



CHAPMAN CHURCH OF CHRIST  
250 COUNTY ROAD 550  
RIPLEY, MS 38663

May 2, 2021  
**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**  
Larry Wood

**Sunday Song Leader**  
John Hopper

**Wednesday Song Leader**  
J C Newby (05/05/21)

**Scripture Reading**  
Ricky Cissom

**Opening Prayer**  
J C Newby (AM)  
Gene Yancey (PM)

**Closing Prayer**  
Jarvene Shackelford (AM)  
Chase Chapman (PM)

**Count and Usher**  
Ricky Loveless, Brock Lindley

**Communion**  
Terry Chapman

*Pick Up Communion when entering*

**OUR RECORD**

**April 25, 2021**

Sunday Bible Study: 88  
Sunday Morning Worship: 108  
Sunday Evening Worship: 84  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 83  
Budget: \$3,500  
Contribution this week: NA

**Chapman Challenger**

Receive bulletin by e-mail  
notify us:  
[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net)  
Also can view on our website:  
[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by  
**Chapman Church of Christ**  
Ripley, Mississippi  
(662) 837-7012  
[chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

**ELDERS:** Terry Chapman, Brad McAlister,  
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade  
**DEACONS:** Bryan Davis, John Hopper,  
Rickey Loveless, Chris Moore, Kevin Shackelford,  
Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood  
**PREACHER:** Mark Lindley

**Where's Your Heart?**  
By R.W. McAlister

The Bible teaches that the heart is that part of us upon which the state of our souls depends. "Out of it are the issues of life" (Prov. 4:23). The heart is the man. It's the seat of all spiritual life, and health, and strength, and growth. It's the hinge pin in the condition of man's soul. If the heart is alive and obedient to God in all things, a person is a living Christian. If the heart is dead, the man is spiritually dead before God. The heart is the man! The Bible teaches that it's not just what a person says and professes, and where they go on Sunday, and how much money they put in the collection plate. The heart of man – his attitude – is also of great importance. Prov. 23:7: "As he thinketh in his heart, so is he."

For another thing, the Bible teaches that the heart is that part of us at which God looks closely. I Sam. 16:7: "Man looketh at the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." Prov. 21:2: "Every way of a man is right in his own eyes; but the Lord pondereth the hearts." Man is often content with the outward part of religion, with outward morality, outward correctness, outward use of courtesy, outward attendance at the Lord's house. But the eyes of the Lord God look much further. He regards our motives. He "weigheth the spirits" (Prov. 16:2). I Sam. 2:3 says of God, "By Him actions are weighed." He says Himself in Jer. 17:10, "I the Lord search the heart, I try the reins."

The Bible teaches that the heart is the first and foremost thing which God asks man to give Him. In Prov. 23:26, He says, "My son, give me thine heart." We may give God a bowed head and a solemn face, our bodily presence in His house, and a loud "Amen," but until we give God our heart, we give Him nothing at all. I'm not sure who gets credit for it, but I once read a quote concerning a young lady's heart that goes, "A girl's heart should be so lost in God that a guy should have to seek Him in order to find her." That's how it should be for all of us – God should have our heart's devotion. Dear Friend, does He have yours? Give it some thought.

## I Don't Believe in Organized Religion

By Bill Brandstatter

Some individuals have used the above phrase when I discuss Christianity and the church with them. I asked one person if he believed in unorganized religion. He stated, "That would be chaos." It was interesting that he had just told me prior to that about a church service he was thinking about attending. We should, however, want religion to be organized. Christianity is organized for a number of reasons.

Christianity is organized so we know what is going to happen. Christianity is based on order not chaos. The Bible tells us that God is not the author of confusion in His church (1 Cor. 14:33). Chaos is not what God wants. To a church that was out of order, Paul wrote, "Let all things be done decently and in order." (1 Cor. 14:40) God is organized. His message is organized. His people are organized.

