

September 3, 2023

**Announcements**

Britt Lindley

**Song Leader**

John Hopper

**Scripture Reading**

Bo Chapman

**Opening Prayer**

Bobby Bridges (A.M.)  
Michiel Criswell (P.M.)

**Closing Prayer**

Mickey Chandler (A.M.)  
Jimmy Vandygriff (P.M.)

**Lord's Table**

Rickey Loveless

**Count and Usher**

Chase Chapman & David Smith

**Wednesday Night Song Leader**

Brock Lindley (09/06/23)

**OUR RECORD**

**August 27, 2023**

Sunday Bible Study: 101  
Sunday Morning Worship: 122  
Sunday Evening Worship 91  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 83

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:  
chapmansecretary@ripleycable.net

[chapmanchurch.com](http://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

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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

**Church Attendance (Hebrews 10:25)**  
by: Perry Sexton

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching." This verse is not too complicated to understand. If we can understand Genesis 2:17, we should also be able to understand Hebrews 10:25.

Please consider: (Gen. 2:17) "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." Note, "thou shalt not eat of it." How many times could they eat of that tree and still be pleasing to God (Cp. Gen. 3:6ff)? One command for us is: "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching" (Heb. 10:25). How many times can we forsake "the assembling of ourselves together" and still be pleasing to God?

Let us consider some definitions: "not" (web.) means "in no manner; to no degree: ... affirmation of the opposite." "Not" is word #3756 in Strong's Complete Concordance, and means "the absolute negative; (adv.) no or not." "Forsaking the assembling" is something that we are not to do (cp. Exodus 20:4, 5, 7, 13-17; I Cor. 6:9, 10) . To do that which we are not to do is sin (I Jno. 3:4). The word "forsake" (#1459) means to "desert, leave, abandon." We are not to forsake any "assembling" of the church. The same word is used in Matthew 27:46, "... My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?" It is important to remember that the Father did not forsake Jesus forever, but it is said of this one occurrence. The Greek word for "assembling" is episunagoge (#1997) and means "a complete collection; specially a church meeting (for worship):--assembling (gathering) together." It is only used in one other verse, II Thessalonians 2:1. There it is used twice and is translated "gathering together." In Hebrews 10:25 it is used twice and is translated "assembling" and "together." The "assembling" is the gathering together of the church for a religious service (ex. I Cor. 11:20, etc.). This is what one is not to forsake: "the assembling of ourselves together." So if one willingly absence himself from a church service, he has forsaken "the assembling" and has broken a commandment of God.

There is a difference between "missing" and "forsaking." To "miss" is to be absent unwillingly. To "forsake" is to be absent willingly. The bottom line is, we do what we want to do (that is the key to it). It is a matter of where our treasure is (Matt. 6:19-21). If our heart's desire is to be with the saints in the presence of God to worship Him, we will be there if at all possible. Where is our affection (cp. Col. 3:1,2)? What is first in our lives (Matt. 6:33)? Do we truly love God as we should (John 14:15, 23)? Are we living acceptable lives unto God (Rom. 12:1)? Or are we numbered with the "lukewarm" (Rev. 3:15, 16), and the "foolish" virgins (Matt. 25:1ff)?

Hebrews 10:25 will meet us in the judgment (Rev. 20:12). We must obey God if we expect Heaven to be our eternal home (Heb. 5:9; Matt. 7:21). It will help us to remember all that Jesus has done for us and suffered for us (II Cor. 5:14,15).

## God Hath Spoken

by: W. P. Dennis

In Hebrews 1:1, we are told that God has spoken at many times and in many different ways. He spoke directly to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden. He spoke to Moses from a burning bush. God does not speak today as in times past, for He "hath in these last times spoken unto us by His Son."

God has revealed His word so all can understand. It would be unreasonable to think that God has made the knowledge of His word essential to our salvation and yet made it require miraculous aid to understand it. This would make God responsible for every person lost. This would also be in conflict with the basic teaching of the Bible.

When men fail to obey, it is because of man's own disposition and attitude. It is not the fault of God. We are told in 2 Thess. 2:10 that "Some will not receive the love of the truth that they might be saved." Sometimes we wonder why people do not obey the plan of salvation when it is made so plain. Here is a big part of the answer: they do not love the truth.

Paul goes on to speak of some who "Take pleasure in unrighteousness." Since God's commandments are God's righteousness, this means they enjoy refusing to do what God has said.

