



# SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

September 17, 2023

No. 38

## ***The Two Sides of Providence*** ***Dan Jenkins***

It might seem strange to learn that the word providence occurs only one time in the Bible, and there it is not referring to the providence of God (Acts 24:2). In fact, this word is not found in most translations. Yet, the truth is that the concept of God's providence is found throughout the Scriptures. One cannot read the Bible without knowing that God provides.

There are questions about His providence He has chosen to not reveal to us. We should be content to speak where the Bible speaks but also must remember to stop where the Bible stops. Moses' words say so much about this. "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but those things which are revealed belong to us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of this law" (Deut. 29:29). There is no way we can know that our idle speculations are what God thinks and we must learn to be silent.

### **Providence Seen By Looking Backward**

Because we know that every good and perfect gift comes from above (James 1:17), it is not wrong for us to look at the past and see the hand of God in our lives. Young David found strength and courage to fight Goliath because of His past experiences. "The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine" (1 Sam. 17:37). He knew of providence because he

had seen it. The book of Psalms is filled with encouragement based on all that God had done in the past for Israel. Our Lord reminded His followers about providence, which they had seen in the rain, the sun, the birds and the lily of the valley. Because every good gift is from above, it is not wrong for us to look backwards to see providence.

### **Providence Seen When Looking Forward**

The words of Abraham to Isaac show us that we can see His coming providence by faith. Isaac was concerned and asked his father about the animal for the sacrifice. The patriarch's answer was simple. "God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering" (Gen. 22:8). He had no idea how God would provide it, He just knew that He who had always provided in the past would do so in the future. David also looked forward with the eyes of faith and saw himself walking with his Shepherd through the valley of death.

### **Providence Seen in Your Life**

So when troubles surround you and you are overwhelmed, stop and meditate on these two sides of providence. Look at how God has always helped His people. Look and see this truth in your past life. Then look to the adversity ahead and with the eye of faith march onward because you confidently know that your God will provide!

### **Today's Sermons**

AM - Why Some Look Back  
Luke 9:62

PM - Jesus, the Good Shepherd  
John 10:11-18

# ***Congregational News & Notes***

## **Prayer Requested**

### **Members**

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen  
Ron and Nadine McDonald,  
Sandra Epperson,  
Freddie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,  
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,  
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell  
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,  
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson  
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,  
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,  
Ken & Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis  
Phillip Mulins, Jerry Crabb,  
Karen Chance, Mary Lewis,  
Sheila Greer, Helen Morris  
Luther Merritt, David Briley,  
Gaylon & Betty Cooper

### **Friends & Family**

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin,  
Beverly Martindale,  
Allen Thompson, Glenn Lovell,  
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,  
Brandi Rogers, Marilyn Ferrell,  
Jeanette Manley, Corey Allen  
Kenton Lancaster,  
Justin Puckett, Ruby Malone,  
Margaret Davis

### **Pantry Item**

Canned Soup

## **Happenings**

### **South Jackson**

#### **Today**

Men's Business Meeting  
following AM Services

Directory Pictures will be taken  
after AM Services

### **September 23**

Chili Supper  
Gather 4 PM, Eat at 5 PM  
Sign up sheets on the  
bulletin board

### **Cards to Send**

Sandra Epperson  
37 Southside Drive  
Jackson, TN 38301

Newell & Sharon Turner  
91 Jones Road  
Medina, TN 38355

### **Weekly Record**

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| 6 AM            | 3     |
| Bible Class     | 48/18 |
| AM Worship      | 78/27 |
| PM Worship      | 55/13 |
| Wed Bible Study | 47/4  |
| Contribution    | 4419  |

# Those Privileged to Serve

## Sept 17 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - P. Hatcher, J. Butcher

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jeff Bliss

Opening Prayer:

Paul Hatcher

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Jerry Butcher

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Ken Ross

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Mike Wages

Communion: Joe Venable

## Sept 24 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - M. Wages, J. Smith

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Costel Ghimpu

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Ken Ross

Communion: Paul Hatcher

## Sept 20 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Ray Pack

Devo - Mike Wages

## Sept 27 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Devo - Marion Thomas

South Jackson Church of Christ

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Medon, TN

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Minister: Ray Pack

rpac119@gmail.com

(731) 437-9501

## Service Times

|                           |          |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Early Worship             | 6:00 AM  |
| Gospel of Christ - Fox 16 | 9:30 AM  |
| Sunday Bible Class        | 9:30 AM  |
| Sunday AM Worship         | 10:30 AM |
| Sunday PM Worship         | 5:00 PM  |
| Midweek Bible Study       | 6:30 PM  |