

BE SOBER (1 Peter 5:8)

When you hear the word, sober, what do you think? Immediately, I begin to think about staying away from drugs and alcohol. While this word certainly has that in mind, it is more focused on simply staying alert and being ready. The reason Christians need to be sober minded is because our adversary the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion seeking someone to devour. If we are not alert or paying attention, we may be an easy target for Satan.

It is funny that Peter tells his readers in the previous verse to cast their anxiety on God, and then in the following verse, adds to their anxiety by saying, "There is a lion on the loose, look out!" However, it is important to notice that Peter is helping us understand that just because we have cast our anxiety on God, that does not mean that we can relax and give Satan opportunity. We need to continue to stay alert and remain faithful.

If we can be sober minded and remain faithful, notice the blessings for us in verse 10, "And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast." So, do not lose heart in your present circumstances, be of sober mind, stand firm in the faith, and receive the blessing that the God of all grace has prepared for you.

(Travis Robertson, preacher for the Lake Norman Church of Christ, Huntersville, NC, via Bulletin GoldExtra)

ASK A FRIEND TO ATTEND

Volume 27

October 6, 2021

Number 20

CHURCH OF CHRIST
711 N. Main Street
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Carthage, TN 37030
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SMITH COUNTY LIGHT

"Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."(Matthew 5:16)



MEETING PLACE OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Elders:

Barry Cook
(615-735-3194)
Michael Hackett
(615-735-7046)
Johnny Law
(615-735-1240)
Jerry Phillips
(615-735-0326)
R.W. Vincent
(615-735-0361)

711 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 88
Carthage, TN 37030
(615-735-0114)

Deacons:

Josh Brown
(931-319-9994)
Tony Hackett
(615-735-9037)
Steve Harper
(615-735-2651)
Jeremy Hassler
(931-335-1884)
Chris Hicks
(615-418-6472)
Jerry Hicks
(615-418-6637)
Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)
Andy Rutherford
(615-418-5050)
Dusty Whitaker
(615-709-1086)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Worship

9:00 A.M.
6:00 P.M.
12:30 P.M. last Sunday of month
Bible Study
Sunday Morning
10:15 A.M.
Wednesday Evening
7:00 P.M.

Evangelist:

Edward L. Anderson
(615-735-2462)

Youth Minister:

Justin Mauldin
(931-319-6548)

Secretary:

Elaine Wright
(615-735-0114)

For Transportation to Services
615-735-0114 or 615-418-6637

Email: carthagecoc@dtccom.net

Fax Number: (615) 735-0131

Website: www.carthagechurchofchrist.net

Sunday & Wednesday Services broadcast on Facebook & YouTube

FREE Bible Correspondence Courses, Tracts or Home Bible Study/ Videos.
(615-735-0114 or 615-735-2462)

"VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME"

THE BRIDE OF JESUS

Jesus was never married while upon the earth, but He does have a "bride". He is the "bridegroom" (John 3:29), and His church is the "bride" (Rev. 21:9; Eph. 5:22-33). Paul's primary emphasis in his marriage analogy is clearly "Christ and the church" (See v. 32). However, the divinely inspired instruction given to husbands and wives should be applied universally in every marriage (See also Gen. 2:21-24; Matt. 19:1-9; 1 Peter 3:1-7).

Scripture reveals that those "baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death" and "should walk in newness of life" (Rom. 6:3-4). Penman Paul declares in the next chapter that all such were "dead to the law by the body of Christ; that you should be **married** to another, even to Him who is raised from the dead, that we should bring forth fruit unto God" (See Rom. 7:1-4).

The figure of the church as the "bride" of Christ leads us to some very important principles to be applied by those who make up the "bride". *First*, there is the principle of SUBMISSION (See Eph. 5:21.). Paul declares, "Christ is the head of the church" and "the church is subject unto Christ" (Eph. 5:23, 24). This rules out a pope or anyone else as the "Head" over the church. After reminding us that "God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble", James forcefully states: "Therefore submit to God" (James 4:6-7).

