

December 23, 2018
ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements

Randell Koon

Song Leader

Chris Moore

Scripture Reading

Ricky Cissom

Opening Prayer

Mickey Chandler (A.M.) Brad McAlister (P.M.)

Closing Prayer

Eli Carater (A.M.) Palmer Jones (P.M.)

Lord's Table

Bryan Davis (Presiding),

Mason McAlister, Tripp Yancey, Rickey Loveless

Count and Usher

Terry Chapman & Joel Moore

Prepare Communion

Myra Palmer and Romia Palmer

Wednesday Night Song Leader

Jodie Criswell (12/26/18)

OUR RECORD

December 16, 2018

Sunday Bible Study: 104

Sunday Morning Worship: 125

Sunday Evening Worship: 105

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 101

Budget: \$3,500

Contribution this week: \$4,600

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).



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

MORTAL AND VENIAL SIN

James Pilgrim

On Saturday morning, December 8, 2018, Andrew McCarthy, former U. S. Attorney, speaking of an ongoing investigations in Washington D. C., said he thought those doing the investigations were looking for mortal sins, rather than venial sins. Likely, the average listener had no idea of the meaning of his words. However, they revealed his religious affiliation, or that he at least knew the significance of these two words. All Catholic Church members knew what he was saying. This scribe knew immediately what he meant because he had discussed these two words on a local radio program in Cullman, Alabama, in the late 1960's.

He was reviewing a short work "updated and revised BY FATHER FERRELL." It was entitled "the parish catechism." This booklet had the "Nihil Obstat" and "Imprimatur" of two of the leading officials of the Catholic Church. These two stamps declare the booklet to be "free of doctrinal or moral error." However, those granting the Nihil Obstat and Imprimatur may not necessarily agree with the content. Strange!!! That would be like the elders giving their stamp of approval to what someone wrote, declaring it to be without error, but saying that they may not agree with the work.

What does the Catholic Church say about sin? According to "the parish catechism", page 27, "Sin is a violation of the law of God", which is true. (1 John 3:4; 5:17). However, they erroneously teach that "There are two kinds of sins, mortal sins and venial sins...Mortal sin is a BIG sin—a deadly sin—a serious violation of the law of God...He who commits mortal sin loses all the grace he has acquired up to that time. He will go to hell if he dies in the state of mortal sin." (the parish catechism, by Father Ferrell, page 27). On the other hand, "Venial sin is a small sin—a small violation of the law of God as opposed to a mortal sin which deprives man of God's grace." (the parish catechism, by Father Ferrell, page 28). From the parish catechism, some differences are explained as follows: "The moderate use of alcoholic beverages is no sin...To take a little too much (to 'become tipsy') is a venial sin. To become drunk is a mortal sin." (Page 120, No. 16). Small lies are venial sins, but serious lies are mortal sins. (Page 105, No. 9). "Cursing is a mortal sin if done seriously." (Page 120, No. 3). Vulgar language, sexual jokes and stories, and the use of four-letter words are "not even venial" sins, but should be avoided lest they become mortal. (Pages 110, 111, Nos. 3-5). "Gambling is not sinful in itself if there is no cheating...and if...one...is not risking money needed for his family or for himself." (Page 126, No. 12). And on and on and on it goes.

Beloved, the word of God does not speak of mortal and venial sins! If so, where? John, inspired of God (2 Peter 1:20, 21; 2 Timothy 3:16, 17), said, "sin is the transgression of the law" (1 John 3:4), and "All unrighteousness is sin." (1 John 5:17). He did not declare some sins to be mortal, while others were but venial. "The wages of sin is death." (Romans 6:23). He did not proclaim some sins to condemn one, while others were acceptable. As the late beloved black evangelist, Marshall Keeble used to say, "The Bible is right." He also said the Bible sure did shed a lot of light on them commentaries. Believe and obey it.

A TRUE LOVE STORY???

James Pilgrim

Another documentary of the lives of Bonnie and Clyde has recently been shown on TV. Bonnie Elizabeth Parker was born October 1, 1910; she died tragically May 23, 1934, in a hail of bullets by law enforcement officers. Clyde Champion Barrow was born March 2, 1909, and died May 23, 1934, in the same hail of bullets. These two have been portrayed in a number of ways over the years. It is not the purpose of this article to discuss the many aspects of their history. It is, however, the aim to set one aspect of the case straight, the claim of their true love for one another.

