



continue in sin after becoming a child of God (Hebrews 10:26,27).

**not be remembered; because of the unfaithfulness of which he is guilty and the sin which he has committed, because of them he shall die.”**

This shows us that a person cannot sit back and rest on their past faithfulness anymore than they can willfully

Exactly how it is that an all-knowing God can put from His memory either our sins or our faithfulness is difficult for the comprehend. Certainly God *knows* that that these things happened, but does not take them into account in the same way. We can take from these promises either comfort (if we are faithful) or fearful concern (if we are not). Whether we carry with us the burden of past sins or the false assurance of past righteousness what really matters is what the Lord remembers. Let us each pray that when we are called to give an account the Lord remembers us and the covenant we have made with Him. That is what truly matters.



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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

14.24

BULLETIN OF  
THE OLSEN  
PARK CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

# Faithful Sayings

June 10  
2012



## Services

Sunday: 9:30 AM  
10:20 AM  
6:00 PM  
Wednesday: 7:00 PM

### Elders:

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

### Evangelist:

Kyle Pope

## “Speak As the Oracles of God”

By Kyle Pope

In the third chapter of the book of James there is an important statement that anyone who would teach the word of God should bear in mind. Verse one declares, **“let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment”** (NKJV). This is important and fearful because it shows the care that teachers must use in the words that they say because of the stricter judgment that they will receive.

Is such caution necessary only for those who teach? In the book of Philippians Paul tells us all to **“...work out your own salvation with fear and trembling”** (2:12). That indicates that caution should be exercised in every Christian’s life so that our words and deeds may be pleasing to God. The Psalmist prayed, **“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer”** (Psalms 19:14).

The question is how do we teach what the world needs to hear and yet exercise this caution? The recognition that God expects us to use great care in the words that we say could lead us to become timid and never speak. Certainly there is a time when we should choose silence. James teaches us,



Olsen Park church of Christ

**“...let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath”** (1:19), yet, at the same time in Christ we can have confidence in our relationship to God and the things that we teach from His word. Paul told the Ephesians that in Christ, **“...we have boldness and access with confidence through faith in Him”** (Eph. 3:12). Caution must not result in timidity.

The way to exercise caution in our words and yet avoid timidity rests in some advice offered by the Apostle Peter. In his first epistle he taught, through the direction of the Holy Spirit, **“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God...”** (1 Pet. 4:11). If all of the things we say are firmly grounded on “book, chapter and verse” authority from God’s word then truly, we “speak as the oracles of God.” When we train ourselves to allow God to speak through us, through His word, we will direct our words in a way that is safe and sound. It may seem a little bit odd or old fashioned to confirm what we say by specific Scriptures, but when we do so we will not only avoid danger but be confident that we are speaking the truth. We will do well to remember, **“a fool finds no pleasure in understanding, but delights in airing his own opinions”** (Proverbs 18:2, NIV).



## The Lord’s Memory

By Kyle Pope

**Y**ears ago I was teaching an adult class when someone who was visiting made an interesting observation about how the Lord’s righteousness exceeds our own. He referred to the promise that the Lord made in Jeremiah 31:34 regarding the New Covenant. Under this covenant, the Lord promises those who are in a covenant relationship with Him – **“...I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.”** (NKJV). The visitor in the class observed that while we may forgive a wrong done to us we seldom forget. God, on the other hand, in promising to forget our past sins, demonstrates just how far his righteousness surpasses our own (Romans 3:23).

As I thought about this it occurred to me what a beautiful promise this really is. To imagine that somehow, those who come to God in faith and obedience through the blood of Jesus can stand before God a **“new creation”** for whom **“old things have passed away”** and **“all things have become new”** (2 Cor. 5:17), means that not only has the Lord **“blotted out”** (Psalm

51:1) the sins which once stained our spiritual account, but God has purged our record that they ever did so. To Christians who abide in Christ faithfully calling upon Jesus as our Advocate, there is a continuing state of spiritual innocence as we stand before God with our sins wiped away each time they are repented of confessed and (1 John 1:7-2:2).

As I further pondered this promise I called to mind another promise in Scripture regarding what the Lord will forget. Ezekiel 18:24 tells us that when a righteous man turns away from doing right and does evil – **“...All the righteousness which he has done shall**