

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~  
FEBRUARY 4, 2024

**PRAYERS:** Wanda Jackson is staying with her daughter's family temporarily due to some flooding in her house.

**REQUEST:** Rickie Gootam is wondering if some may have unused laptops, iPads, tablets, etc., that might be donated to the work in Kakinada, India, and especially toward their work with *Lads to Leaders*.

**SICK:** Please remember those who have had various illnesses recently. Mary Ray is still experiencing serious dizziness. 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; Dena 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 LIII: 2 Thessalonians

After the masterful letter which was 1 Thessalonians, the brethren at Thessalonica would have been duly encouraged by Paul to look to the skies with great anticipation for the second coming of the Lord. He referred to that coming in every chapter and focused upon it in 1 Thessalonians 4:14-18 which included such motivation as "sorrow not," "[living Christians] shall be caught up together with [faithful Christians who had already did] ... to meet the Lord in the air," and "comfort one another." The whole section was a pep talk for enduring the present opposition! Sadly, some had taken Paul too much at his word, expecting that they specifically of that generation were the "we" of 1 Thessalonians 4:15,17. "Obviously," they apparently thought, since they were the ones told, "Let us watch and be sober" (1 The. 5:6). Accordingly, some in Thessalonica had put their physical lives in "cruise control" expecting Jesus' imminent arrival.

Paul (2 The. 3:17), again with Silas and Timothy likely as amanuenses (cf 1 The. 1:1), wrote the Thessalonian brethren (2 The. 1:1). Given the purpose of his writing, it is likely that this letter followed within just months the first. The same arguments, then, urged for the place of origin of 1 Thessalonians would apply for this letter--he probably wrote this epistle from Corinth (especially given the length of time he was in Corinth [Acts 18:11]). That purpose was to clear up misconceptions some had regarding the Second Coming after having received 1 Thessalonians (2 The. 2:2). Interestingly, Paul suggested that while they could look with eagerness to the skies, they might also be shaken or troubled fearing that return was soon to occur. There is no reason supplied for that reaction, but it is possible--though speculative--that some were concerned for the souls of loved ones who had not yet accepted the Gospel. He let them know in this epistle that other events had to transpire first (2 The. 2:3). While the roots of that inevitability

were already present (2 The. 2:7), the full realization, and, therefore, the Second Coming were not in the foreseeable future. (*To be continued next week*)

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*"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)*

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### BIBLE QUESTION:

This week's question: Whom did the evil spirit in Ephesus not know?

Last week's question: Who spoke hypothetically of washing himself "with snow water"?

Last week's answer: Job (Job 9:30)

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**SERMONS:** A.M.: *Progress Reports of the Gospel* (Acts 2:41-47).

P.M. Devotional: *Cameron Hadley* will deliver this evening's message.

P.M.: *The Beginning of Our Confidence*: Chapter 35: Modesty and Propriety.

### DAILY BIBLE READING (February 5-11):

|                  | Mon.  | Tues. | Wed.  | Thur. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. |
|------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|------|
| <b>Exodus</b>    | 28-31 | 32-34 | 35-37 | 38-40 |      |      |      |
| <b>Leviticus</b> |       |       |       |       | 1-4  | 5-7  | 8-10 |

**READ SCRIPTURE (FEBRUARY):** Dylan Cooper (Acts 9:31)

*(MARCH): Carson Kinney*

**PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (FEBRUARY):** Lawayne House

*(MARCH): Dylan Cooper*

**ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (FEBRUARY):** Mario Arrington and Chris Cook

*(MARCH): Gavin Arrington and Wesley Haas*

**CLEAN BUILDING (FEBRUARY):** Tabatha Clayton

*(MARCH): Melinda Haas and April Kinney*

**PREPARE COMMUNION (FEBRUARY):** Kim Arrington

*(MARCH): Shelly Cates*

### UPCOMING SUNDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL SCHEDULE:

|                    |                       |                    |                      |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| <i>February 4</i>  | <i>Cameron Hadley</i> | <i>February 11</i> | <i>Carson Kinney</i> |
| <i>February 18</i> | <i>Carl Hounshell</i> | <i>February 25</i> | <i>Dan Cates</i>     |

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Canned goods.

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

February 18

**Youth devotional** after evening services.

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### 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.