

Eisenhower Church of Christ

The Altar of Molech

The pagan nations that surrounded Israel worshiped some of the most despicable gods of the ancient world. One of the most hideous of these was a god called Molech, who was a favorite of the Ammonite people. A central feature of worship to Molech was offering one's children as a sacrifice to this god. In the scriptures this human sacrifice is often referred to as making one's children "pass through the fire" (2 Chronicles 33:6). It was such a repugnant practice that God specifically named this god, and this heinous practice, among the many things in which Israel was forbidden to engage (Leviticus 18:21).

The altar of Molech was typically a large hollow metal image with the god's hands outstretched before him. A fire was built with the base of the image and the entire structure was heated red-hot. When the image was sufficiently hot, the worshiper would place his or her live child on the glowing hands of the altar. The child then was consumed by the heat as a sacrifice to this god.

The very idea of such a thing is repulsive to us, but the scriptures tell us that some of the Israelites performed this abominable practice (Jeremiah 32:35). The most significant Israelite to do so was evil King Manasseh. In 2 Chronicles 33:6 the scripture says that he made his sons pass through the fire in the valley of Ben-Hinnom. It was this wickedness of Manasseh that appears to have been the last straw in ending God's patience with Judah. Within a few years of Manasseh's death Judah went into captivity in Babylon.

When we reflect on such practices in the name of religion, we are appalled that people could commit such atrocities. We look back at these ancient peoples and shake our heads at how ignorant and barbaric they were. We congratulate ourselves that we live in a far more civilized and enlightened world than they. In all fairness to these ancient peoples, however, it is clearly evident that our world is no less barbaric. Nothing illustrates this truth better than recent revelations about what is happening in abortion clinics all over our country.

Living babies, complete with souls given by God (Ecclesiastes 12:7), are literally being torn limb from limb by medical practitioners. Not only this, but various body parts of these murdered babies are being sold for medical research. The barbarity of tearing a living being limb from limb is only exceeded by the hypocrisy of those who justify this abominable practice. While inside the mother's womb, the child is conveniently called a "fetus", or "fetal tissue", as though it is not human. However, once the abortion process begins, the abortionist does so in a way that "human" organs (hearts, lungs, livers, brains, etc.) will be preserved to be sold for research.

The abortion industry is the modern equivalent of the ancient god Molech. The abortion table is his altar, and the unborn children ruthlessly destroyed by hands who took an oath to first do no harm, are the living sacrifices killed on that altar. It is the height of rebellion to God and to His Will that people demand the "right" to terminate unborn human life primarily for their personal convenience. In this sense the ancients were more righteous, because they believed doing so would bring their god's blessings upon them.

In Proverbs 16-19 Solomon said there are seven things which are an abomination to God. Among them is “*hands that shed innocent blood.*” God condemned the sacrifice of children in the ancient world and He surely condemns it today, no matter how euphemistically we may refer to it. As Christians we must speak up on behalf of the innocent lives that are being sacrificed on the modern altar of Molech.

—Fred Dominguez

Sympathy

Our sympathy goes out to Ronny & Shona Wood & their family in the loss of Ronny’s mother, **Tee Wood**. Tee died early Thursday morning, August 6th, at Midland Memorial Hospital. Her viewing was held August 9th at the Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home and a graveside service Monday, August 10th at Rest Haven, North Cemetery in Midland.

We also want to keep in our prayers, **Billy Pon**, a friend of John Wood, who lost his sister in a car accident two weeks ago.

Prayer Requests

Ed Fisher had a procedure done at Midland Memorial Hospital Friday, August 7th. He was to get the test results Wednesday, August 12th. Keep Ed in your prayers. (Please no visits or calls).

Larry May went to Sudan, TX week of August 2nd and came home sick.

James Wesson, Jeff’s father, was scheduled for an abdominal aortic aneurysm surgery Thursday, August 13th in Lubbock. Keep James in your prayers.

Trini Plyer, George & Jurlean Warren’s daughter, has been diagnosed with colon cancer. The family is requesting prayers for her. Trina and her husband, Bruce, live in Mineral Wells, TX.

Jurlean Warren is down in her back. She is struggling with back problems and is in need of prayers.

Sylvia Campos is requesting prayers for little **Katie Limer** who is struggling with Niemann Pick’s disease. She is taking massive doses of morphine because of extreme pain. Katie’s time is short. She lives in Arlington, TX.

