



# ***SOUTH JACKSON BEACON***

Vol XVI

April 23, 2023

No. 17

## ***John's Baptism of Repentance***

The appearance of John the Baptist introduced a religious act that was unknown before his time. It was the immersion of an individual in water in order to bring about the remission of sins. Jesus asked the Pharisees the question, "The baptism of John—where was it from? From heaven or from men?" (Matt. 21:25). Their answer shows just how new it was. Some have sought to say that it was part of Jewish rites which involved water, but such could not be true for they could have answered Jesus that it was from Judaism and had been done for years.

The truth is that John was sent by God (John 1:6), and his baptism was part of the plan to prepare the way for the coming of the Messiah. It was not a ritual, a religious act. It was tied directly to faith. Those Pharisees said that if they say from heaven, Jesus would ask them, "Why did you not believe him?" (Matt. 21:25). Baptism is directly connected to hearing God. Submission to baptism is motivated by faith, believing God's message.

John's baptism was also joined to repentance. It was a "baptism of repentance" (Luke 3:3). What does this mean? It acknowledges the source from which baptism comes. I am a man of Alabama, that is where I come from. Submission to John's baptism came from hearts that had repented.

John's baptism was not only linked to faith and repentance, but God made it part of receiving the remission of sins (Mark 1:4). The fact that John taught individuals to be baptized to

have their sins removed is precisely the reason John first refused to baptize sinless Jesus. Multitudes heard John preach the truth that Jesus was coming to bring judgment against sinful Israel. He was coming with an axe, a winnowing fan and a baptism (immersion) in unquenchable fire (Matt. 3:10-12). They knew they were sinful, and that God was just in bringing judgment.

On the other hand, the Pharisees were part of some who “justify themselves” (Luke 16:15) and rejected that the judgment of God was just. Read these words carefully. “All the people heard him, even the tax collectors justified God, having been baptized with the baptism of John. But the Pharisees and lawyers rejected the will of God for themselves, not having been baptized by him” (Luke 7:29-30).

Never forget that the baptism brought by Jesus was a message from heaven, tied directly to faith, repentance and the remission of sins. To reject it is to reject the will of God. Soberly consider these questions. The baptism brought by Jesus—where was it from? From heaven or from men? The Lord still has the axe, the winnowing fan and immersion in fire. If you have not submitted, you are rejecting God’s will!

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

### **Today’s Sermons**

AM - Look At Me Now  
Isaiah 1:18

PM - Singing Night

# *Congregational News & Notes*

## **Prayer Requested**

### **Members**

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen  
Ron and Nadine McDonald,  
Sandra Jordan, Freddie Stewart,  
Cindy Kidder, Garmelia Ellis,  
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  
Charles & Ruby Malone,  
Phillip Mulins, Gordon Love,  
Jerry Crabb, Philip Mullins,  
Karen Chance, Mary Lewis

### **Friends & Family**

Horace Yearwood, Helen Morris  
Beverly Martindale,  
Allen Thompson  
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,  
Shirley Bolin, Brandi Rogers,  
Jeanette Manley, Corey Allen  
Kenton Lancaster, Glenn Lovell,  
Marilyn Ferrell, Justin Puckett  
Ramona Thurston, April Richey  
David Briley, Chris Buford

### **Pantry Item**

Mac & Cheese

## **Happenings**

### **South Jackson**

**April 16**

Men's Business Meeting

**April 30**

Fifth Sunday Fellowship Meal  
Afternoon service will be at 1:30  
PM

### **Cards to Send**

Teriyaki Anderson  
225 Deerfield Loop  
Henderson, TN 38340

Laura Rushing  
5520 Teague Road  
Medon, TN 38356

### **Weekly Record**

6 AM	5
Bible Class	45/8
AM Worship	77/20
PM Worship	50/4
Wed Bible Study	65/3
Contribution	2396

# Those Privileged to Serve

## Apr 23 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, P. Hatcher

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Carleton Kidder

Opening Prayer:

Paul Hatcher

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Ken Ross

Contribution:

Jerry Butcher

## Apr 30 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - M. Wages, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Read Scripture:

Jeff Bliss

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Mike Wages

Closing Prayer: Freeman Kidder

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer: Joe Venable

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Ken Ross

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer: Mike Wages

Sermon: FHU Student

Closing Prayer: Ken Ross

Communion: Ray Pack

## Apr 26 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Devo - Mike Wages

## May 3 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Devo - Ray Pack

South Jackson Church of Christ

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Medon, TN

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Minister: Ray Pack

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(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