



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

December 17, 2023

No. 51

Blessed Assurance ***Raymond Seig***

The apostle John wrote: "These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God" (I John 5:13). This beautiful passage deserves our careful study because it assures us that Christians may know with certainty that they have eternal life. This is interesting because John earlier stated in this letter that we all sin (I John 1:8, 10). How may a person who sins know that he is going to heaven? Thankfully, we have other passages that provide additional insight.

According to the Scriptures, God does not require His children to be sinless. God does, however, require us to "be faithful." The Lord had the same apostle write in Revelation 2:10: "be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life." Thus, God's children who serve Him faithfully are assured of a home in heaven.

Since faithfulness is so important, let's turn our attention to Hebrews 11. This chapter tells us about the faith of a number of Old Testament characters, including Abel (vs.4), Enoch (vs.5), Noah (vs.7), Abraham (vs.8-10, 17-19), Sara (vs.11), Isaac (vs.20), Jacob (vs.21), Joseph (vs.22), Moses (vs.23-28), Rahab (vs.31), and many others (vs.32-38). Please note that this chapter states twice that faith enabled these people to obtain "a good report" (vs.2, 39). In other

words, they were in good standing with God.

Let us think about these people and reflect upon their lives for a moment. Were they perfect? No, the same Bible that tells us about their faith also points out their weaknesses and their transgressions of God's will. We must never condone sin, and the Lord wants us to strive to live according to His will. Nevertheless, a Christian can be faithful, even though he is not perfect, and he can know that he is going to heaven.

Let us also consider the Lord's "parable of the talents" (Matthew 25:14-30). We are especially concerned with the words spoken to the servants who were entrusted with five talents and two talents. Their master said to each of them: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord" (vs.21, 23). These servants were not rewarded because they were sinless; they were rewarded because they were "faithful."

Are you serving God faithfully so you can have this "blessed assurance?"

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested

Members

Harold Davis, Mary Bolen
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Dakota Matlock, Helen Morris
Fredie 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,
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, Kinlee Merritt

Pantry Item

Crushed Pineapple

Happenings

South Jackson

December 31

5th Sunday Fellowship Meal
Follows AM Service
PM Worship is at 1:30 PM

Cards to Send

John & Gwen Smith
495 Medon Malesus Road
Medon, TN 38356

Jeanette Manley
495 Medon Malesus Road
Medon, TN 38356

Weekly Record

6 AM	7
Bible Class	58/12
AM Worship	87/6
PM Worship	51/7
Wed Bible Study	51/10
Contribution	5805

Today's Sermons

AM - Mike Wages Speaking

PM - Kenny Ross Speaking

Those Privileged to Serve

Dec 17 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Smith, M. Wages

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Sermon: Mike Wages

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Jerry Butcher

Dec 24 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, R. Clouse

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Costel Ghimpu

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Paul Hatcher

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ken Ross

Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse

Communion: Mike Wages

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Dec 20 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Mike Wages

Dec 27 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Devo - Marion Thomas

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