

# 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**

“If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

1 Peter 4:11

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Announcements:** Matt Johnson

**Opening Prayer:** Matt Johnson

**Song Leader:** Kwame Abdul

**Second Prayer:** Melvin Bryant III

**Lord’s Table:** Clarence Proctor  
Devin Bryant

**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 - Rightly Dividing
- 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



# BIBLICAL WARNING

SUGAR-COATED PREACHING IS DANGEROUS TO YOUR SOUL.  
2 Timothy 4:3-4

**WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?**

**WHAT IF WE...**

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



*What would our lives look like?*

## ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

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).

## PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Kwame** is requesting for prayers for his citizenship. Let us pray that all goes well with it.
- ▶ **Becky's** mom boyfriend, Randy is scheduled to have open heart surgery to repair three different problems and is in need of prayer.
- ▶ **The Webb's** daughter is doing much better with chemo treatments.
- ▶ **Carolyn** had hip replacement surgery last Monday, let us keep her in prayer.
- ▶ **Mrs. Joanie** has not been feeling well lately. Please keep her in your prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Troup** had mouth surgery and is in need of our prayers.
- ▶ **Ann Phillips** is still in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Ron McCurry** has requested continued prayers for his son in law.
- ▶ **Erica** is in need of prayer for her overall health. She appreciates the calls and prayers.
- ▶ **Sis. Arnold** has requested prayers for her niece who has aggressive stage 3 cancer.
- ▶ **Sis. Cruise** has some serious health issues and is in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Don Blackwell** executive director of GBN and minister/elder for the Southaven church of Christ suffered an injury on an ATV and is at the Shepherd Center in Atlanta. Let us keep him, his wife Sheri and family in our prayers.

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

### ☑ June Birthdays

Kilwonia, 6th  
Melvin II, 11th  
Asia, 22nd

### ☑ Anniversaries

Kenneth & Vera Patrick, 3rd  
Clarence & JoAnn, 10th  
Anthony & Joanie, 15th

### ☑ Local Church News

### ☑ World Church News

### ☑ Traveling.

Patty is in Oklahoma for a while.

### ☑ Hiram Church of Christ News

Sister Carolyn had surgery on May 20, 2019, let us keep her in prayers for a successful recovery.

Fellowship dinner is the last Sunday of each month.

## “While Men Slept” Part II

### Matthew 13:24-30

By

Melvin J. Bryant II

In the “Parable” of the Sower found in Matthew 13:1-23 by the Lord, we find that NOT all people will react to the Word of God the same way! Interesting enough, we found that 75% of people you and I come in contact with will reject the gospel! Remember....Some people are so set in their ways. Anything you say from the word of God will go rejected by them! (Matthew 13:18-19)! They won’t study, they won’t FACT CHECK to make sure you’re accurately depicting what the word of God says! They are just SET in their ways, their hearts are HARD! Now others will receive the word, (actually they will become Christians), BUT Jesus tells us, “...when tribulation and persecution arises because of the word, IMMEDIATELY this person stumbles!” (Matthew 13:20-21)! *However*, we are told that, “...we must through MANY tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” (Acts 14:22). Then we have those who receive the Word of God, they too are Christians, however, Jesus tells us the CARES of this World, DECEITFULNESS of RICHES Choke the Word from these persons, and they become UNFRUITFUL! (Matthew 13:22). So, it’s NO surprise that Jesus tells us the Gospel, once presented, falls upon the ears of different hearers, and 75% of 100 people will REJECT it all together! But there is another class of people Jesus spoke about in Matthew 13:23, and that is those who receive the word of God on, “The Good Ground”, these persons become Christians and bears fruit and produces!

