

# The McLish Avenue Messenger

This is the message we have heard from Him... God is Light (1 John 1:5).

October 11, 2009

MCLISH AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST • 607 McLish SW • Ardmore, OK 73401



*This New Testament passage quotes an Old Testament passage. Where is the Old Testament passage found?*

“And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire—where ‘Their worm does not die and the fire is not quenched.’”

Mark 9:47-48 (NKJV)

*Evangelist*

**Ben Bailey**

cell 580/340-3678

[benbailey.preacher@gmail.com](mailto:benbailey.preacher@gmail.com)

*Office*

580/223-3289

[church@mclichchurchofchrist.com](mailto:church@mclichchurchofchrist.com)

[www.mclichchurchofchrist.com](http://www.mclichchurchofchrist.com)

*Schedule of Services*

*Sunday*

Bible Study ..... 9:30 am

Worship ..... 10:30 am

Worship ..... 6:00 pm

*Wednesday*

Bible Study ..... 7:00 pm

## Enron, WorldCom, & Situation Ethics

Ben Bailey

It has become evident that some in corporate America have thrown all morals and ethics out the window for the almighty dollar. Beginning with Enron, continuing with WorldCom and then Bernie Madoff recently, we have seen a growth in situation ethics in the business world. Situation ethics teach if the ends justify the means then it is acceptable. For example, if Enron and WorldCom's CEO and accountants think that a quarterly profit margin will be much higher than what it actually is then it would be justifiable to lie about those numbers to gain stock value. This is a clear example of the influence of Humanism and Utilitarianism on our society. What does the Bible say about all of this scandal and situation ethics?

Our God is not a god of situations but of eternal principles. God does not change and cannot lie (Mal 3:6, Heb 6:18, Titus 1:2). Therefore, God's nature and law will not change to meet 20th century problems. For example, if murder was wrong when Cain slew his brother Abel then it is still wrong today in principle and in practice. If it is wrong to lie at all (Rev 21:8) then it is wrong to lie at any time regardless if one thinks the outcome will justify the lying. If something is sinful in principle it is sinful in practice at anytime.

The thinking of situation ethics has had a terrible impact on our society. For example, the Bible teaches that abortion is a sinful practice of killing innocent babies (Prov 6:17, Ex 20:13). Then, we come along 2000 years later and approve of abortion on the grounds of rape. As much as I feel compassion and sympathy for the woman who is raped that does not mean that two wrongs makes a right. As wrong as it was for the rapist to rape the now pregnant woman, it would just

*Continued inside ...*

# Ethics

Continued from front page

as wrong for her to abort that baby. For example, rape is a violation of one's individual privacy and will. Is not abortion the same thing? When a woman aborts an unborn baby she, in essence, rapes that child of its individual privacy and will to choose to live. Remember, two wrongs do not make a right. Another example of situation ethics in our culture is euthanasia. The Bible teaches that it is wrong to murder others (Ex 20:13). God is the giver and the taker of life (Heb 12:9). Therefore, we cannot come along later and practice death for the aged and still and be justified. We do not possess the omniscience to see the future. Those who are near death and "terminally ill" may recover and live a healthy life. Physical death is not the worst thing that could happen to someone. We may not always see the benefits of death but they can be numerous. For example, it may cause the dying person to think about his own spiritual life, he may be strengthened in the faith and become closer to God, or others may see his godly example and become Christians. It is time for us to stop playing god for He doesn't even bend the rules to meet the situation.

Enron and WorldCom thought they could look into the future and justify their lying. They were grossly mistaken and left in a state of financial loss and embarrassment. If we would practice the principle of right at all times life will be much easier for us. May we never give in to the allurements of situation ethics but practice what the Bible teaches in principle.

**Directory updates** Please add **Othal Ballard** to your directory. Bro Ballard has moved here from Healdton and wants to be identified with our congregation. His address is 2418 Shenandoah Drive, here in Ardmore; phone 580/229-1891. If you would like to like to stay in contact with **Melinda Wilson** her new home address is 700 Locust Street, Anaconda MT 59711. Her cell phone is 406/366-2475.

