

The Keavy Encourager

(May 25 2025)

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.

(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!

May 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), Coy Gilliam (Cancer), Roger and Sandra Frazier & Family, Carman Carroll, Bessie Young, Nathan & Patty McDaniel, Edward Young Sr., Ed Young, Mike Clayton (Liver Transplant), Corbin Pennington Junior (Chemotherapy), Larry & Rosetta Short (Sister Marlene's Brother & Sister In Law), John Reeder (Cancer), Harmony Mullins, Mike Gill (Cancer), Claude Humphrey (Cancer), Cheryl Moore (Kin To Sister Ellen), Felicity Lanham (Cancer), Diane Duke, Chris Holt (Friend Of Brother Mark), Piere Daigel (Cancer), Samantha Collins, Ruth Baker, Debbie Powell (Recuperating), Ellen Colwell Family (Lost Loved Ones), Jerry Napier, Shirley Farley, Fred Morris, Anabelle (Granddaughter of Donnie and Debbie Powell), Bob Jones, Roger Frazier (Recuperating From Stroke), Tim Williams, Jackie Martin, James Smith And Family, Mary Ruth Browning Family (Lost Loved Ones), Matthew Bargo (Recuperating From Surgery), Tambra Hicks And Family, People In Ukraine, Brooke, Thomas Wayne Dockery, Debbie McDaniel (Good News On Social Security), Earnie Baker (Phyllis Brother In Law), Ronnie Griffin (Breathing Problems Paul's Brother In Law), Charlie (Marlene's Friend), Leon Mullins Family (Lost Loved Ones), Gracie Gregory (brain surgery Tuesday friend of sister Phyllis), Linda Lewis (great niece Paisley in hospital with flu eleven years old), Debbie Slone (Covid sister in

law or Gary Fleming), Joanne, James Theverakan, George Theverakan, Tornado Survivors, Clinton Kilbourne Family (Lost Lived Ones Kin To Brother Patrick), Waylon Carey (Sister Phyllis' Nephew In Hospital), Joel Wells (Sister Bonnie's Nephew In Tornado)

God Is Working

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

One of the most difficult feelings that we grapple with is in regards to the work of God. So often in life, as we face different trials or circumstances, we ask the question, "Why isn't God doing anything?" The Prophet Habakkuk wrote:

Habakkuk 1:2-4 (Easy To Read Version)-LORD, I continue to ask for help. When will you listen to me? I cried to you about the violence, but you did nothing! 3 People are stealing things and hurting others. They are arguing and fighting. Why do you make me look at these terrible things? 4 The law is weak and not fair to people. Evil people win their fights against good people. So the law is no longer fair, and justice does not win anymore.

Let's study God's answers to the Prophet.

Habakkuk 1:5 (ERV)-Look at the other nations! Watch them, and you will be amazed. I will do something in your lifetime that will amaze you. You would not believe it even if you were told about it.

Throughout the Book of Habakkuk, God taught the Prophet a very important lesson: just because we do not see God working, and just because we do not see God working NOW, does not mean that God isn't working! God was raising up the Babylonians in the Book of Habakkuk to deal with the wicked Hebrews. In this Habakkuk learned some very important lessons. Please notice a few with me. Several times throughout Scripture, we are reminded that God is working in ways that are beyond our full comprehension.

First, we learn from Habakkuk's experience that just because we do not see God acting or working right NOW does not mean that He isn't working. In fact, to me this is a very real consideration: we need to understand that God works on His timescale, not on ours. Jesus came "in the fullness of time" (Galatians 4:4), I.e., at a time that was just right. God has promised that He will exalt and deliver His people "in due time" I.e., at the right or appropriate time (1 Peter 5:6-7). Norman Geisler really brings this out powerfully:

""The argument against God from evil makes some arrogant assumptions. Just because evil is not destroyed right now does not mean that it never will be. The argument implies that if God hasn't done anything as of today, then it won't ever happen. But this assumes that the person making the argument has some inside information about the future. If we restate the argument to correct this oversight in temporal perspective, it turns out to be an argument that vindicates God. 1. If God is all-good, He will defeat evil. 2. If God is all-powerful, He can defeat evil. "3. Evil is not yet defeated. 4. Therefore, God can and will one day defeat evil. The very argument used against the existence of God turns out to be a vindication of God in the face of the problem of evil. ...God isn't finished yet. The final chapter has not been written. Apparently God would rather wrestle with our rebellious wills than to reign supreme over rocks and trees. Those who want a quicker resolution to the conflict will have to wait." (Norman L. Geisler & Ronald M. Brooks, *When Skeptics Ask: A Handbook On Christian Evidences*, 64-65 (Kindle Edition); Grand Rapids, Michigan; Baker Books)

Just because we do not see God acting NOW does not mean that He isn't going to in His time.

Second, consider this with me: God often chooses to act through human beings in this world. Because God honors the free will of mankind, He restrains Himself at times from carrying out His full program. For example, because God wants to give every person opportunity to be saved, He has not sent Jesus back yet to initiate the End of the world and the Second Coming (2 Peter 3:9). God is a Being Who respects our free will, and so sometimes often acts through natural means as well as through supernatural ones. Consider Habakkuk: God could have just wiped out all of the wicked people in Judah who were living in sin! Instead, He chose to work first through Habakkuk and Babylon. Sometimes God works in unexpected ways and through unexpected agencies to carry out His will. Habakkuk learned this lesson, and we need to as well.

Finally, I want to suggest this to you: Habakkuk teaches us that when we don't understand why God is allowing certain things to happen, we can learn to trust in God to carry out His good will. God declared through Habakkuk

Habakkuk 2:4-Behold the proud, His soul is not upright in him; But the just shall live by his faith.

Habakkuk learned the importance of *faith*: knowing, trusting, and obeying God even when it is so difficult to do. Learning to hold to God even when everything is falling apart is the epitome of faith itself! Habakkuk learned this:

Habakkuk 3:17-19-Though the fig tree may not blossom, Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the labor of the olive may fail, And the fields yield no food; Though the flock may be cut off from the fold, And there be no herd in the stalls—. 18 Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation. 19 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. To the Chief Musician. With my stringed instruments.

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

Announcements

- Please keep the new Barbourville mission work in your prayers.
- Everyone is invited to stay after morning worship for our congregational meal. This month, we will have pizza!
- Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be July 20-24. Please make plans to attend and if you can help in any way, it will be greatly appreciated!
- Regularly Scheduled Events; Sunday Bible Class All Ages (Every Sunday @ 10:00); Sunday Worship (Every Sunday @ 11:00 AM And 5:00 PM); Wednesday Evening Bible Class All Ages (Every Wednesday @ 5:00); Keavy Ladies And Supportive Saints (K.L.A.S.S. Every First Sunday Of The Month After Evening Service); Keavy Support Group (Every Tuesday @ 6:00); Adult Night (Every Second And Fourth Friday @ 6:00); Youth Group Night (Every First Thursday @ 6:00); Homeless Ministry At Good Samaritan House In London (Every Wednesday From 7-9 and Sunday Evenings @ 7:00); Nursing Home Ministry (Every Third Thursday @ 6:00); Keavy Fellowship Meal (Every Last Sunday of The Month After Morning Service)

Sunday Sermons

A.M.: Shalom: God Is Working (Romans 8:28)

P.M.: Looking Unto Jesus (Hebrews 12:1-2)

Bible Class And Sermon Notes