

# MESSENGER

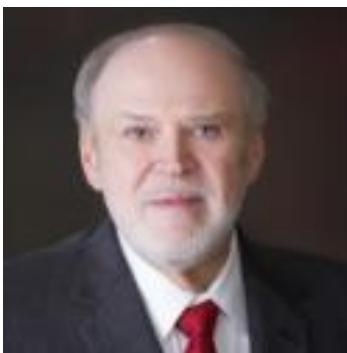
VOLUME 7, ISSUE 46

NOVEMBER 13, 2016

## Questions of Concern

In receiving questions through the OneQuestionHSV website, we have learned a great deal about the issues that people struggle with and are concerned about. Last week, Doug Burleson did an exceptional job in addressing the subject of God: His Character and Nature, Misconceptions About Him, and His Will and Works. Working off of that foundation, today we will explore three different topics: What God Expects of Me, Human Suffering, and Life After Death. All of these topics are very relevant to our lives and important to our faith and salvation. What a blessing it is to know that we serve a God who loves us enough, not only to allow us to ask these questions, but also to provide us with answers to them. May God bless us as we search His Word for those answers.

*We are privileged and blessed to have Brother Alan Highers with us today to discuss these important topics. Alan E. Highers was educated at Freed-Hardeman University, Lipscomb University (B.A.), and the University of Memphis School of Law (J.D.). In 1995 Freed-Hardeman University awarded him an honorary doctorate (LL.D.). He served as a judge at three levels in Tennessee—Juvenile Court in Memphis (5 years), the Circuit Court in Memphis (6 years), and the Court of Appeals, Western Section at Jackson (32 years), where he served as the presiding judge of the court. At the time of his retirement in 2014, he was the senior appellate judge in the entire State of Tennessee. In 1984-85 he served as president of the Tennessee Judicial Conference. Throughout his career he has spoken, lectured, and written on Bible themes. For fifteen years he served as moderator of the Open Forum at the annual Bible Lectureship at Freed-Hardeman University. He is also a featured speaker on the program of “Polishing the Pulpit,” conducted each year at Sevierville, Tennessee, and attended by approximately 4,000 people. Since 1989, he has been editor of THE SPIRITUAL SWORD, a quarterly publication that goes into 97 countries. He and his wife, Sandra, have been married for 59 years. They make their home in Henderson, Tennessee. They are members of the North Jackson Church of Christ. They have two married daughters, four grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.*

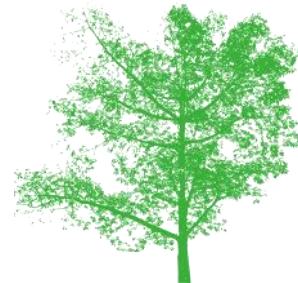


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## To Our Guests

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

## Lamications—*Andrew Lamica*

Continuing our discussion about being thankful in this week's edition of *Lamications*.

This week I am focusing on being thankful for God's provision. I know this much for a fact, if I had to go through this life all on my own, I would be in a heap of trouble. If my success in this life depended solely on my efforts, I could not make it. Thanks be to God that He is invested in our lives. What a blessing it is to know that God not only created us and cares for us, He continues to provide for us.

It is a common thing to get wrapped up in the cares of this life. When times get tough in one way or another, our first instinct is to "do something," and sometimes we have to and in other times we might need to wait. What if, instead of

jumping right to the idea of "doing something," we made the decision to trust God and His provision? We sometimes allow Satan to convince us that we are all alone in this world and our future rests in our hands exclusively. I am so thankful to know that my future rests not in my fallible hands alone but in the hands of the omnipotent God of heaven and earth.

When I find myself starting to struggle with worry, whether it be about wealth, health, or otherwise I remember the sparrow. Remember the words of Jesus in Matthew 10:29-30, "*Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs on your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many*

*sparrows.*" God is concerned about you and me! He is interested in our lives and wants what is best for us. Next time you feel anxiety and stress remember God's provision for even the sparrow.

I am reminded of the words of James, recorded in James 1:17, "*Every good gift, and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.*" Consider your life up to this point. Have you been blessed with any good and perfect gifts? It would do each of us good to consider the Father's provision in our lives. We would stress less and praise more. Thanks be to God for His provision to His children day in and day out!

## I Choose People Over Jesus—*Nathan Adams*

Joy is very elusive for many people. The difficulty is not in the rarity of joy in this life, instead it is found in the rarity of selflessness in this life. Too many people are consumed with their own lives, schedules, activities, hobbies, and future plans to ever have any hope of knowing the true joy that God offers. Joy is not found in what I have or who I am. It is found in someone other than me.

Paul in Philippians was trying to show us that joy only comes by an "others before self" mentality. This attitude within Paul shined like a lighthouse in Philippians 1:21-30. At the point of writing this letter Paul was in prison and his future was not certain. Death was a real possibility. He started by saying that if he lived it was better for the cause of Christ, but his death was better for him because of his heavenly reward. Paul stated in verses 23-24 that he was struggling with these two possibilities. He clearly understood that to remain

would help the Christians at Philippi. Being convinced (v. 25) in that understanding, Paul chooses the people of God and the lost over being with Jesus in heaven.

