

SICK LIST:**HEALTHCARE CENTERS:**

Ruby Harrison

HOME: Freddie Alexander, Fred & Romaine Elliott, Michael Files, Henry McDonald, Bruce Windham, Vercie Griffin

PRAYER LIST: April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Harold Walton, Louise Alexander, Donnie Bryant, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Rhonda Poe, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, James Felton, J.D. Dailey, James Horsley, Brenda Holloway, Jake & Diane Chambers, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Lane Clark, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Debbie Jackson, Diane Townley, Ralph Moon, Elesia Wright, Jamie Long, Margie Thomasson

AM - BEN WRIGHT - THE NEW TESTAMENT IS OUR PATTERN

PM - BEN WRIGHT - THE MEANING OF CHURCH GROWTH

NEIL WILL BE SPEAKING NEXT SUNDAY EVENING ABOUT THE PEARL HARBOR CONGREGATION AND A PRESSING NEED THEY HAVE

BIRTHDAYS:

Feb 3: Kristi Busby

4: Barbara Wright

5: J.P. Whitfield

ANNIVERSARY:

Feb 5: Jason and Charity Chambers

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 NEW TESTAMENT IS OUR PATTERN
(Romans 6:17)

I. God has _____ given His people a pattern.

- A. The God we serve is a God of _____ (1 Corinthians 14:33).
- B. He always has been and always will be (Hebrews 13:8).
- C. God had a pattern for _____ to build the ark.
 - 1. Genesis 6:14-16.
 - 2. Noah did _____ what God commanded him to do (Genesis 6:22).
- D. When you read Exodus 25-27, you see that God gave _____ an exact pattern for building the ark of the covenant, the altar, table of shewbread, the lampstand, and the tabernacle.
- E. Paul told the Romans that they had obeyed a _____, which is the meaning of the word "form" in Romans 6:17.

II. This idea has been _____ by man.

- A. The divine rule book used to _____ us, outlining the expectations and demands of the ruler is now the New Testament.
- B. Sadly though, this idea of the _____ of a pattern or the New Testament as a pattern has been and is being

III. The New Testament presents itself as a pattern.

- A. The very _____ that it is a New Testament shows it is to be a pattern.
- B. Matthew 26:28.
 - 1. Now notice Hebrews 9:15.
 - 2. Galatians 3:15.
 - 3. Once the will has come into _____, it cannot be changed or altered by anyone.
 - 4. It is not to be disregarded in its contents being carried out, but its _____ are to be met.
- C. Not only that, many passages declare to us that the New Testament is _____ to be our pattern.
 - 1. 2 John 9.
 - 2. 1 Corinthians 4:6.
 - 3. Galatians 1:6-9.
 - 4. Revelation 22:18-19.
 - 5. Romans 6:17.
- D. God expects us to live according to and in _____ with this divine pattern.
 - 1. Matthew 28:20.
 - 2. Ephesians 5:11.
 - 3. 2 John 10.

GOD'S PLEA, PLACE AND PLAN FOR UNITY

Dennis Gullede

The word “unity” is rare in the Bible, but the idea of unity fills the scriptures. Unity exists among the members of the divine Godhead. Jesus said, “I and my Father are one” (Jn. 10:30). Unity exists in marriage that allows a husband and wife to become “one flesh” (Matt. 19:5-6). The “unity of the faith” in Paul’s day was the coming together of the New Testament canon (Eph. 4:13). The “perfect man” would be the same as “that which is perfect” (1 Cor. 13:10). Unity in faith and practice is supposed to exist among Christians. Paul said, “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and the same judgement” (1 Cor. 1:10). Jesus established only one church (Mt. 16:18). The Jerusalem church was of “one heart and one soul” (Acts 4:32).

There are at least two ways to appreciate the value of unity among God’s people. First, is to consider the Scriptural statements relative to the value of such (Psa. 133:1; Jn. 17:20-21; 1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:3). Unity is God’s plan for his people, and his alone. Protestant denominations did not exist when these statements were made, and these passages are not properly applied to them. Denominations reflect a digressive development that occurred long after the church was established. This development was foretold by inspired writers (2 Thes. 2:2-4; 1 Tim. 4:1-3; 2 Tim. 4:1ff). The above statements on unity were made to the Lord’s congregations.

A second way to appreciate the value of unity is to observe the sad reality of religious division within a congregation. Conflict, strife and division sap the energies and life out of a congregation. The Devil must laugh with glee when brethren are expending their energies in constant confrontation. Ira North once said that, in his early years as a gospel preacher, he thought that it took a congregation about 50 years to get over a “first class church fuss.” In his later years he decided that a congregation never really gets over a tragic fuss and split. I believe that brother North was correct. Division destroys the “temple of God” (1 Cor. 3:16-17). Divided congregations cause weak and unstable brethren to sometimes desert the Lord’s cause.

In John 17 Jesus offered a prayer for his church that he had promised to build and which he would sanctify with his own blood. He prayed for himself (Vss. 1-8), his contemporary disciples (Vss. 9-19), and for future followers (Vss. 20-21). Some think Jesus was praying for the unity of believers in heaven. There will be unity in heaven, no doubt, however, this is a unity that will make an impact on the world. This is the reason the Lord prayed, “That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me” (Vs. 21). Others think Jesus was speaking of unity of heart, not so much of external demonstration. Why would external

unity not be a priority? Lip service without life-service is actually no service! If people are united in heart it will show in life (Prov. 4:23).