Second, there is the principle of PURITY. Purity is prized by the "Bridegroom". Jesus emphasizes purity of heart and righteous conduct (Matt. 5:6, 8, 10). Spiritual "Israel" (the church) must not go after other "lovers" as did fleshly Israel (See Jer. 22:20, 22; 30:14). The doctrine of Christ must never be left for denominational dogmas of men or the allurements of the world (2 John 9; 1 John 4:1; 2:15-16).

Third, there is the principle of FAITHFULNESS. Wives *and* husbands are to be devoted to one another (Eph. 5:33). Just as physical fornication is a sin against the physical body (1 Cor. 6:18), spiritual fornication is a sin against Christ and His body, the church. "He who calls you is faithful" (1 Thess. 5:24), therefore, we too, should "be...faithful unto death" (Rev. 2:10). Not even death will separate the faithful from the faithful "Bridegroom". What a thought!

Edward L. Anderson

FROM THE PREACHER'S HEART:

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

A Series of

GOSPEL MEETINGS

HOSTED BY THE CARTHAGE CHURCH OF CHRIST
(711 North Main Street)

OCTOBER 24-27, 2021

Sunday A.M.: 9:00 and 10:15

Sunday P.M.: 1:00

Sunday – Wednesday: 7:00 P.M.

With Evangelist:

David L. Lipe

(Baxter, TN)

(About the Speaker: Brother Lipe began preaching in 1967. He has served churches in Mississippi, Tennessee, and Alabama and been involved in mission campaigns in five foreign countries. He preaches in several gospel meetings and lectureships each year. He has authored several books and edited more than thirty lectureship books. He was a professor of Bible and Philosophy at Freed-Hardeman University from 1990-2010. He continued to serve as Director of the annual FHU Bible Lectureship through 2015. He then served as Director of Southeast Institute of Biblical Studies (formerly East TN School of Preaching), in Knoxville. He retired as Director in 2014 but continues to teach and work in fundraising and development for the school. He and wife Linda, reside in Baxter. He currently preaches for the Cherry Creek church of Christ in White County.)

We hope you will visit with us during the meeting. A warm welcome awaits you. Please bring your Bible that we may together “Search the Scriptures” (John 5:39), and thereby gain the approval of God (2 Tim. 2:15).

For more information call (615) 735-0114.

NEWS & NOTES:

SICK: Jerry and Mary Phillips continue to deal with health issues and need our prayers. Barbara Jenkins has been unable to be with us due to bronchitis. Her grandson, Zayden Rowlett, has also been ill. Carolyn Harris is still not feeling well. Lola King had a treatment last Friday but was able to be with us Sunday. Susan Law is now back with us but continues therapy. Janice Hicks was unable to be with us Sunday and needs our continued prayers. Janet Rose, Kim Bray's mother, has been suffering from pneumonia. Regina Rowland is back with us. Rosie Gray, Ruby Fisher's granddaughter is recovering from covid. Wanda Fisher's mother, Brenda Forrest, has improved. Sally Russell continues to recover. It is good to see Dayton Jamison back with us. Kenneth Bennett continues to recuperate. Barbara Anderson is doing rehab for her knee issues. Madeline Marvin, Carol Woodard's young granddaughter is recovering well from a broken leg.

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED/LIVING/SHUT-INS: Lovell Chaffin; Wilma Richardson; Judith Newberry; Mary Lou Smith; Frances Glosser; Ricky Branham; (SCHR); Loneta Bains (Pavilion); Pat Paysinger (Shut-in).

IN THE MILITARY: Jana Watson, Ann Carter's granddaughter (Army); Randy Carter's sons and Lacey Crockett's brothers, Derek (Army) & Landon Carter (Coast Guard); PFC Samuel Burton (USMC), Darlene Fariss' grandson; Benjamin Gentry (USMC).

