

## The Word Is “Cold”

*by John Isaac Edwards*

Forecast models are showing the potential for significant snowfall accumulation across central Indiana today, followed by an Arctic blast, dropping temperatures to levels not seen in 20 years. Bitter cold air is expected to spread into our region causing wind chills as low as 30 to 40 below zero. On the north side and the south side, that’s cold! It’s a good time to call attention to what the Bible says about “cold.”

**While the Earth Remains, Cold Will Not Cease.** Following the flood, Noah built an altar and offered a sacrifice to the Lord. The Lord saw the offering and promised that He would never again smite every living thing as He had done in the flood. “While the earth remaineth, seedtime and

harvest, and cold and heat, and summer and winter, and day and night shall not cease” (Genesis 8:22). This earth will not always remain (Matthew 24:35; 2 Peter 3:10), but as long as it lasts times and seasons will continue. This winter season and time of cold is but a reminder that God’s word is sure.

**The Sluggard Will Not Plow By Reason of the Cold.** The wise man said, “The sluggard will not plow by reason of the cold; therefore shall he beg in harvest, and have nothing” (Proverbs 20:4). The sluggard is a layabout, do-nothing. It’s not that he can not, but that he *will not* plow. A fellow that is too lazy to work will find an excuse not to. Such a one will find himself in want. He would do well to consider

the ways of the ant (Proverbs 6:6-11).

**A Cup of Cold Water.** When the Lord sent out His twelve disciples on the Limited Commission, to preach to the lost sheep of the house of Israel, He taught concerning welcoming faithful messengers. Receiving the truth includes receiving the messengers of truth. Even the smallest of gestures to the most insignificant are noted and valued by the Lord. “And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward” (Matthew 10:42). And so we sing, “There is room in the kingdom of God, my brother, for the small things that you can do.”

### **Love of Many Shall Wax Cold.**

Concerning the destruction of Jerusalem the Lord said, "And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold" (Matthew 24:12). Not the love of all, but the love of *many*. "But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13). May we persevere and not let our love quit burning. The Lord said, "...be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

**Barbarous People Received Those Shipwrecked Because of the Cold.** Acts 27 records the perilous sea voyage of Paul. Chapter 28 finds them ship-

wrecked on the island of Melita. Verse 2 records, "And the barbarous people shewed us no little kindness: for they kindled a fire, and received us every one, because of the present rain, and because of the cold." We are taught, "And be ye kind one to another..." (Ephesians 4:32) and "Be not forgetful to entertain strangers..." (Hebrews 13:2).

### **Paul Was in Cold.**

Among the things Paul suffered for the Lord, he was "...in cold and nakedness" (2 Corinthians 11:27). Paul wrote Timothy, "For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know

whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day" (2 Timothy 1:12).

### **The Lord Said, "I Would Thou Wert Cold or Hot."**

The message to the church of the Laodiceans included this statement, "I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:15-16). The Lord will not tolerate us being lukewarm!

Some good lessons can be learned from the word "cold."

**The Terre Haute **SPEAKER**** is published weekly by the church of Christ at Terre Haute, Indiana.

#### **Assembling At:**

4017 E Margaret DR  
Terre Haute, IN 47803  
[Exit 11 (I-70) W on HWY 46,  
West on Margaret DR 1 mile]

#### **Assembling Times:**

Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.  
Wednesday @ 7:00 p.m.

***Come be with us!***



***We Speak Where the Bible Speaks.***

***We Are Silent Where the Bible Is Silent.***

***We Do Bible Things in Bible Ways.***

**[www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com](http://www.churchofchristatterrehaute.com)**