

**July 9, 2017
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

Announcements

Brad McAlister

Song Leader

Keith Newby

Scripture Reading

Britt Lindley

Opening Prayer

Johnny Cissom (A.M.) Joel Moore (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Michiel Criswell (A.M.) Jack Harris (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Kevin Shackelford (Presiding),

Jeff Brewer, Chance Criswell, Randell Koon

Count and Usher

Palmer Jones & John Hopper

Prepare Communion

Robin & Mallory Chapman

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Barrett Chapman (07/12/17)

OUR RECORD

July 2, 2017

Sunday Bible Study: 121

Sunday Morning Worship: 129

Sunday Evening Worship: 106

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 98

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$4,420

BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

Also can view on our website:

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
250 COUNTY ROAD 550
RIPLEY, MS 38663

THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

Published Weekly by
Chapman Church of Christ
Ripley, Mississippi
(662) 837-7012
chapmanchurch.com

ELDERS: Barrett Chapman, Terry Chapman, Joel Moore,
Jarvene Shackelford, Tommy Wade
DEACONS: Bryan Davis, Rickey Loveless,
Brad McAlister, Wayne Vandygriff, Larry Wood
PREACHER: Mark Lindley

JOIN US FOR 2017 VBS!



JULY 9TH – 12TH

Sunday AM: 10:00AM

• Sunday PM: 6:30PM

• (Evening Service 6:30PM – VBS immediately following)

Monday-Wednesday - 7:00 TO 8:30PM

She Was “Slain in the Spirit” by Wayne Jackson

I grew up in the southern region of our nation, and, as a lad, sometimes attended those rural “Pentecostal” services — more as an entertainment than anything else.

Those summer “brush-arbor” and “tent-meeting” gatherings provided some fascinating sights.

I’ve seen grown men and women dancing, bucking, jumping, screaming, crying, and flopping around on the ground like one of my grandmother’s decapitated bound-for-Sunday-dinner chickens. One gentleman told me of a man, supposedly “slain in the Spirit,” who bowed himself over and attempted to “butt down” a blackjack oak tree!

I was reminded of those days, as I read an interesting news report. A New York woman was awarded a civil judgment of \$80,000. Purportedly, in a religious service she was “slain in the Spirit,” and, during the ordeal, broke her arm (The Alabama Baptist, Feb. 21, 2002).

When the “power from on high” hit her, a minister pushed her backwards. The attendant who was appointed to catch didn’t. She suffered injury and sued. The church was required to pay damages.

One cannot but admire sincerity in devoted religious people. But sincerity, apart from a knowledge of truth, does not avail (cf. Acts 23:1; 26:9; Rom. 10:2). There are several important observations to be made regarding the lawsuit incident cited above.

The Holy Spirit does not overpower you.

The Holy Spirit does not subdue people and make them do things over which they have no control.

In a letter to the Corinthian church, in discussing the operation of the Holy Spirit in connection with supernatural gifts, Paul wrote that “the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets” (1 Cor. 14:32).

The present tense form of the verb hupotasso (“subject to”) reveals that the activity of the Christian remained under his personal control, even when under the direct influence of the Holy Spirit.

As noted scholar Gordon Fee observed: “There is no seizure here, no loss of control; the speaker is neither frenzied nor a babblers” (1987, p. 696).

The Holy Spirit will not overpower a person and throw them to the ground, or render them helpless as someone else pushes them backwards.

Is the Holy Spirit to blame?

If it were the case that divine power seized this dear lady, making her vulnerable to a serious accident, could not the sacred Spirit at least have alerted her “catcher,” so that he might have been more diligent in his responsibility?

Why wasn’t she miraculously healed?

In the event that the Spirit “slew” her, and the “catcher” missed her, since the Pentecostals claim the gift of modern-day healing, why did not the clergyman who “placed his hand upon her forehead, causing her to fall backwards,” lay hands upon the unfortunate soul and instantly heal her?

This is somewhat perplexing if, as these conscientious folks claim, miracles were principally designed to benefit the recipient.

It is a tragedy of no small consequence that many honest people are so duped with reference to the operation of the Holy Spirit.

Miracles are not being performed today. No one is being “slain in the Spirit.” The dead are not being raised, bones are not being miraculously mended, and no one is speaking in languages they never learned.

These kinds of “signs” were a part of first-century divine operations, as the New Testament events were unfolding and being recorded (see 1 Cor. 13:8-10). It is an illusion to expect such miracles today.

DOES HONESTY MAKE ERROR TRUTH?

Garland Elkins, Deceased

Since early childhood I have heard people say that it does not make any difference what we believe, that if we are honest and sincere about it, God will save us anyway. Have you ever made such a statement? Most likely you have heard your preacher say the same thing. If he has, ask him for the verse in the Bible. You may have made this kind of statement because you have heard preachers make it, and naturally you thought it must be so. But if your preacher has been making it, he must have some reason for it since he claims to be following and teaching the Bible. He should make such statements providing the Bible says so. And if the Bible does say so, he will know where to find it. So ask him to give you the book, chapter, and verse.

