

## Sinful Influences

We are being bombarded by our society in a number of ways. With the proliferation of 24/7 media feeds and social media, our exposure to all facets of our society is “always on.” While that can be a good thing for us, allowing us to stay in touch with friends and family in ways we could have never imagined, it also exposes us to the deteriorating language and morals of those around us.

It is very difficult to watch a television show or read social media feeds without being exposed to bad language, improper and offensive videos and photos, and a general barrage of things that pollute our mind and thoughts. As Christians, these things gradually affect our thoughts, language, and the way we treat others. We must make a concerted effort individually to defeat Satan and these things that he uses to draw us into sin.

Satan’s influence on the world is great.

*“So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him”* (Revelation 12:9).

*“We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one”* (1 John 5:19).

“For us to be strong Christians, and not be dragged into the evil influence of Satan in the world, it is important that we remember some important principles from God’s word.

1. Recognize and acknowledge our sins and repent of them (Revelation 2:16; 3:3).
2. Submit to God (James 4:7).
3. Be active in daily Bible study and prayer. Fill your minds with things above, not with things below.

The verse from James (4:7), also contains a strong reminder for us to... “resist the Devil, and he will flee from you.”

### Your Elders

### To Our Guests

We are so pleased and honored that you have chosen to visit with us today! Chase Park is a wonderful Christian family, devoted to serving God through our lives and work. We are excited to share our love for Christ with others and we are thankful to have the opportunity to meet you and to have you join us for worship.

As we worship together today, our desire is to worship God according to the New Testament pattern and in a way that is pleasing and acceptable to Him. It is also our prayer that our time together is uplifting to those who are here including you, our guest. If you have any questions about anything that you see or hear today, please ask us. We would love to speak with you about those things and help you in any way that we can.



### Chase Park Church of Christ

#### Ministers

Rusty Hills ..... Pulpit  
Nathan Adams..... Outreach  
John Denney ..... Education  
Andrew Lamica..... Youth Minister

#### Elders

John Denney  
Curtis Hill  
Sam Kachelman  
Dennis Lawson  
Greg Parker  
Barry Todd

#### Missionaries

Jaime Mendoza .... Chalco, Mexico  
Liborio Encarnacion. Ecatepec, Mexico  
Slava Savkovsky ..... Ukraine  
Barton Kizer..... Peru  
Dewayne Tapscott..... Southwest

## Lamifications—*Andrew Lamica*

Not too long from now we will be celebrating the holiday season. I say this every year but every year it rings true; I cannot believe it is here already! My favorite holiday of the year is Thanksgiving. There are many things about Thanksgiving I enjoy, including time with family, the good food and, of course, watching some football.

Since Thanksgiving is just weeks away, I will be using my bulletin article to offer reasons for being thankful. Each week I will offer a new reason that I am thankful.

The first one is an obvious one, I am thankful for God the Father. First, I am thankful that He is, that He exists, and will continue to exist for all of eternity. If you think about it, every reason we have to be thankful starts with Him. James said

it this way in James 1:17, *“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, in whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”* Everything we have that is good, everything we have to be thankful for is due to the fact that God exists.

Imagine with me for just a minute if the atheist was right. Imagine if this world all came into existence by chance, by a big bang, and our lives have no other purpose than to exist for a short while, enjoy all the fleeting pleasures we can, and then die. Imagine if once we died we ceased to exist, it was over, that was it. What a pitiful and miserable existence that would be. If there was no God, there was no eternity, life would be without purpose. Today, and every day of

my life I am thankful that God exists.

I am thankful to know that because God exists our lives have purpose and our lives are filled with goals to strive for, spiritual goals! Because God is, we have heaven to look forward to as our home. What a letdown it would be if this world was all there is and once our time here was finished there was nothing else to look forward to. Because of God we have eternity to look forward to. Because of God we have Heaven to look forward to as our permanent dwelling place. Because of God we have a reunion with loved ones to look forward to once this life is over. Because of God we have hope.

I am thankful that God is.

## The Dangers Of Praying For Our Nation—*Nathan Adams*

I have been a Christian for 33 years. During that time I have heard thousands of prayers. In a vast majority of those prayers, men have asked God to help our nation return to Him. I believe those prayers were sincere, but I wonder if we really want the answer? For Christ to save the world, He had to give up more than we can imagine to be that perfect example, that saving sacrifice, and that risen hope. The question for each of us is, “What are you willing to give up to bring our nation back to God?”

Paul called for Christians to have that attitude of sacrifice that Jesus Christ had in Philippians 2:3-11. I think often times we allocate some of our time and means to Christ, but it falls far below the idea of real sacrifice. In our unbelievably blessed nation, the idea of real sacrifice is often lost. People have more the attitude of I will give up some of my surplus, but only to

the point that it doesn't affect my lifestyle.

We pray for God to help this nation return to Him, but do we really want that? The greatest growth the Lord's church had in this nation came during the Great Depression of the 1930's. People looked to God for help in those difficult times. Many held strongly to their faith. I believe such faith is what created that greatest of generations that sacrificed so much for people they did not even know.

We see the same reality with the Israelite nation. They looked to God more fervently when times were hard, they were conquered, or they were suffering. It was in these times that they returned to God. However, when all was good around them, they forgot the God that blessed them.

We see in the Bible that God brings a nation low in order to point it back toward Him. When we pray

for God to bring this nation back to Him, are we ourselves saying that we are willing to suffer great loss to see that happen? To live through a great depression that there might be a revival in men's hearts to look to God? We must not be naive and think that God will just make our nation look back to Him with no other consequences. Our nation is incredibly rich and Jesus made it clear that such people would not easily enter the kingdom (Matthew 19:16-26). Will He take the riches in order to open the hearts of men? Our nation is abusing the idea of freedom as the means for great immorality and murder. Will God take our freedoms so that men and women will see their foolish ways?

