

Elders:

Rufus Barfield * Donnie McDaniel

Deacons:

Paul Byas * Antoine Holloway * Michael Myrick * Sheldon Smith

Evangelist:

Antoine Holloway

Worship Times:

Sunday Bible Study/9:30AM Sunday Morning Worship/10:30AM
Sunday Evening Worship/6:00PM Wednesday Bible Study/7:30PM

Meetings:

Monday Sermon Recap Discipleship Class
November 29th @ 7:00pm December 11th @ 9:00am

Elders/Deacons Meeting

December 5th @ 5:00pm

2011 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Jim Jonas of Centreville, Virginia

April 7th-10, 2011

2011 Vacation Bible School

June 20th-24th, 2011

2011 Fall Gospel Meeting w/ Mark Russell of Valparaiso, Indiana

October 6th-9th, 2011

Prayer Requests (Continuing Health Problems)

Rudale Blake * Andrew Madison * Ann Wise * Lewis Wise

Prayer Requests

- David Ashabranner is relocating to Hawaii in January 2011.

Prayer Request (Unable To Attend Services Here)

Anne Harrison * Steven Chung * Angelita Dillon * John Okonkwo

Prayer Request (Traveling)

Noreen Klemm * Bruce McDonald * The Barfield Family * Monica Barbour *
Calvin Mitchell * Desiree Powell

Additional Announcements

- The congregation is invited to attend a presentation on Saturday, December 4th @ 10:00AM regarding Calvin Schlabach's recent mission trip to South America.
- Southwest COC Gospel Meeting (December 2nd-5th)

Contribution & Attendance Figures

November 21st \$3,258-Contribution 102-Attendance
November 14th \$3,028-Contribution 92-Attendance

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

Hear The Gospel * Believe In Jesus * Repent Of Our Sins * Confess Christ To
Be The Son Of God * Be Baptized In Water * Remain Faithful

TODAY'S DATE: NOVEMBER 28, 2010

Wildercroft
CHURCH OF CHRIST



**6330 Auburn Avenue
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Updated Every Monday & Thursday

A GOING CHURCH FOR A COMING LORD – ROMANS 16:16

The Devil Made Me Do It

Scriptural Text: James 1:12-18

Unfortunately, many people are under the impression the devil is responsible for their shortcomings with God. When we sin against God, we must take responsibility for violating God's law, for allowing conceit & arrogance to control us, for thinking foolishly, for lacking faith, for neglecting to do good, & for living unrighteously. God will hold us accountable for our own actions. For this reason, we must understand the nature of sin & temptation. Therefore, we will consider in detail the passage in **James 1:13-15** & hopefully, we will become better equipped to deal with temptation when it comes our way.

The Temptation Of Christ (Matthew 4:1-10)

Question: Was Jesus really tempted? Yes, He was tempted. The word "temptation" means "to try to test one's faith, virtue, or character by enticement to sin." There had to have been an appeal or a desire in Jesus in order for Him to be tempted. The devil tempted Jesus with food. Why? It was because Jesus was hungry. Satan tempted Jesus with tempting God. Why? It was because Jesus was dependent upon the Father. The serpent tempted Jesus with all the kingdoms of the world. Why? It was because Jesus wanted all men to receive Him so God would receive them. However, isn't good to know Jesus was not carried away with the temptation. As the song teaches, "Yield not to temptation for yielding is sin." The idea behind being drawn away is that Jesus was not lured out through the enticement. In **James 1:14**, the phrase "drawn away" is a fishing term, as well as a hunting term. In order for an animal to be drawn away, something has to appeal to the desires of the particular fish or animal in question. The concept is the same with humans. When we are drawn away, we are simply drawn to our lusts & will leave the avenue of restraint toward sin. In **Matthew 4:1-10**, Jesus had a desire for everything the devil offered. However, the Lord knew not to give into enticements in order to fulfill these desires in an unlawful way.

The Temptation Of Man (James 1:13-15)

We are drawn away by our own desires. In order for us to be drawn away, there has to be something within us to which the enticement appeals. We are lured away from the safety of self-restraint because of the appeal to our unsatisfied desires. For example: Look at the fish. The fish is hungry & is unconcerned about the hook. As a matter of fact, it does not see the hook

because it is concealed by the lure of bait. Sin operates the same way. It is presented as harmless, satisfying, & endless pleasure. We are drawn away without any real thought of the consequences. When the fish sees the bait, it does not consider the fact it will be dinner. When the mouse sees the cheese on the trap, it does not consider the fact it will be crushed. Hence, we often give into our desires through unlawful means without regard to the consequences. * Once we recognize we have fallen short of God's glory, we have a tendency to make excuses. In **Genesis 3:12**, Adam sinned & he blamed the woman. In **Exodus 32:22-23**, Aaron sinned & he blamed the people. In **1 Samuel 15:21**, king Saul sinned & he blamed Israel. Unfortunately, there is nothing new under the sun & therefore, when we sin, we blame the devil suggesting he made us do it. We must understand many of our desires are not sins, but to go against God's will to fulfill those desires is sin.

How Do We Overcome Temptation?

As Christians, we overcome temptation by being content (**1 Timothy 6:6 - But godliness with contentment is great gain**), thinking soberly (**Philippians 4:8 - Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, & if there be any praise, think on these things**), & staying in the will of God (**1 John 3:6-9 - And ye know that he was manifested to take away our sins; & in him is no sin. Whosoever abideth in him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen him, neither known him. Little children, let no man deceive you: he that doeth righteousness is righteous, even as he is righteous. He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil. Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: & he cannot sin, because he is born of God**).

We must realize we are responsible for our sins. No one ever makes us sin. When we are tempted, it is an appeal to a desire we have from within. When we leave our desires unchecked & unrestrained, the chances of giving into enticement & being drawn away are drastically increased. We must understand our nature & ourselves if we hope to escape the death that comes with giving birth to sin.

- **Antoine N. Holloway**