

The Rattlesnake and the Copperhead

Not all decisions we make in life are clearly right-or-wrong decisions. I maintain that, as Christians mature, having made right decisions for a long time, the majority of decisions become the choice between better and best. You have consistently made decisions that settled most of the issues that deal with sin and righteousness. Those decisions are no longer a challenge or temptation to you.

However, life sometimes forces us into situations where we have to decide on “the lesser of two evils.” I have an illustration for such situations: **When you have to make a choice between a rattlesnake and a copperhead, don’t allow your hatred for one to cause you to “take up the cause” for the other!**

Be careful that what you stand against doesn’t cause you to stand for something that you really do not support. I may have had experience with a rattlesnake that causes me such fear or animosity that I find myself defending the copperhead. The truth is, I don’t want to crawl into bed with either one! Both are extremely dangerous. And all the rattlesnakes are going to defend their kind as are all the copperheads. Don’t be fooled by either.

A Christian does not side with evil to combat another evil. Don’t fall into the trap of championing the cause of one evil to combat another. You may be forced to make a choice, but don’t become a rattlesnake to defeat a copperhead... or vice versa.

Isaiah lived in a deeply-divided time. The Lord had called him to be his representative. Listen to what the Lord told him- *“Indeed this is what the Lord told me. He took hold of me firmly and warned me not to act like these people.” “Do not say, ‘Conspiracy,’ every time these people say the word. Don’t be afraid of what scares them; don’t be terrified. You must recognize the authority of the Lord who commands armies. He is the one you must respect; he is the one you must fear.”* - Isaiah 8: 11-13 (NET)

Let him who has ears hear.

Ken Stegall
Woodland Oaks Church of Christ
The Woodlands, TX



That meets at 215 South Thomas Ave, Sayre, PA 18840
(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

July 10, 2016

WELCOME!

Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class- 6:30 p.m.

... *love one earnestly*
from a pure heart. (1
Peter 1: 22b)



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Today’s Sermon: A Word about Flesh

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

valleycitieschurchofchrist.org
aicoc.org

Scripture: Leviticus 19:11-18

Hymns: 396 No Not One; **524** I Know Whom I Have Believed; **395** Follow Me; 709 How Sweet, How Heavenly; 907 Hark The Gentle Voice.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Next Potluck-** July 17th. NEXT WEEK!
- **Bill Garrett, from Lewistown, PA, will be our guest preacher while Arthur and Sandy are away on July 24th.**
- **Vacation Bible School at Valley Cities church-** Saturday, August 13th.
People from Kittanning, PA, will again travel here to help.



- Don and Judy Myers and the Tim Mann family have arrived to help with the preaching in Tunkhannock for this month.
- We can go look at the property on Desmond St. after worship to see what we think about renting it for a place of worship.
- **Be sure to check whether anyone needs a ride to or from worship if you are blessed with a vehicle. We are meeting more and more people who wish to worship with us or learn about the Bible with us who do not have transportation. Giving them a lift is a good way to get to know people. 😊**



THE SAFEST WAY TO KNOCK THE CHIP OF A FELLOW'S SHOULDER IS TO PAT HIM ON THE BACK.



PRAYERS...

- Pray for Lori Kashorek, who has lung cancer and is being treated with chemo.
- Darlene Elsbree gives a prayer of thanks that she got a job!
- Emily Barry is also thankful that she got a job. She and Aidan will be attending the Endless Mountains church now that she works in Scranton.
- Patty and Ruthie Albro ask for prayers for their stepmother, Claire, who is receiving chemo and radiation treatments for lung, stomach and kidney cancer.
- Matthew Lowe, Rhonda's brother and Jerry's son, is in poor health and has moved out to Nevada for care.
- Cathy Carey asks for prayers in dealing with a friend.
- Pray for our country, the upcoming election, and our Christian example to the rest of the world during these times. Help us to take advantage of every opportunity to share the Gospel.

If you have any prayers or news that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy Barry

barncat7237@gmail.com or text or call (607) 261-0911.

Swallow your pride occasionally. It's not fattening.

