

**August 20, 2017  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**Announcements**

Kevin Shackelford

**Song Leader**

J C Newby

**Scripture Reading**

Eli Carter

**Opening Prayer**

Britt Lindley (A.M.) Tom Wade (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

John Hopper (A.M.) Tommy Wade (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Chase Chapman (Presiding),

Jack Harris, Gene Yancey, Rickey Loveless

**Count and Usher**

Terry Chapman and Joel Moore

**Prepare Communion**

Myra Palmer and Brenda Shackelford

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Jack Harris (08/23/17)

**OUR RECORD**

August 13, 2017

Sunday Bible Study: 113

Sunday Morning Worship: 143

Sunday Evening Worship: 119

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 96

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$3,840

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL:**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:

[chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net](mailto: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).



# THE CHAPMAN CHALLENGER

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Ripley, Mississippi  
(662) 837-7012  
[chapmanchurch.com](http://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

## THE BOOK OF ALL BOOKS Mark Lindley

We live in a time when skepticism regarding God's existence is increasing. Those who profess atheism are writing books, giving lectures, and teaching in some universities that believing in God is a thing of the past and for the ignorant. Nevertheless, for those whose minds are open, honest, and objective there is powerful, abundant evidence for God's existence. The God of which I speak is the God of the Bible. Just one piece of evidence for God's existence is the Bible, itself. Some argue that it is circular reasoning to use the Bible as evidence for what the Bible teaches about the existence of God. However, in the courts of our land, those accused of violating law are allowed to take the stand and speak in their own defense.

By the same principle, the Bible should be admissible as one piece of evidence for the existence of God. The Bible should be allowed to "speak for itself."

The argument for God's existence based upon the Bible might be constructed as follows: 1) If the Bible is a book that cannot be accounted for upon natural grounds, then there must have been a supernatural, guiding power behind the production of the Bible; 2) the Bible cannot be accounted for upon natural grounds; 3) therefore, there must have been a supernatural, guiding power behind the production of the Bible. I affirm that the only being able to produce such a remarkable book is God.

What does the Bible claim for itself? "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (II Timothy 3:16-17).

One line of evidence that the Bible is inspired of God is prophecy. Only God knows the end from the beginning (Isaiah 46:9-10). Skeptics choose to ignore literally hundreds of prophecies about the birth, life, mission, death, burial, and resurrection of Christ. Some of these prophecies were made a thousand years before Christ came. It was predicted that Jesus would be born of a virgin, would die for the sins of others, and would be buried in a rich man's tomb (Isaiah 7:14; 53:4-6, 9). It was further prophesied that Jesus would arise from the dead, ascend to heaven, and establish an everlasting kingdom, the church (Psalm 16:8-11; Acts 2:25-31; Daniel 7:13-14; Colossians 1:13, 18). These prophecies are a small sample of the ones made concerning Christ.

Many additional prophecies were made in Old Testament times concerning other people, nations, and events which came to pass. That such prophecies were made is indisputable.

How can one account for hundreds of prophecies fulfilled upon natural grounds? I maintain that one cannot, and that there must have been supernatural intervention—God—to produce the Bible.

The Bible is the Book of all books. Read it. Study and meditate upon it, and your faith will be increased that the Scriptures truly are inspired of God.

## I AM IMPORTANT IN BUILDING A STRONGER CHURCH

James Pilgrim

Paul wrote, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." (Ephesians 6:10). This was an exhortation to each saint at Ephesus (1:1), and to us. However, to the extent each member of the "glorious church" (5:27) is strong, so is the church. A chain is no stronger than the weakest link.

Paul's inspired (1 Corinthians 2) challenge involves putting on "the whole armour of God" (6:11-13), which is described in verses 14-16. Paul wrote, "Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness; And your feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace; Above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." All of this is supported by personal supplicatory (requests) prayer for self, and "for all saints." (Verse 17). It is no wonder that Jesus said "that men ought always to pray, and not to faint" (Luke 18:1), or that Paul was inspired to write, "Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you." (1 Thessalonians 5:17, 18).

What may "I" do to make the church stronger? The question is not what the elders, deacons, preacher, Bible class teachers, or others should do, but what may "I" do. First, I can "put on the whole armour of God." Many Christians are doing some things.

The seven churches of Asia are examples being partially right. (Revelation 2 and 3). However, God wanted them to be more than that. (Revelation 3:15). Can one be as strong as God wants by adding a few of the Christian graces, or am I to add all of them? (2 Peter 1:5-7). Will I please God by having a few of the fruits of the Spirit? (Galatians 5:22-26). May I love in part, or must I employ each of the characteristics of love. (1 Corinthians 13:4-8). Can I acceptably serve God by doing a few things? (Philippians 4:8).

The lost on Pentecost asked, "What shall we do?" (Acts 2:37). These hearers were told to "repent, and be baptized." (Verse 38). Could they have been saved by repenting only, or by being baptized only? NO! Neither can the saved faithfully follow God by doing part of His will, while ignoring the rest. What then must "I" do to be stronger and make the church stronger? I can "grow in grace, and in the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ." (2 Peter 3:18). Such growth comes as a result of study (2 Timothy 2:15), searching the scriptures (John 5:39), and sanctifying (Greek, HAGAIZO, "to make holy, i. e. (cer.) purify or consecrate; (mentally) to venerate:--hallow, be holy, sanctify." (Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, p. 876). W. E. Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, p. 318, says, "the acknowledgement of the Lordship of Christ, 1 Peter 3:15." The general definition given is to set apart. As I grow (1 Peter 2:2), I should do more, thus making the church stronger. Cf. John 13:17; James 1:25. (Part II will be in next week's Chapman Challenger).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

REMINDER:  
SUNDAY EVENING TIME - 2:00PM

CHAPMAN LADIES BIBLE CLASS  
Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 PM  
Lesson: Dala Vandygriff

*And whatsoever ye do in word  
or deed, do all in the name of  
the Lord Jesus, giving thanks  
to God and the Father by him.  
Colossians 3:17*

### 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

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550, Ripley, MS 38663 ) or e-mail  
(chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Ola Wade, Maizey Hopper, Brenda Shackelford, Joan & Jimmy Berryman, Everett Hurt, Tony & Jane Morrison, Pat Morgan (Robin Criswell's Mother, Send Card: 3611 Merritt Cove, Memphis, TN 38128)

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

•**SURGERY RECOVERY:** Amy Staggs, Tracie Gross (Back), Kathy Allison

•**NEW ADDRESS:** Sonia Derrick, 206 Bramlett Blvd., Oxford, MS 38655 (Please send cards.)

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

•**CANCER:** Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Johnny Johnson, 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, Johnnie Carpenter** (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).