

The Keavy Encourager

1 Thessalonians 5:14 (GW)-We encourage you, brothers and sisters, to instruct those who are not living right, cheer up those who are discouraged, help the weak, and be patient with everyone.

December 29, 2024

(For Any Corrections Or Updates To The Bulletin, Please Contact brother Mark Tabata
(Call Or Text) @ 606-216-1757)

WELCOME TO THE KEAVY CHURCH OF CHRIST!

- Visitors: Please fill out a visitor card and grab a Visitor Welcome Kit!
- Communion is available in the front of the building on the table.
- Our website is: www.keavychurchofchrist.com, and our email address is keavychurchofchrist@outlook.com Please share this information with your family, friends, and social media pages!

December Prayer List

Kurt And Joanne Martin, Sanders Family, Eddie Craft (Cancer), Jimmy Brooks (Tammy's cousin, cancer), Kathy Mingus (Cancer), Anne Baker (Cancer), Larry and Sandi Tabata, Bill and Mary Ruth Browning, David and Ivy Mosley, Molly And Ebb Baker, Margie Turner (Hospice), Jake Robbins (Cancer), Carl Peachtree, Coy Gilliam (Cancer), Roger and Sandra Frazier & Family, Carman Carroll, Bessie Young, Melinda Howard, Ann Phelps, Tracy Johnson, Ivy Mosley Family (Brother & Sister), Nathan & Patty McDaniel, Edward Young Sr., Elise Allen, Ed Young, Roy Lung, Mr Collett (Kin To Sister Phyllis Sanders), Ashley West (Lost Loved Ones), Mike Clayton (Liver Transplant) Corbin Junior Pennington, Larry & Rosetta Short (Sister Marlene's Brother & Sister In Law), Sue Joseph, Tommy Joseph, Darrell Hall, Joe Williams, Jamie Anderson, Shawn McCracken (New Christian), Justin Combs, Debbie Myers, Richard Baker, John Reeder (Cancer), Harmony Mullins, Richard Eubanks, Pam Worley And Family, Eryn Barrett, Aileen Smith, Bob Bowling Family (Lost Loved Ones), John Reeder, Mike Gill (Cancer), Claude Humphrey (Cancer), Maddox Alsip, Gary & Linda Lewis (Illness), Erb Family, Coy & Diana Giliam, Josh McKnight And Family, Brody Browning, Mason Garland, Cheryl Moore (Kin To Sister Ellen), Jim & Linda Day, Felicity Lanham (Cancer), Diane Duke, Chris Holt (Friend Of Brother Mark), Jerry Napier (New Christian), Nadine Car Fields Family (Lost Loved Ones) Chester Day

Family (Lost Loved Ones), Carolyn Hoskins, Tim Williams, Rebecca Mobley, Gary Fleming, Katherine Myers

Announcements

- Backpacks For The Homeless: Backpacks are available on the pew in front of the kitchen area. We are asking anyone who is able to please take a backpack (or more than one) and fill it up with any items that you believe will be helpful for the homeless in our community. Suggestions include: non-perishable food, sleeping bags, blankets, bottled water, gloves, tooth brushes, toothpaste, sanitary wipes, feminine products, dry shampoo, combs, mouth wash, razors, hand warming packs, body wash, etc. We will also have Bibles and/or Bible related material for each bag.
- This morning we have a guest speaker for our Sunday morning service, brother Randy Hamblin. We welcome him and look forward to his good lesson from the Word of God!
- Upcoming Events: Keavy Youth Group (Tuesday January 7 @ 6:00 PM); Keavy Jail Ministry (Every Tuesday And Wednesday From 1-4 PM @ Laurel County Correctional Facility); Keavy Support Group (Every Tuesday Evening @ 6:00); Keavy Adult Night (January 10, 24 @ 6:00); (K.L.A.S.S. (Keavy Ladies And Serving Saints) Meeting (Sunday January 12 After Evening Services); Keavy Nursing Home Ministry (Thursday January 16 @ 6:00 @ Corbin Christian Care Center); Keavy Fellowship Meal (Sunday January 26-Sign Up Sheet In Entryway)

Abortion And Pharmakeia

(More Bible Studies Available @ www.marktabata.com)

It is written:

GALATIANS 5:19-21-NOW THE WORKS OF THE FLESH ARE EVIDENT, WHICH ARE: ADULTERY, FORNICATION, UNCLEANNESS, LEWDNESS, **20** IDOLATRY, SORCERY, HATRED, CONTENTIONS, JEALOUSIES, OUTBURSTS OF WRATH, SELFISH AMBITIONS, DISSENSIONS, HERESIES, **21** ENVY, MURDERS, DRUNKENNESS, REVELRIES, AND THE LIKE; OF WHICH I TELL YOU BEFOREHAND, JUST AS I ALSO TOLD *YOU* IN TIME PAST, THAT THOSE WHO PRACTICE SUCH THINGS WILL NOT INHERIT THE KINGDOM OF GOD.

