

Great Smoky Mountains Messenger



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Can We Deal With The Devil?

Many people today seem to think that we can make a deal with the Devil and that somehow it will work out well. Satan is referred to in the Bible many times and in many ways. He is the tempter in the Garden of Eden in Genesis 3. He is the accuser of mankind in Job 1. He is the leader of the fallen angels who have made war against the people of God in Eph. 2:2 and Revelation 12. All he wants is for the demise and destruction of mankind. How can we negotiate with him?

Moses certainly understood the importance of not giving in to the adversary. In dealing with Pharaoh, Moses remained steadfast and sure and did not negotiate with the foe of God. In Exodus 8:25 Pharaoh tells Moses to hold a sacrifice in the land of Egypt, but that was not what God had demanded. Later, in Exodus 8:28, Pharaoh says to go, but do not go far away. Satan would like it for us to keep one foot in his synagogue (Rev. 2:9) and one foot in the church.

In the plague of the locusts in Exodus 10, Pharaoh again tried to control the situation in allowing the men to go and sacrifice, but he wanted the children to be left behind. Satan is delighted when we don't bring our children with us into the church or into a right relationship with the Lord. Satan loves to tell us that it is wrong for us to "force" our religion on our children, and instead would have us allowing our children to make their own choices when they are still young and naïve.

Pharaoh tried one last time to negotiate with Moses and his God in allowing the people to leave, but not taking their possessions with them. "Then Pharaoh called to Moses and said, 'Go, serve the Lord; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back'" (Exodus 10:24). Moses answered Pharaoh that they would not leave a hoof behind when they exited Egypt (Exodus 10:26). Moses understood that he could not give ground to the adversary.

Satan loves it when we give in and negotiate with him. Go serve God, he might say, but don't go very far. Go do what the Lord wants, but leave your children behind. Go ahead and be a Christian, but don't let that get in the way of your stuff. We cannot give ground to the adversary. We cannot deal with the Devil. We cannot negotiate with Satan. We need to stand, and to stand firm against the wiles of the Devil (Eph. 6:10-13).

-- Dale Babinsky



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Please Remember/Pray For:

Patsy Bevis

Ruth Byrne

Trevor Hayes

Kenny Gross

Jason Elliot (Friend of the Greens—he is on a list awaiting a liver transplant)

Heath Tolliver

Larry & Linda Valentine

Howard Yates

Carol Kizer



Pancho



Pancho was a well-known outlaw to Texans. A lesser-known story involves his near demise in a Mexican bar. A tough Texas Ranger had trailed him through the desert and caught up with Pancho in a small village. With both guns drawn, the ranger approached the criminal and ordered him to turn over the one million dollars he had recently robbed from a train. From the other side of the bar a small man said, "Señor, Pancho does not speak English. I am his translator." The ranger growled, "Tell Pancho I came to get the million dollars he robbed from the train. If he doesn't hand over the money, I'll fill him full of holes." The man translated. Frightened, Pancho told the interpreter the money was two miles outside of town buried thirty paces east of an old abandoned well. The translator turned to the armed ranger and said, "Pancho says, 'I'm not telling—go ahead and shoot.'"

"A merry heart doeth good like a medicine..." —Prov. 17:22



Searching for good content? You can check out all of the past lessons from the Great Smoky Mountains church of Christ on our YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/@GSMCOC. Please be sure to like, subscribe, and share to help us spread God's word!

Calendar of Upcoming Activities

- ♦ Sun., Dec. 3—Joey Ferrell from The Gospel of Christ will tell us about their work in our morning Bible Class.
- ♦ Sun., Dec. 3—Brief Men's Meeting following AM Services.
- ♦ Tues., Dec. 5—Both Men's and Women's Bible study classes will meet at 6:30 pm.



Have something for the bulletin? Please give updates to Dale or Leah by Thursday.

<u>Pantry Needs</u>	<u>Food Assistance Program Lead for December</u>	<u>Current Building Loan Balance</u>
Alfredo Sauce, Chili, Canned Beans, Jello 	Elora Crabtree 	\$431,970.93

God's Plan of Salvation

- Hear the Gospel, Romans 10:17
- Believe the Gospel, John 8:24
- Repent of Sins, Luke 13:3
- Confess Jesus as God's Son, Matt. 10:32
- Baptized to wash away sins, Acts 2:38
- Faithful 'til death, Revelation 2:10

Today's Sermons

- ♦ AM —Ten Days: The Fall of Jerusalem
- ♦ PM — Not a Hoof Shall be Left Behind

Check out the sermon archives on our website at www.gsmchurchofchrist.com

Please come back and worship with us in Spirit and in Truth—John 4:24