

WICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Maudie Jones, Ruby Harrison

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Paul Mays, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Kim Haynes, Bettie Barrett, Fred Elliott, Bobby Myers, Rick Pope

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Kimberly Wilcox, Jerusha Key, Sonya Parnell, Michelle Howell, Anna Turner, Francis Rushing, Vera Fike, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Paul Lockhart, Larry Drummond, Jim Murrell, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Joe Windham, Vera Burke, Elmer Williams, Sandra Myers, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, Esther Sutton, Robin Harrison, Bill Hawkins, Bob Daniels, April Kinney, L.J. Frost, Wilma Howell

WM - BEN WRIGHT - AN EXPERIENCE WITH JESUS WE ALL NEED

WM - BEN WRIGHT - GOD'S GLORY AND OUR RESPONSE

THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE VBS SUCH A GREAT EVENT!

SYMPATHY IS EXTENDED TO CYNTHIA MCMEANS DUE TO THE DEATH OF HER SISTER-IN-LAW, IRENE PALMER WHO PASSED AWAY LAST WEEK IN ENGLAND

OSPEL MEETING AT CARBON HILL JUNE 12-16

OSPEL MEETING AT HATT JUNE 12-15

VBS AT CROSSROADS JUNE 12-15

READING FOR THE WEEK: SUN- PSALM 43-47; MON- 48-52; TUE- 53-58; WED- 59-64; THUR- 65-68; FRI- 69-72; SAT- 73-77; SUN- 78-79

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HIGHWAY 78
CARBON HILL, AL 35549
(205) 924-9038
westwalkerchurchofchrist.org

TIMES OF SERVICES

SUNDAY MORNING

BIBLE CLASS 9:30

WORSHIP 10:20

SUNDAY EVENING 5:00

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 7:00

ELDERS:

Gene McDonald 924-4827
Carlton Myers 221-0637
Leil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

AN EXPERIENCE WITH JESUS WE ALL NEED

(Romans 6:1-5)

Our _____ (vs. 1-2).

- A. At some point, and some may _____ be, we were alive to sin and not dead to it.
- B. Sin _____ us like it had Paul (Romans 7:19-20).
- C. It may be that we even thought we were right _____, just as Saul of Tarsus had.
- D. Simply put, we were in the same _____ boat as the Ephesian Gentiles had been (Ephesians 2:11-12).

I. Our _____ (vs. 3-4).

- A. The experience with Jesus that all men need is to be _____ into Him and put Him on in baptism (vs. 3, Galatians 3:26-27).
 - 1. The purpose of baptism is to _____ away our sins (Acts 22:16), and _____ us in Christ.
 - 2. Baptism takes away our sins because in baptism the old man of sin _____ (Romans 6:6).
- B. Baptism absolutely _____ us (1 Peter 3:21).
- C. Baptism allows us to have a new condition of being in Christ and walking in _____ of life (2 Corinthians 5:17).
- D. This simply means we are _____ people now.
- E. We have _____ to sin.
 - 1. This does not mean we _____ to sin any longer.
 - 2. It does mean we are not _____ by it and desiring to do it the way we once did.
- F. All of this comes about through _____ (Titus 3:5).
- G. The only baptism that does that is the baptism _____ in the New Testament.

II. Our _____ (vs. 5).

- A. Not only does it change the present, it gives a great promise for the _____ and the reward we will receive for being changed.
- B. We are promised that we will also get to be in the _____ of His resurrection.
 - 1. One day our Lord is _____ (Acts 1:10-11).
 - 2. Those who are in the _____ are going to be resurrected (1 Thessalonians 4:14-17).
- C. Those that are or were faithful Christians at the return of Jesus will be made into the same likeness as _____.
 - 1. We will have a “_____ body” (1 Corinthians 15:49).
 - 2. We don’t know what it will be _____, but it will be like the body of Christ (1 John 3:2).
- D. This great reward is all due to our _____ with Jesus.

THE HIDDEN GOSPEL

Patrick Morrison

During the days of Josiah's reign, he implemented numerous reforms throughout Judah in order to rid the land of idolatry and draw the people back to God. At eighteen years of age, a rather remarkable discovery was made in the house of God—Hilkiah the high priest found the word of the Lord (2 Kings 22:8)! The implication is that the word of God had been lost for some time in the temple of God! Can you imagine His precious law being lost among His own people in His own house? This discovery both saddened and frightened Josiah, for he feared the repercussions of not having kept the word of God as they ought (22:12-13). It seems rather amazing to me that Judah had strayed so far away from God that they had not even realized that the word was lost. How sad that God's people had not even missed the word of God! The word of God had been hidden in the temple of God because it had been hidden from the lives of the people of God by their own negligence and willful rebellion.

Fast forward to our own day. We read the account of Josiah's reforms and likely react with astonishment at their indifference toward God's precious word. How could they lose His word in the very place where it ought to have been found so easily? The truth of the matter is that we often hide the gospel behind the walls of the church building today. Copies of God's word were considered so precious during the Dark Ages that the Bible was literally chained to the pulpit to keep people from stealing it. The word of God is found in abundance today in our nation, yet we keep it chained to the pulpit by hiding it within the walls of the church building. How can we claim to be the people of God, yet not allow His word to go forth from the place of worship and instruction? Paul reminds us, "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost. (2 Cor.4:3). We might think little of our indifference about taking the gospel to those who are lost, but our lack of reflection and introspection is to the detriment of those who have never heard or obeyed the soul-saving message.

Had Judah taken the word of God home with them and put it into their hearts, the reforms of Josiah's day would have never been necessary. How many Christians today bring their Bibles into the assembly and then leave them in the pew, never bothering to take God's word home with them so that they might lay it up in their hearts? We are to be the light of the world, but if the light is hidden, it gives no light to those who need it (Matt.5:13-16). How long can we hide the word of God under a bushel basket and expect to enjoy the loving-favor of our Heavenly Father? After all, He is concerned enough about the plight of the lost that He sent His only begotten Son to redeem man from his sins (John 3:16). Perhaps it is time for an awakening on the scale of Josiah's reforms in the church today. To our shame we have kept the word of God hidden within the church building. Like Josiah, let us rend our clothes as we allow the word of God to rend our hearts (Joel 2:13). Like Josiah, may we pour out our hearts in prayer and penitence for not keeping the word of our God! When we hide the word in our hearts, it will not remain hidden in the church building (Jer.20:9). Ring the message out!