

November 16, 2025

Announcements
Randell16Koon

Song Leader
John Hopper

Scripture Reading
Dale Vandygriff

Opening Prayer
Brad McAlister (A.M.)
Bo Chapman (P.M.)

Closing Prayer
J C Newby (A.M.)
Rickey Loveless (P.M.)

Lord's Table
Jimmy Vandygriff

Count and Usher
Rickey Loveless & Brock Lindley

Wednesday Night Song Leader
Brice Lindley (11/19/25)

OUR RECORD
November 9, 2025

Sunday Bible Study: 108
Sunday Morning Worship: 139
Sunday Evening Worship: 83
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 86

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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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

A SCRIPTURAL DIVORCE

Mark Lindley

Is there any such thing as a *scriptural* divorce? In order for something to be scriptural, it must be in harmony with the teaching of the scriptures. Therefore, the question is, Do the scriptures teach that one may get a divorce?

That is a question the Pharisees asked Jesus. They inquired, "Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife for every cause?" (Matthew 19:3). In effect, they were asking if it was scripturally permissible to divorce for every cause. Jesus answered their question clearly and boldly. He said, "Whosoever shall put away his wife, except it be for fornication, and shall marry another, committeth adultery: and whoso marrieth her which is put away doth commit adultery" (Matthew 19:9).

In order to clarify what Jesus taught, let us suppose there was a married couple-Bob and Sue-who had been having marriage problems. Neither Bob nor Sue had been guilty of fornication. Yet, Bob, because he was "no longer happy" with Sue, decided to divorce Sue. Now, according to the Scriptures, does Bob have scriptural grounds for divorce? The biblical answer is an emphatic "no." Sue had not committed fornication, and consequently Bob would have no scriptural reason for divorce. The only scriptural reason for a divorce is if one's spouse has been guilty of fornication (Matthew 19:9).

Nevertheless, there are those who take the position that one may divorce for *any* reason, as long as one does not remarry. According to this view, the sin is not in the divorce, but in the remarriage. The problems with this view are numerous. First, consider what Jesus said happens when one divorces his or her spouse for some unscriptural reason: "Whosoever shall put away his wife, saving for the cause of fornication, *causeth her to commit adultery*" (Matthew 5:32). The one who initiates a divorce for some unscriptural reason puts a stumbling-block of temptation in the path of the one divorced. Surely, it cannot be right to divorce a spouse who has not committed fornication, thereby placing that innocent spouse in a situation to be tempted to find sexual fulfillment outside the marriage. Yet, that is exactly what Jesus said one does who divorces one's spouse for an unscriptural reason.

Second, what about the commitment: "for better, for worse"? Do those words not mean that married couples have promised to work through problems *together*? Obviously they do. But many who make that promise are willing to keep it only as long as things are "better." When things get "worse" many head for divorce court.

Jesus said concerning marriage, "What God hath joined together, let not man put asunder" (Matthew 19:6). It is the Lord's will that married couples stay together through good times and bad, and even though one may scripturally divorce a spouse who has been guilty of infidelity, it still may be best to work it out and keep the marriage together.

THE APOSTLES—JAMES THE SON OF ALPHEUS

James Pilgrim

The next apostle mentioned by Matthew is “James the son of Alphaeus.” (Matthew 10:1-4). He was also known as James the less. (Mark 15:40). Jesus healed a man with a “withered hand...on the Sabbath day.” (Mark 3:1-5). Those in the synagogue watched Jesus, whether He would heal the man “that they might accuse him” (Verses 1, 2), which the Pharisees did after the healing, hoping to destroy Jesus. (Mark 3:6). “Jesus withdrew himself with his disciples to the sea: and a great multitude followed....” (Mark 3:7, 8). “He had healed many” and others sought to touch Him, confessing His deity. (Verses 9-12). Jesus then “went up into a mountain, and calleth unto him whom he would: and they came unto him. And he ordained twelve, that they should be with him, and that he might send them forth to preach, And to have power to heal sicknesses, and to cast out devils” (Mark 3:13-15), among whom was “James the son of Alphaeus.” (Verse 18).

