

Munfordville Church of Christ

No 1479

June 25, 2023

Luke 11:20, *“But if I with the finger of God cast out devils, no doubt the kingdom of God is come upon you.”*

Butterflies are one of my favorite things about the summer. I enjoy seeing them flutter by and landing on the flowers. Once, I went outside and saw a small yellow butterfly which had flown into a spider’s web. I reached to remove it and I only used one finger, gently nudging the butterfly, and it fluttered away. I don’t have to guess. I know what fate awaited the butterfly if I had not come by and freed it. It would have been devoured by the spider later on.

In the same way people are getting caught in the snares and webs of sin. They see the world promoting sin as something to be praised. They see people congratulate others for their open sin. This draws them into the web of destruction where they become entrapped.

The only way they can be saved is by getting out of sin and obeying the LORD. With just His finger, God can cast out devils and free us from sin. Jesus, in the above verse, was showing the power of God. It only takes the least of effort for God to cast out devils.

The devil is all about us and he will seek those to devour. Peter warned in I Peter 5:8, *“Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”*

Just as I knew that yellow butterfly would be devoured if it had not been rescued, the devil will devour us. The Greek word for devour is also translated “swallow.” The devil will swallow us up and consume us if we let him.

There was no way for that yellow butterfly to escape on its own. The web was too sticky and strong. It was fortunate the spider had not yet devoured it yet. There is no way for any of us to escape sin without the LORD. We cannot get out alone. If we let the LORD, just His “finger” can free us from sin.

It’s interesting that another time the term “finger of God” is used refers to God writing the ten commandments. Exodus 31:18, *“And he gave unto Moses, when he had made an end of communing with him upon mount Sinai, two tables of testimony, tables of stone, written with the finger of God.”* It is the word of God, and it is obeying those words, that will free us from sin and the devil devouring us.

The first time the term “finger of God” is used is in Exodus 8:19, *“Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This [is] the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.”* He saw the works of God and refused to obey, and he was drowned in the sea.

One of the translations for the Greek word “devour” from I Peter 2:8 is to drown. When we do not accept being rescued with the finger of God, the devil will devour us, swallow us up, and we will drown in our sins. All three of those terms, devour, swallow, and drown have no recovery, except from the finger of God rescuing us.

—Marty Edwards❖

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Sunday 9 AM & 5 PM — Wednesday 6 PM

News

—Continue to remember **Alice Vanderstoep, Steve Seaton, Brad Terry, Enola Zigler, Clay Bozarth, Ken & Erin Davis, Becky Hatcher, Joanna Locke, Richard Connolly, Larry Compton, Linda Terry.**

—**Lauren Candela**, daughter of Jerry Edwards, has had a mass discovered in her back. Preliminary thoughts are that it is not malignant, but a biopsy has yet to be done. She is going to need spinal surgery soon due to the mass.

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James 4:14, *“Whereas ye know not what [shall be] on the morrow. For what [is] your life? It is even a vapour, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away.”*

It’s hard to believe, but the days are already getting shorter this year. When November comes, the days will appear even shorter because we go back to standard time.

Even though we can change our clocks and even our calendars, we can’t control time or the flow of it. Time marches on steadily. With each second that passes, we are one second closer to our departing this life. There is no avoiding this event. It is an appointment, and one that will be kept. Hebrews 9:27, *“And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment.”*

As we grow older, we see even more clearly how the words of James are so very true. Ours lives are indeed as a vapor. We are here but a short time, and then we vanish away. What awaits us after this life though is eternal.

It’s a wonderful thought to think about all the glories of Heaven and never having to leave. The pleasures there will never end. Psalms 16:11, *“Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence [is] fulness of joy; at thy right hand [there are] pleasures for evermore.”*

| Sunday, June 18, 2023 | | |
|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Classes | 16 | Mark 10:32-45 |
| Preaching | 26 | Baptism (Acts 2, 8, 19) |
| Contribution | \$851.00 | |
| Evening | 10 | Nahum 1:1-2:10 |
| Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | | |
| Classes | 15 | I Timothy 5:1-25 |

Visitors— Jun 18 (AM) Bennett Green (Cave City, KY); Matthew, Avery, & Tucker Franklin (Lexington, KY); Sue North (Hardyville, KY)

Bible Quiz

What are the dust of the LORD’s feet?
Last Week’s Answer—The sea (Micah 7:19)

—Thanks to **Jerry & Shari Edwards** for hosting the cookout for the congregation at their house last night.

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“And swear by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer.” —Revelation 10:6

—God’s Plan of Salvation—

1. Hear the Gospel (Romans 10:14)
2. Believe on the Lord and His Word (Mark 16:16; John 8:24)
3. Repent of your sins (Luke 13:3,5; Acts 17:30)
4. Confess Christ (Matthew 10:32,33; Luke 12:8; Romans 10:9)
5. Be baptized (immersed in water) for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:27; I Peter 3:21)
6. Live a faithful, dedicated life (Revelation 2:10; II Peter 1:5-10)