What God has said in His word is well within the mental grasp of every responsible person. The alien sinner must believe (Heb. 11:6), repent (Luke 13:3), confess (Rom. 10:9, 10), and be baptized (Mark 16:16). We are not to add to nor take from this divine plan.

## "I Like Your Christ, But Not Your Christians"

By Eddy Gilpin

The statement is attributed to Mahatma Gandhi (1869-1948). Actually, the statement in full reads: "I like your Christ. I don't like your Christians; because your Christians are not like your Christ." Although Gandhi's religion is a false one, his tireless efforts to help the down-trodden and his wise sayings are legendary, especially among the Indian people. Even though we cannot agree with his religious teachings, there is much truth in many of the things he said-among them, this statement.

What is a "Christian?" He is a follower of Christ. Christ is his leader (I Pet. 2:21), and he is His follower. Some 16 times in the gospel records Jesus made the statement (either to an individual or to a group), "follow Me." Paul commanded the Corinthians to "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ" (I Cor. 11:1). Among the statements Jesus made, He stated, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me" (Mk. 8:34). One who follows another as Christ commands us to follow Him will become like his leader. One who is truly a Christian, then, talks as Jesus talked, acts as Jesus acted and lives as Jesus lived. Unlike Jesus, however, we will make mistakes, we will sin (I Pet. 2:22). That being true, we will also seek always to walk in the light of His word (I Jn. 1:7), seeking forgiveness of our wrongs (I Jn. 1:9) and the kingdom of God first (Mt. 6:33).

One who claims to be a Christian, yet whose life is not patterned after His is a hypocrite, a word from the Greek hupokriteis, meaning "an actor under an assumed character" (Strong's). That is, he is one thing in name and quite another in action. As one on a stage assumes a role that is not truly himself, so it is with one who plays the role of a follower of Christ on occasion, but not consistently. Jesus revealed that every follower of His must "take up his cross daily" (Lk. 9:23). He cannot be "double minded" and, thus, "unstable in all his ways" (Jas. 1:8). The church at Sardis portrays such an individual. They had "a name that thou livest, and art dead" (Rev. 3:1). Their reputation among men did not equal their character with God.

Gandhi was/is not the only one to notice that many who claim to be Christians are not actually followers of Christ. Could that be said of you? Are you "one person" on Sunday, but "another person" every other day of the week? Are you "an actor under an assumed character" (a hypocrite)? The Lord had condemning words for the hypocrites of His day (cf. Mt. 22:18; 23:13-27; etc.). His words will be no less condemnatory on the Day of Judgment for those who merely play-act at being His followers (Lk. 13:23-28). If you are not a faithful Christian every day, you are not a faithful Christian any day; and you are not like Christ.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### CHAPMAN LECTURESHIP

**OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup> – 11<sup>TH</sup>**

**SUNDAY SERVICES:**

**10:00 A.M. BIBLE STUDY**

**10:45 A.M. WORSHIP**

**LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED.**

**1:30 P.M. AFTERNOON SERVICE**

**7:00 P.M.**

**MONDAY-WEDNESDAY EVENING**

### *A Plea For Prayers*

*Please pray for spiritual and numerical growth for the Chapman Congregation in 2023.*

### TEXT ALERTS

Text **chapmancoc** to **8779897012** to receive Chapman's Text Alerts.

## 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

**IN LOVE AND SYMPATHY:** Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Brother Junior Derrick.

**SICK SUNDAY:** Roger McAlister, Patti Hall

**IN HOSPITAL:** Wilma Wood

**SURGERY:** Rita Rutherford (Heart)

**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Joanie Kate Reese, John Perry (4 month old/heart problems), Loxlee Eaton (6-yr old, Chris Lewellen's Granddaughter), Olivia Pounders, Garrison Coats, Joe Clark, Louise Pannell (Sharon's Mother), Malone Hurt, George Doss, Thad Berryman, John Walker Perry, Juanita Michael

**CANCER:** Billy McBryde (Rita Smith's Father), George Doss (Kelly Brewer's Father), Deborah Williams (Kim Lindley's Aunt), Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman's Son-in-law), Tom Muir (Cindy Pruitt's Brother-in-law), Shelia Fleming (Mark Lindley's Aunt), Rhonda Gillespie, David South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Trish Clark, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Betty Faye Ledbury

**SHUT-INS:** *Tippah County Health & Rehab:* Romia Palmer, Jimmy Berryman, Peggy Davis, Joe Clark

**Sermons available on Facebook and YouTube**