What an incredible choice! To put off the wonders of heaven and the righteous presence of God in order to remain here and help sinful people grow closer to God. This choice by Paul is demonstrative of a life truly given to be like Christ. Christ made the same choice when He left heaven to seek and to save that which was lost on this earth.

Paul tells the Philippian brethren, "I choose you before me." He then takes to accomplishing his task of strengthening them through his life by commanding them to walk worthy of the gospel by standing firm in one spirit, with one mind, and striving together for the faith (v. 27). Yet, Paul is proof that doing such things will be difficult. It will require that they be willing to suffer for Christ's sake, just as Paul currently was in

prison (vs. 29-30). This suffering was going to require that the Philippian brethren have an "others before self" attitude.

Speaking for myself, I do not want to suffer. Yet, I must be willing to put aside my selfish desire in order to put Jesus Christ first. He is the ultimate "other" before self. You and I will never "stand firm" unless we are willing to selflessly suffer ridicule and hurt for Christ. Jesus said it was the way to be happy (Matthew 5:10-12). We will not be of "one mind" if we are unwilling to submit our minds first to the mind of Jesus Christ (Ephesians 4:20-24). No person will "struggle" for the faith until they put Jesus before themselves.

A person with a selfless attitude will do anything for the gospel of Jesus Christ. When Christ is first in my life, seeking the lost naturally comes first also. This is walking worthy. Are you walking worthy today?

## News Of Interest

### Sick

**HealthSouth Rehab**

**Louise Merryman**

**Home:** **Martha Norris, Billie Carmack, Max Horst and Libby Lewter.**

### Sympathy

To **Lee Strickland** in the death of wife, Wilma. They were members at Memorial Parkway.

### Birth Announcement

**John and Blaire Rutledge** are the proud parents of a girl, **Charlestyn Lee**, born Thursday, November 3. She weighed 7 lbs., 3 ozs. The proud grandparents are **Fred and Sandra Moore**.

## Today and Upcoming at Chase Park

### Regency Retirement Service

Today: 1:30 p.m.

Speaker: **Barry Todd**

Song Leader: **Jerry Johnston**

### Hospital Visitation

Team #1(**Emerson**), please pick up your assignments today after afternoon worship.

### Super Seniors

Wednesday, November 16. No lunch.

### Regency Retirement Village Singing

Thursday, November 17, 6:00 p.m.

### Sunshine Gang/Widows/Widowers

Meet Saturday, Nov. 19. See **Ron McCall**.

## Thank You

"I want to thank everyone at Chase Park for all the concern, prayers, calls, and food that was brought during my recuperation from my surgery. I am so thankful for everyone and for the visits at home and at the hospital. I love each and everyone of you. Love,"

*Donell and Glen Parker*

### Balance Class

Tues., Nov. 15; Thurs., Nov. 17; 1:30 p.m.

### Thanks Singing

Wednesday, November 23. Everyone will meet in the auditorium.

### Winter Coats Needed

We need winter coats, any size. We are assisting the Farley congregation in this effort. Please place in hall by the Hungry Hippo.

### Pantry Items

Instant mash potatoes, family size box; boxed stuffing/dressing mix, canned corn, canned fruit and canned green beans.

### Lunch Class Assignments for Today's Meal

#### Small Auditorium/Ladies Class

Set Out Food

#### Keepers/Providers

Drinks

#### G.O.S.P.E.L. Class/Foundations

Clean Up

#### Family Ties/Young Pros/Teens

Take down tables and chairs  
and return them to storage room.

## Special Contribution Today

### **Goal: \$25,000.00**

In order to meet this goal, the Financial Report informed us that each family would need to give one and one half times their regular contribution. The Elders understand that some families can't do this and some can do more than this, so we are asking you to give from your heart and do the best you can.

There will be two contributions—The regular contribution and a separate one for the special contribution.

In the memo line of your check, please state "Special Contribution."



# Weekly Bible Reading

## Reading for November 13 – November 19: 2 Peter 1-3

Even during the first century, the church was plagued by false teachers and false doctrines that threatened to lead people and even entire congregations away from truth and faithfulness. As Peter writes this letter, shortly before his death, he addresses this dangerous issue, condemning those doctrines that were contrary to the teachings of Christ and exhorting Christians to remain steadfast in their devotion to Christ and in their commitment to sound doctrine. As you read and study this week, consider:

- *Why do you think that false teaching has always been such a problem in the church and religious world?*
- *What can we do, as Christians, to protect ourselves from being drawn away by false teaching?*

### VERSES TO REMEMBER:

*2 Peter 3:9-10*

"The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up."

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### Statistics

Sunday, November 6, 2016

AM Worship .....	378
Month Average .....	378
Bible Class .....	322
PM Worship.....	NC
Wed., Nov. 9 Bible Classes.....	249
Regency Ret. Worship ....	NC
Offering.....	\$19,022.44
Budget.....	\$18,300
Average '16 .....	\$17,967
Under Budget for year....-	\$15,000
<b>Building Fund .....</b>	<b>\$275.00</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