

## WORKS WE SUPPORT

Jim & Judy O'Connor, Foreign Evangelism  
Peter Chin, Four Seas College of Bible & Missions,  
Singapore (President/Instructor)  
"Seek The Old Paths"  
Chuck Northrop, Bible Institute of Missouri (Instructor)  
Kent Eakins, Bible Institute of Missouri (Student)  
Jerry Martin, Memphis School of Preaching (Instructor)  
Russ Earl, Central Carolina School of Preaching (Instructor)  
"Whom Do You Serve?" Television Program  
"Bible Questions with Bible Answers" Television  
Program

## UPCOMING SERMONS

### SUNDAY AM

Dec. 25      The translation controversy  
Jan. 1        Heaven is surely worth it all

### SUNDAY PM

Dec. 25      God who created the heavens and the earth  
Jan. 1        Will I waste another year?

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[www.webbervillechurchofchrist.org](http://www.webbervillechurchofchrist.org)  
<http://sermons.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>

**To see our services live:**

<http://live.webbervillechurchofchrist.org>

Sundays: 11 a.m., 4 p.m., 6 p.m.

Services:

**Sunday**

Bible Classes: 10 a.m.

Worship Assembly: 11 a.m. & 6 p.m.

**Wednesday**

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

December 25, 2011

To our visitors, we want you to know that we are honored by your being with us today. We welcome any questions you may have. All materials that you see are free of charge and if there is any other information you would like, we will be happy to provide it.

## **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Nancy Pardon, Pete Darling, Rusty Darling, Raymond Heinz, Teresa Heinz, James Bush, Carolyn Jensen, Margaret Coats, Doug McArthur, Jean Reeder, Cheryl Akers, Kathy Briggs, Betty Jo's aunt, Erin's father, Robert Vanalstine, Jo Matheny, Jimmy Mortimore, John Mortimore, Tina Heinz, Jim Loper

## **READING OF SCRIPTURE:**

**AM:** Lk. 11:28                      **PM:** Isa. 42:5

## **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

Dec. 25 – Business meeting  
Dec. 30 – Seminar at Webberville

**UPCOMING SEMINAR:** Due to New Year's Eve falling on Saturday, we have rescheduled our last seminar of the year to Friday night, Dec. 30. There will be two lessons that night as in the past seminars.

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## **THE CARE OF ALL THE CHURCHES**

Charles Coats

While the life of a Christian is the greatest life one can have, there are difficulties that we must face. All of us are aware of the trials and tribulations that come our way because the devil is working to discourage us. It seems that sometimes the devil may be winning, but we overcome because we can do all things through Christ (Phil. 4:13). These trials are but for a moment if we handle them correctly.

Probably the most difficult challenge we face is what Paul described as "*the care of all the churches*" (2

Cor. 11:28). Working to keep the church pure and guiding our brethren toward Heaven is something we face every day. Christians, who should be walking in the footsteps of Jesus, are more and more walking in the footsteps of the world. Satan has won the souls of more than we can contemplate as he throws a wide, easy path before our brethren and they take it.

It is significant that while Paul listed in 2 Cor. 11 so many things he had suffered because he was a Christian, it is only the care of the churches that was upon him daily. In many ways, this was the most disheartening and challenging to him. Today, it should hurt us deeply that Christians would fall from the faith or weaken due to the errors they believe.

When we think about the role of the faithful in facing these challenges, we find the need to work to restore the erring (Jas. 5:19,2); Gal. 6:1). This has to be met head on as Paul did in 1 Cor. 5. The endangered souls of Christians are too significant for us not to work to bring them back to faithfulness. This we will find is one of the more difficult works we will be involved in.

To restore the erring takes time and courage. To teach the erring to correct their lives and to come back to God will often be met with some hostility, and even the questioning of our own motives and love by the one being corrected. And, in many cases, the one we love so much will not correct his or her error and will remain in sin.

While we may not win everyone back to the fold, we must try. We must continue on a daily basis to keep the church pure by opposing error, warning brethren, and correcting the erring.

The care of all the churches is so needed as the church for which Jesus died is the most precious institution on Earth. May we always recognize that the most precious gift we can give to someone is helping them go to Heaven.

