

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
JANUARY 1, 2023

SICK: Shelly Cates, Destiny Clayton, Tabatha Clayton, Joey and Paislei Hadley, and Carson and Reese Kinney were all sick at some point this past week. Sonny Stewart will be having three spots of skin cancer removed in January. Jason House will have intestine surgery on March 14th. Jane Haas (Wesley Haas' mother) has had to change meds due to kidney problems.

PROTRACTED: Kim Arrington—elbow; Scooter Birmingham (friend of Destiny Clayton); Brian Brown (Paul Brown's nephew)—epilepsy; Lauren Brown (niece of Paul Brown)—heart; Suzanne Brown—arthritis; Shelly Cates—fibromyalgia; Janet Daniel (sister of Melinda Haas)—lupus; Addliae Farrow (Tabatha Clayton's great niece)—heart; Ella Cobb, granddaughter of the Houses—seizures; Elizabeth Ferguson (wife of former preacher here)—dementia; Jimmy Ferguson (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; Jane Haas (Wesley Haas' mother)—hip; Melinda Haas—Lyme's Disease; Cody Hadley—Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever; Kaylie Hadley—UCTD; Paula Harrison—Meniere's Disease; Lorraine Hounshell; 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; 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; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray); Anthony and Rita Stacks (nephew-in-law and niece of Allene Baldwin and Syble Embrey)—strokes and Alzheimers, respectively; and Jerry Worthington (neighbor of the Hounshells)—physical and emotional difficulties.

CANCER: Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Alicia Busby (from the community); Tish Clarke (wife of the MSOP director)—melanoma; Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Nathan Jones (the Hounshells' neighbor's son)—brain; Sara Kiestler (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; Wade Loggins (member of congregation in Elkmont, AL); Trina McKinney (Mary Ray's grandson-in-law)—prostate; 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; and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

SHUT-IN: Janice Bailey (at the Arringtons'), Orelia Ferguson (home), Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is in a care center in Pensacola, FL), Lorraine Hounshell (home), and Ruth House (Lawayne House's mother who is at home).

SERVING: Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, stateside). 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 (1 Timothy 2:1,2).

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

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)

Evangelists: Dan Cates (662-560-8045; dsmccates@yahoo.com)

Savion Rayson (903-742-1187; savionrayson1@gmail.com)

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

Kakinada, India [Providing Bibles and Overseeing Funds]

Memphis School of Preaching

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Tri-Cities School of Preaching (David B. Jones)

Jamie Long (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Warm Heart Missions (Roger Chambers)

Pablo Horna (Panama) [Overseeing funds]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

School of Biblical Studies (Jos, Nigeria)

Save Asian Souls (Providing physical and spiritual aid)

Other one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

Daniel F. Cates

Part XXV: Lamentations

(Continued from last week) If Jeremiah were the author--which shall be henceforth assumed, then he likely would have written from Tahpanhes in Egypt (Jer. 43:7-8) sometime after 586 B.C., for Jerusalem lay deserted and ruined with no allies willing or able to help her (Lam. 1:1- 4), and "the heathen [had] entered into her sanctuary" (Lam. 1:10)—which did not take place until she had been destroyed. In writing the Lamentations, Jeremiah generally addressed God (e.g., Lam. 1:9; 3:59; 5:1). Though he wrote to God, Jeremiah later directly addressed the “daughter of Edom” and "daughter of Zion" in one (Lam. 4:21,22); this may not indicate these people are the addressees as much as the subject, though, for this could have served as incidental encouragement to those who were destroyed, Zion, while Edom watched, cheered, and joined in (Psa. 137:7; Oba. 10-14).

Jeremiah's purpose was clear and simple: To acknowledge in prophesied mourning (Jer. 6:26) that Jerusalem and Judah fell due to their own sin (Jer. 1:8; 5:16) The humility of the writer is seen in his speaking on behalf of the sinful people who have deserved all that they received (Lam. 1:18-22; 5:15,16), such is reminiscent of the same attitude in Daniel's humble prayer (Dan. 9:4-9). There may have been a lesser purpose style-wise, especially seen in the layout of the book; that is, a writing in such a way that the book might be easily memorized. This is suggested due to the books containing numerous acrostics. Lamentations 1, 2, and 4 have twenty-two verses each, the first beginning with the first letter, א, and each following with the subsequent letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Lamentation 3 has every three verses being composed similarly totaling sixty-six verses in the chapter. While it has twenty-two verses, Lamentation 5 does not follow the alphabetical order.

The key words of the book are "sin" (seven times in its various forms), "enemy" (occurring seventeen times in its couple of forms), and "how" (found four times--three of which begin Lamentations 1,2, and 4). These words show the problem, the punishment, and the response. The key verses include Lamentation 1:12, in which Jeremiah asked, "Is it nothing to you, all ye that pass by? behold, and see if there be any sorrow like unto my sorrow, which is done unto me, wherewith the LORD hath afflicted *me* in the day of his fierce anger"; and Lamentation 5:21, in which Jeremiah sought renewal of the Lord's blessings--even through the realization of the Lord's anger (Lam. 5:22). The key passage of the book is Jeremiah's imprecatory [for the enemies' destruction under Divine righteous

indignation] prayer of Lamentation 3:59-66. The key chapter is Lamentation 1 which shows the destruction of Jerusalem's prompting the lamenting.

The lessons of the book are plenteous and include these: first, the Lord is as an enemy to those who reject Him (Lam. 2:4-5), but He is good to those who seek Him (Lam. 3:25); second, the Lord despises even that which has been dedicated to Him when those who dedicated it are unfaithful (Lam. 2:6-7); third, God's people can expect ridicule even when they are down (Lam. 2:15-16); fourth, the Lord keeps His word (Lam. 2:17); fifth, the Lord is compassionate, not enjoying inflicting suffering (Lam. 3:32-33); sixth, God is a God of justice (Lam. 3:34-36; cf. Pro. 17:5); seventh, both good and evil come from God (Lam. 3:38; cf. Isa. 45:7; Rom. 11:22); eighth, which shows the means of repentance (Lam. 3:40-41); and, ninth, God transcends time (Lam. 5:19).

“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)

BIBLE QUESTION:

This week's question: What procurator replaced Felix?

Last week's question: Who was Felix' wife?

Last week's answer: Drusilla (Acts 24:24)

SERMONS: Savion Rayson will be preaching this morning

“All the Counsel of God”: Questions to Ask—Methodist

DAILY BIBLE READING (January 2-8):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Genesis	3-5	6-9	10,11	12-15	16-19	20-22	23-26

READ SCRIPTURE (JANUARY): Cody Hadley (Please see Savion)

(FEBRUARY): Conor Cates

PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (JANUARY): Thomas Massey

(FEBRUARY): Lawayne House

ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (JANUARY): Conor Cates and Dylan Cooper

(FEBRUARY): Wesley Haas and Savion Rayson

CLEAN BUILDING (JANUARY): Suzanne and Katie Brown

(FEBRUARY): Thomas and Sheila Massey

PREPARE COMMUNION (JANUARY): Maggie Cooper and Reese Kinney

(FEBRUARY): Tabatha Clayton

PANTRY NEEDS: Canned goods.

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

January 25-29

The Nesbit congregation will have their lectures; the theme is *Let God Be True and Every Man a Liar*. A schedule is in the foyer.

WELCOME VISITORS!