

**Noteworthy**

**Prayer Requests:** Joe Brown (*cancer*), Reagan Cunningham, Kelly Cochran, Kurt Dickey, Betty Eubanks, Linda James (*ongoing medical*), Yvonne Jordan, Rowena Lawson, Leon Miller (*recovering better from knee replacement*), Butch Morgan, Dottie Reynolds (*her faithfulness is encouraging*), Wayne Ryland (*Ongoing medical*), Ken Turner (*scheduled for hernia surgery next month*), Jerry Williams (*shoulder surgery*).

*Our family and friends:* Susan Bebbly (*Bucky Day's sister; diagnosed with cancer*), Elnora Bennet (*Moses Stevens' sister*), Mildred Church (*Shut-in*), Chet Sheffield (*out of town*), Shelby Sprott, Brian James (*cancer*), Debbie Montgomery (*the Blackburn's daughter*), and Ardis Tucker.

**Ladies' Bible Class:** The next ladies' Bible class is going to be March 14th, at Stef Marschall's home (*at 7PM*). In preparation, please study the lesson that begins on page number 93 in the book, "Some Do's and Don'ts for the Christian". (*See the sign-up sheet in the foyer*)

**Afternoon Singing:** Our next afternoon singing will be March 13th at 5pm, in the auditorium.

**Bible Class Review:** The kids are all invited to the Bible review class on March 6th (*next week*) in classroom number 7, shortly after the evening services.

**Group Meeting:** Group (3) meets tonight after worship.

**For Encouragement:** There are many among us who labor for the congregation continually. We have elders who watch & feed the flock, deacons who minister to needs, and teachers who provide instruction. We also have those who (Romans 12:6-8) exhort through giving and showing mercy (such as visiting), & others do good deeds like Dorcas did (Acts 9:36-38). Then there those who prepare communion, along with those who keep up the facilities in which we meet to worship. We are a blessed group. May we be at peace among ourselves (James 3:17-18), esteem others highly in love for their work's sake (Philippians 2:3), & recognize those who labor among us, and are over us (1 Thessalonians 5:12-14).

**Assignments for Worship Service**

**Wednesday Night: 3/2/16**

Song Leader: Eddie Lawson  
 Opening Prayer: Nick Ross  
 Invitation: Jeremy Wharton  
 Announcements: Charles Rawdon  
 Closing Prayer: Trent Stevens  
 Recordings: Clay Sadler  
 Usher: Larry Hicks

**Sunday Evening: 3/6/16**

Song Leader: Eddie Lawson  
 Opening Prayer: Jordan Lawson  
 Lord's Table: Sherman Johnson  
 Announcements: Mike Sadler  
 Closing Prayer: Paul Lloyd  
 Recordings: Bucky Day  
 Usher: Bob Marschall

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**Sunday Morning: 3/6/16**

Lord's Table: Sherman Johnson (B)  
 Clay Sadler (C)  
 Serving: Jim Abram  
 Norm Blackburn  
 Song Leader: Larry Wisdom

Opening Prayer: Jim Elliot  
 Announcements: Mike Sadler  
 Closing Prayer: Wayne Ryland  
 Recordings: Bucky Day  
 Usher: Bob Marschall



**Lakeland Hills  
 Leader**

**LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST**

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**ELDERS**

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405  
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378  
 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

**SERVICES**

Sunday  
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.  
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.  
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.  
 Wednesday  
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

**DEACONS:**

Robert Marschall  
 Charles Rawdon  
 Michael Sadler  
 Moses Stevens  
 David Williams

**EVANGELIST:**

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

***Concerned About Religious Inconsistency?***

Are you concerned about the religious division in our society? Or, do you believe that everyone is entitled to different opinions on how to serve the one true God? I know *for me* - I spent time in *my* youth attending church services in different places with friends - only to leave disturbed about the contradictory teachings declared at those places.

For instance, I'd go to one church and be told that everyone has sinned and fallen short of the glory of God; and therefore I had sin in my life that needed to be atoned for. Consequently, I was told that I needed to pray "the sinners prayer", "accept Jesus into my heart", and accept Christ as "my personal Lord and Savior." But then another week, I'd go somewhere else only to be told that I needed to merely "believe in" Jesus - and *then* I could be "saved". Yet by another, I was told I must "confess" all of my sins to another man, and *then* I could deal with them "properly". In spite of everything, others contended that I must "repent". Some even suggested that I needed to join *their* church in order to be saved. Everywhere I went on Sundays, people came together to worship and acknowledge Jesus Christ as

God's only begotten Son. Except, those different groups of people — all *contradicted one another!* That was very unsettling to me back then, and it still bothers me today!

So what does any of that *mean?* I understand that I must honor the One and True God – the One who created the universe in order for me to go to heaven. Also, when someone says, “the only way to the heavenly Father is through His Son Jesus”, I agree with that, too (see John 14:6). However, when all of those folks who profess Christianity disagree on *how to gain access to Jesus Christ* - something is amiss! The New Testament Scriptures declare, “*I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a different gospel, <sup>7</sup> which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to pervert the gospel of Christ. <sup>8</sup> But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. <sup>9</sup> As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.*” (**Galatians 1:6-9**) There is only ONE gospel that is to be preached. And this passage from God declares that preaching “*a different gospel, which is not another*”, will bring about severe

consequences from God. In yet another Scripture, the Bible declares, “*Now I plead with you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.*” (**1 Corinthians 1:10**) Not everyone is entitled to their own interpretation concerning what to teach in the things of God. If someone truly is a Christian, then what they teach concerning matters of salvation should be consistent! “*If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.*” (**1 Peter 4:11**)

Friend, I really do believe that there are NO contradictions in the Bible! I also believe that the holy men of old *were directed by God* in what they wrote. Not only that; but they wrote the “God breathed” Scriptures *in such a way that WE (you included)*, can read and understand them!! One holy man wrote, “*For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles-- <sup>2</sup> if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, <sup>3</sup> how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, <sup>4</sup> by which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ),*

*<sup>5</sup> which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets: <sup>6</sup> that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, <sup>7</sup> of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.* (**Ephesians 3:1-7**). The Bible can be understood by “laymen” who really and truly seek to know the Lord's will (Matthew 7:7-29)!

With so many that profess Christianity contradicting one another, it's no wonder that some people are “turned off” by religion (John 17). Not everyone can speak different doctrines — and everyone be correct, can they?! Different men can (and will) contradict one another, but accurate translations of the Bible remain constant. For it is written, “*For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; <sup>19</sup> and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book.*” (**Revelation 22:18-19**) If you are truly seeking to understand, accept, and do what *the Bible* teaches; I believe that we can fully be united in Christ. Moreover, we can have our sins

washed away and live together with God in heaven, forever! We will all meet God face to face one day (Revelation 22:4), and every knee will bow before Jesus Christ (Philippians 2:9-10). Don't you want to come to Him now, according to the Almighty's terms?

There are (indeed) dire consequences for the sins that men and women commit (Romans 3:23; 6:23; John 5:29). Nevertheless, *the Bible* teaches how we may obtain forgiveness, and thereby enter a covenant with God through Jesus. The question is, *what does the Bible teach* on the matter? *I may suggest* to you one thing... The preacher down the street may suggest to you “another” gospel. But what does *the Bible* teach? Are you uneasy about the contradictory things declared by men? I am!! And that's why I hope you will pray about it, and then sit down with me to look into God's word, together. The Bible is consistent, and I pray that you will see that for yourself. Will you follow up with me?

Unless noted, all quotations are from the New King James Version of the Holy Bible.

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