Ben's upcoming meeting  
Oct 11-14 ..... Nashville, AR



Don't miss out! Mark your calendars for Thursday, October 22 at 6:00 pm for the annual fish fry. Please bring sides and desserts along with your appetite.

## Outreach Groups

### Group 1

Chock & Mary Aldridge  
Ron & Peggy Jones  
Ray & Tomi Harness  
James & Tammy Gravelle  
Ronnie Byrd  
Steve Mann  
Scott & Tina Saner  
Jaccie Pirtle

### Group 2

James & Dana Meece  
David & Linda Johnson  
Ben & Christie Bailey  
Betty Higgins  
Harold & Martha Dillard  
Pat Ballard & Vickie Fletcher  
Bill & Gail Stewart  
Earl & Sue Mann

### Group 3

Vernon & Arlene Castleman  
Sharon Ryan & Christy Murray  
Cecil Hargrove  
Lovel & Mary Hughes  
Lonnie Harris  
Rick & Suzanne Tidwell  
Tom Matlock  
Sharlene Wallis & Rebecca



**Our sick** Earl Mann is recuperating from back surgery last week. Bobby Wallace's sister was in Mercy Memorial last week for tests. Tabitha Ray-Barton's address is 157 Stonebridge Blvd. # 1526, Edmond, OK 73013, if anyone would like to send her a card. Please continue to remember: **Ruth**

**Minyard • Richard Knapp • Jamie Feroli • Marty Stinson • Keyla Scaggs • A.W. Roberts**, Darlene Pennington's brother  
**• Dortha Phillips • Patti Culpepper • Trent Jacobson**, Jimmye's son • **Christy Murray's cousin Misty • Deborah Thomas • Betty Higgins • Louise Harris' father, Charlie Stevens • Madeline Minyard's son Dale • Deborah Williamson • Glenda Vinson's mother • Ruth Minyard's nephew, Roger Parker • Jerry & Glenda Vinson • Nancy McClanahan • Murray Goforth • Rebecca Stafford • Glenda Vinson's sister and brother • Deborah Thomas' mother • Sue Mann • Pat Morrison**, Olga Sue Stinson's sister • **Virgie Burchfield • Dortha Phillips • Madeline Minyard • Sharon Ryan's mother, Mary Griffeth • Larry Ryan's mother, Lorraine •** and those shut in/nursing home members.

**Shower** A Come-and-Go Shower for **Jennifer Meece** will be held at the Bailey's next Sunday, October 18, from 2 -4 pm. A money tree is being planned. Please make your monetary contribution to either Christie Bailey or Tina Saner.



Our sympathy is extended to Loretta Ham in the death of her son **Kevin Burch**. His services were here on Monday. Please remember all those who have lost loved ones recently.

**Special thanks** Deborah Thomas states, "I wish to thank my new church home for your continued prayers, cards and thoughts. You all have done so much to encourage me and increase my faith during my illness. I will forever be grateful."



**Fall festival** Mark your calendars for the fall festival and hobo stew on Saturday, October 31 starting at 6:30 pm with the festival starting at 7:00 pm. Bring a can of your favorite vegetable by October 28th to add to the stew. You can put these in the kitchen area.

## *Birthdays & Anniversaries*

### October

- 11 Chelsea Aldridge  
Vernon & Arlene Castleman '63
- 12 Randy Scott  
Darrelyn Phillips
- 14 Louise Harris
- 15 Mary Hughes
- 16 Harold Dillard
- 17 Austin Fletcher
- 20 Brenda Anderson
- 21 Earl Mann  
Kevin Pendergrass
- 22 Vicki Willingham  
Teen Stewart
- 23 Jimmye Jacobson
- 24 Clifford Bateman  
Ray & Tomi Harness '86
- 25 Charles & Marie Williams '64  
Ginger Waller
- 26 Ray Harness
- 31 Marie Cornish

### November

- 1 Hattie Williams
- 2 Vernon Castleman
- 6 Tomi Harness
- 7 Pam Schumacher  
Tamela Millhollon
- 9 Wanda Shellenberger
- 12 Murray Goforth
- 13 Jerry & Glenda Vinson  
Laura Austin
- 15 Larry & Ginger Waller '94  
Jennifer Meece
- 16 Larry Ryan

