

## ASSEMBLY TIMES

### Sunday

Bible Class on hold  
Morning Assembly 9 or 11  
Evening Assembly on hold

### Wednesday

Bible Class on hold

## RADIO PROGRAM

### The Bible Speaks



Sunday 9:00-9:30a.m.  
KURM 790AM

## Downtown Church of Christ

P.O. Box 447  
201 W. Chestnut Street  
Rogers, AR 72757  
479-636-3575  
www.downtowncoc.net



**The influence  
of affluence  
can be a problem.**

## CLASS SCHEDULE

**Today  
All Classes  
On Hold**

**Next Sunday  
All Classes  
On Hold**

**This info is provided  
to help everyone stay  
in synch during our  
three-year study thru  
the Bible (Sunday AM).**

## FAMILY NEWS

### PRAYER LIST –

*Preachers we support:* Japan, Philippines, Vietnam, Canada, Mexico, Peru, & U.S.

*Sick:* Mary Lou Lewis, Kathy Fletcher, Marsha Swim, Rai Starr, Diane Willis,  
and Etta Frazelle

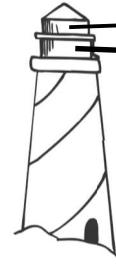
*Shut-ins:* Betty Jo Young, Margaret Abel, Erton Usrey,

Shirley Cole, & Billie Pennington

*Military:* Logan Dickey

**NEW SCHEDULE** – Elders plan to begin a new schedule soon, including Sunday night assemblies and Wednesday night classes. More news to come.

**SENTENCE SERMON** – Calling attention to the faults of others is not a cure for your own.



## DOWNTOWN GOSPEL BEACON

**PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE DOWNTOWN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
ROGERS, ARKANSAS**

February 21, 2021

## The Storm is Coming

The article on page two by Wilson Adams is one we should read several times – and post on the refrigerator door. Some will see the word ‘Marxist’ and think it is a political article. But it is not. Instead, it is a clarion call to the people of God about the coming storm – the very real silencing of the people of God and their preaching of the gospel. Efforts to silence points of view that do not conform to the accepted dogma are already underway. Christianity is in the crosshairs – and you are, too.

You can be silent for a while and escape the persecution – for a while.

You can tell your preacher to stop preaching on ‘political’ topics (like abortion, homosexuality, transgenderism, corporal punishment, the role of women in society, etc.) and many preachers will back down and toe the line. And that will keep the dogs off your trail – for a while. But the storm is coming.

At no time in our lifetime has the need for ‘One Another Strong’ been greater. At no time in our lifetime has the need been greater for gospel preachers to preach “the whole counsel of God” – and for fellow Christians to encourage them in it. Are **you** with me in this? - *WKing*

## Another Perspective

## One Another Strong

The first thing Marxist ideology does is come after people of faith. Freedoms are chipped away. Pressure to conform intensifies. Acts of persecution begin. Big Corp buys the lie and jobs are at risk.

A popular actress made the mistake of posting this: “Jews were beaten in the streets, not by Nazi soldiers, but by neighbors... Because history is edited, most don’t realize that to get to the point where Nazis could easily round up thousands of Jews, the government first made their own neighbors hate them for simply being Jews. How is that any different from today – hating someone for their political views?”

Fired! Except that...

She's right. Historically, totalitarianism controls people by isolating them, dividing them, silencing them, and raising fears to the point that they turn on one another.

That’s why assembly worship is essential. Assembly worship provides One Another Strong and strengthens solidarity. Christians stand for something larger than themselves. BTW, One Another Strong cannot be sustained by separation technology. Sadly, Satan has unleashed the perfect storm – weakening saints at a most vulnerable time.

Has it taken a soul-toll? Yes! Do we have what it takes to fight through the fear? I pray so. Never in our lifetime have we experienced the need for One Another Strong more than now. We are not as powerless as the propaganda suggests. Not if we stand... One. Another. Strong.

– *Wilson Adams*

## Faith in Context

Two kinds of arguments against God’s goodness are sometimes heard. Ironically, they’re usually spoken out of both sides of the same mouth.

One argument is that if God appears to be indifferent to the evil in this world, then He is not, at all, a good God (i.e., if God exists, why then do bad things happen?).

The other argument is that if God condemns people to hell, then He is not, at all, a good God (i.e., a loving God wouldn’t do that!).

Do you see the irony? If God lets bad things happen, then God is not good. However, if God judges anything as bad, then God is not good... again! (I typically hear these arguments made by those who will entertain the possible existence of a

Creator, but will say this Creator is not worthy of worship.)

You’ll notice there is even a deeper irony at play and, sadly, a spiritual misunderstanding as well.

The irony is that there is a recognition of evil (bad things in the world), but with a spiritual corruption that demands what should be considered good or evil (Is 5<sup>20-21</sup>).

In the 1<sup>st</sup> argument, you see the recognition of evil and the demand for justice (E.g., doesn’t an atheist call the police if someone commits a crime against them?), but in the 2<sup>nd</sup>, they deny the pure justice of God (Amos 5<sup>7</sup>; Job 8<sup>3</sup>; 34<sup>12</sup>).

You now see that this isn’t an issue about God’s goodness, but rather His justice. And the hearts of all cry for justice (Christian or not.) The solution is to learn, prefer, and teach His true justice for any who don’t clearly see it (Is 1<sup>17</sup>).

– *WHSmith*