

The Canton Christian

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Pride, Judgment, and the Hope of Restoration

By Michael Grigsby

Obadiah is the shortest book in the Old Testament, but its message carries enormous weight. It speaks to Edom, a nation whose pride had become so deeply rooted that they believed themselves untouchable. They trusted in their position, strength, and security, but God warned them that pride would ultimately bring them down. Obadiah 3 says, *"The pride of your heart has deceived you."* Pride can deceive us into thinking we are stronger, wiser, or more secure than we really are. It can make us believe we do not need God or that our success is entirely our own. Edom's example reminds us that nothing is truly secure apart from God.

Pride is not always loud or obvious. Sometimes it quietly convinces us that we can handle life without God, that we deserve better than others, or that we would never fall as someone else has. When we become impressed with ourselves, we become less dependent on God. The antidote to pride is humility—recognizing who God is and remembering that everything we have is ultimately a gift from Him. Obadiah also warns us about taking pleasure in the struggles of others. Edom rejoiced when Judah suffered, but God held them accountable. Instead of celebrating someone's failure, we should respond with compassion, grace, and mercy, remembering our own need for God's forgiveness.

Yet Obadiah does not end with judgment; it ends with hope. The final verse says, *"The kingdom shall be the LORD's"* (Obadiah 21). Human kingdoms rise and fall, earthly strength fades, and pride eventually collapses, but God's kingdom remains forever. When fear tells us everything is falling apart, we can remember that God is still on His throne. When we feel uncertain about the future, we can trust that God is still sovereign. Our hope is not found in our own strength, accomplishments,

Continued to page 6

Women's Event ~ Save the Date!

Save the date for a women's event to be hosted here at the church. The date is **Saturday, September 12th**. There will be a potluck style lunch followed by guest speaker, Whitney Allen.

Lunch will be at 11:30 a.m. with the speaker at 1:00 p.m. Whitney will share how God helps you carry your baggage and how to set proper boundaries for women.

Prayer is the Way

Steve Driskill
Amy Warner
Melvin Warner
Dwight Lunsford
Bob Ogle
Barbara Mason
Arta Waltman
Dave Schweind
Dean Cavett
Raymond Barnes
MaryAnn Phillips
Ty Gradner
Carolyn Nelson
Zollie Broomfield
Zachary Trace Ramay
Amy Hood
Sheila Nuzum
David Dunson
Jimmy DeVage
Briar Reihm
Tim Kirk
Nicole Bowman

Emma Burich
Levi Hunt
Connie Johnson
Shirley Moore
Josephine Gonzalez
Greg Hargrove
Gayle Roberts
Regina Ray
Josh Blevins
Duane Barker
Roy Maybe
Blakely McKamney
James Harmon
Ronnie Gould
Rick Smith
Jim Chaloupek
Blake Boulard
Kaylynn Philpot
Ashley Crews
Jim Rose
Steve Bond
Ron Waltman

Kraig Birchfield
Tammy Long Qualls
Brian Wilson
Tim Chaloupek
Jeremy Walker
Phil Weathier
Joyce Galer
Bobbie Westfahl
Patty Walters
Terri Walters
Cheryl Classen
Cheryl Martin
Juanita Rauh

*Family of Kraig Birchfield
Family of David Lupo
Family of Paul Terry
Family of Traci Wallace
Family of Michael Tyree*

Note: To call out a prayer need during the week, contact Laberta at 580-886-5225.

September 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Brennan Garriott Laberta Thompson Keith & Judy Long	2 Caressa Hoskins Nicole White Juanita Rauh	3 Mason Byers Tom Robinson Cody Shepherd	4 Terry & Annie Farris	5
6 Bailee Grigsby	7 Chad Hoskins Tiffany Wiebener LABOR DAY 	8 C. G. Grabow Shannon Hoffman Mary Nelson Clayton Shepherd	9	10 Bill Gary Arvin & Frances Bates	11 Roger Gibson Chelsey Lance	12
13 Garrett Lance Chris Vowell Tiffany Wieber Stormie Haigler	14 Sarah Jones Laney Russell Brandon & Cari Webb	15 Curado Bates	16	17	18 Rhonda Hoskins Joshua Edwards Steve & Pam Bond	19 Evin Swartwood Colby Haigler Jennifer Haigler
20 Grant Cavett Taylor Lance Hunter McDonald Grant Koos	21	22	23 Carson Cavett	24 Jessie Hoskins Gary Mullins Jaime Grigsby	25	26 Pat Hoffman Lance Vowell Logan Vowell Jeffrey Thompson
27	28 Jesse Follis	29	30 Linda Woodall			
			<i>Evin Swartwood - September</i> <i>Debbie Chaloupek - October</i> <i>Becky Garriott - November</i> 		NOTE: Please notify us if a name needs to be removed or added. Contact Toni Goforth at: tonigo4th@hotmail.com or you may text or call 580-822-5109.	

