

# Eisenhower Church of Christ

## Affinity with Sin

“Now Jehoshaphat had riches and honor in abundance and joined affinity with Ahab” (2 Chronicles 18:1). Ahab was the seventh and one of the more wicked kings of Israel. Incited by Jezebel, he drove Israel to such depths of sin that even the mighty confrontation on Mt. Carmel was unable to shake loose its deep roots in idolatry. Of him the record states, “Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.” (1 Kings 16:33).

Jehoshaphat was the fourth and one of the most righteous kings of Judah. He sought after the Lord and walked in His commandments. He commissioned princes, priests and Levites to go throughout Judah and teach the people the law of the Lord (2 Chronicle 17). However, he made a costly mistake when he allied himself with Ahab. Jehoshaphat’s alliance with Ahab was sealed by the marriage of Jehoram his son, to Athaliah, the daughter of Ahab and Jezebel. Though difficult to envision, the son of one of the most righteous kings of Judah became the son-in-law of one of the most infamous couples in the history of mankind. Note the tragic consequences of Jehoshaphat’s affinity with Ahab:

### COMMITMENT TO WAR

Having been wined and dined in ostentatious fashion, Jehoshaphat did not hesitate to join Ahab in battle against Syria. This decision almost cost him his life. As the enemy compassed about him, “Jehoshaphat cried out and the Lord helped him, and God moved them to depart from him” (2 Chronicles 18:31). Only by divine intervention was Jehoshaphat spared an untimely death. God’s mercy saved Lot from the brimstone of Sodom, and that same trait of Deity rescued Jehoshaphat from the sword of Syria.

Kinship with sin always means war. It creates war in the heart, making it “like the troubled sea, when it cannot rest, whose waters cast up mire and dirt” (Isaiah 57:20). It produces war in the home, for **“unless the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it”** (Psalm 127:1). It yields war in the church as it foments **“envying and strife and divisions” among brethren (1 Corinthians 3:3)**. **It is the basis of war among nations. Thus David prayed, “Deliver me, O Lord, from the evil man: preserve me from the violent man who imagine mischiefs in their heart; continually are they gathered together for war”** (Psalm 140:1-2).

### HEARKENED TO FALSE PROPHETS INSTEAD OF GOD

Having devoted little thought to the matter, Jehoshaphat agreed to join Ahab in battle. Desiring to calm his fears over his decision, Ahab sought to pacify him with four hundred false prophets who encouraged them to go against Syria with God’s blessings. Yet unsatisfied, Jehoshaphat asked, “Is there not here a prophet of the Lord besides that we might enquire of him?” Reluctantly, Ahab sent for Micaiah, who foretold Ahab’s death and Israel’s defeat should they proceed with their plans. Rejecting the word of God, Jehoshaphat hearkened to a lying spirit and suffered the wrath of the Lord.

### HIS FAMILY AND JUDAH SUFFERED SEVERELY

At Jehoshaphat’s death the royal scepter fell to Jehoram. Inspiration declares that the influence of Athaliah played a major role in his extreme wickedness. He commenced his reign by killing his six brothers and various princes in Israel. He permeated Judah with idolatry and “compelled” the people to commit fornication. Divine judgment brought suffering to Judah and death to Jehoram and all of his sons except for Ahaziah. At Jehoram’s death, Ahaziah took the throne and continued the wicked ways of his father. When he was slain, Athaliah usurped the throne and gave the southern kingdom its own “Jezebel”. She inaugurated her reign in blood by murdering all potential heirs to the throne, including her

own grandchildren and set out to make Baal the national god of Judah.

Therefore, as a result of Jehoshaphat's affinity with Ahab, his ruling son killed all of his other sons; his daughter-in-law murdered his great-grandchildren and others; his ruling son and grandson were so corrupt that both were destroyed by the hand of divine judgment; and for fifteen years Judah suffered inconceivable spiritual damage under his son, grandson and daughter-in-law. Such are the inevitable results when man forms an "affinity with sin."  
—Frank Chesser

### ***Sympathy***

Our condolences go out to Betty Leeth (Devida's cousin). Her husband, **Doug Leeth** passed away on Saturday, November 23rd in Waverly, OH. His funeral services were held on the 26th.

### ***Prayer Requests***

**Terri Armentrout** (Devida's niece) is facing surgery on her right shoulder and left arm to repair torn ligaments and muscle damage caused from lifting heavy items. Prayers are requested for her.

