



SOUTH JACKSON BEACON

Vol XVII

January 5, 2025

No. 1

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

Friends & Family

Horace Yearwood, Shirley Bolin,
Beverly Martindale,
Glenn & Trudy Lovell,
Gladys Gowan, Diane Hubbard,
Brandi Rogers, Corey Allen
Kenton Lancaster, Roger Callis,
Caraline Rogers
Justin Puckett, Ruby Malone

Today's Sermons

AM - The Church Can
Thrive in 25
Ezra 7:10

PM - Three Steps to Change
Psalm 119:59-60

Happenings

South Jackson

January 19th

Men's Business Meeting follow-
ing AM Service

Cards to Send

Doug & Carol Crouse
68 Scotland Drive
Jackson, TN 38301

Luther & Jo Merritt
121 Chester Levee Road
Jackson, TN 38301

Weekly Record

6 AM	4
Bible Class	47/19
AM Worship	75/21
PM Worship	54/20
Wed Bible Study	40/22
Contribution	5500
Budget	4014

Those Privileged to Serve

Jan 5 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - R. Pack, R. Clouse

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Read Scripture:

Jonathan Orr

Opening Prayer:

Greg Long

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Marion Thomas

Communion: Paul Hatcher

Contribution:

Charlie Richardson

Jan 12 - AM WORSHIP

6 AM - P. Hatcher, J. Butcher

Lead Singing: John Smith

Read Scripture:

Jerry Butcher

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Carleton Kidder

Communion: Marion Thomas

Contribution:

Jeff Bliss

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Mike Wages

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Ronald Clouse

Communion: Greg Long

PM WORSHIP

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer:

Paul Hatcher

Sermon: Ray Pack

Closing Prayer: Greg Long

Communion: Joe Venable

Jan 8 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Paul Hatcher

Opening Prayer:

Joe Venable

Devo - Marion Thomas

Jan 8 - WED BIBLE STUDY

Lead Singing: Mike Wages

Opening Prayer:

Marion Thomas

Devo - Ray Pack

South Jackson Church of Christ

845 Highway 18

Medon, TN

(731) 424-9721

Minister: Ray Pack

rpac119@gmail.com

(731) 437-9501

Service Times

Early Worship	6:00 AM
Gospel of Christ - WBBJ	5:00 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