ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

THE GOSPEL TRUTH

Hiram Church of Christ

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977 LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

"Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Announcements: Matt Johnson **Opening Prayer**: Matt Johnson **Song Leader:** Devin Bryant

Second Prayer: Melvin J. Bryant III **Lord's Table**: Clarance Proctor

Melvin Bryant III

Message: Melvin J. Bryant II

Closing Prayer: Alex Johnson

Attendance

Morning Hour: TBA
Bible Class: TBA
Worship: TBA
Wednesday: TBA
Contribution: \$TBA

Weekly Service Times

The Morning Hour 9:00am
Bible Class 10:00am
Morning Worship 11:00am
Wed. Evening Bible Classes 7:30pm

The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

Missions: India & Childhaven

PLAN OF SALVATION

- Taught by God John 6:45
- Believe John 8:24
- Repent Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30 (Repentance entails counting the cost)
- Confess Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death -Revelation 2:10



A Prepared Place for a Prepared People

Matthew 25:31-46



ONGOING HEALTH

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Sebastian and Erica Suarez, Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Mary Brock's daughter Potts/Williams family, Kilwonia Chandler, Barbara Helton, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Charlie Griffin, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Shirley Glosson (radiation), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia), Anita Berger husband Rich, Sis. Carolyn, Ashley (Sis. Erica's sister) and her family, Sis. Dean, Sis. Proctor, Anita Berger.



- The Webb's family lost their daughter Kira. She was buried on yesterday. Let us keep them in our prayers continually.
- **Kwame** had a successful surgery and is in need of continual prayers as he heals from it. And, for his citizenship as he has applied for it.
- Charlie had surgery on his foot and has asked that we keep him in prayer.
- Garrison Ihle, the 5 month old baby of some friends of the Johnsons had his surgery. Please keep him and his family in our prayers.
- **Carolyn** is still in need of our continual prayer.
- Jerry Barber was released from the hospital last week for a blood clot on his lung. He's doing much better and thanks the congregation for their prayers.
- Ron McCurry has requested continued prayers for his son in law.
- Mary Matthews, the aunt of Sis. Traci Bryant is being treated for cancer. Let us keep her lifted in prayer.
- **Brother Melvin** has a co-worker, Dondrea Clay who is in need of prayers as she was injured on the job.
- **Kaitlyn Hunter** was added to the Lord's church last Sunday night. Let us welcome her to the family.

BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

September Birthdays

Sebastian - 2nd Joanie Saporito - 16th Anita Berger - 27th

Anniversaries

Melvin & Traci Bryant - 23rd

Hiram Church News

Sis. Becky will be conducting a ladies class each first Monday of the month. All women are encouraged to attend.

Local Church News

Sept. 15-19th – Lithia Springs Gospel Meeting with Robby Eversole. Sept. 15-19th – Gospel Meeting at Cedartown, Leroy Dedmon, speaker.

World Church News

Traveling

Sis. Pudgy

Hiram Church of Christ News

Our water is fixed in the back and Fellowship dinner will resume the last Sunday of each month. Please plan to stay.

"A Prepared Place for a Prepared People" Matthew 25:31-46 By Melvin J. Bryant II

God has prepared TWO places for the destination and soul of man. *However*, God has ALWAYS desired His people to "Prepare" themselves, And Why is that? Because He wants us to ALWAYS be READY! It doesn't matter how we look at it, WE are "Preparing" ourselves for ONE of TWO places according to what Jesus said in our text! There is a Place Prepared for the Righteous! And, there is a Place Prepared for the Devil and his angels along with the wicked who follows him! *Nonetheless*, How important is "Preparation"?

We "Prepared" ourselves for worship, for rainy days, for cold weather, for work and a host of other things! I'll tell you one area where many people are NOT "Prepared" and it's sad, many people are not prepared for death or the death of a loved one! Death STRIKES suddenly, no one knows when it's coming, and for millions of families, they are not prepared for it. They have the latest smart phone, designer cloths, Jordans on their feet and their children's feet, 4K televisions on their walls at home, Playstation, X-box, Nintendo switch and any other gaming system, and yet, no life insurance! This is sad and unfortunate!