### ***Prayer List***

Brian Basaldua; Don Blackwell; Betty Brooks; Bill Brown; Sharon Brown; Cindy Campbell; Sylvia Campos; Steve Chavez; Emma Craig; Ronald Dement; Bessie Diaz; Loyce Driver; Jazmine Duron; Dana Erwin; Thomas Garcia; Hattie Gilmore; Winford Hambright; Irene Hernandez; Leo Holloway; Letha Hooper; Vertie Howard; Betty Leeth; Jed Martin; Ora McAfee; Krysta McMullen; Jason Moore; Juan & Estella Morolez; Juanita Orosco; Caydon Parker; Trina Plyler; Laisha Ramirez; Jackie Rex; Bill Ryan; Debra Shipley; Janelle Shirley; Charles & Susan Simmons; Mark Thompson; Velma Tolbert; Marilyn Upshaw; Robert Vargas; Lisa Wells; James & Janet Wesson; Jay Wesson; Tom Wilcox; Carolyn Wilkerson; Sondie Williamson; John Wood.

### ***Eisenhower's Shut-ins***

Robertta Hamil; Dusty and Kathy Marshall; Janelle Shirley

Remember to keep all of our sick, shut-ins, the bereaved, our military personnel and the spiritually weak in your daily prayers.

### ***Youth***

#### **Bible Quiz Question...**

He had an early breakfast with Peter, Thomas, James & John. Jesus cooked.

a. Andrew    b. Philip    c. Nathanael

#### **Last Week's Bible Quiz Answer ...**

God was speaking to Rebekah when he said, "Two nations are in your womb and two peoples from within you will be separated."

### ***Events***

Watch "*In Search of the Lord's Way*" every Sunday morning at 7:00 am on KWES TV 9, (New West 9)

### ***Thank you***

Thank you for the prayers and card. They meant so very much to me.

Love, Mildred Lee

Thank you so much for the box of "goodies" you sent to us for the holiday. It was yummy and appreciated so much. It's always nice to be remembered!

Yours truly, Dusty, Kathy & Juli Marshall

## Office News

### DECEMBER ATTENDED NURSERY

12/01/19 Robbie & Bonnie  
12/08/19 Wanda & Christy  
12/15/19 Ashley & Holly  
12/22/19 Nancy E. & Devida  
12/29/19 Virgie & Gloria

### Walking Our Faith

*“Do you see that faith was working together with his works and by works faith was made perfect?”  
(James 2:22)*

Often we Christians are urged to not just “talk the talk” but to “walk the talk”. The same advice may be expressed in these words; don’t let your behavior contradict your professed belief. At other times we are admonished to be sure that life and lip agree. If our conduct doesn’t harmonize with our confession of faith; however, that discrepancy nullifies the testimony of the gospel which we proclaim.

As far as we can know, Mahatma Gandhi never became a Christian, but he made a statement that we who follow Jesus would do well to ponder. When asked to put his message into one short sentence, he replied, “My life is my message.”

Certainly we should explain the gospel message as clearly as possible. Yet the clearest explanation isn’t going to win hearts for our Lord unless His love is embodied in our lives. To quote the apostle Paul in 1st Corinthians 11:1, *“Imitate me, just as I also imitate Christ.”* And holding himself up as a pattern, he wrote in Philippians 4:9. *“The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do and the God of peace will be with you.”*

Pray then, that like Paul, we may live out our saving faith before the watching world.

“Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me All His wonderful passion and purity! O thou Spirit divine, all my nature refine, Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.”

**The world is watching us—do they see Jesus?—**

—Vernon Grounds

<b>December 8, 2019</b>	<b>A.M.</b>	<b>P.M.</b>
Announcements	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Song Leader	Jaxon Straw	Cody Wesson
Sermon	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Opening Prayer	Allen Weakland	Allen Weakland
Scripture	Clint Titlow	Jaxon Straw
Second Prayer	Josh Wells	Charles Wood
Closing Prayer	Scot Straw	Bill Brown
Lord’s Supper		
(Scripture Reading)	Jeff Wesson	
West...	Trinidad Wood	John Wood
	Joshua Weakland	Communion
	Kevin Wilcox	(In Library)
East	Cody Wesson	
	Larry May	
	Craig Wesson	

**Other Responsibilities:** *Elder* : Allen Weakland 254-8209—*Deacon*: Tommy Garcia 638-2702 — *Pulpit*:—Jr. Munoz—363-1309 *Table*: John Wood 413-7444 — *Song Leaders*: Larry May 638-3990—*Recording Sermons*: Richard Siler 556-2151—*Collections*: Richard Siler 556-2151

**Sunday AM**

*“He Ran”*

*(Mark 5:1-6)*

**Sunday PM**

*“How Far Will You Go?”*

*(Daniel 3:1-7)*

**Our Records**

*Bible Class... 59*

*Morning Worship...92*

*Evening Worship...62*

*Wednesday...NC*

*Contribution...\$3,387.00*