

2 Corinthians 11:13-15)? Why else would he embed false teachers in elderships (see Acts 20:29, 30) and put in pulpits men who have turned away from truth (2 Timothy 4:3-4)?

Back to Iwo Jima, the good news is that through incredible bravery and loyalty to each other, these young Americans prevailed. The battle and war were won.

Christians, like you and me, can also prevail. We have been forewarned; God Himself has re-conned the battlefield. We know that religion is not always going to be what it seems. We know that our eyes and emotions can be deceived and can cause us to be led into a state of complacency to error. However, we also know that ears disciplined by the word of God and hearts that are inclined toward truth can always spot the enemy. We know that false teachers will eventually show their nature by the fruits they bear (see Matthew 7:16-20). We know that God has armed us to win, if we will only choose to see the danger and engage our opponent!

-Floyd



- 3 Youth devo at building
- 7 AWTG at Seminole
- 8 Monday Night for the Master
- 9 Ladies Bible Class resumes 10:00 a.m.
- 12-14 Winter Quest
- 14 Fellowship Groups AWTG at Kingston
- 16 Ladies Bible Class
- 21 Elders/ Deacons Meeting
- 22 Monday Night for the Master Yellow House
- 23 Ladies Class 10:00 a.m.
- 24 JD's Class Youth Room
- 29-2 Meals on Wheels
- 30 Ladies Class 10:00 a.m.

**Stringtown
Preaching Assignment:
January 21st**

**January
Contribution Counters:**
Tommy Vass, Wayne King,
Coleman Pennington, Russell
Neill

Sunday AM	January 21st	January 28th
Opening Prayer	Jim Begin	W.B. Borders
Scripture Reading	Alvin Jamar	Bobby Johns
Prayer - Bread	Butch Platt	Daryl Pults
North 2	James Byers	Darrell Geiger
North 3	John Bynum	Terry Fulton
North 4	Brett Huntsman	Tad McGalliard
Prayer - Fruit	Ben Finley	David Hendricks
South 2	Weldon Cravey	Kurt Gilliam
South 3	Caleb Estes	Dylan Hendricks
South 4	Justin Lane	Joel Foster
Alternate 1	Keith Nail	Gene Albright
Alternate 2	Justin Nail	Bradley Butler
Balcony 1	Steve McWilliams	Darrell Nemecek
Balcony 2	Tommy Myers	Byron Rowsey
Closing Prayer	Kelley Benson	David Dirrim
Song Leader	C.J. Vires	Richard Howard
Bus Driver	Alan Simpson	Kyle Wilson
Attendance Count	Kurt Gilliam	Greg Hatton
Usher - North	Joe Long	Justice O'Neal
Usher - Center	Matthew Lowe	Eli Paul
Usher - South	Jacob Neill	Scottie Paul
Nursing Home	Gene Albright	John Bynum
Nursing Home	Bill Barrett	Greg Chilcoat
Nursery Attend	Sheri Hayes	Hazel Jamar
Sunday Night	January 21st	January 28th
Scripture Reading	Reese Howard	Garett Hatton
Bread	Greg Hatton	Daniel Jonka
Fruit	Garett Hatton	John Lee
Contribution	Roy Long	Reese Howard
Opening Prayer	James Byers	John Bynum
Closing Prayer	Jared Hudson	Bradley Butler
Song Leader	Reese Howard	Scott Estes
Bus Driver	Kelley Benson	Eugene Cannon
Wednesday	January 24th	January 31st
Bus Driver	Jade Benson	Eugene Cannon
Announcements	Brent Lowe	John Lee
Song Leader	Dylan Hendricks	David Dirrim
Invitation	David Hendricks	Dylan Hendricks
Closing Prayer	Gene Albright	Bradley Butler

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Sunday on:

KTEN Channel 10, 6:30 a.m.
KSBI, Channel 52 (Cable One Channel 21)
Sunday 7:30 a.m.

Gospel of Christ

KSBI, Channel 52 (Cable One Channel 21)
Sunday 8:30 a.m.

The Southwesterner



Sunday

Bible Classes: 9 a.m.
Morning Assembly: 10 a.m.
Evening Assembly: 5 p.m.

Tuesday

Ladies Bible Class: 10 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Classes: 7 p.m.

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Jack Frye 332-8744
Raymond Johnson 310-0317

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Dusty Dennis 439-0808
Greg Hatton 320-5571
David Hendricks 332-2453
Richard Howard 436-4081
John Lee 436-1579
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Russell Neill 332-1743
Butch Platt 332-0122
Ken Roper 436-6677
Alan Simpson 436-0405
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Paula Hatton
Denise Platt

Missions

Ron Cyphers Haiti
Jonathan Crowell
Adam Nusbaum
Tom Wacaster
Aaron Alsbrook
Gospel of Christ
Search
Pettijohn Springs Christian Camp

Enemy Within

As the U.S. Marines approached their landing on the beaches of Iwo Jima in February 1945, some were optimistic that it would not be much of a battle at all. For days, the island had been slammed with one of the most awesome naval and air bombardments in the history of warfare. Reasonably, only a few Japanese soldiers would be left alive. The belief of a brief battle was even supported by aerial reconnaissance that showed little enemy activity.

Upon landing, as the Marines first set foot on the soft volcanic ash, it appeared that the predictors of an easy battle were correct. Initial resistance was light; not anything like the slaughtering crossfire that some remembered at Tarawa that cut down hundreds before their feet ever touched the island.

As wave after wave of landing craft disgorged their soldiers and weaponry, the advance became bogged down in the sugar-like texture of the island's black sand. Tanks became stuck and men could hardly move as they sank down past their ankles.

It was when a traffic jam bottled up these mostly young men on the beach that Iwo Jima, especially, Mount Suribachi, came alive. Machine guns crisscrossed the beach while rockets, anti-tank shells and mortars rained down. The Marines were caught with no place to hide. It was impossible to even dig a hole as a shovel full of black sand would slide in where one was thrown out.

What the commanders and others in charge of the invasion did not understand, until too late, was that the enemy was not "on" the island, but "in" the island. There were blockhouses and pillboxes everywhere. Underground, the Japanese had built a literal city with interlocking tunnels—sixteen miles of them—that could hide and move soldiers throughout the battlefield. They were buried so deep within that many Marines fought for days without ever seeing the enemy.

It was finally accepted that the enemy was not "on," but "in" Iwo Jima.

The most dangerous enemy anywhere, especially the spiritual kind, is the one unrecognized and lurking inside. This is why Jesus said, "Beware of the false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves" (Matthew 7:15). Why would a wolf clothe himself as a sheep, but to get inside the flock, close to his prey? There is no better camouflage than for an enemy to appear like a friend.

The devil knows this well. Why else would he disguise himself as "an angel of light" and make his deceitful workers seem as apostles of Christ (see

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*Equipping the Saints for the work of service, to the building up of the
Body of Christ. Eph. 4:12*