In the NKJV of the Bible, the word “sorceries” here as a footnote that reads “or drugs.” The Greek word is pharmakeia, from which we get our word “pharmacy.”

Originally, this word had reference to the good use of drugs, for healing. Later, it had come to refer to the abuse of drugs; and finally, to how witches used potions in the practice of divination (hence, the common translation of “sorcery” in many English translations). Among other things, this word testifies to the abuse of drugs, and how people who abuse them become susceptible to demonic influence. However, what is especially interesting is how this word was also used to refer to abortion in the ancient world.

“Writing to the Christians in Galatia about A.D. 55, St. Paul issued a catalogue of sins (Galatians 5: 20). One of the sins mentioned is pharmakeia, the making and administering of potions. This word has commonly been translated as “sorcery” (NRSV) or “witchcraft” (NIV) because potions were often made in a context of sorcery. However, it is quite likely that when Paul used the word pharmakeia in Galatians, he meant the practice of abortion, because administering medicinal potions was a common way of inducing abortions among the Greco-Romans. There is additional evidence in the New Testament in support of this argument. In Revelation 21: 8, where the Apostle John condemns “sexual immorality,” these two words are immediately followed by the plural word pharmakois, evidently because sexual immorality often resulted in unwanted pregnancies being aborted. That pharmakeia (pharmakon), as used by St. Paul in his letter to the Galatians and St. John in the book of Revelation, apparently refers to the practice of abortion has added support in extrabiblical literature, both pagan and Christian. Plutarch (A.D. 46–120), a pagan, uses pharmakeia to note that it was especially used for contraception and abortion purposes (Romulus 22 of his Parallel Lives). An early Christian document, the Didache, says that abortion is forbidden, and in so arguing, it uses the words ou pharmakeuseis (you shall not use potions). These words are immediately followed by “ou phoneuseis teknon en phthora” (you shall not kill a child by abortion).³¹ Thus, this passage seems to link potions (drugs) with the killing of an unborn child. Clement of Alexandria (155–213), an early influential church father, identifies pharmakeia as an abortifacient. In criticizing women who conceal their sexual sin, he links abortion (phthora) with the taking of potions (pharmakois).³² About the same time (around 190), Minucius Felix, a Christian lawyer, declared, “There are women who, by medicinal draughts, extinguish in the womb and commit infanticide upon the offspring yet unborn.”³³ About two hundred years later (in 375), Bishop Ambrose wrote that potions were used by well-to-do women to snuff out the fruit of their womb.³⁴ Similarly, St. Jerome in about 384 lamented that many women practiced abortion by using “drugs.”³⁵ And in the latter part of the fifth century, Caesarius of Arles, in one of his sermons, said, “No woman should take any drug to procure an abortion.”³⁶ In another sermon he again condemns abortion, and here too he links it with the taking of a

pharmaceutical mixture (potiones in Latin). 37 Basil of Caesarea, a bishop in the latter half of the fourth century, asserted, “Women. . .who administer drugs to cause abortion, as well as those who take poisons to destroy unborn children are murderesses.”” (Alvin J. Schmidt, How Christianity Changed The World, 57-58 (Kindle Edition): Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan)

Very simply, abortion is generally nothing more than a form of birth control and casual murder. Yet thanks be to God, there is salvation possible for those who have taken the life of the unborn (as there is forgiveness available for all sin that a person will seek God’s forgiveness for).

ACTS 2:38-THEN PETER SAID TO THEM, "REPENT, AND LET EVERY ONE OF YOU BE BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF JESUS CHRIST FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS; AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. Amen.

Sunday Lessons

Adult Bible Class: Through The Gospels

Teenage Bible Class: There Is A God! (Handouts)

Middle School Class: Heroes Of The Bible

Sunday Morning Sermon: Guest Speaker

Sunday Evening Sermon: Christmas Is Over...Now What?

Bible Class And Sermon Notes