



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XV

September 4, 2022

No.36

He Hears Our Prayers and Our Groaning

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

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.

*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,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Ken & Paula Wadley,
Clara Williams, Jane Graves
Charles & Ruby Malone,
Jeff Bliss

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Helen Morris
Beverly Martindale,
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Jeffrey Smith, Betty Turner,
Shirley Bolin, Brandi Rogers,
Jeanette Manley, Wayne Warren
Kenton Lancaster, Glenn Lovell,
Marilyn Ferrell, Justin Puckett
Ramona Thurston

Sunday Sermon's

AM - Are Ypou there God?
1 Peter 3:12-13

PM - God of Blessings - Psalm
65

Happenings

South Jackson

Dorcas class will start again on
September 13th. See Ray to
get a study guide for the class.
Class starts at 10 AM.

Area Events

Several are posted on the
bulletin Board

Cards to Send

Teriyaki Anderson
225 Deerfield Loop
Henderson, TN 38340

Mary Bolen
802 O'Neal Lane
Henderson, TN 38340

Weekly Record

6 AM	7
Bible Class	48/4
AM Worship	72/11
PM Worship	41/0
Wed Bible Study	43/14
Contribution	2217

Pantry Item

Peanut Butter

Those Privileged to Serve

Sept 4 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, P. Hatcher

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

Sept 11 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, J. Smith

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Charlie Richardson

Opening Prayer:

Carleton Kidder

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Ken Ross

Contribution:

Jonathan Orr

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Ken Ross

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Paul Hatcher

Communion: Ray Pack

Sept 7 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Ray Pack

Devotional: Mike Wages

Sept 14 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Devotional: 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
Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday PM Worship	5:00 PM
Midweek Bible Study	6:30 PM