Concerns Update

Lee Roy Bell is continuing his therapy at Madison Health Resort. At the last report, Lee Roy has lost 50 lbs. and is able to eat without being nauseated. He looks good and is feeling well.

Hannah Weakland’s dental surgery went well.

Prayer List

Lee Roy Bell; Susan Bosse; Mack Bradford; Charles Browning; Neva Carrigan; Steve Chavez; Ruby Davis; Dayton Dennard; Jewell Bettes-Dennard; Brian Drake; James & Joyce Drake; Bernice Easlon; Ed Fisher; John Ford; Hattie Gilmore; Anna Groves; Opal Hager; Winford Hambright; Linda Horton; Lon & Lana Howard; Bobby Hunt; Bryan Jernigan; Susan Lee; Tracy Leeth; Katie Limer; Connie Lowe; Jill McAfee; Jack McCarty; Levi McGhee; Flossie Montgomery; Patsy Montgomery; Juan & Estella Morolez; Rudy Ochoa; Avery Ojado; Jonathan Pegan; Judy Phillips; Evan Rector; Elvia Ruckman; Blair Saldana; Christa Bella Sellers; Carmen Settle; Brenda Simmons; Nancy Slife; James Stevens; Marilyn Upshaw; Bré elle Watts; Lisa Wells;

Eisenhower’s Shut-ins

Mildred Bell; Neva Carrigan; Anna Groves; Roberta Hamil; Janice Laminack; Dusty and Kathy Marshall, Janelle Shirley, Wilma Squire and Lester Whisenant.

Youth

Bible Quiz Question...

Who wrestled with an angel all night?

Last Week's Bible Quiz answer...

King Nebuchadnezzar ruled Babylon.

FYI

Denny Wilson is hosting a weekly radio program called "**Christian Take Aim**" at 6:30 pm Tuesdays; www.thegospelradionetwork.org. Feel free to please pick up a business card on the youth table in the foyer.

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:30 am on CBS, channel 7.

Also, tune in to hear a message from the Brown Trail Church of Christ on the "**Speaking the Truth in Love**" program every Sunday at 8:00 a.m. on ABC.

Events

Fifth Sunday Potluck/Strengthening the Family Reorganization Meeting—Sunday, August 30th Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Strengthening the Family Group #1's luncheon will begin Sunday, September 6th.

A "**Men's Breakfast**" is scheduled for Saturday, September 5th.

There will be a "**Ladies Breakfast**" Saturday, October 3rd in the Annex. The men of the congregation will be doing the cooking.

Office News

Our "**Food Pantry**" is low on food. It needs to be kept supplied with food and supplies for the children's homes and those in need especially as we near the holiday season. We appreciate your generous food donations to help meet this need.

The **New Mexico Children's Home** will be in Odessa Tuesday, September 1st for a food drive. They are requesting **Oatmeal**. Also, we still have coin cans on the table in the east foyer if you would like to save your change for them. The coin cans and food will be picked up at the same time. Monetary donations are also welcomed.

Thought to Remember

An atheist has reason but no hope for his reason; a hypocrite has hope but no reason; a Christian has both hope and reason.

August 16, 2015

Announcements
Song Leader
Sermon
Opening Prayer
Scripture
Second Prayer
Closing Prayer

A.M.

Allen Weakland
Craig Wesson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Trinidad Wood
Bill Brown
John Wood

P.M.

Allen Weakland
Jacob Carson
Allen Weakland
Allen Weakland
Charles Wood
Denny Wilson
Cody Wesson

Lord's Supper

West...	John Carroll Tony Marrs Tom Sorenson	Bill Tolbert Communion (In Library)
East...	Don Easlou Dex Dennard Bill Ryan	

Other Responsibilities: *Elder* Allen Weakland 362-1403 *Deacon:* Richard Siler 362-1392 *Pulpit:* Chris Butler 362-7486
Table: Bill Tolbert 381-5564 *Song Leaders:* Denny Wilson 325-340-2291 *Recording Duties:* Tommy Garcia 638-2702;
Collections: Tommy Garcia 638-2702

Sunday AM"

"Examine Yourself"
(II Corinthians 13:5)

Sunday PM

Cost & Reward of Discipleship"
(Mark 10:28-31)

Our Records

*Bible Class...*88
*Morning Worship...*125
*Evening Worship...*75
*Wednesday...*93
Contribution...\$4,427.16

