



let us make the choice not to be brought down, but rather have a renewed sense of urgency to **“contend earnestly for the faith”** (Jude 3) and take advantage of every opportunity to correct those misconceptions of Christ, and those who have an ill-founded cause for hostility toward His

true followers so that we will fulfill God’s command to live, **“always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame”** (1 Peter 3:15,16). Let us not be timid in our proclamation of our faith (Rom. 1:16), but in everything we say and do let us do it to His glory (1 Cor. 10:31) so that it will be said of us in the end that we have **“fought the good fight of the faith”** and have **“made the good confession in the presence of many witness”** (1 Tim. 6:12).



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## Welcome Visitors

We are so glad that you joined us today.  
Please come again.

● Let us know if you have any questions.

ISSUE

12.26

BULLETIN OF  
THE OLSEN  
PARK CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

# Faithful Sayings

June 27  
2010



### Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM  
10:20 AM  
6:00 PM

Wednesday: 7:00 PM

### Elders:

Charles Kelley  
Pat Ledbetter  
Jeff Nunn  
Kyle Pope

### Deacons:

Dean Bowers  
Eddie Cook  
Bill Davis  
Steve Dixon  
Pat Goguen  
Jack Langley  
Neil Ledbetter  
Brady McAlister  
Walker McAnear  
Lance Purcell  
Rusty Scott

### Evangelists:

Kyle Pope  
Curtis Carwile  
Jason Garcia

## “Walk Worthy”

By Jason Garcia

On Friday June 11, Pope Benedict the XVI begged for forgiveness from the victims who have suffered abuse at the hands of Catholic priests. It is reported that the pontiff wept as he listened to the testimonies of the victims who, now adults, had been abused as children. As I read this story a tremendous sadness came over me and I found myself discouraged and angry. While it’s true that the evil done to these people warrants such a reaction (as should the abuse of any child), this was not the main reason for my sorrow. As I read I thought about the countless people who had read and will read the very same article. I thought about the effect, the deep impression that would be left upon them as they read about these people victimized by men who claimed to bear the name of Christ. Then I thought about the skeptics and enemies of the Gospel who would only gain more fuel for their cause, and use these

incidents to attack the truth and anyone who genuinely bears the name of our Lord. So what do *we* do in the face of such evil? Further, apart from our emotional reaction, what should *our* response be, knowing that there are so many malicious false teachers in the world?

First, let us remember that we have been



Olsen Park church of Christ

warned of such evil. Peter was inspired to write of these people that, **“they will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them ... Many will follow their sensuality, and because of them they way of truth shall be maligned...”** (2 Peter 2: 1-2, NASB). He goes on to assure us that their, **“judgment is not idle, and their destruction is not asleep”** (2 Peter 2: 3). Paul too was inspired to write that even, **“Satan disguises himself as an angel of light. Therefore it is not surprising that his servants also disguise themselves as servants of righteousness, whose end will be according to their deeds”** (2 Cor. 11:14, 15). We can be certain that there will always be people in the world who will seek to exploit the Gospel, even using it as a means to gain access to and prey upon the innocent, and these same people will take great pains to hide their wickedness. So we shouldn’t be caught off guard or surprised by the news of these men being exposed, but rather take comfort in knowing that their end will be according to their deeds.

Secondly let us remember that, even though we have every right to be indignant and sorrowful, we should not become so emotionally afflicted and discouraged to the point that our service to Lord suffers. We realize that there will always be evil and wicked-

ness sufficient to make us sorrowful if we dwell on it, but consider the Spirit’s words in Philippians 4 verses 6-8:

**Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things.**

We have a responsibility to actively seek and think on the things worthy of praise. Again, we read in Romans 14:19 that we are to **“pursue the things that make for peace and the building up of one another.”**

Finally, brethren, as we are aware of all the false teaching in the world and all the acts of wickedness and secret sin done by those who claim to be followers of Christ, let us be all the more diligent to show ourselves to be the



light of the world and the salt of the earth. If the enemy is determined to malign the name of our Lord and His Gospel, we need to be more determined to combat His efforts and show the world what a life given to Christ truly is and walk in a manner worthy of the Gospel. (Col. 1:10) As more news arises each day of those who pervert the Gospel,