

Cleaning Our Closets

By Mike Riley

By the first of the year, my kitchen cabinets are a mess. Outdated spices, stale cereal; old cans and jars of unusual things (stuffed cabbage leaves or hot mushroom dip??). You probably have the same problem. I simply must clean those shelves.

But did you know that God also demanded a clean kitchen, although slightly different from ours. Pick up your Bible and read Ex 12. It is about the first cabinet cleaning in history!

A quick review.....

God told Moses it was time for the Hebrews to leave Egypt.

You remember the story of the ten plagues? The last one was the worst of all. Every firstborn in the land would die, from the first born of the cattle to the King's son. The only way for the Hebrews to escape the same fate was to follow the detailed instructions given to them. They were told exactly how to prepare the lamb for a sacrifice. God even gave them instructions on the bread they were to prepare. Every detail was outlined for them.

In preparing their bread, God told them that it must be made without yeast. No self rising flour here! Yeast represented sin. Therefore there was to be no yeast in the bread. But not only that, they were to clean their cupboards. Sweep, wipe, dust, and clean again. No yeast was to be found in their homes. In other words, sin was to be swept away.

Yet the real story lays in that perfect little lamb of sacrifice. His blood was given so that when the Lord passed over the homes, He would see the blood of the innocent lamb and the first born child would not die.

Thousands of years later, Jesus would become that perfect lamb of sacrifice. His blood makes it possible for us to escape the death which will come upon all people. God will see His blood and "pass over" us just as the Lord passed over those homes with the blood on the doors.

We will live a life pleasing to God, because Jesus became the perfect sacrifice. Believing on Him, also takes away the yeast of sin. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 Jn 1:8-10). Just as those early Hebrews had to obey orders we must do the same. It's not our way but God's way. Confessing is a necessary part of our forgiveness. And that includes..... Cleaning out our own "closets."

This is our part. Yeast removal! Search those dark corners of your life. Sweep, and dust and scrub. Don't hide the little yeast which you hate to give up. God knows where to find it. Yeast can grow and spread, just like the yeast of that bread in the oven. "A little yeast can leaven the whole lump" (Gal 5:9).

In other words, it doesn't take much sin to disturb our life. Just a little. So start your housecleaning today.



STERLINGTON
Church of Christ



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Sunday Morning Bible Classes - 9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship - 5:00 PM
Wednesday Evening Classes - 6:00 PM.

10/2/22

Welcome Visitors

If you are seeking a church home, we hope that you will consider joining with us. We are a growing congregation, dedicated to worshipping in truth and spirit. Please fill out the Visitor's Card and place it in the collection plate!

Elders:

Todd Chapman
Paul Simpson

Deacons:

Wayne Fowler David Garris
Billy Granger Buddy Hollis

Preacher:

Don Delukie

Those to Serve

Today

Announcements- Travis Rodgers **Lord's Table-** Wayne Fowler
Opening prayer- Rick Cook **Closing Prayer-** Ronnie Hayes

October 9th

Announcements- Paul Simpson **Lord's Table-** Wayne Fowler
Opening prayer- Lyle Russell **Closing Prayer-** Luke Chapman

Announcements

—**Question & Answer Series:** Tonight will be our next Question and Answer Series. Please submit your questions via the church email address SCOC2006@att.net or to Don.

—**Potluck:** There is a potluck scheduled for October 16th after AM Services. There will be no evening services this night.

—**Children's Home Collection:** Our kids classes are collecting items for the Children's Home in Paragould, AR. Collection baskets are by the nursery. The list of needed items is in the foyer. Please help our kids help others!

FOR YOU CREATED MY INMOST BEING,
YOU KNIT ME TOGETHER IN MY MOTHER'S WOMB.
I PRAISE YOU BECAUSE I AM
FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE.

Psalm 139:13-14

Please Pray For:

Joanne Randolph, Billy & Jeremy Granger, Nan Talley, Benny Freeman, Leigh Ann Armstrong, Adrain Barnes, Bobby Simmons, John McDaniel, Theresa Moody, Joanna Quincy, Renita Thomas.

Bereaved: Families of Billy T. Smith, Brenda Thomas, Charlie White, Donald Pennington, Eloise Smith, Johnny Keen.

Continue to Pray For:

Shirley Goodwin, Bobby Barker, Roosevelt Rogers, Cindy Eaton, Tricia Muse, Donna Head, Debra Mike, Virginia Royal, Elizabeth Hollis, Heath Ray, Terrance Dawson, Jamie Ross, Charlie McDaniel Jr, Lewis Bedele, Adam White.



October birthdays

2 - Rick Van Loon
7 - Joyce McDonald
11 - Luke Chapman
12 - Barbara Wheeler
14 - Kathy Manning
16 - Rex Albright
22 - Wyatt Chapman
24 - Jean Delukie
25 - Lorene Johnson
27 - Charles Fricke
31 - Bobby Barker

October anniversaries

17 - Todd and Nelia Chapman

