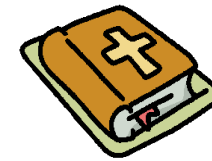


THE RIPLEY BEACON

FROM

THE RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

March 5, 2017



“Where the Gospel is Preached and People are Loved!”

Would Your Religion Knock Down a Wall?

Part 2

Last week we asked the question, “Would your religion knock down a wall?” We said there were a couple things that the Israelites did that allowed the walls of Jericho to fall. Before we noticed those two things it is important to note that without God, the walls would not have fallen. So what did the Israelites have to do so that God would knock down those walls?

First, they had to **listen** and **believe**. God gives Joshua his “marching” orders, but Joshua and the people had to listen to those orders and believe in those directions. Joshua could have ignored God and tried to do it on his own. Joshua could have made up his own plan of attack. After all, God’s proposed method of attack was not the most orthodox of the day. Normally to take a wall, you attack it, not march around it.

And of course, there would have been some dissenters. “God doesn’t really expect us to do this, does He?” “This doesn’t make any sense.” If we do this the people of Jericho are going to ridicule us and laugh at us.” But God had spoken, period. And so Joshua listened and believed.

The same is true today. God expects us to listen to His Word, and we do that through studying His instructions (2 Timothy 2:15). How can we believe in our marching orders if we do not take the time to read them for ourselves? Never take my word or anyone else’s. Study it for yourself. Instead of “my preacher said,” we should respond with “my Bible says.” Read it and believe it.

It was important that the people listened to God’s instructions and believed them, but that belief would have been useless without **action**. Imagine the Israelites sitting at camp saying, “Alright God, we believe you. So we are going to sit right here until the walls come down.” We would say that such is nonsense. If one truly believes then he will act.

Throughout the Bible faith or belief in God is always coupled with action. The writer of the book of Hebrews linked the two when he penned chapter 11. He connected the phrase “by faith” with an action verb, verse after verse. Jesus linked the two when he said, “He who believes and is baptized will be saved” (Mark 16:16).

What brought down the walls of Jericho? Faith and Action. What will bring down religious walls today? Faith and Action. I encourage all of us to read and study our Bibles, believe what it says, and act upon what we learn.

~Justin

Elders:

Larry Carden
Steve Carmack
Joe Hunt
David Snell

Deacons:

Pat Carmack
Tommy Climer
Gwinn Matthews
Kenneth Roark

Minister:

Justin Paschall
731-612-1196

Service Times:

Sun. Bible Study-10 AM
Sun. Worship-11 AM
Sun. Night-5 PM
Wed. Night-7 PM

Contact Information:

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Ripley, TN 38063

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“Come Worship with Us!”

The Ripley church of Christ

P.O. Box 464

1499 Highway 51 North

Ripley, TN 38063

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

- Hear the Word of God – Rom. 10:17
- Believe that Jesus is the Son of God – Heb. 11:6; John 8:24
- Repent of your sins – Acts 17:30
- Confess Christ before men – Rom. 10:10; Matt. 10:32-33
- Be baptized for the remission of your sins – Acts 2:38; 1 Pet. 3:21
- Remain Faithful – Rev. 2:10

By The Numbers for February 26th

Attendance:

Sun. Bible Study – 72
Sun. AM Worship – 98
Sun. PM Worship – 62
Wed. Night (3/1) – 69

To Our Visitors:

We are so glad and honored that you chose to be with us today. If you have any questions please feel free to ask the elders or one of the members. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know. Thanks for being with us, and we hope to see you again real soon!

Listen to WTRB 1570 AM and

104.9 FM Radio

Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday

8:15 AM

Check us out on the web:

www.ripleychurchofchrist.org

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AM Bible Study:

Song Leader – Kenneth Roark
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack
Devotional – David Bridges

AM Service:

Usher – Barry Bates/Darrell Smothers
Announcements – Steve Carmack
Song Leader – David Snell
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack
Opening Prayer – Larry Carden
Lord’s Supper – (S) Kenneth Roark
(S) Robert Anderson
(N) MacArthur Watkins
(N) David Bridges
(N) Mel Gibson

Closing Prayer – Mel Gibson
Security – Fisher Carmack

PM Service:

Announcements – Steve Carmack
Song Leader – David Snell
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack
Opening Prayer – Darrell Smothers
Lord’s Supper – Kenneth Roark
Closing Prayer – Robert Taylor
Security – Barry Bates

Wednesday Night:

Song Leader – Kenneth Roark
Audio/Visual – Bret Carmack
Opening Prayer – Darrell Smothers
& Devotional
Closing Prayer – Pat Carmack
Security – Frank Carmack

Door Greeters for March

South – Joe Hunt
Center – Steve Carmack
North – Robert Taylor

Communion for March

David and Jane Snell

March Birthdays

- Zoe Carmack – 1
- Conner Sanders – 5
- Mary Halliburton – 5
- Lauren Halliburton – 8
- Ann Carmack – 9
- Everett Presson – 9
- Betty Brogdon – 10
- June Roark – 13
- Linda Bibbs – 14
- Dorothy Bridges – 15
- Betty Sutton – 15
- Marion Morris– 16
- Patrice Perry – 19
- Randy Roark– 30



Mark Your Calendars!

- **April 1st** – Ladies’ Day at the Ripley church of Christ
- **April 30th** – Friends and Family Day at the Ripley church of Christ
- **June 4th-9th** – Reelfoot Youth Camp for ages 9-18.
- **June 19th-21st** – Vacation Bible School at the Ripley church of Christ
- **June 26th** – Summer Youth Series at the Ripley church of Christ at 7 pm.
- **July 16-19th** – Gospel Meeting at the Ripley church of Christ.

What Are My Children Studying?

- **Mar. 5th** – Lesson 27 – John the Baptist Preaches and Baptizes – Matthew 3:1-17
- **Mar. 8th** – Lesson 28 – Jesus Tempted; Jesus Makes His First Disciples – Matthew 4:1-11; John 1:29-51
- **Mar. 12th** – Lesson 29 – Jesus’ First Miracle and Cleansing the Temple – John 2

Memorials Received

Memorials have been received in memory of Flossie Blevins.

Those in Need of Our Prayers and Encouragement:

Our Regulars/Friends/Relatives:

- At any given time there are members going through different difficulties that they would rather keep private. Please say a prayer for them; God knows who they are.
- Demetra Carmack had surgery (3/2) and everything went as planned. She will have radiation for 6 weeks. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.
- Flossie Blevins (Matt Blevins’ grandmother) passed away. Her funeral was held on Friday (2/24). Please keep the family in your prayers.
- Alan Sheckell (Synthia Gibson’s nephew) received a great report from the doctors. He is cancer free. Make sure to thank God for the wonderful news.
- David Murray (friend of the Hartman’s) was scheduled to have a very serious surgery on the 27th to remove part of his esophagus due to cancer. No update was available at time of bulletin printing. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Julia Alley is having some problems with her arm. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Laura Bivens (June Roark’s brother’s step daughter) passed away. Her funeral services were held on Wednesday (2/8). Please keep her family in your prayers.
- Guylene Cultrer (kin of Julia Alley) has been diagnosed with leukemia. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Valencia Crook (kin of Julia Alley) has been diagnosed with breast cancer. She had surgery on Wednesday (2/22). Please keep her in your prayers.
- Marilyn Riley (former member in Gates) has been diagnosed with cancer. Please keep her in your prayers.
- Larry Carden continues to have radiation treatments in Dyersburg. Please keep him in your prayers.
- Mike White: Please keep him in your prayers as he rehabs and recovers from knee replacement surgery.
- Johnnie Matthews: Please continue to keep her and Gwinn in your prayers.
- Robert Taylor, WL Sandlin, Betty Brogdon, Gwinn Matthews, Eunice Dobbs, Marion Morris, Ronnie Tillman, Georgia Campbell, Tim Carmack, Lille Dennison, Ted Sutton, Joyce Blakemore, Seth May, Paula Tillman, Brenda Belton, Drexel Reed, Dot Mullins, Etta Hunt, Brenda Sutton, Don Sutton, Betty Binkley, and Everett & Mary Presson: Please keep these individuals in your prayers.

“The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much” (James 5:16)