

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~  
MARCH 14, 2021

**CONGRATS:** Tabatha Clayton has a new grandson. Tucker Lane Clayton was born on Tuesday, March 9th.

**SICK/TEMPORARY:** Shelly Cates has been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis evident in her blood; she will have to see a rheumatologist. Kaylie Hadley has been diagnosed with scoliosis and will be going to the doctor this week to consider options. Crystal Brown, niece of Paul and Suzanne Brown, is now at home after about 90 days in the hospital.

**PROTRACTED:** Scooter Birmingham (friend of Destiny Clayton); Brian Brown (Paul Brown's nephew)—epilepsy; Shelly Cates—fibromyalgia; Gladys Marie Elrod (Mary Ray's son-in-law's mother)—congestive heart failure; Addliae Farrow (Tabatha Clayton's great niece)—heart; Bubba Farrow (Emma Farrow's son)—Alzheimer's; Jimmy Ferguson (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; Kaylie Hadley—UCTD; Paula Harrison—Meniere's Disease; Wanda Jackson—a-fib; Monica La Rock (granddaughter of Orelia Ferguson and mother of Noah); Garrett Lentz (son of a co-worker of Cody Hadley)—seizures; Easton McCullough (Grayson Hadley's best friend)—Bell's Palsy; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Shelby Peyton—knee; Robert Rawson (preacher at Crockett)—diabetes; Ray Reynolds (Sheila Massey and Mary West's dad)—memory trouble; Brett Rutherford (Dan Cates' friend)—MS; Tammy Turner (a preacher's wife whom we support)—dementia; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray); and Jerry Worthington (neighbor of the Hounshells)—physical and emotional difficulties.

**CANCER:** Clifton Angel (preacher at Coldwater)—thyroid; Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Alicia Busby (from the community); Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Brenda Davis (a grandmother of Edra and Ryan Farrow); Nathan Jones (the Hounshells' neighbors' 16 year old family member)—brain; Sara Kiestler (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; Wade Loggins (member of congregation in Elkmont, AL); Dorothy Mosher (wife of an MSOP instructor); Carol Ogelsby (family of Sonny Stewart and the Browns)—stomach; Tommy Pierce (the Browns' friend); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; Tiffany Taylor (the Browns' friend); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

**SHUT-IN:** Janice Bailey (home); Marie Crockett (home), Emma Farrow (in a care facility in Sardis), Orelia Ferguson (home), and Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is in a care center in Pensacola, FL).

**SERVING:** Dylan and Maggie Cooper (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, Hawaii). Also, please continue to pray for Kyle Embrey (Syble Embrey's grandson—policeman) and all other military [especially who are going or remain abroad] and for all those in authority that we might live "quiet and peaceable" lives (I Timothy 2:1,2).

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*Independence Church of Christ*  
8543 Highway 305  
Coldwater, MS 38618

# INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST

## The Informer



8543 Highway 305

Coldwater, MS 38618

662-560-8045

[www.independencechurchofchrist.org](http://www.independencechurchofchrist.org)

**Services:** Sunday 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 4:45 p.m. (pew-packers), 5 p.m.  
Wednesday 7:15 p.m.

**Ministers:** Every Christian

**Elders:** Dan Cates (662-560-8045)

Carl Hounshell (812-653-2358)

**Evangelist:** Dan Cates (662-560-8045; [dsmccates@yahoo.com](mailto:dsmccates@yahoo.com))

**Missions** [the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]

Independence Mission Fund (next: tbd)

Memphis School of Preaching

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Save Asian Souls (Providing physical and spiritual aid)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Panama) [Overseeing funds]

School of Biblical Studies (Jos, Nigeria)

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

# "BLESSED IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD,"

## Part 2

Don Walker [from the 2016 Power Lectures at Southaven]

