

# Oaks-West church of Christ

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. • Bible Study: Following 1<sup>st</sup> Service

Wednesday Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.

Services are live-streamed to our website: [oakswestchurchofchrist.com](http://oakswestchurchofchrist.com)

MARCH 2, 2025

## The Devil, Our Adversary

by Rickie Jenkins

The devil is a formidable adversary. We must be aware. We must be impressed with his power.

The devil is subtle. His work is done mostly covertly. He tempts and lures through means that are disguised with all kinds of attractive wrappings. He is seldom ever obvious and bears little resemblance to the mountebank who almost coerces his audience into buying the product. He gently prods the subject toward self-justifying actions enticing him toward sin. His feline movements are calculated and quietly dangerous (1Pet. 5:8); his appetite ravenous. His powers of disguise are subtle and pervading (2Cor. 11:14), and he is a non-tiring foe.

The devil works by telling lies (Jn. 8:44). Even in the paradise garden he told Eve a lie. "Thou shalt not surely die," he said. Today his

methods have not changed; he still tells lies, mostly the ones folks want to hear.

For instance, he tells society that human opinions can dictate morality. Oh, he doesn't say it that way; he dresses it up some. He says, "Everybody is doing it." When he gets folks to agree to that philosophy, he opens the door to all manner of evil, based on the fact that whatever the majority does is moral. Immodest apparel, pornography, filthy language, social drinking and literally dozens of other sins are tolerated based on this fact. Divorce no longer wears any social stigma. It has become all too common. Sexual suggestiveness is commonplace in all forms of entertainment. Free sex among unmarrieds and infidelity among marrieds is epidemic. It is even approved by the masses.

### Welcome!

When you visit our assemblies, you will be received friendly, kindly and courteously. We believe this to be the natural attitude of those who truly love God and mankind. Though you may at first be among strangers, we hope that you will come to know us well and count us as your friends. We offer Bible studies as well as correspondence courses for those interested in learning more about what God expects of us.

### Important Dates

**Ladies' Class** - March 11

**Our Next Gospel Meeting** with David Watson is scheduled for May 4-7

**If you know of upcoming events, please inform Darrell so they can be included here.**

The devil has an appealing presentation for all his temptations. With Madison Avenue tactics, he shows his wares and advertises his products. His displays are immaculate designs which place the object of his ploys at center stage, making him the star of the show. He dresses the stage before ever calling out the star. When he does call him, there is already established a sense of belonging; it is as if this is the way it should be; the glitter of the stage, the thrill of playing the part, and at the end, the most exhilarating of all human experiences, the approving applause of the audience. By the time the first show is concluded the star is so hooked that he will return again and again to play the part, oblivious to the lack of substance in what he is doing.

And how appealing it is to have someone say, "There's still time, don't hurry." Satan very effectively and surreptitiously steals away our sense of urgency. "There is ample time to change after you have played around awhile," he will say. "Sow your wild oats," he will say. Gradually he will erode away our zeal, retard our energy and cause us to be indifferent to the things that matter.

The devil's strategy is simple, but effective. Many times, he does not set out to tempt to do evil, he merely seeks to cause us to do no good at all. Religion does not rest only in negative holiness, but in doing right things as well. "Relax," he says, "You've done nothing wrong." With such an assurance he enervates our determination to serve and causes us to stumble over our own self-righteousness.

### Prayer Requests

**Jack Wilson** is still struggling with pain and limited mobility.

**Jimmy Stinnett** is struggling from his leukemia and is under treatment.

**Dinah Williams** is having some issues with her legs from diabetes.

**Dorthy Steadman** finished her radiation treatment.

**Shut-ins: Don and Alene Simmons, Dinah Williams, Marcia Neuhaus, Shirley Perkins**

If you know of someone that needs to be on this list, please tell Darrell (email preferred) and provide updates so names stay on the list as long as needed.

The Oaks West church of Christ is a group of individual Christians who have been added to the Lord's body through baptism (Acts 2:38, 47; Gal 3:26, 27), and have joined themselves together (Acts 2:42ff) in an effort to do the Lord's will.

We are not a part of any larger organization - we do not follow any man-made creeds and we do not answer to anyone other than the Lord.

Our standard of faith and practice is the Word of God. We believe in the God of revelation (Eph 3:1-7; 2 Tim 3:16-17) and follow his instructions in an effort to have an ongoing relationship with him (1 John 4:7-11; 5:3).

Our times of study and worship are open to all, and our members are happy to meet with interested individuals or families for study.

### Evangelist

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### Elders

George Gresham  
Darrell Trammel

### Deacons

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### Contact Us

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