I. PREPARATION DEFINED

- A. To "Prepare" is defined as, "to cause to be ready to make ready, to prepare." (Louw Nida vol. 1 pg. 682). It is;
- B. "To cause to be ready, to put or keep in readiness." (BDAG pg. 400).
- C. "To get ready, made ready, to Make Arrangements, to prepare." (NAS Greek Dictionary).
 - Now, from the beginning of time, God has ALWAYS desired for His people to, "Prepare" and to UNDERSTAND the Importance of Preparation!

II. NOAH "PREPARED" FOR THE DESTRUCTION OF THE OLD WORLD

- A. Hebrews 11:7 confirms this.
 - (1) Noah walked by Faith! He "walked" by what he HEARD from God Himself!
 - The Bible tells us that, "We are to Walk by Faith!" (2 Corinthians 5:7).
 - And, for us, how is "Faith" obtained? (Romans 10:17)!
 - (2) The Bible tells us that Noah was, "Divinely warned of things NOT yet seen."
 - But what was those things NOT YET SEEN? The destruction of the Old World by way of a flood! Noah didn't see it as of yet, but; he believed in God that it was going to come to pass! Noah was not concerned about the world in that day, because Jesus said that, "before the flood", the people were eating, drinking marrying and given in marriage, (Matthew 24:38), all alone while Noah was working by faith! *Nonetheless*,
 - Did NOT God divinely warn us today? (see 2 Peter 3:10-13).
 - Jesus is coming as a "thief in the night", which simply means that He's coming at a time when we are least expected! BUT; we ought to be ready! (Matthew 24:43-44).
 - And, since the Lord is coming at an unexpected hour, the heavens, earth and the works that are in it will be burned up! (2 Peter 3:10). This is why we should NOT put anything before the Lord since we brought nothing into this world, and it's a SURE thing we can carry nothing out! (1 Timothy 6:7).
 - *Therefore*, since ALL these things will be dissolved, our manner of person should be Holy and Godly! (2 Peter 3:11).
 - Remember Martha? (Luke 10:38). the Bible tells us that, "....Martha was DISTRACTED with much serving." There is nothing wrong with serving.

- But there is a time and place for everything! (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).
- And when Martha went to the Lord and asked that He tell Mary to help her! Then Lord told her in verse 41-42, "Martha, Martha, you are WORRIED and TROUBLED about many things. But the ONE thing is needed, and Mary has chosen that good part, which will not be taken away from her."
- At some point, when we come into the House of God to worship Him, we ought to LEAVE the distraction outside. Don't worry about what you're going to cook, how many loads of cloths you have to wash, how you have to clean your house, what time the football game comes on and so on! LEAVE those CARES of the World at the door! (cf. Luke 21:34-36).
- So, God has, "Divinely" warned us about the impending dangers of this world, and notice what Paul also tells us that we ought to be doing. (see 2 Peter 3:12).
- (3) Noah, "....moved with godly fear, PREPARED an Ark for the saving of his household."
 - God had already told Noah what to do, and with, "godly fear", he "PREPARED An Ark" for the saving of his household!
 - For us today, the church that God told Jesus to build is where safety is! Jesus established the church, (Matthew 16:18) and unlike Noah, Jesus DIED for the sins of the World! (John 3:16).
 - Noah didn't shed ONE DROP of Blood for the world back then, But Jesus shed His own precious blood and was crucified for you, me and the entire world!
 - And although MANY will not believe this, Jesus has but ONE church, ONE saving vehicle where
 men are saved today! Just as there was ONE saving vehicle in Noah's day, there is but ONE
 saving vehicle today, and that's the Lord's church!
 - Jesus said in John 10:27-28, "My sheep hear my voice, and I KNOW them, and they follow Me. And I give them Eternal Life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand." As long as we keep believing in God, doing what we are told, through the word, NO ONE will ever snatch us out of His hand! That's the point Jesus is making here!
 - I can ASSURE you, those wicked men ridiculed Noah, they scoffed at him and his family, they mocked him, tried to BREAK his faith because Noah was a preacher of Righteousness (2 Peter 2:5). And, he condemned the old world then (Hebrews 11:7).
 - How do we "Condemn the World today?" What did Jesus say? Mark 16:15-16. If one will not believe and be baptized, he will be condemned!
 - Be encouraged brethren, until the last and final Amen!

Sermon Notes