Through the years, many have suggested that the story of Bonnie and Clyde was a true love story. It has been said that Bonnie's love for Clyde was beyond question, and that his love for her was no less. This might appear to be the case to one who does not know, understand, and/or believe the word of God. However, those who believe the inerrant word of God know that there may have been affection, but not genuine Biblical love.

First, Bonnie was married to another man, Roy Thornton, whom she had not put away for adultery. (Matthew 19:1-9). She was living with Clyde Barrow in sin at the time of their deaths. (Romans 7:1-4). Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." (John 14:15). Had both followed Jesus, Bonnie and Clyde would not have been living together. This was nothing more than a physical sinful attraction.

Second, read 1 Corinthians 13:4-8, and ask if one who truly loves as God defines love engage in or be found doing what these two did.

Also, ask if one who truly loves according to the will of God encourage another to do these sinful things, such as, murders, stealing, robbing, and such like (Galatians 5:19-21; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Romans 1:18-32). 1 Kings 14:16 says of "Jeroboam, who did sin, and who made Israel to sin." Likewise, Clyde may have caused Bonnie to sin. All of this was in the name of "love." However, genuine love was absent. These evil deeds were no more than misguided feelings.

Third, Bonnie and Clyde certainly did not follow the teachings of Jesus as recorded in Matthew 7:12, a verse we call the golden rule. Ephesians 4:28, "Let him that stole steal no more" was not followed by these two. True love does not encourage stealing from others. It appears that Clyde brought Bonnie into his way of life, and she encouraged him to continue like he was. This is not right; this is not true love.

Fourth, it has been indicated that Clyde became what he was because of the great depression, and because of how he had been bullied, sexually abused, and such like. Most others lived during the same hard financial times, but they did not resort to a life of crime and murder. We are not to be controlled by our environment, but seek to control it. This writer has a sermon on our being thermostat Christians, rather than thermometer Christians. Seek to control what is around you. Both parties should have realized that "every one of us shall give account of himself before God" (Romans 14:12), and fled "evil communications" which "corrupt the soul." (1 Corinthians 15:33). "He/she made me do it" will not give one an excuse at the judgment.

Beloved, true love is great. Let's make sure we love according to the God's definition of the word.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHAPMAN 5TH SUNDAY December 30, 2018

Fellowship meal (potluck) after morning service. Evening service at 1:30 PM conducted by Chapman young men.

Please join us for
A Baby Shower in Honor of

Jessica & Nathan Emerson

Sunday, January 6, 2019

3:30 to 4:30PM

Chapman Church of Christ –
Fellowship Hall

It's a Girl! – Cora Lynn

Colors: Light Pink, Gray

Registered: Walmart, Target & Gift of Gab.

PROGRAMS OF WORK

[Website: chapmanchurch.com](http://www.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 Roxieann Foster.

•**SICK SUNDAY:** Ola Wade

•**RECOVERY:** Amber Harrell, Sydney Yancey

•**SURGERY:** Ruby Jones, Debbie Potts

•**HOSPITAL:** Chad Kennedy

•**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Joanie Kate Reese, Carlin Johnson, Mitch Wellen, Faye Jenkins, Linda Chapman, Nina Morrison, Jo Chapman, Louise Pannell, Roger Bryant (ALS), Venie Holbrook, Tony Morrison, Bobbie Prather, Sandra Hopper, Connie Mauney, Brandon King, Jane Bates, Lylah McGaughy, Niles Jones, Thad Berryman

•**CANCER:** Cohen Hurt, Frank Elliott, Jimmy Smith,, Rhonda Horton, Lanny Yancey (Treatments), Danny Yancey, Diane Hodges, Sandra Jones, Dianne Graves, Betty Faye Ledbury, Cutah Newby, Peggy Boggs, Marsha Jones, Nita Trotter, Carolyn Medlin, Niani Colom-Omotesa, Kenneth Rainey, Janice Willingham, Lester Wommack, Doug Pannell, Sam Camp, Sam Warrington (cystic fibrosis & leukemia), 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: **Lorene Daily, Christine Chapman** (Mailing: Tippah County Nursing Home, 1005 City Avenue North, Ripley, MS 38663).