



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

July 23, 2023

No. 30

He Hears Our Prayers and Our Groaning ***Dan Jenkins***

Hear these words of David from the depths of despair: “My soul also is greatly troubled...return O Lord, deliver me! Oh, save me for Your mercies’ sake! I am weary with my groaning; all night I make my bed swim; I drench my couch with my tears” (Psa. 6:3-5). Have you ever been at this same place? If not, some day you may be.

The trials of life come upon us, and we groan and seek for God. At times like this, rest assured that He hears more than our prayers. He hears our groaning.

When Hagar had been sent away from Abraham’s household, she took her son, Ishmael, and fled into the wilderness. It was not long before they ran out of water and were dying of thirst. She was watching her own son as he was dying. Read the text carefully as it describes her prayer for death and deliverance from watching her child die. “Let me not see the death of the boy...And God heard the voice of the lad... and said to her, ‘What ails you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the lad where he is’” (Gen. 21:16-17). God heard the voice of Hagar and even the voice of Ishmael as death approached.

God heard the groanings of the Jews in Egyptian bondage as their taskmasters oppressed them. “Then the children of

Israel groaned because of the bondage...So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob” (Ex. 2:23-24). They cried out and God heard (over) both their groanings and their prayers! Stephen reminded the Jews of the events at the burning bush. God said to Moses, “I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt; I have heard their groaning and I have come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send you to Egypt” (Acts 7:34).

The trials in Egypt began with the oppression of evil men and this brought about the agony and groaning of the slaves in bondage. It was so severe that they first groaned. Then they cried out, and God responded. But note that even before they prayed, God heard the groaning.

Before He heard them pray, He heard them groaning.

What does this have to do with us? God is eternal, and He never changes. These verses do not describe how God was. It describes how He is—the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb. 13:8). Remember His name given at this burning bush: He is I AM.

A small child wakes in the middle of the night with pain. He is hurting and begins to sob. He hurts and feels so alone in the darkness. Unknown to him, his mom hears him crying and is rushing to his side, even before he calls out to her.

Remember He hears both our groanings and prayers.

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,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Ken & Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis
Charles & Ruby Malone,
Phillip Mulins, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance, Mary Lewis,
Harrial Davis

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, David Briley

Today's Sermons

AM - The 3 Fold Gospel - Part 1
1 Corinthians 15:1-4

PM - Singing Night

Happenings

South Jackson

July 30

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal
Meal follows AM Worship
Evening service will
be at 1:30 PM.
No 5 PM Services

**Numerous Area Events are
posted on the Bulletin Board**

Cards to Send

Harold Davis
64 Coatsland Drive
Henderson, TN 38301

Philip Mullins
685 Chester Levee Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Weekly Record

6 AM	N/A
Bible Class	51
AM Worship	84
PM Worship	51
Wed Bible Study	39
Contribution	3752

Pantry Item

Dry Pinto Beans

Those Privileged to Serve

July 23 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - M. Wages, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Jerome Turner

July 30 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, R. Clouse

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jerome Turner

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Mike Wages

Contribution:

Jeff Bliss

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Mike Wages

Communion: Marion Thomas

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Mike Wages

July 26 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Mike Wages

Aug 2 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

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