

**"Do Not Be Conformed to the [Religious] World" (Part 3 of 3)**

John Jones

Dear Brethren, thank you for the kind words about the last two bulletin articles about Romans 12. Here is the final instalment of it! May God bless you as you read His word and apply it to your life!

...

The Bereans come to mind in this conversation. They were said to have "received the word with great eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see whether these things were so." (Acts 17:10-11). They weren't focused entirely on new teachings as the Athenians were (Acts 17:21). Neither were they "always learning but never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth" (2 Timothy 3:7). They were eager to hear a new teaching (Jesus as Messiah), but they also examined what was being taught with what they already knew to be true, the objective standard of Scripture.

How can we benefit from the example of the Bereans and Paul's exhortation to the Roman church?

**Don't wholeheartedly accept everything you've been given.** I love my parents, my friends, and my former teachers who have all taught me spiritual things. Though I have a great respect for these individuals, the outcome of my own soul is even more important to me. Jesus said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me" (John 14:6). If Christianity is the exclusive pathway to heaven as Jesus says it is, what is the outcome of all the Hindus, Buddhists, and Muslims who wholeheartedly accept the teachings of their friends and family? The outcome of their souls depends on their willingness to honestly examine all the evidence. If I expect this type of attitude from my non-Christian friends, I ought to exemplify this attitude in my own approach to seeking truth.

**Don't wholeheartedly reject everything you've been given.** I've noticed that some, in the spirit of rebellion or because of a personal flaw within a person who taught them, completely reject everything that they've been taught. 1 Thessalonians 5:21 instructs us to, "Examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good." It would be a logical mistake to imagine that every single aspect of religious information we were taught is wrong, simply because we inherited it from our parents or faith community.

**Accept the fact that you've been wrong before, and it's likely that you'll be wrong again.** It takes a humble person to admit this but it is vital to our growth as Christians. Just because someone brings a different interpretation that I haven't heard before, doesn't automatically make them wrong. Apollos gives us an example of humbly accepting correction and moving on with newfound knowledge to the glory of God (Acts 18:24ff).

**Accept the fact that you've been right before, and it's likely that you'll be right again.** If we take the previous point too far, we might begin doubting that it's possible to know anything. If I've been wrong before, how do I know that I've ever been right before?! Without going to that extreme, I can accept that every interpretational decision I've made is based upon the best evidence that I've processed so far in the best way I know how. I have a rational mind able to examine evidences and come to proper judgments.

By adopting this attitude, every new idea that is presented to me will inevitably renew my mind because my interpretational decisions will be further confirmed or reasonably questioned. If we take to heart Paul's exhortation, we won't allow ourselves to be conformed to the world's desire to mold us, be it sensual or pseudo-religious. I pray that we constantly and consciously invite our minds to be renewed. This process won't allow us to become close minded to any question asked of the Scripture. Neither will it allow us to accept every teaching as equally valid.

Only when our minds are open to renewal will we be able to "prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

**On Our Prayer List...** **Billy Adams**— sick at this time **Becky Palk**—home recovering fr back surg / **Kathy Martin**—requesting prayers  
**Hattie Tate** **Betty Rumsey** **Mary Lana Adams**—in Waverly Hospital on Monday

**Faye Featherstone/ Michelle Lashlee/ Dorothy Killebrew/ W. R. Long / Jim Buckner/ Al & Vicki Peek**

- \***Sherry Angela**—in ICU with injuries fr a car-wreck—grandmother of Mason Adams
- \***Scottie Lashlee**—back problems sees a spine specialist on Nov 22nd.
- \***Doug Stewart** (Ruby England's stepson) now on hospice in AHC in Waverly .
- \***Marcia Simpson**—needs prayers in Sarah Cannon Hosp with many medical issues
- \***Neely Ann Martin**—(Jerry & Kathy's granddaughter) continue in prayer, still having issues/struggles fr her recent trauma; which involved a concussion & fractured jaw
- \***Chase Lewis**—(Vicki Peek's family) he has lupus, been very sick
- \***Ralph Simpson**—several medical problems
- \***Frank Gugelchuk**—(Michelle Lashlee's dad)heart issues
- \***Alyssa Gold**—(Robert Proctor's niece) in need of prayers
- \***John Henry & Carlene Davis**
- \***Linda Burns** (Mike Burns sister-in-law) /**Bubba Tummins**(Bo & Amy's bro
- \***Axel Rickard**—baby in our community having serious hlt issues
- \***Faye Marshall**—Traci Adams mom \***June Dreaden**—S. Rachford's mom
- \***Doug Simpson**—(Ruby England's brother) heart problems
- \***Nancy Turner**—continues to need prayers \***Shane Cobb**

