



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVII

August 25, 2024

No. 34

Faith, Obedience, and Authority

Dan Jenkins

The faith of the Roman centurion was so great that Jesus said it exceeded the faith of any Jew He had ever met. This commander of 100 Roman soldiers understood the matter of authority. He told Jesus that He did not have to go to his home to cure his slave, all He had to do was to give the command.

He understood this because he understood the nature of authority. He said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it" (Matt. 8:8-9).

It is amazing that so many have trouble understanding authority in religious matters. That soldier under the authority of this great man of faith could so readily figure out what his response should be. If the centurion told him to come, he would come. If he said go, he would go. If he said do this, he did it. When he heard the centurion's command to come, he did not go. If the command was go, he did not come. If the command was do this, he did not do that! Isn't it amazing how easily the matter was settled.

When it comes to religious authority, the principle is precisely the same. Jesus is truly our Commander-in-chief, for He has all authority in heaven and on earth. The fact that He has all authority leaves no authority for those of us who have committed ourselves to Him. The process is as simple as the arrangement in the armies in Rome. That soldier stood before his commander awaiting an order. When the order was given, he just did what he was told to do. Why is it that we struggle with this principle today? Like the Roman foot-soldier we stand before the Commander awaiting an order. When the order is given, we just do what He tells us to do.

If the command is believe, we believe. If the command is be baptized, we are baptized. If the command is to worship Him according to truth, we worship Him in that way. If the command is abstain from those lusts which war against the soul, we abstain. If the command is sexual purity, we live sexually pure. If the command is to not put asunder what God joins together, we do not put asunder. If the command is to not forsake assembling together, we do not forsake worship. If the command is to love or submit to our mates, we love or submit to them.

The basis of great faith is tied directly to understanding authority. Do I really have faith, if I do not obey?

Today's Sermons

AM - Seeking Biblical Authority
By What Authority
Matthew 21:23-27

PM - Singing Night

Congregational News & Notes

Prayer Requested Members

Mary Bolen, Luther & Jo Merritt
Ron and Nadine McDonald,
Fredie Stewart, Mary Lewis,
Roberta Donaldson, Lisa Dukes,
Doug Crouse, Carolyn Callis
Margie Montgomery, Sue Harris,
Betty Mosely, Teriyaki Anderson
James Morris, Freeman Kidder,
Andy Vaughn, Pearl Johnson,
Ken & Paula Wadley, Judy Ellis
Phillip Mullins, Jerry Crabb,
Karen Chance, Shirley Puckett
Gaylon & Betty Cooper
Carleton & Cindy Kidder

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin,
Beverly Martindale,
Glenn Lovell, Gladys Gowan,
Diane Hubbard, Brandi Rogers,
Marilyn Ferrell, Corey Allen,
Ruby Malone, Justin Puckett,
Kenton Lancaster

Communion

Beginning today we will be
going back to everyone using
the individual communion cups.

This is being done out of caution
as we head into cold, covid and
flu season.

Happenings

August 29th

Apologetics Press Dinner at the
Henderson Church of Christ.
Meal Starts at 6 PM.
Signup sheet is on the
bulletin board.

Cards to Send

Lisa Dukes
36 Brookfield
Oakfield, TN 38362

James Morris
C/O Vanessa Perry
97 Old Pinson Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Weekly Record

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 6 AM | 0 |
| Bible Class | 54/11 |
| AM Worship | 86/23 |
| PM Worship | 44/20 |
| Wed Bible Study | 48/6 |
| Contribution | 3203 |
| Budget | 4014 |

Sentence Sermon

Doubt does not disqualify you -
God is not afraid of your doubts

Those Privileged to Serve

Aug 25- AM WORSHIP

6 AM - J. Smith, M. Wages

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Van McConnell

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Joe Venable

Communion: Greg Long

Jeff Bliss

Sept 1- AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Clouse, R. Pack

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jerry Butcher

Opening Prayer:

Carleton Kidder

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Marion Thomas

Ronald Clouse

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Ray Pack

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Singing Night

Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse

Communion: Greg Long

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Mike Wages

Aug 28 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Marion Thomas

Opening Prayer:

Paul Hatcher

Devo - Ray Pack

Sept 4- WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Devo - Marion Thomas

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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 |