Christianity is organized and we can find harmony. There is a unity of belief and teaching. Paul mentioned that he taught the same thing in every church (1 Cor. 4:17). There was a unity of teaching and doctrine. When a person went from one congregation to another in New Testament times, they saw a harmony in teaching and belief.

Christianity is organized and we find an organizer. God is the organizer of the religion of Christianity. God had a plan before the world began.

He made the plan known in the New Testament times. God had everything organized and ready to be revealed. When the time was right, He sent His Son (Gal. 4:4). When the time was right, God revealed his plan for the church. God had it planned, organized, and ready. It was a mystery that was hidden for ages and was revealed in New Testament times (Col. 1:24-26). God sent His son to die for us and to set up His church. I am thankful for this organization.

Christianity is organized, and the people are organized. God had a plan for the church before the beginning of the world (Eph. 3:10-11). The church was built on a foundation that was organized (Eph. 2:20). The church had an organized message, the gospel (Rom. 1:16). The teaching was organized. It was called "the apostles' doctrine" (Acts 2:42). The church had order in its structure. The early church did not have the preacher in charge. It was made up of elders as overseers (Acts 20:28). Elders were appointed based on certain qualifications (Titus 1:5-8; 1 Tim. 3:1-7). Deacons, also were part of the structure of the early church (1 Tim. 3:8-13). Preachers preached and were evangelists (2 Tim. 4:2, 5).

We should not only believe in Christianity as an organized religion, but we should want it to be that way. Don't use the above statement as a way out of your obligation to God. Believe and obey the One that loves you. He has an organized religion to help you in your walk with Him.

## God Is Judge

By Ed Wittlif

*"And the heavens declare His righteousness, for God Himself is judge" (Psalm 50:6 NASB).*

I have served on several juries (nothing big thankfully). Still, having to make a judgment based on evidence, body language, and even the skill of the prosecutor and defender is not easy. It is difficult since the defendant's real motive is unknown. It is a most serious process to decide if a person is guilty or not guilty.

God is called the righteous Judge in II Timothy 4:8. The psalmist tells us that God knows our thoughts; He knows what we are going to say before we say it, He knows where we go, all our actions are seen by Him, and even darkness cannot hide us from Him (Psalm 139).

When God passes judgment, it is perfect. He knows what was done, what was the attitude, and why. The wool cannot be pulled over His eyes, and persuasive speech will not fool Him.

The guilty one will be punished, and no innocent one will suffer unjustly. God's judgments are perfect. We are not left in the dark, for God has revealed the standards by which judgment is measured. The standards are in the Word and shown by Jesus as He dwelt among mankind.

The standards begin with believing in God, having a submissive obedient attitude, loving God totally, loving our neighbor with a self-sacrificing zeal that seeks their good, and bringing glory to God by our lives as we strive to follow His commandments.

### PROGRAMS OF WORK

Website: [chapmanchurch.com](http://chapmanchurch.com)

Articles • Sermons (Audio) • Chapman Challengers

#### The Bible Broadcast

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM • WKZU radio 104.9 FM

#### Southern Sentinel Article

Every other Wednesday

#### Correspondence Course

Study the Bible in your home, at your convenience, by enrolling in a free Bible correspondence course. To enroll: call (837-7012), write (250 CR 550, Ripley, MS 38663) or e-mail ([chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto:chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net))

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

•**SICK:** Treva Lewellen, Sammie Pilgrim, Jeff Carpenter, Jane Morrison

•**RECOVERY AT HOME:** Karen Jones

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Romia Palmer, Patti Hall, Johnny Cissom, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Louise Pannell, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Mitch Fowler (Kevin Shackelford's co-worker), Marie Brumley, Keith Hall, Hermie Henry (Bonnie Hurt's Mother), Cohen Hurt, Frank Elliott, Jimmy Smith, Betty Faye Ledbury, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Niani Colom-Omotesa

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter** (*Mailing: Resthaven Nursing Home, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663*)

Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube.

### TEXT ALERTS

Text chapmancoc to 95577 to receive Chapman's Text Alerts.