



# **SOUTH JACKSON BEACON**

Vol XV

February 13, 2022

No.7

## ***First Century Preaching***

Suppose it were possible to bring a first century Christian to the assemblies of the church today. Many physical things obviously would be different, but of greater concern would be those spiritual differences. Think for a moment about how different he might find the preaching today from the kind of preaching he heard in the infant church.

The preaching in the first century can best be described as inspired prophecy. Because they had only the Old Testament, God gave the sermons to prophets who revealed God's New Testament for men. Read the words of those prophets and think of the differences between those words and those words spoken today.

First century preaching was so plain it convicted those visitors who came to the assembly. Paul described that situation with these words: "But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an uninformed person comes in, he is convicted by all" (1 Cor. 14:24). Far too many pulpits today resound with "polished messages" which never bring conviction. Far too many sermons are outwardly perfect but would be welcomed in denominational pulpits. There is little that is distinctive, and visitors go away feeling satisfied without ever having been challenged in their beliefs. Our world is not like the NT world.

Paul's letters to young Timothy give great insight into the clarity of the messages from inspired preachers (prophets) in the early church. In his second letter to Timothy, he defines what it means to preach the word. Read these words carefully. "Preach the word. Be ready in season and out of season. Convince, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and teaching" (2 Tim. 4:2). The King James translates the word "teaching" as "doctrine," yet many preachers avoid doctrinal preaching. One cannot preach the word without speaking directly to the religious errors in our land. Paul then gives the reason to convince, rebuke and exhort with doctrine. "For the time will come when men will not endure sound doctrine." That time has certainly come!

Finally, look at Paul's words in his first letter to Timothy. In chapter four, he described how inspired preachers taught the truth. He said, "The Spirit expressly says. . ." He described false teaching as doctrines of devils and then specifically described these doctrines. Preaching today often avoids speaking directly about false teaching.

Having described the Spirit's preaching, Paul told Timothy, "If you instruct the brethren in these things, you will be a good minister of Jesus Christ" (4:6). What does this say about modern preaching? The verse clearly implies that if we do not instruct the brethren, we are not good ministers of Jesus. Our world has changed. Let us speak as the oracles of God!

*Dan Jenkins  
Palm Beach Lakes Church of Christ  
West Palm Beach, FL*

# ***Congregational News & Notes***

## **Prayer Requested**

### **Members**

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen  
Ron and Nadine McDonald,  
Sandra Jordan, Fredie Stewart,  
Cindy Kidder, Garmelia Ellis,  
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,  
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell  
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,  
John & Gwen Smith,  
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson  
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,  
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,  
Ken & Paula Wadley,  
Diana McConnell,  
Clara Williams, Janet Taylor  
Charles & Ruby Malone  
Karen Chance

### **Friends & Family**

Horace Yearwood,  
Beverly Martindale,  
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,  
Jeffrey Smith, Betty Turner,  
Shirley Bolin, Brandi Rogers,  
Jeanette Manley, Wayne Warren  
Kenton Lancaster,  
Bettye Kennon, Marilyn Ferrell

### **Sunday Sermon's**

AM - One Sermon for the World  
Matthew 28:18-20

PM - Some Great Bible  
Questions

## **Happenings**

### **South Jackson**

#### **February 20**

Men's Business Meeting  
Following AM Service

### **Cards to Send**

Mary Bolen  
802 O'Neal Lane  
Henderson, TN 38340

Carol Swader  
1838 South Highland Avenue  
Jackson, TN 38301

### **Pantry Item**

Tuna

### **Weekly Record**

6 AM	13
Bible Class	63/12
AM Worship	96/13
PM Worship	52/5
Wed Bible Study	49/9
Contribution	3464

Thank you for your generous  
donations to International  
Gospel Hour. A total of \$655.00  
was given to support this great  
work.

# Those Privileged to Serve

## Feb 13 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM. - R. Pack, G. Cooper

Lead Singing: John Smith  
Read Scripture:  
Costel Gimphu  
Opening Prayer:  
Mike Wages  
Sermon: Ray Pack  
Closing Prayer: Jerry Crabb  
Communion: Joe Venable  
Contribution:  
Charlie Richardson

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Matt Williams  
Opening Prayer:  
Marion Thomas  
Sermon: Ray Pack  
Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse  
Communion: Joe Venable

## Feb 16 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack  
Opening Prayer:  
Mike Wages  
Devotional: Marion Thomas

South Jackson Church of Christ  
845 Highway 18  
Medon, TN  
(731) 424-9721  
Minister: Ray Pack  
rpack119@gmail.com  
(731) 437-9501

## Feb 20 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM. - M. Wages, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Mike Wages  
Read Scripture:  
Jonathan Orr  
Opening Prayer:  
Freeman Kidder  
Sermon: Ray Pack  
Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas  
Communion: Ken Ross  
Contribution:  
Luther Merritt

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher  
Opening Prayer:  
Joe Venable  
Sermon: Ray Pack  
Closing Prayer: Jerry Crabb  
Communion: Ken Ross

## Feb 23 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher  
Opening Prayer:  
Ray Pack  
Devotional: Mike Wages

## Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 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