

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~  
JANUARY 7, 2024

**SYMPATHY:** Wanda Jackson's mother-in-law, Sarah Jackson, passed away Monday of Covid. She was 108 years old. Bobby Liddell, an instructor at MSOP, lost his mother, Earcell Liddell Winchester, recently.

**SICK:** Emma Cook will be induced tomorrow; pray that all goes well in the birth of the Cooks' new son. Please continue to remember those who have been sick this past couple of weeks, including Hunter and Jeffery Clayton, Melinda Haas, Ray Stanford, Karen Tuttle, and the Massey's new grandson, Thomas Swindoll. Roland McClure had TURP surgery on Tuesday; they received great news that he has no prostate cancer. Mary Ray is still experiencing serious dizziness. Billy Bland (elder at Coldwater) has been referred to a neurosurgeon. Juanita Brown, mother of Paul Brown, was taken to the ER Wednesday night. Mark Ray, Mary Ray's son, is facing back surgery.

**PROTRACTED:** Brandi Beavers—fibromyalgia; 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; Shelby Cooper—facing mitral valve prolapse surgery between eight months and two years from now; Janet Daniel (sister of Melinda Haas)—lupus; Martha Clayton (Tabatha Clayton's mother-in-law)—congestive heart failure; 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; 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; Denae Miller (occasional visitor)—recovering from surgeries; 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 Stacks (nephew-in-law of Allene Baldwin and Syble Embrey)—strokes and Alzheimers, respectively; and Jerry Worthington (neighbor of the Hounshells)—physical and emotional difficulties.

**CANCER:** Neil Bennett (friend of Dan Cates)—thyroid; Alicia Busby (from the community); Dan Cates—melanoma; Tish Clarke (wife of the MSOP director)—melanoma; Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Pablo Horna (missionary)—carcinoma; Nathan Jones (the Hounshells' neighbor's son)—brain; Sara Kiestler (an FHU student)—Hodgkin's; Wade Loggins (member of congregation in Elkmont, AL); Dorothy Mosher (wife of an MSOP instructor); Carol Ogelsby (family of Sonny Stewart and the Browns)—stomach; Priscilla Patterson (mother of a friend of Dan Cates)—breast; Tommy Pierce (the Browns' friend); Ruby Reynolds (Sheila Massey's mother); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; Laykan Rutherford (cousin of Shelly Cates); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

**SHUT-IN:** Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is in a care center in Pensacola, FL), Sadie Darnell (Allene Baldwin's sister-in-law who is in rehab in Senatobia); Orelia Ferguson (home), Ruth House (Lawayne House's mother who is at home), Edward Watkins (brother of Shelby Peyton's sister-in-law who is under hospice care).

**SERVING:** Cameron Hadley (Marines), now stationed locally. 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).

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*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](http://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](mailto:dsmccates@yahoo.com))  
Chris Cook (318-558-0458; [christophercook308@gmail.com](mailto:christophercook308@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 (Chris Cook)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

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

Jason Moore (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 LI: Colossians

*(Continued from last week)* The key word of the book is "Christ," mentioned twenty-six times. This reflects the need Paul had to answer the questions of Jesus' deity. The key phrase is "all fulness" which is found twice [once adds a "the"]; as with the key word, both uses of this phrase emphasize the deity of Jesus. The key verses are Colossians 3:4 and Colossians 2:8. The first reflects the hope which is only in Jesus; Paul wrote, "When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory." The second contains the aforementioned warning: "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ." The key passage follows in Colossians 2:9-12, "For in him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power: In whom also ye are circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ: Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with *him* through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead."

Among the lessons from Colossians are these: first, the kingdom is already in existence (Col. 1:13); second, salvation is connected to the blood of Christ (Col. 1:14; cf. 1 Pet. 1:19; Rev.1:5; Acts 20:28); third, Christ is the Head of the body (Col. 1:16-18; 2:9-10); fourth, one who has been saved can so sin as to be lost (Col. 2:18); fifth, the Christian must live above the world (Col. 3:1-8); sixth, there are no distinctions regarding the class of Christians (Col. 3:11); seventh, one must have authority for all he does (Col. 3:17); eighth, Christians must take heed of their time (Col. 4:5); and, ninth, Christians must take heed of their tongues (Col. 4:6). There are many others to be gleaned; perhaps these will whet the appetite to discover others.

One other note, really a question, is worthy of mention: Why do men today not have the epistle to the Laodiceans which is mentioned in Colossians 4:16? Different views exist, including the possibility that the letter to Ephesus is this epistle or that the epistle was not from Paul but to Paul and worthy of note to those facing a heresy that was likely being faced just a few miles away but not necessarily inspired. The greater likelihood is that Paul wrote a letter to Laodicea, but that it was very close to and complimentary to Colossians and perhaps Ephesians as well; as such presented nothing which those letters did not. That would mean that it would not need to be preserved by God in the canon since it would not contribute to "all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness," (2 Pet. 1:3).

*"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: Whom did Jesus tell, "Ye must be born again"?

Last week's question: Who "knew not Joseph"?

Last week's answer: "A new king over Egypt" (Exodus 1:8)

**SERMONS:** A.M. Sermon: "Must" (*John 4:24*).

P.M. Devotional: *Dan Cates* will deliver this evening's message.

P.M. Class: *The Beginning of Our Confidence*: Chapter 33: More on Recreation and Entertainment.

### DAILY BIBLE READING (January 8-14):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
<b>Genesis</b>	23-26	27-29	30-32	33-36	37-39	40-42	43-46

**READ SCRIPTURE (JANUARY):** Chris Cook (2 Corinthians 5:10)

*(FEBRUARY): Dylan Cooper*

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

*(FEBRUARY): Lawayne House*

**ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (JANUARY):** Conor Cates and Carson Kinney

*(FEBRUARY): Mario Arrington and Chris Cook*

**CLEAN BUILDING (JANUARY):** Maggie Cooper and Shelby Cooper

*(FEBRUARY): Tabatha Clayton*

**PREPARE COMMUNION (JANUARY):** Tabatha Clayton

*(FEBRUARY): Kim Arrington*

### UPCOMING SUNDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE:

<i>January 7</i>	<i>Dan Cates</i>	<i>January 14</i>	<i>Dylan Cooper</i>
<i>January 21</i>	<i>Cody Hadley</i>	<i>January 28</i>	<i>Chris Cook</i>

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Canned goods.

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

Saturday (January 13)

At 11:00 A.M. we will have a **memorial service** for Lorraine Hounshell and provide a meal for family and friends afterward.

January 20

From 9 A.M. till Noon, the Looxahoma Church of Christ will have a **men's day** on *The Importance of Leadership*. Bobby Liddell will be speaking.

### WELCOME VISITORS!

We are honored to have you with us today! Please take a few minutes and fill out an attendance card for us so that we can have a record of your attendance. Once you have filled out a card, please hand it to one of the members, or lay it onto the pew.