

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**AUG 7, 2016**

**HOME:** Fred & Romaine Elliott, Henry McDonald, Gene McDonald, Chuck Windham, Bettye Henderson, Jill Roden

**PRAYER LIST:** April Lazenby, Sue Hinds, Joshua Jackson, Elmer Williams, Debra Webb, Patsy Tucker, Debbie Odom, Robert Turner, Bobby Holloway, Ricky McDonald, David Brown, Kim Elliott, J.D. Dailey, Donna Laratta, Kathy Windham, Arthur Mason, John Pruitt, Madison Banks, Charles Crump, Martha Ann, Margie Thomasson, Micah Earnest, Vonciel Phillips, Wanda Self, Jamie Sanford, Bruce Windham, Raymond Johnson, Joyce Jacobs, Patrick Parker, Gene McDonald, Sabrina Handley, Mike Miles, Terry Galloway, Jon Sanford, Marvin White, Jimmy Harrison, Otto Tolbert, Diane Chambers, Angie Jones

AM - ASHLEY KIZER

PM - ASHLEY KIZER

**OUR GOSPEL MEETING STARTS TODAY! PLEASE STAY AND EAT WITH US AFTER SERVICES AND COME BACK TONIGHT AT 7. WE WILL HAVE A MEAL STARTING AT 5:30 MON-WED WITH SERVICES AT 7.**

**OUR 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GOING TO BE GIVEN TO VARIOUS MISSION EFFORTS WE SUPPORT: OCTOBER - MSOP/GBN**

### **BIRTHDAYS:**

Aug 7: Eli Phillips & Shanna Robbins

8: Paige Hall & Chuck Windham

12: Madison Chambers

### **ANNIVERSARY:**

Aug 10: Ricky & Cindy Pope

# THE WEST WALKER WELCOMER

WEST WALKER CHURCH OF CHRIST  
26036 HWY 78  
CARBON HILL, AL 35549  
(205) 924-9038  
[westwalkerchurchofchrist.org](http://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

## **THAT AIN'T RIGHT**

### **Ben Wright**

If someone told you that something weighed a pound that you knew weighed two pounds, wouldn't you stop them and set them straight? What would happen if that person responded with, "Well, to you that is two pounds, but to me it's just one pound." Wouldn't you say back something like, "That ain't right"? If something is two pounds, you can't change its weight can you? There is a standard of authority and everyone knows a pound is a pound and two pounds is two pounds. That is true in every area of life isn't it? Things are what they are.

However, we lose that same sense of respect for authority when it comes to religion. If someone tells us that a scripture means a certain thing, there are many of us who would respond, "Well, that's what it means to you, but I don't think it means that." We need to understand, that a scripture can't have one meaning for you and another for me. Just like the response earlier, "That ain't right". When it comes to religion, many times we fail to understand that the New Testament is our standard of authority and we try to do anything we want and then make the New Testament say what we want it to say.

Jesus said, "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48). His words, the New Testament, are the standard of authority by which we will be judged on the last day. The New Testament is the only authority to which we can turn to find out what the Lord wants or does not want in our lives and worship. Paul wrote by inspiration, "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him" (Colossians 3:17).

Sadly, many use other things as their standards of authority. Many use their feelings as their standard of authority. "If it feels good do it" was the motto of the world several years ago. The use of the phrase has gone out of style but the attitude behind it hasn't. We can look around us at the way people act and the things they do to see that is the case. While it is wrong to do in life, since we are to do God's will and not our own, there are those that do it in religion. How many times have you said or heard, "I feel in my heart..."? Respectfully, it doesn't matter what we feel in our hearts. Saul of Tarsus felt that what he was doing was right. Later in life he said, "I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth" (Acts 26:9). He felt it was right to persecute Christians, but he was wrong.

Some use man-made traditions as their standard of authority. We've all heard people say, "It was good enough for my parents, so it is good enough for me." As great as our parents may be or have been, they could still be wrong. Parents are human just like us and we all sin (Romans 3:23). Paul had followed the traditions of his father (Galatians 1:14). He came to realize his father was wrong. We need to turn to God's word and not what our parents or some person we highly respect thinks is right. Now, if what they are doing is in line with God's word, then by all means, we should imitate them. Paul, again by inspiration, tells us that is proper (1 Corinthians 11:1). Man-made traditions are not what is going to please God (Mark 7:7-9). Church manuals, disciplines, creed books, or anything like those, are all man-made. All we need is the New Testament.

Some follow the crowd. "Everyone else is doing it." That is something we said or heard in our

lifetimes. Some use this when it comes to religion. Do you remember what your mom would have told you if you said that to her about something? "If everybody is going to jump off a bridge would you follow them?" Our parents understood that the crowd is often going to get us in trouble. The reason is, the majority of people are not doing what God wants them to do and want us to be right in there with them. Jesus understood and taught this very fact: "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it" (Matthew 7:13-14).

Some blindly follow what their preacher says. As a preacher let me tell you, don't do what I say just because I said it. Don't do what any preacher says just because he said it. Do what the Bereans did when they heard the gospel message: "And the brethren immediately sent away Paul and Silas by night unto Berea: who coming thither went into the synagogue of the Jews. These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:10-11). Preachers can be wrong and are wrong when they don't preach what is in God's word. Come behind me and check me against God's word. Any preacher that gets mad if you do that is a false teacher.

God has given us a standard of authority. It is the New Testament. It is by that we will be judged (John 12:48). Anything else will get us lost, for all eternity. God's word is worthy of being our standard because it is the only book which has been written by inspiration (2 Timothy 3:16-17). If you hear someone say something when speaking about religion and God that isn't in the New Testament, tell them, "That ain't right".