

May 24 2020
ORDER OF WORSHIP
Announcements
Tommy Wade

SERVICES
CANCELLED
UNTIL
FURTHER
NOTICE

OUR RECORD

May 17, 2020

Sunday Bible Study: NO SERVICE
Sunday Morning Worship: NO SERVICE
Sunday Evening Worship: NO SERVICE
Wednesday Night Bible Study: NO SERVICE
Budget: \$3,500
Contribution this week: NO SERVICE

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:
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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
250 COUNTY ROAD 550
RIPLEY, MS 38663

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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PREACHER: Mark Lindley

**“WHERE DID ALL THESE CHURCHES
COME FROM?”**
Mark Lindley

The title of this article is a question that you might have asked. Drive through virtually any city of our country and you will see numerous church buildings. Each denominational church comes with its own name, doctrines, and practices. Often, the teachings of one denomination contradict the teachings of other denominations. With so many church options available, a confused seeker of truth might raise the question: “Where did all these churches come from?”

One approach to the question is found in the words of Christ: “from heaven, or of men?” (Matthew 21:25). In speaking about the baptism of John the Baptist, Jesus affirmed that it was from heaven, or it was from men. The same is true regarding denominations. Either the denominations are from heaven (they came from God), or they are of men (they were started by men). Which is it? Have men established the denominations of our day, or did all these various churches originate with God?

The Bible teaches that the Lord intended to build “one” church. Jesus said, “Upon this rock I will build my church” (Matthew 16:18). That Jesus built His church is clearly what the Bible teaches: “And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence” (Colossians 1:18). Notice from this passage, that Jesus is “the head” of “the body,” which is “the church.” Jesus built His church, and He is the head of it. The biblical record gives the details of when Jesus’ church was established, in about A.D. 33 (Acts 2:1-47).

But what about the denominations? The Bible teaches there would be a departure from the truth of the gospel (Acts 20:28-31; 1 Timothy 4:1-3). History reveals that there was a departure from the faith, resulting in Roman Catholicism in the 7th century A.D. Although different dates are given for the beginning of the Catholic Church, all dates given show that Catholicism began long after Jesus had established His church.

Later, in the 1500’s, men such as Martin Luther and John Calvin began to oppose the unscriptural practices of Catholicism. Their protest against Catholicism resulted in the Reformation Movement. In the days of the Reformation came all the various main-line denominations, each one started by a man with his own ideas about scripture. With the passing of time, various religious groups sprang up, until this present time of mass religious confusion.

Bear in mind that all these things happened long after Jesus built His, “one” and only church. The good news is that it is possible for one to be a part of Jesus’ church, without ever joining a denomination! Obedience to the pure gospel of Christ will make one a member of Jesus’ church (Acts 2:37-47). Visit or contact a church of Christ to learn more.

The Right Way

By Joe Slater

Start up the off-ramp to get into the freeway, and you will be confronted with glaring red signs: Wrong Way. The highway department put those signs there for our protection. I have never heard anyone complain that such signs show the state is being narrow-minded or intolerant!

Samuel pledged to pray ceaselessly for his people and to teach them the right way; to do less would be sin (1 Samuel 12:23). Isaiah prophesied that the restored remnant of God's people would once again hear faithful teachers saying, "This is the way, walk in it" (30:21). Peter wrote of false teachers who devastated the church as those who "have forsaken the right way" (2 Peter 2:15).

Most people today consider it arrogant to affirm that there is a "right way," especially in religion or morals. They resent being told that anything is right or wrong, particularly if the basis of that determination is the Bible. Modern notions of toleration and acceptance demand that every person decide individually what is right or wrong; and every person's decision is to be afforded equal validity. Virtually everything is considered a matter of opinion and individual judgment. The only absolute is that there are no absolutes! Tragically, this Humanistic philosophy has made serious inroads into the church.

We are far from the first people ever to have embraced these erroneous perceptions. Not long after Israel inherited the Promised Land of Canaan, the people forgot God and went their own ways. "Every man did what was right in his own eyes" (Judges 21:25). It was one of the darkest periods of that nation's history.

Solomon correctly observed: "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes" (Proverbs 12:15a). Two chapters later he warned: "There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way of death" (14:12).

God Himself put it this way: "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways . . . For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts" (Isaiah 55:8, 9). God's way is right, any and all human opinions to the contrary notwithstanding. May we say along with the psalmist of old, "Therefore all Your precepts concerning all things I consider to be right; I hate every false way" (Psalm 119:128).

"I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" - Jesus Christ (John 14:6).

What Do You Do When Things Go Bad?

By: Gary L. Hutches

Life is full of *ups* and *downs*. If we made a list of all of the positive things in our life, all of the blessings, that list would almost certainly far exceed a similar list of all of the negative things in our life. Despite that fact, we tend to focus more on the *downs* than on the *ups*, more on the negatives than on the positives. It would be a good exercise in self examination to try to figure out why this is the case.

One fundamental reason for being so consumed with the difficulties, challenges and troubles of life is the mindset that we carry into life on a daily basis. Our mindset can be understood as the *lenses* through which we look at life. It is the general framework of how we view life, of what happens to us and around us. If our mindset tends toward the negative, then we will naturally see life from a more negative perspective.

Our mindset is of our own making. It is the result of how we *set our mind*. We make the choice as to how we will take on the day. The most productive mindset is one that is guided by godliness. The apostle Paul advised: "*Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth*" (**Colossians 3:2**). A faithful Christian knows who he is, what he is and where he is going. As a result, he sees life from a different perspective than most people. He recognizes that this world, and all that goes on herein, is temporary. The faithful Christian is looking, ultimately, to eternity. He can stay basically positive even in the face of seemingly negative circumstances.

An instructive, and comforting, passage of scripture along this line reads as follows: "*And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose*" (**Romans 8:28**). This verse does not say that all things that happen are necessarily good. It says that the faithful Christian, "*those who love God...who are the called according to His purpose,*" can face each day with the expectation that God can cause good to come from even the bad things that happen to them in life.

Such a mindset enables a faithful Christian to see life, even with its difficulties, challenges and troubles, through lenses of hope, expectation and assurance rather than of hopelessness, despair and depression. The faithful Christian's mindset enables him to enjoy life more abundantly (**John 10:10**) and far less superficially than a person who can't see past the matters of this world.

What is your mindset? What do you do when things go bad? Trust God to watch over and care for you, whatever may come (**Matt. 6:33-34**). Your Heavenly Father sent His Son to be your savior. Through Him you can find abiding peace to see you through the trials and troubles of this life (**Phlp. 4:4-7**). Through Him you will be able to do all things that truly need to be done (**Phlp. 4:11-13**)...

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REMEMBER IN PRAYER

IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY: Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Timmy Hurt.

•**MILITARY:** James B Chapman
CJTF-OIRCJ2X
APO AE 09306

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Amy May, Johnny Cissom, Buffie Moore, George Doss, Joanie Kate Reese, Louise Pannell, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Marie Brumley, Jimmy Hopper, Keith Hall, Hermie Henry (Bonnie Hurt's Mother), Kay Thompson, Cohen Hurt, Frank Elliott, Jimmy Smith, Lanny Yancey (Treatments), Sandra Jones, Betty Faye Ledbury, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Niani Colom-Omotesa

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips, Johnnie Carpenter, Patricia Waide** (Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663), Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home: **Christine Chapman, Earnestine Murphy** (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663).

CHAPMAN CONTRIBUTION:

The elders ask that you take your contribution to The Peoples Bank drive thru in Ripley if possible. Simply instruct to deposit to Chapman Church of Christ. You also can call bank and transfer money to church account.