

September 22, 2024

Announcements  
Ross Shackelford

Song Leader  
Brad McAlister

Scripture Reading  
Bo Chapman

Opening Prayer  
Gene Yancey ( A.M.)  
Tommy Wade (P.M.)

Closing Prayer  
Jarvene Shackelford (A. M.)  
Keith Newby (P. M.)

Lord's Table  
Rickey Cissom

Count and Usher  
Danny Shackelford & David Smith

Wednesday Night Song Leader  
Mason McAlister (09/18/24)

**OUR RECORD**

September 15, 2024

Sunday Bible Study: 86  
Sunday Morning Worship: 105  
Sunday Evening Worship: 86  
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 81

**BULLETIN BY E-MAIL**

Receive bulletin by e-mail notify us:  
office.chapmanchurch@gmail.com

**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) 502-2806**  
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

## EARTHQUAKES AND THE BIBLE Mark Lindley

There are many references to earthquakes in the Bible. One of the better-known references is Matthew 24:6-7, “And ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be famines, and pestilences, and earthquakes, in divers places.” Many interpret these words of Jesus to refer to signs that the second coming of Christ and end of the world are near. Every time a new war breaks out or there is an earthquake, there are those who begin to warn that “the end is near!”

However, in the context of Matthew 24, Jesus is warning about the fall of Jerusalem that occurred in the year A.D. 70. By reading Matthew 24:4-35, one can see that Jesus was not describing the end of the world; rather, he was describing the overthrow of Jerusalem. The warnings Jesus issued, prove this point. For example, consider that as Jesus warned his disciples of this future event, he said, “Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains” (v.17). However, if Jesus was warning about the end of the world, fleeing to the mountains near Jerusalem would not help at all. He also warned, “But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day” (v.20). Think about that for a moment. If Jesus was warning about his second coming and end of the world, it would not matter if it was winter, spring, summer or fall. However, if one were trying to run from Roman soldiers during wet, and perhaps muddy, winter months, it would be more difficult to escape than if the weather were mild and dry. These points make it clear that Jesus was not warning about his future and final coming at the end of time; rather, these things were spoken concerning the fall of Jerusalem.

In addition, Jesus said to the people of his day, “This generation shall not pass, till all these things be fulfilled” (v.34). This establishes that the events Jesus was describing would occur while the people of his day were still living! Those things happened in that day!

On September 12, 2024, there was an earthquake in Malibu, CA. The 4.7 magnitude earthquake rocked the area that Thursday morning, after which, there was a 2.8 magnitude aftershock (NBC News).

What is the “spiritual” significance of this recent earthquake? How does it relate to the “signs” of Matthew 24? There is “no” relation between the recent earthquake and Matthew 24! The same can be said of wars and famines of our day—these are not “signs” that the end is near!

Do not be deceived: no one knows when the Lord is coming because there will be “no” signs. Jesus said, “But of that day and hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels of heaven, but my Father only” (Matthew 24:36). And Peter warned: “But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up” (II Peter 3:10).

Are you ready?

## IDOLS: PAST AND PRESENT

James Pilgrim

Idols are not new. We read of them in the Old Testament and New Testament. We also have them in the present day. Exodus 20:3-5 forbids gods (idolatry), “Thou shalt have no other gods before me. Thou shalt not make unto thee and graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God,...” Cf. Deuteronomy 5:7-9. That is the same as Galatians 5:19, 20, where idolatry, a work of the flesh is forbidden. Thus, we see that God’s people were forbidden to worship anything contrary to the will of God under the Old Testament. Likewise, Christians are forbidden to worship anything contrary to the will of God under the New Testament.

Those in Athens were “too superstitious”, religious, ASV. (Acts 17:22). Paul said their worship of “devotions” (gods, idols), the unknown God, made their worship ignorant (Verse 23; Cf. Isaiah 45:20). It is not enough to worship; our worship must be right. (Acts 17:22-34).

We must be careful not to be “removed” by “some that trouble you, and would pervert the gospel of Christ” (Galatians 1:6-9). Be like the Bereans who “Searched the scriptures daily, whether those things are so.” (Acts 17:10, 11). Study (2 Timothy 2:15) to confirm the message you hear by anyone.

Do not accept or reject a message because it does not fit what you have heard or believe, but because it is or is not the truth. (John 17:17; 8:32). Be careful not to let the preacher become an idol, that you worship him, and/or accept whatever he says as the truth. Remember Galatians 1:6-9. “Some” troubled them and perverted the gospel of Christ, preaching “another gospel”, which was not another, but a perversion of the gospel. A strong condemnation was levelled against even an angel from heaven who did this. (Verses 8, 9).

Paul was as zealous as one could be. (Acts 7:58; 9:1-5; 23:1; 26:9-12). However, he was wrong (Acts 9:4, 5), and he had to be taught (Acts 9:4-18; 22:16), and obey God, which he did. (Acts 26:19). Aquila and Priscilla taught Apollos, the “eloquent” Jewish gospel preacher from Alexandria, the way of the Lord more perfectly about the only baptism he knew, John’s. (Acts 18:24-28). About twelve men of Ephesus had been taught the baptism of John. (Acts 19:1-7). Paul learned of this, and he taught them the need to be baptized in the name of Jesus (Verse 4), which they did. (Verse 5). Honesty, sincerity, and even doing what one has been taught may not be acceptable. One must do what is right. These three (3) examples prove this to be true. More could be given. Read the epistles.

Many have made idols out of preachers. For example, consider how many accept what the TV evangelists of this day teach as the gospel, when it may be a perversion of the gospel, as at Galatia. Look at the number of churches being fashioned by preachers today. This writer has heard, “My preacher said....” One should never say that, but should say, the word of God teaches. Preachers are not idols to be worshipped. Cf. Revelation 19:10; 22:8, 9

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FIFTH SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 29<sup>TH</sup>

10:00 A.M. BIBLE STUDY

10:45 A.M. WORSHIP

12 NOON FELLOWSHIP MEAL

1:30 P.M. AFTERNOON SERVICE

Who is a wise man and  
endued with knowledge  
among you? let him shew out  
of a good conversation his  
works with meekness of  
wisdom.

**James 3:13**

#### 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 Andrew Rolison.

*Remember count your blessings, pray for our lost ones, the sick, the world and the broken-hearted.*

**HOME FROM HOSPITAL:** Juan Stroupe, Maggie Bridges (Bobby’s Mother)

**HOSPITAL:** Ray Henderson (Vanderbilt), Laurie Loveless (Tupelo)

**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Dorothy Hopper, Wilma Wood, Joanie Kate Reese, Pam Mathis, Lori Chapman, Garrison Coats, Joe Clark, George Doss, Thad Berryman, John Walker Perry, Juanita Michael

**CANCER:** Billy Gross, Wade Carmichael, Tiny Willis, Dorothy Hopper (John’s Mother) Billy McBryde (Rita Smith’s Father), George Doss (Kelly Brewer’s Father), Ralph Shaw (Janie Chapman’s Son-in-law), Loxlee Eaton, David South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless, Sidra Davis, Tish Clark, Kevin Clifton, Austin Wentz, Betty Faye Ledbury

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

#### TEXT ALERTS

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Facebook and YouTube**