After His resurrection (Luke 24:1-6), Jesus was seen by the twelve, used for the whole, but in reality, the eleven of His apostles (remember that Judas Iscariot had committed suicide prior to Jesus’ crucifixion, Matthew 27:1-35) on at least four occasions. (1 Corinthians 15:5, 7; John 20:19-25; 20:26-29). Remember, James the son of Alphaeus was one of those apostles. One wonders how frequently James bore witness to the Great declaration of Jesus being the Son of God by telling others that he saw Jesus on at least four occasions following His deliverance alive from the tomb. (Romans 1:4).

Too, remember that the mother of James the less, Mary, was at the cross; she and others had also found the tomb empty (Mark 16:1-6), as Jesus had prophesied (Matthew 20:17-19; Mark 8:31), and she ministered to Jesus when He was in Galilee. (Mark 15:39-41). Is it any wonder that “James the less”, “the son of Alphaeus” became an apostle? (Cf. verse 47; Proverbs 22:6; Ephesians 6:1-4).

When Peter as freed from prison by an angel of the Lord (Acts 12:7-11), and came to the house of Mary, mother of John, surnamed Mark, they sent to James and the brethren to tell them that Peter was seen of them freed from prison (Verses 12-17). Remember, James the brother of John had already been killed by Herod I (Acts 12:1, 2) in A.D. 44. Thus, this James could not have been the James to whom they were sent. He had to be the apostle known as the son of Alphaeus.

As an apostle, James the less would have been a part of forming the decrees to be kept. (Acts 16:4). James with the other apostles held Andronicus and Junia, Paul’s kinsmen and prisoners, in high esteem. (Romans 16:7). Although some chose not to marry (1 Corinthians 7:8), they could have. (1 Corinthians 9:5). “The mystery of Christ” was made known unto the apostles who preached it to all. (Ephesians 3:3-11). James, as an apostle, gave commandments of the Lord and Saviour.” (2 Peter 3:2). Read Matthew 5:19, 20. Also, do not forget the warnings of the apostles, with regard to those who would teach differently to the doctrine of Christ. (Jude 17ff). James the less, as an apostle, had a great influence upon the Christian way. What about me/you?

UPCOMING EVENTS

HOLIDAY BASKETS & CAROLING DECEMBER 7TH

After Evening Service

**If you wish to help on purchasing items
for baskets - box located in foyer. Need
by Nov. 30th**

**Please review List of Names doing baskets
for - posted in foyer - make note if they are
diabetic* - WANT TO MAKE SURE WE
DON’ T MISS ANYONE.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS DECEMBER 9TH

6:30 PM

At South Main Events

Bring an ornament – will do
ornament exchange.

PROGRAMS OF WORK

Website: chapmanchurch.com

Articles • Sermons (Audio) • Chapman Challengers

The Bible Broadcast

Sunday Mornings at 8 AM

• WKZU radio 104.9 FM & WSKK radio 102.3 FM

Southern Sentinel Article

Every other Wednesday

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38663) or e-mail office.chapmanchurch@gmail.com

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

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

❖**HOME SICK:** Danny Shackelford, Juan
Stroupe

❖**HOSPITAL:** Mandy Strickland, Arthur
Koon (Randell’s Brother/Hospice)

❖**SURGERY RECOVERY:** Kye Elliott,
Amy Staggs

❖**EXTENDED ILLNESS:** Juan Stroupe,
Caleb McAlister, Pam Mathis, Lori
Chapman, Garrison Coats, Thad Berryman,
John Walker Perry

❖**CANCER:** Teresa Rhea, Kye Elliott
(Sharon Pannel’s Nephew), Rosie Marie
Greer (Jane Morrison’s Sister), Belinda
Lucy (Jane Morrison’s Niece), Marilyn
Harrell, Vince Jordan, Jane Childs, Kelly
Foster, Paula Curtis, Maverick Speck (3 yr.
old), Cindy Moffitt, Kenny James, Chris
Grisham, Benny Wallis, Billy Gross, Wade
Carmichael, Tiny Willis, Billy McBryde (Rita
Smith’s Father), George Doss (Kelly
Brewer’s Father), Loxlee Eaton, David
South, Eddie Mauney, Haley Loveless,
Sidra Davis, Tish Clark, Kevin Clifton

❖**SHUT-INS:** *Home:* Janie Chapman,
Juanita Michael *Tippah County Health &
Rehab:* Romia Palmer, Mike Stroupe

TEXT ALERTS

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receive Chapman’s Text Alerts.

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