

Good News From Chardon

March 28, 2021

Issue 13

“The Plug Is Out of the Tub”

By Adam Faughn

When Abraham Lincoln was elected as the sixteenth President of the United States, he knew that the country was falling apart. He made preserving the union his priority leading up to taking office and wanted it to be the focus of his administration. It was, at first, the chief reason he felt the Civil War was worth fighting (though he made the war about the emancipation of slaves after a short while).

However, as he knew states were seceding and things were headed toward war, he told one of his confidants, "The plug is out of the tub." Then, though, he followed that imagery with a question asked by one with the weight of the world upon his shoulders: "And what shall we do?"

We can only imagine the feeling of pressure and stress Lincoln had when he would ask such a question, but it is also possible that we can understand why he would ask this. As God's people, we see the morality of our world slipping away rapidly. Biblical morals are tossed aside, and those who still hold to them are told to be quiet or are even vilified. We are told that we are mean, bigoted, out of step, "on the wrong side of history," and cruel.

Morally speaking, it certainly seems as if the plug is out of the tub. If that is the case, then let's ask Lincoln's question: "And what shall we do?" From the way people act, it seems there are several answers.

Some basically say, "go with the flow." In other words, there are some who think that if the way of the world is "winning," then I had better be sure I am on the winning side. I may not lead the charge, but I will certainly not stand in the way. I'll share the mottos on social media, and I won't push back against things in the least because I don't want to get run over by the momentum all of this has. That mindset, however, stands in sharp contrast to what God told His covenant people in the Old Testament: "You shall not fall in with the many to do evil" (Exodus 23:2).

Some refuse to acknowledge the issue. When water leaves a bathtub, it takes a while. If you were to watch it nonstop, it might be difficult to notice the slow change. However, if you leave and come back after a few minutes, you will notice the tub is empty. The same is often true with moral changes. We do not recognize (or, maybe even more tragically, do not care about) "small" movements away from Biblical teachings. So, we just go along with "little" changes (euphemistic language, slightly crude jokes, etc.), and we do not notice that the water is leaving the tub! Christians cannot stand for even tiny changes that move us away from the standard of the Word.

The fact is, we may not be able to stop the flow away from Biblical morality in our culture. But that should never give us the feeling that we can stop fighting it. We must do our best to plug the tub! Our efforts may be small, and they may get washed away in the rush that people are in to move away from God, but our work is never done. The absolute last thing we should ever consider is giving up. God has not put us here to avoid work. He has us here to do hard work.

What shall we do? We shall stand for truth, no matter how fast the flow away from God ends up being.

Adam Faughn preaches for the Central Church of Christ in Paducah KY



Church of Christ

128 Maple Ave.

Chardon, OH 44024

440-286-5505

Schedule of Services:

Greeting: Mark

Song Leader: Ray

Opening Hymn:

351—I'll Live On

Opening Prayer: Mark

Hymn:

122—There Stands A Rock

Scripture Reading: Ryan

Exodus 23:1-9

Hymn:

286—Olive's Bow

Lord's Supper: Larry

Hymn:

119—Rock of Ages

Sermon: Tom

Invitation Hymn:

636—Only A Step

Closing Hymn:

234—Hold The Fort

Closing Prayer: Dale

PRAYER LIST

*Beverly's visiting hours are 4-6 pm at Everhart-Bove Funeral Home in Richmond on Mar. 28 and funeral is there on Mar. 29 at 11 am.

*Bonnie and her family .

*Margaret and Albert.

*Wanda and her family.

*Kathy and her friends

*Zarna's family and friends

*Larry and Ruth.

*Pat and Ron and their daughters.

*Juanita's sister Betty and the rest of her family. Her son Dale's mother-in-law was in an auto accident recently.

*Mary and her family.

*Robert and Sara.

*Ray and Barbara

*Dale and his family. Aunt Mary's daughter Jackie had a stroke recently.

*Ray, Rebecca, and Steven.

*Myron & Carole and their family.

*Mark and his family .



CALENDAR

Mar. 28—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Tom

Mar. 28—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with Dale

Apr. 2—Business Meeting 7 pm on Zoom

Apr. 4—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Mark

Apr. 4—Bible Study 6 pm
on-line with Dale

Apr. 5—(a.) Richard & Rosemary

Apr. 11—Worship 11 am
Speaker: Mark

Apr. 11—Bible Study 6 pm

Justice for All

Exodus 23:1-9

Astray	blinds	bribe
Burden	circulate	dispute
Donkey	enemy	helping
Innocent	judgment	matter
Partiality	pervert	refrain
Report	righteous	surely
Testify	unrighteous	wicked
Witness	would	yourself

H I Y O U S H A P L T L N O T F O E
P E N L L O W A E C R E O W D T B E
A O L N D O E E R V B I S L B I D T
R D B P O N S N V Y F U O T R J P U
T A S F I C C I E G J S R B I E A P
I R V U M N E N R M M J R D T F R S
A S O K O P G N T O Y E F A E I Y I
L B S W X E M U T J P J L W W N O D
I V L U J H T H N O A U N I T N U O
T T C I H U V H R R C E T C H Z R U
Y Z P Q N A D T G R I N P K S W S K
N N N J S D L G I I E G U E O P E D
K I B T G A S C M S R R H D N B L O
V Q R J N Z V L S E L E Y T D X F N
Z A S U R E L Y Z D N O B N E U J K
Y C Q K S W I H I O J T L G Q O V E
D L U O W B Y Y D I Q Y E D C I U Y
Y V Q N D M A T T E R E F R A I N S

Hidden Message: _____

No man knows less than the man who knows all.



Answer to Puzzle: You shall not follow a crowd to do evil

SUNDAY: Worship — 11:00 am; Bible Study — 6:00 pm (on Zoom)
Website: Chardonchurchofchrist.org
E-mail: church_of_Christ@roadrunner.com
Pod Cast: Chardon.podbean.com
Follow us on FaceBook