**THOSE DEALING/BEING TREATED FOR CANCER**

- \***KENNY FLEMING**— cancer
- \***JIMMY PHY**—cancer treatments
- \***RONNIE ENGLAND** —CA/CIRRHOSES LIVER & AFIB
- \***DONNA BURNS**—WAYNE&ANN BERRYMAN'S NIECE—CA
- \***WANDA DOBBINS**—(kin to Tyler's) terminal CA
- \***CHRIS McCURLEY**—prostate cancer
- \***JACKIE BORDERS**— Lauren Stuart's mom
- \***ROBERT GARDNER**—(Friend of Bill Williams) CA
- \***RANAE DUNCAN**—(Bo&Amy's neighbor)CA treatments
- \***CASEY VAILES**—(Ranae Duncan's son)also has cancer
- \***BARRY DEAN**—grandfather of a friend of Rachel Bell
- \***LARRY HAYES**—(fr Waverly COC) restarted chemo
- \***MAGGIE WRIGHT**—(friend of N. Buttrey) chemo
- \***DAVID STOKES**—(Drew Swears) step-dad

**ASSISTED LIVING & NURSING HOME**

**AHC Decatur County**—726 Kentucky Ave, Parsons, TN 38363—**Wyle Marshall** (Rm 726)—Traci Adams dad

**Humphreys County**— 104 Forte Hill Road, Waverly, TN 37185— **Billy Adams**—Rm 712

**NHC**—812 N. Charlotte, Dickson, TN 37055— **Jim Buckner**—Rm 320 **Earline Davis**—Rm 410 **Ronnie England**—Rm 113

**JoAnn Haley**—(Rm **Doris Stokes**—Rm 127

**Magnolia Place** —811 W. Main St. Waverly, TN 37055— **Mary Lana Adams**— Rm-

**MILITARY**

**Dustin Proctor**—  
(Navy Japan)  
PSC 562 Box 7273,  
FPO AP 96311-0073

**Dalton & Hope Palk**—  
(Navy-Louisiana)  
500 Woodland Dr, Apt 597,  
New Orleans, LA 70131

**AT HOME:** **JANE RIDINGS**—172 Indian Creek Rd/HERBERT CAPPIS—1400 Bradley Rd/ELTON SMITH—7731 Hwy 70 East

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Veterans Appreciation**  
luncheon on Monday,  
Nov 11th from 11:30-  
12:30, downstairs @  
the building.

**231 Trash Pick-Up**  
on Sat, November 9th  
Meet here at 7:30 am

**UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE:**  
**Thanksgiving Outreach Meal**—on Saturday,  
**November 23rd from 11:30-1:00.** Sign-up sheets  
for needed food items, cook turkeys, help serve, set-  
up & or clean-up now on the foyer bulletin board.

**Coat Giveaway**—also on Saturday Nov 23rd—from  
**11:30-1:00** can start giving money donations to  
Derek/Kelly Berryman/Terri or Teresa, or bringing  
adult size coats. Will also need workers to help with.

**Fruit Baskets**— Sunday, Nov 24<sup>th</sup>  
Will be prep & pick-up/delivery day. You can start  
bringing non-perishables-nuts/snacks now, then fruit  
the week of Nov.17th.

**PEW PACKERS:** To restart  
on Nov 10th. This will be a  
regular Sunday night activity  
starting @ 5:45, for all chil-  
dren or the young @ heart.  
Will include singing, Bible  
memory & of course fun!!

Our sympa-  
thy to the  
family of  
**Reba  
Biggs,**  
Marvin  
England's  
niece.

**LADIES**  
**CHRISTMAS**  
**EXCHANGE** will be  
a little early this yr  
on Nov 17th after  
our PM service.  
Please bring finger  
foods&a \$10-\$12 gift

**I.N.F.O.C.U.S.** Faith, Obedience, Character, Unity, Salvation

Our annual Trunk or Treat has come and gone and oh what a night it was!! Once again, the event had to be moved indoors due to bad weather. However, that did not stop us from making it a great night for our community and it did not stop our community from coming out and being a part of it. We might have had our largest group ever to come through. For the first hour the flow of spooks coming through was nonstop! At one point the line of people was out the doors and close to the road. It was great to see so many smiling faces come through. We have out every piece of candy that we had. Thank you to everyone who helped decorate and pass out candy and for everyone who bought candy and brought it to the building. It was a great night!!

