

Ministers:
the congregation

Kenny Chumbley
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Sunday:
8:00 AM: WGCY
9:00 AM: Worship

Wednesday:
6:30 PM: Bible Study

[gibsoncitychurchof
Christ.com](http://gibsoncitychurchofchrist.com)

This Past Week:
Worship-29
Wednesday-13

For meditation:
Ecclesiastes 10.11-15
Identify at least three
characteristics of the
words/talk of foolish
people.

Radio program:
WGCY FM, 106.3
Sundays at 8 AM

Getting through

Hubert Simpson tells about a picture, painted during World War I for the Royal Signal Corps, that depicts an incident during the war.

A signaler (a soldier trained in communications, such as a telegrapher, radio man, etc.) is seen in no-man's-land. It's obvious he had been sent out to restore radio communication by repairing a cable that was severed by shell-fire. He has died in the fulfilling of his task, for he is painted holding together in his lifeless hands the broken ends of the cable. (I've tried to find this painting but haven't so far.) Beneath the picture is the single word, "Through."

In your Bible, write "Through" alongside Romans 8.26. "Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered." There are times when all we can do is send to heaven a moan in the darkness. For the Christian, not only does his or her anguish reach God, but its meaning is correctly understood due to the intercession of the Holy Spirit. There is help for our weakness and infirmity. Trust God that your message will get *through*.

kenny

Gibson City church of Christ

Highway 47 South, Gibson City, IL

found in my reading . . .

"Evolution has been likened to a magician who borrows a hat and before a wondering audience takes out of it only **what he puts into it**. The show is a success because the spectators fail to catch him at the trick. Continuing the parable, the evolutionist makes a good showing by diverting your attention to something else, while he adds to his collection of wonders that he will presently take out of his theory. He will divert your attention to what he calls laws, till he slips *life* into the hat and then show you the life while he puts in the *laws*. Law begets life and the life begets law."



This quote, which brilliantly exposes evolution's sleight-of-hand, comes from *Jocko-Homo Heavenbound* (B. H. Shadduck, 1924; historically, "jocko-homo" means *monkey man*) The illustration is of a gorilla evolving into a man and the man into an angel.

Sermon: Matthew 5.13-16

The speed of darkness

10 May 2026

A great text from Nahum

The Lord is good, a stronghold in the day of trouble; and He knows those who trust Him. Nahum 1.7

Jonah would have gladly swapped places with Nahum, for Nahum prophesied the fall of Nineveh, a town Jonah hated.

His hatred was understandable. In antiquity, “Assyrian” was synonymous with unexcelled cruelty. The Assyrian army was a horde of disciplined savages who lived to plunder, ravish, and torture. Their king, with his own hand, would gouge out the eyes of royal captives, then maybe flay them alive. When on the warpath, the king (as shown by palace sculptures) would dine with the bleeding heads of his enemies hung up in front of him.

For such wanton hatred/murder, Nineveh would be “carried away into captivity . . . her young children [would be] dashed to pieces . . . and her great men [would be] bound in chains” (Nah. 3.10). The Assyrian empire was 500 years in the making, but when God moved against it, it only took fifty for it to fall to the Medes and Persians. Two hundred years later, when Xenophon passed the spot with the Ten Thousand Immortals, all that was left was a local legend that a great city had once stood there.

Who is the God who spared the city during Jonah’s time, but destroyed it without mercy during Nahum’s? The prophet gives a threefold answer.

He is the God who is good. Jonah had no doubt about God’s mercy and grace (Jon. 4.2), but He—and many others—might have doubted God’s goodness for allowing the Assyrian free rein. But God is longsuffering, not willing that any should perish (2 Pet. 3.9, Rev. 6.9–11). No matter our doubts, to know that God is what Jesus was to those who saw Him is to know God is good.

He is the God who is our stronghold in trouble. Few things offer greater proof of God’s goodness than to recall days of darkness and thick clouds (Joel 2.2) that He brought us through. “He is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble” (Ps. 46.1). Can you point to times when He protected you? God is strong.

He is the God who knows those who trust Him. How do we reach God’s protection? By trusting Him. God cares for all, but He especially cares for those who trust Him. The foundation of the Lord stands sure, having this seal, the Lord knows those who trust Him. God is mindful of those who believe—if we trust Him, we will not be put to shame (1 Pet. 2.6). God is good.

kenny

The man in the middle

There is one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. 1 Timothy 2.5

CHRIST MEDIATES BETWEEN GOD AND MAN

The Greek word for “mediator” literally means one “who stands in the middle.” A mediator is one who inserts himself between two parties, not as a busybody, but for the purpose of drawing alienated parties into agreement.

Jesus is the great middle man, the one who pulls down the walls of partition, mainly, the one that separates God and man. He does this in two ways: by saving man and by revealing God.

God desires all men to be saved (1 Tim. 2.4). Sin grieves Him. Sin offends Him. Sin separates us from Him (Isa. 59.2). But by paying the ransom (1 Tim. 2.6), Christ made reconciliation possible. His death satisfied God’s sense of justice regarding the injustice of our sin. With atonement/propitiation made, full fellowship is possible with heaven.

CHRIST MEDIATES BETWEEN MAN AND MAN

No better example of this can be found than among Christ’s apostles. Matthew was a bureaucrat, part of the establishment, the deep state. Simon was a zealot, which means he suffered from RDS: Roman derangement syndrome. Matthew was the prey, Simon the predator. But when Christ stepped in, peace/fellowship ensued, and the wolf dwelt with the lamb (Isa. 11.6).

CHRIST MEDIATES BETWEEN MAN AND HIS CONSCIENCE

Sin creates a civil war inside us. “For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed me . . . For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells, for to will is present with me, but how to perform what is good I do not find. For the good that I will to do, I do not do; but the evil I will not to do, that I practice” (Rom. 7.11,18, 19). A divided, guilty heart means misery and defeat in daily living. But Christ delivers us from the guilt that ceaselessly condemns us (1 Jn. 3.20) and brings us the peace that passes understanding (Phil. 4.7).

kenny