

SICK LIST:

HEALTHCARE CENTERS:

Ruby Harrison, Cynthia McMeans (Ridgeview, Rm 154)

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Bessie & Michael Files, Henry McDonald, Lizzie Banks, Kristee McDonald, Karen Griggs, Gail Windham, Bruce Windham, Allie Roden, Jenna Wright, Sandy Richardson

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, 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, Kathy Windham, Lane Clark, Arthur Mason, Kelly Tittle, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Debbie Jackson, Diane Townley, Ralph Moon, Elesia Wright

AM - BEN WRIGHT - A PREPARED PLACE FOR A PREPARED PEOPLE (PT 2)

PM - BEN WRIGHT - CLOSING REMARKS TO THE ROMANS (PT 3)

GOSPEL MEETING AT FAYETTE, OCT 12-15

GOSPEL MEETING AT SIXTH AVENUE, OCT 12-15

THE ANNUAL HALLOWEEN GET TOGETHER AT FRANK AND WILMA'S WILL BE OCT 25

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

A PREPARED PLACE FOR A PREPARED PEOPLE (PT 2) (John 14:1-3)

I. The description of heaven.

- A. Jesus described it as a place of many _____ (John 14:2).
1. Some translations have _____ instead of mansions.
 2. The reason for this is that the Greek word here translated comes from a root word that means "_____".

- B. As we think about its description, we need to remember that it is a _____ place.
- C. John described heaven in terms we could _____ beginning in Revelation 21:9.
 - 1. We need to realize he was describing a _____ place to a _____ people.
 - 2. John then described it as a spiritual _____ of _____.
- D. All of the terms used by John to describe the building materials were _____ metal or stones.
- E. Heaven is a truly amazing place that _____ description by man.

II. The denizens of heaven.

- A. Most people believe they are _____ to heaven.
- B. Jesus said that would not be the _____ (Matthew 7:13-14).
- C. Those that do the _____ of God will be in heaven (Matthew 7:21).
- D. Those whose names are _____ in heaven will be there.
 - 1. The Hebrews writer tells us whose _____ are written in heaven (Hebrews 12:23).
 - 2. The place where their names are written is in the Lamb's _____ of _____ (Revelation 21:27).
- E. Those who _____ in Jesus will be there (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).
- F. Those who love the _____ of Jesus will be there (2 Timothy 4:8).
 - 1. Paul was about to die and very much _____ the crown that was awaiting him.
 - 2. He wanted us to know that it wasn't just for him, but for all those who eagerly _____ the appearing of Jesus.
- G. Those who remain _____, even if they have to die for their faith, will be there (Revelation 2:10).
- H. Those who died in _____ will be there.
 - 1. We must become like _____ to enter the kingdom (Matthew 18:3).
 - 2. This lets us know that those who are _____ of sin and die will be there.

THE SOUL'S ANCHOR IS THE HOPE OF HEAVEN

Jason Jackson (excerpt from an article on christiancourier.com)

The Christians in Colossae had a deep faith in God and abiding love for Christians. So should we "because of the hope which is laid up for you in the heavens" (Colossians 1:5).

"The emphasis on hope reminds us that the salvation which believers already enjoy in Christ has a future aspect" (F.F. Bruce, *The New International Commentary on the New Testament: The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984, p. 41). The preposition rendered "because" identifies a connection between the Christian's faithful and loving conduct (Colossians 1:4), and his expectation for the future. "On account of" the hope of heaven, he so lives. The child of God anticipates a heavenly home, and this is his soul's anchor (Hebrews 6:19).

"Hope" is confident expectation. The prospect is that something great is real and obtainable. Various phrases, connected with "hope," help us understand the Christian's perspective. We live with confidence because of what God has promised to the faithful (cf. 1 Peter 1:4; 1 John 5:13).

"The hope and the resurrection of the dead" means "the hope of the resurrection" (Acts 23:6). "And" (kai) is epexegetic, defining the object of hope as the resurrection (W. E. Vine, *Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words*, Unabridged Edition, McLean, Virginia: MacDonald, n.d., p. 572). The resurrection is God's redemptive finale, a victory over the death-consequence of sin, which prepares us for eternal habitation (cf. Romans 8:23; 1 Corinthians 15:50-58).

"The hope of the promise" is the expectation of the benefits of God's eternal purpose (Ephesians 3:9-11); all of his promises will come to pass (Acts 26:6-7).

"The hope of righteousness" is the realization of total conformity to the will of Christ, through his saving plan, at his coming (Galatians 5:5). Also, note the phrases, "the hope of the gospel" (Colossians 1:23); "the hope of the glory of God" (Romans 5:2); "the blessed hope

and appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ” (Titus 2:13); “the hope of salvation” (1 Thessalonians 5:8); “the hope of his calling” (Ephesians 1:18); and “the hope of eternal life” (Titus 1:2).

The “God of hope” (Romans 15:13) imparts to Christians a “living” (1 Peter 1:3), “blessed” (Titus 2:13), and “good” (2 Thessalonians 2:16) hope, through the “patience and comfort of the scriptures” (Romans 15:4). Simply put in Colossians 1:27, the message preached to the world is this: “Christ in you, the hope of glory.”

Note in Colossians 1:5 that the Christian’s hope is not, “You can live forever in paradise on earth,” as the title of a Watchtower Society publication asserts. Rather, the “one hope” (Ephesians 4:4) is “laid up in the heavens.” Such a hope is not for an exclusive 144,000 (see “Who are the 144,000 of Revelation 7 and 14?”).

The Christians of the Lycus Valley learned pure Christianity. Paul wrote that these truths were “heard before in the word of the truth of the gospel” (Col. 1:5). They learned and obeyed the gospel (i.e., the “good news” of salvation in Christ).

The gospel has not changed. We, like they were, are encouraged to adhere to it (cf. Colossians 2:6). Only the truth gives hope — real hope — and “hope is,” as the American poet Wallace Rice put it, “the patent medicine for disease, disaster, and sin.” Heavenly hope through the gospel of Jesus Christ is the anchor of the soul.