

Times of Worship

Sunday

10:00 a.m. (Bible Study) Classes Available

10:45 a.m. (Worship)

6:00 p.m. (Worship)

Wednesday

7:00 p.m. (Bible Study) Classes Available

3rd Tuesday of the Month

7:00 p.m. (Ladies Bible Study)

Contact: Daniel Sanders 330-202-7652

Email: danielpreaches@yahoo.com

Website: www.churchofchristwooster.org

**Burbank Road Church of Christ
1847 Burbank Road
P.O. Box #1727
Wooster, Ohio 44691**

Burbank Road Church of Christ



The Lamplight

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Too Big to Fail?

During the past year the term **Too Big To Fail** has been [used](#) to describe auto companies, financial institutions, [insurance companies](#), brokerage firms, and other entities in our country. The term was used to justify our government bailing out those too big to fail. In reality, the very fact they had to be bailed out meant they were not too big to fail. The very bail out was proof that they had indeed failed. Therefore, too big to fail, really meant that our government was not going to allow them to fail.

I remember studying about the Titanic. It was the biggest ocean liner of its day. We went to the Titanic Exhibit in Memphis . The Titanic was the most luxurious ship of its time. Supposedly, a woman boarding the boat asked the question if the ship was un-sinkable. A deck hand replied, "Yes, lady. God himself could not sink this boat." (<http://www.snopes.com/history/titanic/unsinkable.asp>) On April 15, 19 12 the unsinkable ship hit a piece of ice in the Atlantic Ocean . Roughly two hours 40 minutes later she was at the bottom of the Ocean. The Titanic was not **Too Big to Fail!**

Reading through the Bible we find a lot of people, nations, and institutions were not too big to fail.

Adam and Eve were created by God, Genesis 1.26-27. They were made in His very image and placed in the Garden of Eden. They were to tend to the Garden and not eat of the tree of knowledge. One might think that since they were the only two people on the face of the earth and their relationship with God would mean that they could not fail. But we know better. Given the freedom of choice, they chose to fail. By eating of the forbidden fruit, they sinned and were separated from God, Genesis 3. Subsequently Adam was told he would have to work harder for his food and he would return back to the dust of the ground, Genesis 3.17-19. Eve was told she would be in subjection to her husband and experience pain in giving birth to children, Genesis 3.16. They were then cast out of the Garden and from the tree [of life](#), Genesis 3.23-24. Adam and Eve were not too big to fail.

Israel was God's special people as He promised Abraham a nation that would come from his seed. Reading through Genesis we see God through His providence protecting Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Four hundred years after promising Abraham the land of Canaan we read of Israel coming out of Egypt , Exodus 13ff. At Mount Sinai , the Law of Moses was given and ratified by the blood of bulls and goats, Exodus 24.4-8. A special priesthood was established from Aaron and his sons. One might think that surely this nation would be too big to fail. Yet, as one reads through the Old Testament we read of one failure after another. They failed to take the land of Canaan the first time God told them to do so, Numbers 13-14. Before his death, Moses warned the generation that would take the land of Canaan of what would happen if they were not faithful to God's Law, Deuteronomy 28ff. We know they did fail to reject idolatry, eventually the priest taught falsely, and their worship displeased

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOSE THAT ARE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYERS

**Justina Sanders
Amber Marshall
Lester Lallathin
Vivian Lallathin (Eye Problems)
Esther Adams
Wilbur Bland Multiple Health Issues
Rhonda Hess
Shannon (Judy's Step Granddaughter) and Children
Amber Marshall and her uncle
Joan Carroll and Family
Marlene McCullough
Vera Snow
Golda Cline
Bob Buckland
Bill Weigle
Justina Sanders Grandmother
Daniel Sanders Grandfather**

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marlene McCullough is continuing to improve

Justina's Grandmother has a fractured spine and is rehabbing

Remember our expecting mother's Amber and Justina

Bob Buckland has been having problems and is needing our prayers

Wilbur has been moved and information is on back bulletin board

CD's available upon request

If you have someone who may like to receive a bulletin please write down information and give it to Daniel

ORDER OF SERVICES

MORNING SERVICES

Announcements: Jim Cline

Song Leader: Josh Marshall

Opening Prayer: Daniel Sanders

Heading Lord's Table: Eldred Hess

Speaker: Daniel Sanders

Closing Prayer: Harold Reynolds

EVENING SERVICES

Song Leader: Josh Marshall

Opening Prayer: Jason Workman

Lord's Table: Eldred Hess

Speaker: Daniel Sanders

Closing Prayer: Josh Marshall

WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

Announcements: Jim Cline

Song Leader: Daniel Sanders

Opening Prayer: Jason Workman

Invitation: Daniel Sanders

Closing Prayer: Josh Marshall

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO COME TO SERVICES AND YOU
HAVE SOMETHING TO DO PLEASE LET SOMEONE KNOW!**

God. The Northern Ten tribes were conquered by Assyria and they were taken from the land. The Southern Two tribes were defeated by Babylon as Jerusalem was destroyed. Israel learned an important lesson; **They were not too big or important to fail.**

We need to learn that we also are not too big to fail. One problem of this mindset is **pride**. The Bible condemns pride every time the word is used. Consider the following passages from Proverbs. Prov 8:13 The fear of the LORD is to hate evil; Pride and arrogance and the evil way And the perverse mouth I hate. Prov 11:2 When pride comes, then comes shame; But with the humble is wisdom. Prov 13:10 By pride comes nothing but strife, But with the well-advised is wisdom. Prov 14:3 In the mouth of a fool is a rod of pride, But the lips of the wise will preserve them. Prov 16:18 Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall. Prov 29:23 A man's pride will bring him low, But the humble in spirit will retain honor. While the word pride is not used it is implied in 1 Corinthians 10.12 Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fail. No one is so important or so big that they cannot fail.

No nation is too big or important to fail. Frankly, I am afraid many Americans think this nation cannot be conquered or be destroyed. Throughout the Bible we read of nations being destroyed. The Philistines were eventually wiped off the face of the earth. Egypt was conquered by Assyria, Assyria was defeated by Babylon, Babylon was replaced by the Medo-Persian Empire, which was followed by the Greek Empire, and of course they were supplanted by the Roman Empire. Every empire of man has been replaced by another. Most of the time we can see the reason for their demise being immoral conduct and rejection of God's word leading to their internal problems. The Bible warns us of this lesson. Prov 14:34 "Righteousness exalts a nation, But sin is a reproach to any people."

On the other hand, we can take consolation that no person is too little to succeed. Each person can do the will of God. On the Day of Pentecost, the Jews were told that they had killed the Son of God, but they could still go to heaven. Acts 2:21 "And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved." It does not matter if one is man or woman, free or slave, American or Russian, rich or poor, for everyone can be baptized in to Christ, Galatians 3.27-29. Jesus died for everyone, John 3.16. Therefore, the only person that cannot be saved is the one that will not obey Him, Hebrews 5.8-9. Let us not be hindered from the **too big to fail** mentality and let us humbly serve God. James 4:6 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." 7 Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up."

– Dennis Tucker

Sunday Morning Sermon Note Taking
Strong in Faith Like...Barnabas

Sunday Evening Sermon Note Taking
Separated by Works of Flesh