### God's Ultimate Plan

At the council in Jerusalem, James acknowledged that the Gentiles' inclusion into God's plan was prophesied and then he quoted from Amos 9. After that, he said, "Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world" (Acts 15:18). When writing concerning the Lord's church, which is Christ's kingdom, Paul wrote concerning this great mystery, which has now been revealed unto men. He wrote, "And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ: To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God, According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Eph. 3:9-11). This mystery of which Paul wrote is the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The message of the Gospel proclaims, "There is good news." Jesus reigns as King and we can be saved in His kingdom. It also includes the fact that we are saved for a purpose. It was God's good pleasure (cf. Eph. 1:5; Eph. 1:9; Eph. 1:11) to bring men into His kingdom so they could be "to the praise of His glory" (cf. Eph. 1:6; Eph. 1:12; Eph. 1:14). As one studies God's Word, he will recognize that from the very beginning of God's revelation to man, it has a central theme or purpose in mind. The plan of God is slowly revealed in the pages of Holy Writ until we get to the New Testament where we see not only the plan, but also the result of the plan in all its splendid glory. Simply stated, God was making a most glorious kingdom. In the construction of this kingdom, our great God "abounded toward us in all wisdom and prudence" (Eph. 1:8). As we learn of this plan through the pages of the Old Testament, we are keenly aware of the fact that it included God's activity among the nations. Not only was God active among the nations of men, but He would also create a nation to accommodate His "eternal purpose."

### God Built A Nation

When the descendants of Abraham departed Egypt, conservative estimates claim there were over one million people and perhaps up to two million. If you are going to make a nation, you need a populace. The first thing they did by God's guidance was go to Mount Sinai. They camped there for nearly one full year. It is there that they received the Law of Moses, God's Law. If you are going to have a nation, you need a law. After the giving of the Law, they set out toward Canaan Land or the Promised Land. Though the journey took some forty years because

of their unbelief (Heb. 3:19), Joshua did finally lead them to conquest after the forty years. If you are going to have a nation, you need real estate. So Jehovah raised up Israel as His people, His nation, yeah, His bride. She was blessed with all she needed and much, much more. When she was faithful to the commands of Jehovah, her enemies trembled before her. When she was unfaithful to the commands of Jehovah, her enemies gained victories over her. In the halls of history, from an earthly vantage point, it looked as if men were controlling the events and the stronger ones were gaining the advantage by their might and the weaker ones were falling because they did not have the military advantage the enemy had. The matters would have been viewed much like men of the world view the political maneuvering today. They live and operate as if there is no God in Heaven and as if they will not be held accountable in that great Day of Judgment. *(To be continued next week)*

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*"That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive; But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" (Ephesians 4:14,15)*

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### BIBLE QUESTION:

This week's question: What congregation was encouraged to be "in nothing terrified by your adversaries"?

Last week's question: Jesus told His disciples to pray for deliverance from what?

Last week's answer: Evil (*Matthew 6:13; Luke 11:4*)

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**SERMONS:** The Secret to Joy (*Philippians 4:4-14*)

"All the Counsel of God": Covetousness/Envy

### DAILY BIBLE READING (March 15-21):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
<b>Joshua</b>	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24			
<b>Judges</b>				1-4	5-8	9-12	

**SCRIPTURE READING (MARCH):** Thomas Massey (Philippians 4:8,9)

*(APRIL): Cody Hadley*

**PRESIDE LORD'S SUPPER MORNING (MARCH):** Carl Hounshell

*(APRIL): Thomas Massey*

**ASSIST LORD'S SUPPER (MARCH):** Paul Brown and Sonny Stewart

*(APRIL): Conor Cates and Mark Peyton*

**CLEAN BUILDING (MARCH):** Tabatha Clayton

*(APRIL): The Masseys*

**PREPARE COMMUNION (MARCH):** Shelly Cates

*(APRIL): Suzanne and Katie Brown*

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Please see the sheet with Children's Home needs.

**UPCOMING EVENTS (For particular details, check the bulletin board for flyers):**

Tonight

**Youth devotional** after evening services.

April 1

The **Tennessee Children's Home** truck will be here.