

**PRAYERS**

**Zack Opheim** - Recovering from recent surgery and infection.

**Donnie Hoffman** – Linda’s uncle -fell and has multiple injuries

**Wanda Hoffman** – Linda’s Aunt – suffered a heart attack

**Colby Crawford** – Away fighting a fire for at least two more weeks

**Congregation News:**

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** Prayers can’t be answered unless they are prayed!

**Those Privileged to Serve**

**Sunday Morning Service:**

**9/23/18**

**9/30/18**

Bible Class	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Announcements	Paul Darling	Paul Darling
Song Leader	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Opening Prayer	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Lord's Supper	Paul Darling	Paul Darling
Closing Prayer	Paul Darling	Paul Darling
Sermon	Paul Darling	Paul Darling

<b>Bible Classes</b>	<b>Sunday Morning</b>	<b>Wednesday Evening</b>
Adult	Tom Bright	Tom Bright
Children	Colby Crawford	Linda McBrayer
Toddlers	Cindy Bright	
Babies	Anissa Crawford	

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**Building Cleanup**  
Crawford

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**Bulletin Submissions**

If you would like anything added to the bulletin such as prayer requests, news, or events, please make submissions by Friday night to: [tlbj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlbj@sbcglobal.net)

# Aberdeen church of Christ

September 23, 2018

## The Stormy North Side of Jesus

It has not been all that long ago when being “into Jesus” was the popular thing for teens to embrace. Now, as well as then, Jesus was depicted as some kind of “pale Galilean” (that’s how one English poet described Jesus), gentle, meek, mild-mannered, inoffensive, and bordering on being effeminate. Anyone familiar with the Holy Scriptures, if they are honest with the portrait of our Lord contained on the pages therein, know that such a concept of Jesus is simply out of harmony with what the Bible says about our Lord.

Sometime back I came across this little observation from the days of radio. Most radios have a device by which the low frequencies and high frequencies can be screened out, leaving only those sounds which are appealing to the human ear. The human mind is much like that. We can actually “tune out” those things we do not want to hear, and accept that which is most appealing to us. So, if someone wants to believe that Jesus is mild and never offensive, always kind and never angry, he may unintentionally “filter out” passages that indicate that there is, well, “a stormy north side” of Jesus. This is precisely why Matthew 7:1 has become one of the most popular passages in the Bible, perhaps surpassing the oft quoted words in John 3:16.

I’m not arguing that Jesus is *not* kind, compassionate, or gentle. I would be a fool to advocate such and would place myself in the category of over reacting to the error mentioned already. Our Lord had deep compassion toward those in need. All one need do is read the story of the woman caught in adultery in John 8:1-11. How about the way Jesus dealt with Zachaeus (Luke 19:10)? Was not that a demonstration of great compassion and patience on the part of our Lord? Indeed it was! But to speak of Jesus as being “mild” leaves an impression that is not exactly true.

J.B. Phillips wrote a book almost a half century ago entitled, *‘Your God Is Too Small.’* I think his observation is pertinent:

Of all the epitaphs that could be applied to Christ this ‘mild,’ seems one of the least appropriate. For what does ‘mild,’ as applied to a person, conjure up in our minds? Surely a picture of someone who wouldn’t say ‘boo’ to

the proverbial goose; someone who would let sleeping dogs lie and avoid trouble wherever possible; someone of a placid temperament who is almost a stranger to the passions of red-blooded humanity; someone who is a bit of a nonentity, both uninspired and uninspiring.”

Phillips goes on to say, “Jesus Christ might well be called ‘meek,’ in the sense of being humble and utterly devoted to what He considers right, whatever the personal cost; but ‘mild,’ never!”

Unfortunately the minds of entirely too many have *filtered* out those things they do not want to believe about Jesus, and have conjured up an image of some kindly teacher Who is more of a ‘pal’ than a Lord.

The New Testament Scriptures are abundant with regard to this “stormy north side” of our Lord. Among them is Matthew 23. I wonder if those who view Jesus as a “pale Galilean” even know this chapter is in the Bible. Here is a sampling of what is contained in that chapter: “Woe unto you scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you shut the kingdom of heaven against men...Woe to you, ye blind guides...ye fools and blind...for ye are like unto whited sepulchers, which outwardly appear beautiful, but inwardly are full of dead men’s bones, and of all uncleanness...how shall ye escape the judgment of hell?” (Matt. 23:13, 16, 17, 27, 28, 33).

Again, in Matthew 18 Jesus said, “Whoso shall cause one of these little ones that believe on me to stumble, it is profitable for him that a great millstone should be hanged about his neck, and that he should be sunk in the depths of the sea.”

When Jesus cleansed the Temple in Matthew 21:12-17 it is said that He “cast out all them that sold and bought in the temple, and overthrew the tables of the money changers, and the seats of them that sold the doves; and he said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called a house of prayer, but ye make it a den of robbers” (Matt. 21:12-13).

Now let’s make some practical application. It is not surprising that Jesus gathered about Himself men who manifested the same mixture of qualities as He Himself demonstrated - men who were compassionate, yet bold, sensitive, courageous, and willing to enter into the fray when truth was at stake. If we would be a disciple of Jesus Christ we, too, must see in Jesus His wonderful compassion, but as well, His stormy north side. If we fail to see both sides of our Lord, we will not be able to present to the world a proper portrait of our Lord. Yes, Jesus is kind, but we must never forget that He also has a “stormy north side.”

## When have we lost our “first love” for the Lord?

“Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love” Revelation 2:4

- When my delight in the Lord is no longer as great as my delight in someone else, I have lost my “first love.”
- When my soul does not long for times of long fellowship in God’s Word or in prayer, I have lost my “first love.”
- When my thoughts during leisure moments do not reflect upon the Lord, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I claim to be “only human” and easily give into those things I know displease the Lord, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I do not willingly and cheerfully give to God’s work or to the needs of others, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I cease to treat every Christian brother as I would the Lord, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I view the commands of Christ as restrictions to my happiness rather than expressions of His love, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I inwardly strive for acclaim of this world rather than the approval of the Lord, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I fail to make Christ or His Words known because I fear rejection, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I refuse to give up an activity which I know is offending a weaker brother, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I become complacent to sinful conditions around me, I have lost my “first love.”
- When I am unable to forgive another for offending me, I have lost my “first love.”

### Who Am I?

She was the queen to King Ahasuerus.

She was beautiful.

She refused to appear before the king and his drinking friends.

Answer last quiz. Dorcas