

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~  
MAY 21, 2023

**SYMPATHY:** Janice Bailey passed away on Monday; let us continue praying for her family.

**CONGRATS:** Jason House is graduating from Gateway Christian Schools.

**EXPECTING SOON:** Maggie Cooper is scheduled to be induced on Wednesday, so Mason is on his way.

**SICK:** Grayson Hadley was sick last Sunday, but better by midweek.

**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; Jason House—intestine surgery on March 14th; 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 and Rita Stacks (nephew-in-law and niece of Allene Baldwin and Syble Embrey)—strokes and Alzheimers, respectively; Erica Swindoll (the Massey's daughter)—high risk pregnancy; and Jerry Worthington (neighbor of the Hounshells)—physical and emotional difficulties.

**CANCER:** Neil Bennett (friend of Dan Cates)—thyroid; 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); Ruby Reynolds (Sheila Massey's mother); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

**SHUT-IN:** Orelia Ferguson (home), Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is in a care center in Pensacola, FL), Lorraine Hounshell (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 (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, stateside before long). 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))  
Savion Rayson (903-742-1187; [savionrayson1@gmail.com](mailto: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 XXXV: Habakkuk

*(Continued from last week)* The key verses are Habakkuk 2:4 which contrasts prideful Babylon with the just who "shall live by his faith," and Habakkuk 2:20 in which the Lord calls for silence. The key passage is Habakkuk 1:2,3 which sets the scene for the book by showing Habakkuk's mourning. The key chapter is Habakkuk 3 which is Habakkuk's prayer.

This is another small book with numerous lessons; among them are these: first, lack of judgment can appear to be allowance of sin by God or a disinterest on God's part (Hab. 1:4,13; cf. Ecc. 8:11; Job 21:11-15); second, God will punish the wicked--even those who have been His own people (Hab. 1:6); third, to trust in idols is foolish (Hab. 2:18-19); and, fourth, the Lord is the strength of His people (Hab. 3:19).

Reading this book, one will find an odd characteristic for a book of prophecy: Habakkuk, especially chapter 3, is psalm-like. One may note the poetic rests expressed in the word "*selah*" (Hab. 3:3,9,13) and the close [apparently a superscription], "To the chief singer on my stringed instruments" (Hab. 3:19; the "stringed instruments" being the Hebrew *neginoth* as in the titles of Psalm 4 and numerous others).

## Part XXXVI: Zephaniah

Like many of the Minor Prophets, Zephaniah receives little attention. Why is that the case: first, it is from man's perspective somewhat "buried" near the back of the Old Testament; second, it is a small book; third [perhaps most important and disappointing], it is rarely studied in Bible classes or alluded to in sermons. Zephaniah, though, is a book which should be studied, not only because of its place in Old Testament prophecy, but also because there is so much practical teaching applicable for all time.

Zephaniah, whose name incorporates the idea of being secret or hidden or treasured, is identified as "the son of Cushi, the son of Gedaliah, the son of Amariah, the son of Hizkiah [most versions read "Hezekiah"]" (Zep. 1:1). There is debate over whether Hizkiah, or Hezekiah, is to be identified with the Hezekiah who reigned over Judah from 716-687 B.C. Whether he was or was not is not overly important; however, being Hezekiah's great, great grandson, might aid accessibility to king Josiah who is mentioned also in the first verse and who reigned over Judah from 640-609 B.C. From a personal standpoint, nothing else is known of Zephaniah. *(To be continued next week)*

*"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 did David say was not in the "dry and thirsty land"?

Last week's question: According to Paul, to what does "the goodness of God" lead?

Last week's answer: Repentance (Romans 2:4)

**SERMONS:** A.M.: *Anticipation* (Psalm 42:4)

P.M.: *The Beginning of Our Confidence*: Chapter 1: The Right Beginning

### DAILY BIBLE READING (May 22-28):

Mon. Tues. Wed. Thur. Fri. Sat. Sun.

**Psalms** 124-126 127-129 130-132 133-135 136-138 139-141 142-144

**READ SCRIPTURE (MAY):** Thomas Massey (Psalm 63:1-3)

*(JUNE): Lawayne House*

**PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (MAY):** Cody Hadley

*(JUNE): Thomas Massey*

**ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (MAY):** Dylan Cooper and Ray Stanford

*(JUNE): Gavin Arrington and Savion Rayson*

**CLEAN BUILDING (MAY):** Thomas and Sheila Massey

*(JUNE): Tabatha Clayton*

**PREPARE COMMUNION (MAY):** Suzanne and Katie Brown

*(JUNE): Maggie Cooper and Reese Kinney*

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Canned goods.

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

Tonight

**Youth Devotional** after evening services.

June 4-7

We will host our **Gospel Meeting** with Billy Bland preaching. Flyers are available in the foyer. Thyatira and Forest Hill both have **Vacation Bible Schools** at this time; while we cannot attend those, we can pray for their success! Thyatira actually begins their **VBS** Sunday at 6:00 P.M.

June 11-15

**Vacation Bible School** at Coldwater beginning at 6:30 nightly.

June 12-14

**Vacation Bible School** at Looxahoma.

June 17-23

**Sardis Lake Christian Camp** second session.

June 30

**Summer Area Wide Devo** at Olive Branch at 6:30 P.M.

July 22

**Youth day** here at Independence. Flyers are in the foyer.