CONGRATULATIONS: Belated congratulations to Emma Genette Denton and James Edward Trainham III, who were wed 9/11/21; to Faye Maberry on the birth of her great-grandson, Jett Clabe Robinson (7 lbs., 2 oz., 20 in.), born 9/23/21 to Matthew and Alicia Maberry Robinson (grandson of the late Randy Maberry).

SYMPATHY: To the following families: Susan Klamm and family in the recent death of her aunt, Peggy Collins; Richard Bowman and family in the recent death of his brother, William Bowman.

COMMODITIES FOR TN CHILDREN'S HOME: We will again be collecting toilet paper; paper towels, and liquid laundry detergent for the children. Bring the items ASAP and place them in the annex. If you have a filled coin can please bring it. You may also donate cash/check for perishable items if you choose.

DOOR KNOCKING: Come and help knock doors for our upcoming Gospel Meeting, Saturday, October 16.

PRAYER LIST: Phillip Coffee (cancer - friend of Barry Cook); Gary Vincent; Michael Hackett (cousin to Dennis); Sharon Woodard; Eric Marvin; Roger Kemp; Lucette Kemp; Terry Collins; Rick Adams; Bob Bennett; Ruthie & Richard Stafford; Sue Reed; Jimmy Key; Greg Phillips; Tracy & Holly White; J.B. Dailey; Patricia Maxwell; Deborah Murray; Cranston Massey; Robbie Napier; Teresa Hampton; Joyce Kilgore; James Spivey; Oaken Maberry; Mrs. Willie Sevier; Ron Gibson; Steven Linville; Pete Williams; Donald Eskew; Mark Scudder; Zander Dixon; Andy Futrell; Patricia Nye; Buddy Hyatt; Dustin Justice (lymphoma); Barbara Dixon; Conner Hackett; A.J. Purkey; Josh Dillard; Lavern Hardee; Dan Winkler; Steve Higginbotham; Wayne Lankford; Shirley Henry; Sandy Waggoner; Nancy Hicks Bane; Wendy Williams; Ruby Anderson; Roslyn Fox Stout; Denise Griffin; Rylee Winfree; Rebecca Huffines Thompson; Tommy & Linda Ashburn; Jerry Hutchins; Danny Claire; Scott Bane; Emily Moss and children; Lucas Wakefield; Linda Dennis; Gary Anderson; Donnieta White; John Conditt; Duane Hesson; Billy Woodard; Jerry Glenn; Bentley Cowan; Louie Gray West; Taylor & Spencer Keaton; Paulette Blackburn; Emily Allen; Will Gregory; Rick Blankenship; Ken Miller; Tom Brown; Alicia Haynes; Joey Black; Joe Kemp; Susanne Tisdale; Pattie Birdwell; Mary Ellen Lawrence; Ray Hobbs; Wes Stafford; Sawyer Cole; Richard Rhoten; Earl Carter; Jennie Burnett; Arnold Rich; Jimmy and Carolyn Rigby.

EVENTS CALENDAR: *Smith County Health Care/Rehab Center Devotional:* First Sundays of February, May, August, November (as permitted by covid regulations), 2:00 PM; *Fifth Sunday Pavilion Devotional* (To be resumed when permitted); *Retreat:* Taylor Christian Camp, October 10, Theme: “ONE THING”; *Gospel Meeting:* October 24-27, with David Lipe; *Coffee/Fellowship:* First and third Thursdays, 6:30-8:00 AM in annex.

VISITATION/GREETING PROGRAM: Josh Brown has a list of newcomers and shutins. If you wish to help with new assignments with welcomes and calls, please contact him. Making a visit can make a big difference in the life of another and our own! See Matthew 25:25:31-46 and James 1:27.

AREA EVENTS: *Ladies' Day:* Findlay church of Christ (Sparta), November 13, 8:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M. with Jane Washington.

THANK YOU: The church has received and read a recent “Thank You” note from Donnieta White.

“O Lord our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!”