

SICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Bertharine Burton, Ruby Harrison

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Gloria Windham, Ed & Bettie Barrett, H.C. & Jimmie Nell Brown, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie & Michael Files, Cynthia McMeans, Henry McDonald, Willie Nelson, Glen Lockhart

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Sharon Lawson, James & Wilma Howell, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Michael Pope, Robert Turner, Wonda Ivie, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, James Felton, Tommy Pope, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Kathy Pate, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Robin & Brandon Mullis, Angie Johnson

AM - BEN WRIGHT - "THE SON OF EXHORTATION"

PM - JORDAN GRAY

BIBLE BOWL TODAY AT 2 PM AT BLACKWATER

GOSPEL MEETING AT CLEVELAND SEP 29- OCT 2

THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST
26036 HWY 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
Neil Myers 924-9289
Bruce Windham 221-2348

DEACONS:

Danny Busby 387-0213
David Preston 300-1927
Kevin Richardson 295-8864
Chris Robbins 388-1354
Vince Roden 924-4062

MINISTER:

Ben Wright 522-8004

THE SON OF EXHORTATION

(Acts 11:22-26)

I. He was willing to go.

- A. When brethren who are in a hard place are _____ there are other people out there like them, it gives them a boost of energy.
- B. When he got to Antioch, the ones who had _____ the gospel to Antioch were probably excited that word of their work had reached the apostles.
- C. The new _____ would have been encouraged that the apostles were interested in their well-being.

II. He _____.

- A. Upon seeing the grace of God having been _____, Barnabas rejoiced.
- B. His reaction had to be encouragement to those who were _____ the gospel in that town.
 - 1. An _____ of the apostles was rejoicing over their efforts.
 - 2. Everyone likes to have their work _____ and _____.
- C. Whenever _____ is being done, we need to rejoice.

III. He encouraged their _____.

- A. He went on to encourage them to _____ in their hearts to hold onto Christ.
- B. He knew the only way they would remain _____ is if they decided right then to hold onto Jesus no matter what came.
- C. We _____ need people to encourage us in this.

IV. He encouraged by his way of _____.

- A. There are very few people the Bible says were _____.
- B. He was _____ to the Lord.
- C. He was _____ to be around.
- D. People who are full of faith are those who live in a manner that is _____ to others.

V. He encouraged by _____ out others for the work.

- A. Barnabas realized he needed some _____.
- B. He knew of a man that was _____ for the job.
- C. I imagine this was a _____ encouragement to Saul.
- D. Barnabas was not about getting _____ for himself.
- E. He was about _____ others.
- F. It is encouraging to others to _____ them in our works for Christ.

THE ANTIOCH CHURCH OF CHRIST

Jack McNeil

The Lord's Church at Antioch in the Roman province of Syria began with a handful of refugees who fled to the 3rd largest city in the Roman Empire. The church in Antioch was established in two phases: First by those which were scattered abroad. (Acts 8:4; 11:19). This group was likely composed of Hebrew Christians from Jerusalem. These came and preached to the Jews only. (Acts 11:19). The second phase included preaching to the Gentiles. (Acts 11:20-21). This second group was composed of Christians from Cyprus and Cyrene (Libya) preaching to the Grecians. This term Grecian is often applied to the Jews of the dispersion, who had adopted the Greek culture, but in this context it seems to indicate that these were non-Jewish Greeks, i.e. Gentiles. Therefore, this would likely have been sometime after conversion of Cornelius. It is interesting that at this time, there were no "big name" preachers among them. The Apostles were still residing in Jerusalem. These were simply a group of fully-committed every day, anonymous Christians, who had a desire to go forth and conquer the world for Christ.

To be able to do so, they first devoted themselves to the study of God's word and as a result they grew into one of the great bastions of faith – teachers and preachers of the Glorious Gospel! They were of a great diversity of cultures and nationalities with ONE important thing in common: The Love for God and His Son Jesus Christ: (Eph 4:4) they demonstrated this great love by zealousness in evangelism! They evangelized a great city, crossing every cultural and religious boundary to turn men from darkness to light. With this church at Antioch we see in action the ideal that all men, regardless of race, nationality or cultural heritage are truly ONE in Christ Jesus! (John 17:20-21; Acts 17:26; Rom 1:16; Eph 2:14)

It was here at Antioch that the appellation "Christian" is first applied to the disciples of Jesus Christ. This came about in fulfillment of the prophecy of Isa 62:1-2. This points to the establishment of the church and its spread throughout the Jews. (Acts 2:1-8:4) "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory..." This points to the Gentiles coming into the church. (Acts 10:1-11:18) "And thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the LORD shall name..." Perhaps this name change came about because it was at this location that the cultural, racial, social and religious divide between Jews and Gentiles was most firmly set aside, thus shattering all labels so that the only commonality that could be affixed to them was that of the name Jesus Christ! They were simply Christians! Not Jewish Christians; not Grecian Christians; not Roman Christians – the name of Christ was sufficient for them, as it should be for us today!

From their actions (beginning in Acts 13), we can see that these people were not content just to simply remain comfortable in their homes and in their own city, but they looked to spread the gospel into all the world! They supported missionaries of diverse cultures and customs. E.g. Paul, Barnabas, Silas, Titus, John Mark, Luke, Timothy, etc. Each of Paul's three major missionary journeys, recorded in Acts, began from Antioch. Syrian Antioch became the major hub of most the evangelistic activity with the gentile world. It was, in large part, because of their efforts that many missionaries were sent forth and were able preach the Gospel to, "to every creature which is under heaven..." (Col 1:23).