

January 15, 2023

Announcements
Jarvene Shackelford

Song Leader
John Hopper

Scripture Reading
Logan Yancey

Opening Prayer
Randell Koon (A.M.)
Tim McMillin (P.M.)

Closing Prayer
Michiel Criswell (A.M.)
Wayne Vandygriff (P.M.)

Lord's Table
Gene Yancey

Count and Usher
Dale & Jimmy Vandygriff

Wednesday Night Song Leader
Brock Lindley (1/18/23)

OUR RECORD

January 8, 2023

Sunday Bible Study: 93
Sunday Morning Worship: 83
Sunday Evening Worship 85
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 88

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:
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chapmanchurch.com

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?

1. **Hear** the Gospel (Romans 10:13-17).
2. **Believe** the Gospel (Acts 15:7; Mark 16:15, 16).
3. **Repent** of Sins (Acts 3:19).
4. **Confess** Faith in Christ (Acts 8:37).
5. **Be Baptized** for Remission of Sins (Acts 2:38).
6. **Be Faithful** (Revelation 2:10).



CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST
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THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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Loveless, Chris Moore, Kevin Shackelford,
Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood
PREACHER: Mark Lindley

ONE MORE YEAR

Mark Lindley

Those who read this article have lived another year and have now entered the year 2023. The beginning of a new year presents a good opportunity to examine one's life and to make changes which will improve one's life. Whatever successes or failures one might have experienced in 2022 are now gone. It is now time to move forward and to begin the New Year with optimism and expectations of a happy new year.

But what if one knew this was his last year? What if one knew that at the end of 2023 he would die and be judged? Certainly, knowing death would come soon would give one a new perspective and would, perhaps, change one's priorities.

In giving the "Parable of Barren Fig Tree," Jesus told of a certain man who planted a fig tree in his vineyard (Luke 13:6 -9). After three years, the tree had produced no fruit. The man decided that because the tree was barren, it should be cut down. However, the vineyard keeper said to the man: "Lord, let it alone this year also, till I shall dig about it, and dung it: And if it bear fruit, well: and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down" (verses 8-9). In effect, the keeper of the vineyard said, "Let's give it one more year. Then, if it does not produce fruit, I will cut it down." Within this parable, the barren fig tree represents the unrepentant nation of Israel. The Lord had blessed the people of Israel, but they rejected Jesus (John 1:11). Therefore, the nation of Israel would be "cut down," judged and punished by the Lord.

Although the immediate application was to Israel, each one should apply the parable to oneself. What if each one had "one" more year to repent and to produce spiritual fruit? What if we had just one more year to obey the gospel? To attend worship services with our families? To give up sinful habits and pursue holiness? To show love and respect to others? To share the gospel with others? To get serious about studying God's Word, the Bible? In short, what if we had only one more year to produce fruit? One thing is certain: the Lord has blessed all who live in America with opportunities to hear and to obey the gospel. We enjoy the freedom to worship God openly and to live as Christians. The Lord expects us to seize these opportunities and to produce fruit. "Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples" (John 15:8). Live as though 2023 were your last year. Determine that this will be the year you produce great spiritual fruit for the Lord! Happy New Year!

"AMERICA (STILL) NEEDS GOD"

By Dalton Key

You are no doubt all too aware of America's continuing moral decline. The evidence is both overwhelming and indisputable. You may be unaware, though, just how far and how swiftly we have slipped. William Bennett has recently released, through the auspices of the Heritage Foundation, "The Index of Leading Cultural Indicators" - a statistical portrait of the nation's behavioral trends since 1960. His findings are alarming.

According to Bennett's study, the population has increased 41% while violent crime has jumped 560%. Divorces have quadrupled. The teenage suicide rate has risen 200%. Illegitimate births have increased 400%. Today 30% of all births and 68% of black births are illegitimate.

What has gone wrong?

Consider these questions carefully. During the past thirty-four years, have we as a nation drawn closer to God or have we slipped farther away from God? Have we placed a greater emphasis upon the Bible or have we neglected the Bible? Have religion and spiritual matters generally been advanced or have they been pushed aside in favor of secular concerns? Are our families attending worship services, praying, and reading the Bible more often or less often now than families did a generation ago?

The answers are painfully obvious.

We are reaping what we have sown. The Bible has been right all along: "Righteousness exalts a nation; but sin is a reproach to any people." (Proverbs 14:34.)

The solution to America's most pressing problems may be found within each of us, in a renewed and determined commitment to put God and His will first in our lives. As His people, we don't need more government. We surely don't need more selfish greed or self-promotional grandstanding. What we need is what we've always needed.

We need God.

What You Missed on Sunday Night and Wednesday Night Tim Wilkes, II

It is sad but true that a large percentage of the people who come to worship on Sunday morning do not come back on Sunday night or Wednesday night. Also, many wait until after Bible class is over Sunday morning before gathering together. We could talk about the sin of forsaking the assembling of the saints, but I want to focus on what individuals miss when they do not attend these meetings of the church. If you missed these services...

1. You missed the opportunity to sing praises to your Creator. Do you believe He is worthy of such praise? If so, you missed opportunities to show Him.
2. You missed the opportunity to offer up prayers to the One who hears and answers prayers.
3. You missed the opportunity to encourage brothers and sisters in Christ, and to be encouraged by the same.
4. You missed the opportunity to be nourished spiritually. God's Word was taught, which means spiritual nourishment was provided. It is only God's Word that is able to provide spiritual nourishment (I Peter 2:2). If you have not been growing spiritually, you are lacking spiritual nutrition. Stop skipping meals.

Let's be sure we don't miss out on any more of these opportunities.

Remember

Always remember to forget the things that make you sad. But never forget to remember the things that make you glad.

Always remember to forget the friends that prove untrue. But never forget to remember those that have stuck by you.

Always remember to forget the troubles that pass away. But never forget to remember the blessings that come each day.

PROGRAMS OF WORK

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To enroll: call (837-7012), write (250 CR 550, Ripley, MS 38663) or e-mail (chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Remember count your blessings, pray for our lost ones, the sick, the world and the broken-hearted.

SICK SUNDAY: Payden Criswell, Daxton & Idle Lee McVey, Kevin Shackelford

EXTENDED ILLNESS: Theo Smith, Joe Clark, Louise Pannell (Sharon's Mother), Malone Hurt, Gerohn Childs, Junior Derrick, Jane Morrison, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Thad Berryman

CANCER: Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman's Son-in-law), Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Trish Clark, Lennox Kennamore (Leukemia), Johnnie Carpenter, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Steve Barnes (Mickey & Gail Chandler's Son-in-law), Betty Faye Ledbury

SHUT-INS: *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer #204, Jimmy Berryman, Peggy Davis *Resthaven:* Johnnie Carpenter

Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube

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