Love suffers long and is kind.

[1 Corinthians 13:4]

Kind Hearts

What is your kindness quotient? When was the last time you did something kind for someone in your family—got a blanket, cleaned off the table, made the coffee—without being asked?

Think about your school. Which person is the most overlooked or avoided? A shy student? A grumpy secretary? Maybe he doesn't speak the language. Maybe she doesn't fit in. Are you kind to this person?

Kind hearts are quietly kind. They let the car cut into traffic and the young mom with three kids move up in the checkout line. They pick up the neighbor's trash can that rolled into the street. And they are especially kind at church. They understand that perhaps the neediest person they'll meet all week is the one standing in the foyer or sitting in the row behind them in worship. Paul writes, "When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it. But we should give special attention to those who are in the family of believers" (Galatians 6:10).

ONE MORE THOUGHT

Becoming kind isn't something we achieve by following a step-by-step plan. It grows out of our understanding of the compassion Jesus felt for us and our need for a Savior. The closer you move to Christ, the more your heart will turn to kindness.

—Max Lucado

TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

Jonah

878. The Lord ordered Jonah to go to a city located (Jonah 1:1-2)

- a on the seacoast
- b inland
- c on an island
- d on a mountain top

879. When the Lord sent out a great wind into the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up, Jonah was found (Jonah 1:4-5)

- a clinging to the foremast
- b sick at the ship's rail
- c eating a hearty meal
- d fast asleep

880. The sailors' notion of the source of the trouble was (Jonah 1:7,10)

- a fantastically inaccurate
- b understandably in error
- c more correct than incorrect
- d absolutely correct

881. Jonah was cast into the sea (Jonah 1:12)

- a at his own request
- b without his expressing an opinion on it
- c while slightly demurring
- d over his violent objection

882. Jonah was in the belly of the great fish for (Jonah 1:17)

- a three days and nights
- b seven days and nights
- c thirteen days and nights
- d forty days and nights

883. The fish vomited out Jonah upon the dry land because (Jonah 2:10)

- a Jonah irritated it
- b Jonah persuaded it
- c the sailors harpooned it
- d the Lord spoke to it

884. After Jonah prophesied the destruction of Nineveh to its in-

habitants, he found himself unhappy because they had (Jonah 3:4-10; 4:1-4)

- a paid him no head
- b asked him too many questions
- c threw him into a lion's den
- d responded all too well

885. The worm's killing of the gourd that shaded Jonah on the outskirts of Nineveh was designed by the Lord to give Jonah (Jonah 4:6-10)

- a something to do
- b a sense of proportion
- c a sense of humor
- d reassurance

Answers

878: b	882: a
879: d	883: d
880: d	884: d
881: a	885: b



Youth Groups Start Back Up

Jr. High/Sr. High youth, grades 7th-12th, will start back up beginning Wednesday, Aug. 26th. They will meet 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Elementary youth, grades Kindergarten thru 6th grade, will kick off on Sunday, Sept. 6th. They will meet 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. If anyone has ideas on times, activities or if anyone would like to help, please get with Amber.



Continued from page 1,

Pride, Judgment, and the Hope of Restoration

or ability to control everything, but in the Lord.

Obadiah challenges us to examine our hearts and ask where pride may have taken root. Are we trusting ourselves more than God? Are we placing our confidence in things that cannot last?

Are we showing compassion toward those who are struggling? God's warnings are invitations to turn back to Him. Today, choose humility, thank God for His blessings, extend mercy to others, and place your trust in Him. No matter what

happens around us, we can have hope because the kingdom belongs to the Lord. Our security is not found in how high we climb or how much we control, but in the King who reigns forever.



*Meets every
Wednesday evening*

CHOIR PRACTICE
STARTS BACK UP
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 16TH
7-8:00 P.M.

Is God nudging you to serve Him?
Absolutely!

Let me tell you —

He delights in those who praise and glorify Him from the choir loft!

As we lift up our hearts in song we receive unending riches — joy, love, fellowship, fun, and the list grows (*and of course, a Happy Director!*)

You don't have to be the greatest singer or know how to read music to participate. Just dedicate a little of your time on Wednesday evenings and be ready to sing at 7:00 p.m.

*Twila Alexander
Choir Director*

God loves the new you.

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!

—2 Corinthians 5:17

You sparkle. You shine. You've just got that certain air about you. And it's irresistible . . . to God. No, it's not the new "do." It's not even those gorgeous new shoes. It's *you*—the *new* you, completely made over, re-created in Christ.

Yes, you'll still make mistakes sometimes. And no, you're not perfect. But you are *perfectly made new*. And God just loves the way it looks on you.