and may be causing) the chaos of today. He is after all "*the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience.*"

Therefore, we must remember that "*we do not wrestle (battle) against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.*" {Eph. 6:12} "*For through we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal (of the flesh) but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every (personal) thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, and being ready to punish (to put to death) all (personal) disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.*" {2 Cor 10:3-6}

Brothers and sisters, we are in the midst of a battle for the heart and soul of the human race. God so desires that not one person be lost, but that all would hear the good news of His salvation and place their reliance upon His sacrifice of Jesus' blood for that salvation. {2 Peter 3:9} However, Satan is doing his best to distract every human mind and

heart with the chaos of this world and those worldly desires which lead to chocking out the truth of God.

As Christ's ambassadors we must "*contend earnestly for the faith*", knowing **that it is only through faith in Christ that humanity can be saved from condemnation.** Prayer, as I wrote to you last month, is our key to opening the door God provides us so that we may ask for His mighty and merciful power to be used in the battle. With prayer, there is the need for the constant preparation of our hearts and minds so that we may serve Him well and stand firm on the foundation of Christ.

We must take up the full armor of God: *truth, righteousness, the gospel of peace, our salvation, the sword of the Spirit (His Word), and fervent prayer.* We must keep our eyes on "*Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith*", ministering in this critical age with the same love, purpose, and spirit that we may – like Him – endure and overcome for the glory of God. And ministering, we must call all to repentance and complete faith in Christ alone – with the hope that all humanity can be saved.

I believe God desires revival and spiritual awakening. Now is the time to trust Him and act accordingly.

CCSBA Financial Status

Oct. 01, 2019 – Sept. 30, 2020

Budget to date

\$ 92,208.24

Contributions received

\$ 84,434.76

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

1 ROGER & MALISA MAYO

17 GEOFF BOX

17 NATHAN AUBUCHON

18 GARY GILBERT

18 JODAWN MILLER

22 KRISTEN FREEMAN

23 BRANDON SPAIN

CCSBA Office Hours

8:00 am – 4:00 pm, Monday – Thursday

8:00 am – 12:00 pm, Friday

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FOCUS ON BSU

As the summer reaches the midway point, it is time to start planning for the next year. Three Rivers will be opening this fall with students set to return to campus in August. The return of students means the return of Monday lunches at the BSU. Now is the perfect time to figure out when your church would be able to serve, and we would be happy to schedule your church in advance. This is a great ministry to the college and only takes a few hours out of the day. Last semester I saw growth happen from the lunches and I expect to see more with a full semester to reach out to students. Please continue to pray for students as they decide on classes and figure out whether they will return to campus or not. Also pray for God to open doors to new ways to reach students as the new semester kicks off.

James Mohler, BSU Director

LEADERSHIP CONVERSATIONS



[Videos to help you lead better today.](https://vimeo.com/channels/1581335)

<https://vimeo.com/channels/1581335>

PRAY FOR THESE PASTOR-LESS CHURCHES

New Hope

Harviell FBC

Calendar for July & August

July 2 CCSBA Offices Closed at noon

July 3 CCSBA Offices Closed

August 9 Student Evangelism Day

August 16-22 Worship Music Week

CCSBA CHURCH PRAYER FOCUS

Fairview: Charlie Kelly, Pastor



Calvary Community: Scott Stephens, Pastor



Center Hill: Harold Boyer, Pastor



Second: Curtis Crowley, Pastor



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<https://www.namb.net/undivided/>