I don't know the answers. They are God's. However, am I willing to say and support fully that His will be done so that our nation will return to faith?

## News Of Interest

### Sick

#### Huntsville Hospital

Louise Merryman

#### NHC of Tullahoma

Dolly Sutton, (Joan Parker's mother)

**Home:** Donell Parker, Max Horst, Pam Almo, Libby Lewter, and Nancy Harton (Janet Jenkins' mother).

### Balance Class

Tues., Oct. 25; Thur. Oct 27; 1:30 p.m.

### Pantry Item

Boxed Crackers

### Note from Our Elders

**Adam Goode** has responded to our pleas for faithful service to Christ. He has expressed his appreciation for the many cards, calls, and prayers from the congregation. He has decided to attend another congregation but will be visiting from time to time. Thank you for the impact that you made upon him during this period.

### Area-Wide Breakfast for the Cusco Missions Team

**Chase Park** is hosting a Huntsville area-wide breakfast for the Cusco Missions Team on **Saturday, October 29 at 9:30 a.m.** It will provide an update on the work and plans for a future building program. **Ryan Davis**, one of the mission team members, will be presenting the information and answering any questions. Other area congregations will also be invited. There are flyers/brochures at the Hospitality Desk.

## Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

### Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Ron McCall**

Song Leader: **Jerry Johnston**

### Hospital Visitation

Team #4 (**McCall**), please pick up your assignments today following evening worship.

### Ladies Night Out

Tomorrow night, 6:00 p.m., Chase Park Dining Room, hosted by **Carolyn Trammell**. Menu: Sandwiches, salads and desserts. Sign up at Hospitality Desk.

### Tuesday Ladies Bible Class

Tuesday, October 25, 10:00 a.m.

### Super Seniors

Wednesday, October 26, 10:00 a.m. No lunch.

### Teacher Appreciation Reception

The congregation is invited to a Reception honoring our teachers Sunday, October 30, dining room, after p.m. service.

### Chase Park 5th Sunday Singing

Sunday p.m., October 30.

**Question-And-Answer Session  
Today 5:00 p.m.**

## November 2016 Birthdays

1 Kay Sims	15 Tim Row
2 Kevin Deck	Mabel Albright
Nancy Pond	16 Ally Hills
3 Darryl Wells	Ashley Hills
4 Celeste Gustin	18 Lisa Smith
Angie McGee	Donell Parker
Susanne Wells	19 Tyler Hills
Parker Clark	20 Rudy Cabe
5 Ruth King	Mary Darnell
6 Scott Gates	Carolyn Rice
7 Joan Parker	21 Ginny Pryor
Randy Jenkins	23 Gladys Parker
8 Wesley McDonald	25 Robyn Brumlow
9 Edna Sanders	26 Ben Boggess
11 Randal Jennings	28 Billee Phillips
Lindsay Jones	Mark Sheridan
Seth Davis	Pam Huggins
Doylene Coffey	30 Nicole Olbricht
13 Stefanie Benson	Vincent Schneider

## Thank You

“I thank you so much for the kind thoughts, prayers, and many cards I received during my recovery. It is wonderful to know so many care and so many offer to help. Thank you again.”

*Nancy Pond*

### AGAPE's 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Partnership Dinner

**Tuesday, October 25, at Mayfair Church of Christ,** 1095 Carl T. Jones Drive, SE 35802. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m., dinner served at 6:00.

**R.S.V.P.: 256-859-4481 by October 20.**

Join us as we honor those who partner with us to work with the abused/neglected children and hurting families of North Alabama. As a special treat, the Ladies of ALANA will host their Annual Bake Sale!



# Weekly Bible Reading

## Reading for October 23-29: Hebrews 10-13

In chapter 10 of the Hebrew letter, we find a transition. After all of the arguments have been made and all of the evidence laid out before them, proving the superiority of Christ and His covenant over those things that had come before Him, the writer issues a call to action. Recognizing the greatness of Christ and the many spiritual blessings to be found in Him, we should devote ourselves to seeking after Him and striving to be faithful to Him in every facet of our lives. As you read and study this week, consider:

- *What are some things that are involved in seeking after Christ?*
- *What practical lessons can we learn from this last portion of the Hebrew letter?*

### VERSES TO REMEMBER:

#### *Hebrews 12:1-2*

“Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.”

### Statistics

#### Sunday, October 16, 2016

AM Worship .....	339
Month Average .....	343
Bible Class .....	277
PM Worship .....	218
Wed., Oct. 19 Bible Classes .....	284
Regency Ret. Worship .....	29
Offering .....	\$17,556.11
Budget .....	\$18,300
Average '16 .....	\$17,990
Under Budget for year .....	-\$13,030
<b>Building Fund .....</b>	<b>\$141.00</b>

### Services

#### *Sunday*

Worship .....	9:00 a.m.
Bible Class .....	10:15 a.m.
Worship .....	5:00 p.m.

#### *Wednesday*

Super Seniors .....	10:00 a.m.
Bible Class .....	6:30 p.m.

#### Web Site Home Bible Studies

<http://bible.us/e/Hdj>  
(Lesson 1 Link)  
The Bible—God’s Holy Word

MESENSENGER is published weekly except the last week of December and the first week of January by the Chase Park Church of Christ, 1640 Winchester Road, N.E., Huntsville, AL 35811; (256) 852-3801. Send address changes to Messenger, 1640 Winchester Road, N.E., Huntsville, AL 35811