Notice this scripture from II Thessalonians 2:11 & 12: “AND FOR THIS CAUSE GOD SHALL SEND THEM STRONG DELUSION, THAT THEY SHOULD BELIEVE A LIE: THAT THEY ALL MIGHT BE DAMNED WHO BELIEVED NOT THE TRUTH, BUT HAD PLEASURE IN UNRIGHTEOUSNESS.” This indeed is a very plain statement. It positively says that some would “believe a lie.” Certainly there is a vast difference between believing a lie and believing the truth. The truth is recorded in the word of God. If it is not taught in the word of God, it must be a lie. Does it make any difference which of these one believes? The general idea is that it does not matter, provided one is sincere. Of course, he could not believe anything unless he is sincere. A person might pretend to believe a thing and be insincere about it. But if he actually believes it, he must be sincere. So the Bible speaks of men who are sincere, for it actually says they will “believe a lie.” But what of their sincerity? Will that atone for their mistake? Will God save them anyway, just because they are honest about it? Is that what the Bible said? No, that is not the way it reads at all. Observe verse 12 again: “THAT THEY ALL MIGHT BE DAMNED WHO BELIEVED NOT THE TRUTH.” Notice the word “damned.” This means the very opposite of “saved.” Yet we are told that certain men would be damned. But who were to be damned? All those who believed a lie or believed not the truth. It does make quite a difference what a person believes! For if one is to be saved, he must believe the truth. To believe something else will result in damnation—regardless of how sincere a person might be.

In II Timothy 2:5 we read this: “AND IF A MAN ALSO STRIVE FOR MASTERIES, YET IS HE NOT CROWNED, EXCEPT HE STRIVE LAWFULLY.” When people say it makes no difference what we believe, they often add: “We are all striving for the same place anyway.” And evidently this is true. We are striving to reach heaven at last. But is striving the only thing that is necessary in order to reach that glorious reward? This is all that would be necessary if it makes no difference what we believe. The Bible continues to tell us that striving alone is not sufficient—that a man may strive and still not be crowned, except he strive law fully. The crowning referred to is the eternal reward in heaven—the crown of glory that fadeth not away. But yet a man may strive and still fail to receive the crown. Why? Because he may not strive lawfully. No person can reach that crown unless he strives lawfully! What does it mean to strive lawfully? It means to strive according to the law of the Lord. So if we strive contrary to that law we will not be crowned, regardless of how sincere we may be. The law of the Lord is revealed in the New Testament. If we strive to go to heaven by some other way, we are not striving lawfully, and will not reach the destination we desire. These truths in the Bible clearly indicate that it does make a difference what a person believes and practices in religion.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHAPMAN DOOR KNOCKING
Saturday, July 8th at 10:00 AM

Chapman VBS

July 9th – 12th

Sunday AM: 10:00AM

Sunday PM: 6:30PM

SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES:

Due to VBS starting at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday Evening our services have been changed.

We will meet for Sunday Evening Worship from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. VBS will start immediately following worship services.

Monday-Wednesday - 7:00 TO 8:30PM

COME BLAZE A TRAIL WITH US AT VBS!
TRAILBLAZERS FOR THE FAITH

Prize for boy & girl who brings the most visitors! Start inviting!
Flyers are available in foyer

Chapman Lectureship
July 30th– August 2nd

PROGRAMS OF WORK

Website: 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)

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Everett Hurt, Ramonia McAlister (Brad’s Mother), Molly Moore

•**HOSPITAL:** Jane Morriosn (Tupelo), Michael Kubenthiran (Robin Chapman’s Nephew – car wreck/severe leg injuries) Please send cards: 2618 Sunlight Drive, Arlington, TX 76006.

•**SURGERY RECOVERY:** Tracie Gross (Back)

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Sandra Hopper, George Doss (Kelly Brewer’s Father), Ed James Pannell, Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGauhy, Sandra & Niles Jones, Thad Berryman.

•**CANCER:** Betty Faye Ledbury, Chester Smith, Lana Waldon, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Lyle Bullock, Carolyn Medlin, Lanny Yancey, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Marilyn Harrell, Janice Willingham, Lester Wommack, Doug Pannell, Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), Sue Mauney, Wade Hodges, Katherine Finley, Kane Pannell, Danny Edmonds, Dean McNutt, John Reno.

•**SHUT-INS:** Resthaven: **Oleta Phillips** (Mailing: Resthaven Care Center, 103 Cunningham Drive, Ripley, MS 38663), **Tippah County Hospital Nursing Home: Bonnie Chapman, Lorene Daily, Christine Chapman** (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663). **Johnnie Carpenter** (Mailing: Tishomingo Living Center, 1410 West Quitman Street, Iuka, MS 38852)