Christian Love, Keith

## SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

### Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Welcome** .....John Hurt  
**Lead Singing**.....Mark Forster  
**1<sup>st</sup> Prayer**..... W. R. Long  
**Sermon**.....John Jones  
**Lord's Table**.....Keith Grigsby  
     Bruce Mayfield      Glenn Ross  
     Joe Smith             Andy Marlor  
     Bill Williams         Gerald Curtis  
**Closing Prayer**.....Dwight Stuart  
**Collect Cards**.....Hudson Buttrey  
                                     & Colt Stanfield  
**Greeters**..... Not at this time  
**Nursery**..... Not at this time  
**Collect Cups**.....Youth  
**Security**.....Team #3

### Sunday 6PM, November 10<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Lead Singing**..... Mark Forster  
**Prayer**.....Ethan Tummins  
**Sermon**..... John Jones  
**Lord's Table**.....Jimmy Suddeath  
                                     Ty Adams  
**Closing Prayer**.....Jim Ridings

### Wednesday 6:30 PM, November 13<sup>th</sup> 2024

**Lead Singing**.....Andrew Peyton  
**Prayer**.....John Potter  
**Adult Class**.....John Jones

If you are unable to serve...please contact  
 Wade Tummins, in advance. (cell 931-209-6291)  
 If changes need to be made in scheduling please  
 contact Jimmy Phy.

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Return Service Requested

\*If you are unable to attend any service please tune in to our Facebook page or  
 our YouTube page to watch the services. This is NOT a replacement for the  
 command to assemble together as Christ's Body, but a tool for those who may be  
 homebound/shut-in or sick.

**The MESSENGER is online!**  
**Visit the church website**  
**to view!**



### OUR RECORDS for 11/03/2024

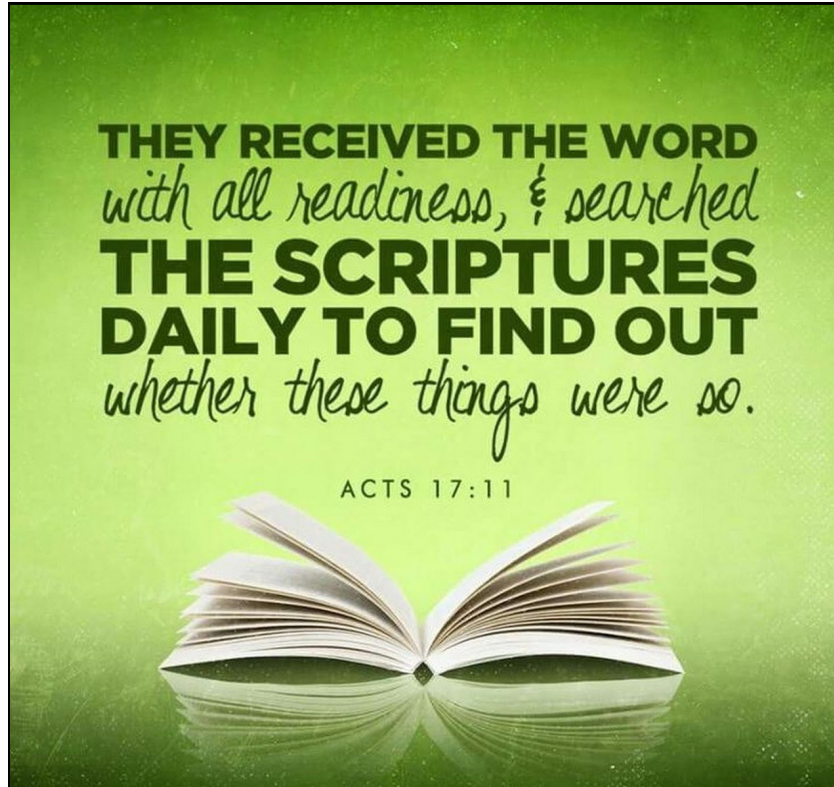
Sunday Morning Bible School	-----	11	6
Sunday Morning Worship	-----	189	
Sunday Evening Worship	-----	?	
Wed-Mid-Week Bible Study	-----	125	
Mission Sunday Contribution	---	\$56,000	
Number of Seeds Planted	-----	4	



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Week of November 3<sup>rd</sup> 2024

A Caring Church Lifting Up The CROSS And CROWN of CHRIST



### Schedule of Services

#### Sunday

Bible Study.....9:00am  
 Worship..... 10:00am  
 Evening.....6:00pm

#### Wednesday

Bible Study..... 6:30pm

#### Elders:

James Buckner	Calvin Buckner
Billy Buttrey	Bruce Mayfield
W.R. Long	Mike Robertson

#### Deacons:

Derek Berryman	Mike Burns
Wayne Coates	Mark Forster
John Hurt	Barry Phy
Robert Proctor	James Ridings
Elton Smith	Joe Smith
Dwight Stuart	Ethan Tummins
Wade Tummins	Ronnie Tyler

#### Staff:

Ministers	-----	Every Member
Pulpit	-----	John Jones
Youth	-----	Keith Grigsby

#### Secretaries

Terri Tummins/Teresa Fleming

#### To Contact Us:

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