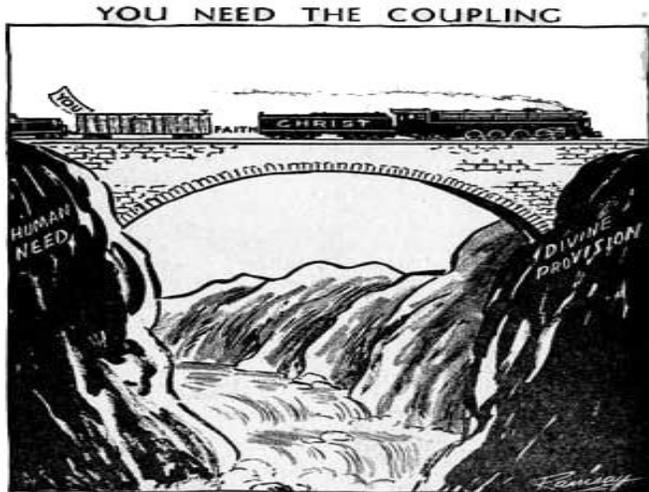


# Those Who Serve

	March 20	March 27
Opening Prayer	John Story	Olan Bacon
Song Leader	Joe Burnsed	Kwesi Garvin
Communion	Joe Burnsed	Kwesi Garvin
Assist	Mike Powell	Joe Burnsed
Assist	Charles Hall	Joe Holloway
Dismiss Services	Olan Bacon	Joe Burnsed



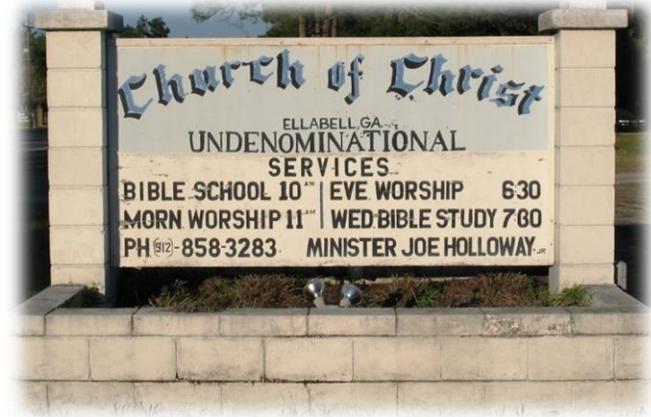
If you enjoyed reading our bulletin, please pass or forward it to others interested in the Cause of Christ

<http://ellabellcofchome.webs.com/>

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Ellabell Church of Christ  
 PO Box 72  
 Ellabell, GA 31308

# ELLABELL CHURCH OF CHRIST



Speaking Where The Bible Speaks; Silent Where The Bible Is Silent

March 20, 2011

## CAN YOU LIVE A COMFORTABLE AND HAPPY LIFE WITHOUT CHRIST?

Toby Miller

An atheistic organization has rented space on four billboards on the 465 loop around Indianapolis, Indiana advertising, "You can live a comfortable and happy life without God." This "billboard scheme of Satan" is being duplicated in several major cities in America, especially throughout the Bible belt.

It never ceases to amaze me **\*WHY\*** such people feel the need to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars to try to turn people against Someone they claim doesn't even exist! What is it that keeps pushing them to try and disprove the existence of God? If it is as they claim, that God does not exist,

- Why do they care that I believe in God?
- Why are they continually trying to find fault with Christians and the Christian way of life?
- Who is motivating them to try to turn me against God?
- Why are they so "bent" on convincing me that I should be a —**GODLINESS** man who marries a —**GODLINESS** woman and raises —**GODLINESS** children to live a —**GODLINESS** life?



Atheist Billboard in Chicago

Furthermore, the cold, hard facts are, they don't really care whether or not I live a comfortable and happy life. The only thing they care about is that I live my life without God, and that will

never happen.

The truth is, the very thing they are trying to disprove, is the thing that motivates them, and that is the Bible. As Brother Foy Wallace Jr. says, *"It won't let them alone, it won't let them rest, it haunts them at every turn."* This makes me wonder, are they really trying to convince me, or are they really trying to convince themselves?

Can one live a comfortable and happy life without God? Certainly! Most of us know people who don't give God a second thought, and yet they appear, on the surface, to be living comfortable and happy lives. On the other side of that coin, we know people who are striving to live a godly life, and are struggling to do so. Even Jeremiah asked God the question, *"Why does the way of the wicked prosper?"* (Jeremiah 12:1 NKJV). Jesus paints the picture of



Atheist Billboard in Fort Lauderdale

discipleship as being a life that includes suffering and self denial (Luke 9:23); a life that will include insults and being spoken of in an evil way (Matthew 5:11-12). On one occasion Jesus said, *"If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you"* (John 15:20).

It is not the goal of the Christian to live a

"comfortable and happy life;" it is our goal to live a **\*PEACEFUL\*** life. The only way this is possible is to live with the **PRINCE OF PEACE**, who is Jesus Christ our Lord (cf. Isaiah 9:6). The reward for those who do so will not be found in this life; it is *"reserved in Heaven for those who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time"* (1 Peter 1:4-5).

This life offers us many things to make us temporarily comfortable and happy — but this life is passing away. What then? If we depend on this life to give us comfortableness and happiness, what happens when this life passes away? Since this life is only for a few days and eternity is forever, shouldn't we be focusing on our eternal "comfort and happiness?" Will you believe godless men who advertise on billboards, or will you believe Jesus Christ who came to us from Heaven and said, *"Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness."*? (Matthew 6:33).

Via *The Lincoln Light*, Lincoln Church of Christ, Lincoln, MO

### Email from Nigeria (rec'd March 17, 2011)

Hello brother Holloway,

Greetings from Nigeria. Hope you are doing fine. I returned last night to Nigeria after 16 days out there in Uganda. It was an interesting experience, especially working with those who want to serve God. I preached in the North, South, West and East. Every day we were on the road moving from one place to another. Unfortunately, we could not cover up all the places that needed us to come. Up in the extreme north was a brother staying alone. He needed us to come in and help in some work of evangelism. Days ran out for to get there. Very close to our stay there in a city called Masindi, I was in the rest room when the building started rattling about 6:30 in the morning. That was my first experience of earth quake. We thank God that it did not destroy the building. Again flying from Uganda to Addis Ababa, we had a bad weather, which made landing fearful for us. However, we give God the glory. We came back safely. I will email you the details and some of pictures. Right now, though I had to come to school, I am sleeping while working. I lost full night. I hope I will be OK soon. Have a great day.

Grace and Peace,

Tom

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Save** –Labels, Food Pantry Items, Change Jar, Cans, Medicine Bottles, & OTC Medicines  
**Social** –next week, the 27<sup>th</sup>  
**Meetings**-also next week, the 27th  
**Calendar for March** – on back pew