#### I. THE PARABLE OF THE WHEAT AND TARES

- A. From the “Parable” of the Soils, the different types of “hearts” the word of God falls upon.
- Jesus introduces us to another “Parable”! (see Matthew 13:24).
  - And if we notice with this Parable of the Wheat and Tares, it is the ONLY one recorded in the book of Matthew, And; is one of the FEW that Jesus explains!
  - When Jesus spoke “Parables,” He spoke it to the Disciples and the Multitudes, but; His disciples didn’t understand what the “Parable” meant and Jesus would EXPLAIN the Parable to THEM, and NOT to the multitude, but to His disciples! (see Matthew 13:36).
  - Now, here is an interesting point....Jesus taught MULTITUDES of People that came from everywhere! Jews and Gentiles according to Matthew 4:25 and EVERYONE Jesus taught was NOT one of His Disciples! They HEARD Him but did not follow Him!
  - Many people are like the Multitude, they SEEK only to see what they can get! (see John 6:26-27).
  - Most people in the religious world are NOT Genuinely seeking the Truth about God and His Righteousness, they are looking for men to tell them that God is going to give them riches and wealth and their ears are FIXATED on prosperity preaching!
  - The disciples NOT understanding the Parable of the Wheat and Tares would ask the Lord,
- B. Explain to us the Parable of the Tares of the Field! (see Matthew 13:37-43).
- Jesus sows the “Good Seed” and was preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom (Matthew 4:23).
- C. The Field is the World (Matthew 13:38).
- Jesus came into the World (the Field) and He Sowed the Seed, He spread the Word of God in it! And, He gave this Word to the Apostles and told them to “Go” (Matthew 28:19-20).
  - Now, when we compare this “Parable” with the “Parable of the Sower”, we see how the SEED is used differently! (1). In the Parable of the Sower, “the Good Ground” is the person in which the SEED (the word of God) took root, and as it did, the person, (the Christian) bore fruit and produced, some a hundred fold, some sixty, some thirty! (Matthew 13:23).

- (2). In this Parable of the Wheat and Tares, the Christians (disciples) are the “Good Seed!”
- But what makes the Disciples the Good Seed?
  - When a person RECEIVES the SEED, (the Word of God), they BECOME “Good Seed” and can contribute to producing more “Good Seed” using the Word of God!
- D. The “Good Seed” are the Sons of the Kingdom, BUT the “Tares” are the sons of the wicked one!
- Jesus tells us that there are TWO classes of people in this world....The Good Seed are Christians, And the “Tares” are the sons of the wicked one, the devil!
  - “Tares” comes from a Greek word, “*zizanian*” which refers to a troublesome weed in the grain fields!” It is, “a particular undesirable weed resembling wheat and possessing a SEED which is poisonous.” (Louw Nida vol 1 pg. 31).
  - What does this remind us of? 2 Corinthians 11:13-15! Satan’s ministers transforms themselves into ministers of righteousness!
  - So, the “Tares” resembles the “Wheat” (the children of the devil RESEMBLE the children of God) but did you know Jesus gives us an identifying mark as to how we can distinguish the “Wheat” from the “Tares”! (see Matthew 7:15-20)!
  - Even as the “Tares” disguises themselves as “Wheat,” Jesus has given to us an identifying mark to distinguish them, “By their Fruit you will know them!” (Matthew 7:20)! Jesus speaks of....
- E. The Enemy, the Harvest, the Reapers and what He will do with the “Wheat” and the “Tares”!
- Jesus tells us in verse 40 some interesting things!
- (1) Jesus says that the “Tares” are gathered and burned in the fire!
    - So, the children of the devil (the wicked one) will ALL be gathered up and thrown in the fire....(that is hell’s fire)! Then;
  - (2) Jesus tells us in verse 41, “The Son of Man will send out His angels and THEY will gather out of His kingdom ALL things that OFFEND, And those who Practice LAWLESSNESS!”
    - So, the “Tares” will be Gathered and Burned in the Fire, which is hell (verse 40)!
    - THEN, verse 41, those in the Kingdom (the church) who “Offend” and Practice “Lawlessness” will too be thrown in the Furnace of Fire!
    - There is a few things I’d like to point out here regarding those in the church.
      - (i) There are those in the church that “Offends”!
        - It is, “An action or circumstance that leads one to act contrary to a proper course of action or set of beliefs....temptation to sin, enticement to apostasy, false belief, etc.” (BDAG pg. 926). (cf. Matthew 18:7).
        - For instance: Preachers can CAUSE others to SIN and be in danger of leading people astray by NOT preaching the TRUTH regarding the Word of God!
      - (ii) Jesus said those who Practice Lawlessness!
        - Lawlessness is a, “state or condition of being disposed to what is lawless, lawlessness.” (BDAG pg. 85).
        - So, if a Christian is Practicing (and the key word is “Practicing”....*that is*, continuing to do a deed) or ANY sin found in 1 Corinthians 6:9-10; Galatians 5:19; Revelation 21:8, etc., Jesus tells us that the angels will gather out of His church, ALL that offend, AND those who PRACTICE Lawlessness, or those who practice Sin and cast them into the furnace of fire!
        - God is SERIOUS about His words, let us be serious about obeying His commandments and fulfilling what He as set forth in the Holy Writ! Be encouraged brethren.....