



# SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVI

December 31, 2023

No. 53

## ***Having a True “Happy New Year”*** ***Dan Jenkins***

How many times in the last few days have you heard these words, “Happy New Year”? Probably far more than you can remember. These words may have various meanings depending on one’s background and their own personal values. Have you ever considered the spiritual aspects and implications of this phrase?

Jesus’ words in the Sermon on the Mount can so easily help us to see that the Bible speaks of happiness, not just at the beginning of a year, but about true happiness every day of the new year.

Jesus began His first recorded discourse with the Beatitudes. The word “beatitudes” is a Latin word for being blessed. In His sermon, Jesus used the word “blessed” nine times. The Greek word found here is far different from the way we usually define the word. When the angel announced to Mary that she was to bear the Son of God, he said, “Blessed are you among women” (Luke 1:28). The windows of heaven had been opened and the favor of God had been poured on upon the virgin. The Greek word the angel used is not the one found in the Beatitudes.

Defining the word blessed in the Beatitudes. The word blessed in Matthew 5:3-11 indicates happiness and joy. Jesus defined the source of true happiness in this first sermon.

Who is the one who is blessed (happy)? What avenue should we follow to have true happiness from heaven?

*Have a humble spirit (poor in spirit), not filled with pride*

*Learning how to deal with grief (those who mourn)*

*Putting others before self (those who are meek)*

*Longing to be righteous (hungering and thirsting for it)*

*Have a forgiving spirit (those who are merciful)*

*Purity of life and soul (pure in heart)*

*Sowing peace (being a peacemaker)*

*Suffering for doing right (persecuted)*

*Reviled (all kinds of evil falsely said about you)*

Look at His conclusion. "Rejoice and be exceedingly glad." Now that's real happiness!

What is the motivation for seeking this kind of a happy new year? Look at the verses again and pay attention to what awaits us: being part of His kingdom here and in heaven (v. 3); being comforted by heaven (v. 4); possessing the earth in a way the ungodly will never understand (v. 5); filled with His righteousness (v. 6); receiving abundance of mercy (v. 7); seeing God (v. 8); being called God's child (v. 9); receiving His kingdom (v. 10); being associated with the prophets and having a great reward in heaven (v. 12). Happy New Year!

# *Congregational News & Notes*

## **Prayer Requested**

### **Members**

Mary Bolen, Luther Merritt  
Ron and Nadine McDonald,  
Dakota Matlock, Helen Morris  
Fredie Stewart, Cindy Kidder,  
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,  
Doug Crouse, Norma Cogdell  
Mergie 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  
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

## **Happenings**

### **South Jackson**

#### **Today**

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

**The office will be closed on  
January 1**

#### **Cards to Send**

Mary Bolen  
802 Oneal Lane  
Henderson, TN 38340

Betty Mosely  
52 Auburndale Cove  
Jackson, TN 38305

#### **Weekly Record**

6 AM	18
Bible Class	45/13
AM Worship	92
PM Worship	44
Wed Bible Study	46/12
Contribution	2670

#### **Today's Sermons**

AM - All Things Become New  
2 Corinthians 5:17

PM - Sermon in Song  
Various passages in Psalms

# Those Privileged to Serve

## Dec 31 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Butcher, P. Hatcher

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Charlie Richardson

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Freeman Kidder

Communion: Joe Venable

Contribution:

Jeff Bliss

## Jan 6 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Smith, M. Wages

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jeff Bliss

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Sammy Puckett

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Various

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Special Song Service

Closing Prayer: Mike Wages

Communion: Ray Pack

## PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Ken Ross

Communion: Mike Wages

## Jan 3 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Ray Pack

## Jan 10 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Ray Pack

Devo - Mike Wages

South Jackson Church of Christ

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Minister: Ray Pack

[rpack119@gmail.com](mailto:rpack119@gmail.com)

(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