

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
JULY 2, 2023

SICK: **Cody Hadley** has been dealing with a lot of discomfort and pain from kidney stones. **Mary Ray** continues to be unable to get out. **Karen Tuttle** will have an appointment July 18th regarding hole on her heart. **Michelle Cates**, sister-in-law of **Dan** and **Shelly**, is recovering from surgery for kidney stones. **Gwendolyn Massey**, **Thomas** and **Sheila's** granddaughter, is recovering from having her wisdom teeth removed. **Clara Spence**, **Cody Hadley's** grandmother, was hospitalized mid-week in Oxford due to an infection. **Jackie Walker**, MSOP secretary, had to have emergency surgery to repair a tear and hole in one her retinas Thursday.

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; **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; **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: **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).

Independence Church of Christ
8543 Highway 305
Coldwater, MS 38618

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The Informer



8543 Highway 305

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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 XXXIX: Malachi

(Continued from last week) It is not known with certainty where Malachi prophesied, perhaps from Jerusalem; certainly, he prophesied to the Jews (referred to by their corporate name Israel in Malachi 1:1 [which helps to demonstrate that all the tribes composing Israel and Judah had returned from captivity!]) who were back in the Promised Land--the book actually opens showing how much better Israel's return had been than Edom's (Mal. 1:2-5). The book's date is not as simply given as others' dates were. It is reasonable to suggest that he wrote around the mid to late 400s B.C., likely in the 430s to 420s. Why would these dates be suggested? First, the temple stood rebuilt (Mal. 3:10)--that had been accomplished in 515 B.C. (Ezra 6:15); second, there was a priesthood intact (Mal. 1:6-7)--that had been restored in Darius' time (Ezra 6:18) also 515 B.C.; third, the restored priesthood had time to become corrupt (Mal. 2:7-8); fourth, the law was in a restored state (Mal. 2:7)--that took place in Ezra's time (Ezra 7:6-10) 457 B.C.; and, fifth, there was a governor (Mal. 1:8)--but it was not Zerubbabel whose work culminated in the building of the temple or Nehemiah who would not accept offerings of the people (Mal. 5:15,18). Accordingly, it is likely that Malachi prophesied prior to Nehemiah's governorship in 444 B.C. or during a roughly eight year period during which Nehemiah returned to Persia— between 432 and around 424 B.C. (Neh. 13:6).

The purpose of this prophecy [or "burden" a term which was considered in studying the first of the Major Prophets, Isaiah, and which appears in Malachi 1:1] was to serve as a final prophetic encouragement for the Jews, who were still not quite what they ought to have been following the returning from captivity, to serve God with the proper attitudes (e.g., Mal. 1:7,8,12-14) and actions (e.g., Mal. 3:7-12). This "push" was especially needful given the silence of inspiration which would mark the better part of the next five centuries.

The key word of the book is "messenger" which is found three times. Once is with reference to the responsibility of the priest to "keep knowledge ... for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts" (Mal. 2:7). While important, more important is Malachi 3:1 which spoke of the messenger who would "prepare the way before ... the Lord"; that is a reference to John the Baptist. Jesus said of John (Mat. 11:7), "For this is *he*, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee" (Mat. 11:10; cf. Mark 1:2,3; Luke 1:76; 7:26-28) [The book offered another prophetic picture of John in Malachi 4:5 in which he was described as "Elijah the prophet" (cf. Mat. 17:10-13)]. The key verses are Malachi 1:2, which speaks of God's unappreciated love, and the aforementioned Malachi 3:1 and 4:5 with their prophecies concerning John the Baptist.

Numerous lessons may be drawn from Malachi, including these: first, God does not accept worship man views as weariness (Mal. 1:13; cf. Mic. 6:3); second, men can weary the Lord (Mal. 2:17); third, the Lord is constant (Mal. 3:6; cf. Jam. 1:17; Heb. 13:8); fourth, one can rob God (Mal. 3:8); fifth, God hears those who fear Him (Mal. 3:16).

"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: Who signed the decree that none could ask anything of God for thirty days?

Last week's question: What messenger was prophesied in Malachi 3:1?

Last week's answer: John (Matthew 11:7,10)

SERMONS: A.M.: *Jesus, the Greatest Lawgiver* (Galatians 6:2)

P.M.: *The Beginning of Our Confidence*: Chapter 6: Creatures of Habit

DAILY BIBLE READING (July 3-9):

	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
Hosea	5-7	8-10	11-14	Isaiah	1-3	4-6	7-9
2 Kings				18,19			

READ SCRIPTURE (JULY): Gavin Arrington (Romans 8:2)

(AUGUST): *Mario Arrington*

PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (JULY): Lawayne House

(AUGUST): *Dylan Cooper*

ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (JULY): Paul Brown and Wesley Haas

(AUGUST): *Sonny Stewart and Conor Cates*

CLEAN BUILDING (JULY): Melinda Haas and April Kinney

(AUGUST): *Suzanne Brown and Katie Brown*

PREPARE COMMUNION (JULY): Tabatha Clayton

(AUGUST): *Kim Arrington*

PANTRY NEEDS: Canned goods.

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

July 12-14

Vacation Bible School at Nesbit on the theme *God's Tools*.

July 16

Youth Devotional after evening services.

July 22

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

July 23-27

The Crockett Church of Christ will hold their **Gospel meeting** which will have various speakers.

WELCOME VISITORS!