

**The Encouragement Group meets on Thursday's at 9 a.m. in the fellowship hall. Come serve with us as we reach into our community!**

**Sunday Classes 9:15 a.m.**  
**Sunday Worship 10:10 a.m.**  
**Wed. Services 6:00 p.m.**



**Melbourne  
Church of Christ**  
**A Place to Belong**

### **Elders**

Danny Brightwell  
291-3439

Shelby Qualls  
291-7424

### **Deacons**

David Brightwell    Alan Love  
307-5714                243-4608

Joe Cooper  
291-4653

### **Minister**

Ryan Lloyd  
217-1109  
Melbourne CoC  
Box 267  
Melbourne, AR 72556

## *Family News*

- We are updating our sign digitally. If you would like to contribute to this expense, please contact Shelby or Danny.
- Hadleigh Grigg will have kidney surgery on February 27. Please keep her, Harper, Jamie, and Dalton in your prayers.
- Memorial contributions for Donnie Vest & Ann Lawrence: Bonnie Wyatt, Joyce Clark, Danny & Betty Brightwell, Shelby & Ramona Qualls.
- Nikki Smith Sartin, Michelle's daughter, is battling a gangrene infection. Please keep her and her family in your prayers as she heals.
- Sharon Watson is scheduled for knee surgery on March 26. Please keep her in your prayers for a successful surgery and speedy recovery.
- Heather Melton, Roger and Trena's daughter, is having further heart problems. Please keep her and her family in your prayers.
- We need 100 boxes of Kleenex to provide one box to each person in the Pioneer Nursing Home. See Betty or Ramona for further details.
- Sermons and bulletins available at [Melbournechurchofchrist.com](http://Melbournechurchofchrist.com)

# Melbourne Church of Christ

*"A family of believers seeking to grow spiritually while sharing Jesus and serving others."*

## **A Moral Problem: The Slaughter of the Canaanites**

by Norman Geisler

**Israel was commanded by God to completely exterminate the Canaanite inhabitants of the land including men, women, and children. This has been called a primitive and barbaric act of murder perpetrated on innocent lives. Several factors must be kept in mind in viewing this situation:**

- (1) There is a difference between murder and justifiable killing. Murder involves intentional and malicious hatred which leads to life-taking. On the other hand, the Bible speaks of permissible life-taking in capital punishment (Gen. 9:6), in self-defense (Exod. 22:2), and in a justifiable war (Gen. 14).**
- (2) The Canaanites were by no means innocent. They were a people cursed of God from their very beginning (Gen. 9:25). They were a vile people who practiced the basest forms of immorality. God described their sin vividly in these words, "I punished its iniquity, and the land vomited out its inhabitants" (Lev. 18:25).**
- (3) Further, the innocent people of the land were not slaughtered. The story of Sodom and Gomorrah clearly demonstrates that God would save a whole city for ten righteous people (Gen. 18:22f.). In that incident, when God could not find ten righteous people, He took the four or five righteous ones out of the place so as not to destroy them with the wicked (Gen. 19:15).**

**On another occasion God saved some thirty-two thousand people who were morally pure (Num. 31:35). Another notable example is Rahab, whom God saved because she believed (cf. Heb. 11:31).**

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**OPENING PRAYER** Chipper Lamb

**CLOSING PRAYER** Alan Love



**FEBRUARY**

**SHELBY QUALLS  
CHIP MASTER**

**BRENT QUALLS  
ROBERT LANGSTON**

**MARCH**

**ANTHONY WESTON  
SANDERS LEE WYATT**

**DALTON GRIGG  
BRENT QUALLS**

**Continued...**

**(4) God waited patiently for hundreds of years, giving the wicked inhabitants of Canaan time to repent (cf. 2 Peter 3:9) before He finally decided to destroy them (Gen. 15:16).**

**When their iniquity was "full," divine judgment fell. God's judgment was akin to surgery for cancer or amputation of a leg as the only way to save the rest of a sick body. Just as cancer or gangrene contaminates the physical body, those elements in a society—if their evil is left to fester—will completely contaminate the rest of society.**

**(5) Finally, the battle confronting Israel was not simply a religious war; it was a theocratic war. Israel was directly ruled by God and the extermination was God's direct command (cf. Exod. 23:27-30; Deut. 7:3-6; Josh. 8:24-26).**

**No other nation either before or after Israel has been a theocracy. Thus, those commands were unique. Israel as a theocracy was an instrument of judgment in the hands of God.**

**Prayer List**

**Military:** Derek Love **Officers:** Steve & Sherry Davidson, Jamie Irvin, Tyler Webb, Caeden Wolfe, Blake Johnson **Nursing Home:** Al Gillihan, Debbie Hoskinds, Imodean Webb, Troy Gaston, Sue Campbell, Barbara Watson, Bill Wiseman

Ted Kidd	Wilma Cooper	Peggy Hall	Dorothy Teague
Bill Roland	Treva Voyles	Hayden Phillips	Debbie Crow
Cornelia Summers	Christie Haney	Joanna Smith	Wayne Crosby
Brooke Partin	Gary Brown	Sanyia Austin	Charlotte Cooper
John Young	Regenia Gillihan	Robby Qualls	Regina Master
Shawna Teegarden	Jeanette Crosby Youngblood		John Ward
Boyde Martin	Gage Barns		

**February Birthdays**

Frank Fowler 1 <sup>st</sup>	Aaron Young 8 <sup>th</sup>	Cindy Phillips 11 <sup>th</sup>
Brighton Beebe 11 <sup>th</sup>	Dewey Brightwell 13 <sup>th</sup>	Davey Wyatt 14 <sup>th</sup>
Harris Wyatt 14 <sup>th</sup>	Kori Minick 18 <sup>th</sup>	David Lawrence 19 <sup>th</sup>
Brandy Treat 21 <sup>st</sup>	Kaleb Moser 25 <sup>th</sup>	Jeralene Love 25 <sup>th</sup>
Chipper Lamb 27 <sup>th</sup>		

**February Anniversaries**

Acy & Iris Beebe 13<sup>th</sup>  
Ted & Sheilla Wammack 14<sup>th</sup>

**Dates to Remember**

Ladies meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of every month @ 6 p.m. bring a finger food.  
Men meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month for breakfast @ 8 a.m.  
Family game night every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday from 5-7 p.m.  
Potluck every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after services, please bring a dish.

**Ezekiel 33:9-11, "If you warn a wicked man to turn from his way and he does not turn from his way, he will die in his sin, but you have delivered your life. Say to the house of Israel, "Surely our sins are upon us, and we are rotting away in them; how then can we survive? 'As I live!' declares the Lord God, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways!'"**