

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~
AUGUST 6, 2023

SICK: Levi Howell and Karter Shamblin were sick this past week. Shelly Cates is still rehabbing from hip replacement surgery. Mary Ray has been having dizzy spells. Karen Tuttle will be having a tilt table test for heart on August 18th.

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; 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 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 (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).

Independence Church of Christ
8543 Highway 305
Coldwater, MS 38618

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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)
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 XLII: Luke

The third account of the good news, or Gospel, of Jesus' life is that of Luke. While the book is not signed, numerous early sources credit Luke with having written it. Luke 1:1-3 indicate that the book was written by a disciple, and a relatively early one at that--though he had to rely on eyewitnesses to faithfully relay the earliest things. Luke is mentioned by name only three times in Scripture, so not much is known without question. If he wrote the books that he is said to have written, then more is known of him due the writer's oft use of the first person "we." These things are known: first, Luke was a physician (Col. 4:14) [interestingly, some of the words the writer of this book used were words one would expect a physician to use (e.g., see Marvin Vincent's *Word Studies* on Luke 18:25 and Acts 10:11)]; second, Luke was a co-laborer with Paul (2 Tim. 4:11; Phm. 24) [suiting him to be among the few who could write of the missionary journeys from a first hand perspective]. Some have tried to infer more from these texts, such as whether he was a Jew or Gentile; some have relied upon tradition to determine more concerning his occupational background or the circumstances of his conversion or his relationship to Paul family-wise; some have suggested that Luke is the unnamed brother of 2 Corinthians 8:18; and, some have tried to identify Luke with Lucius of Acts 13:1 and/or Romans 16:21, but none of these things are any more than speculation. It would appear from the use of pronouns, that the writer of Luke began accompanying Paul on the Second Missionary Journey (Acts 16:10).

As this was written by a co-laborer of Paul and preceded the writing of Acts (Acts 1:1)--which ended with Paul in a Roman prison but not martyred, but as this account only covered through the ascension of Jesus, the date of the book could be as early as the A.D. 40s or as late as the early A.D. 60s; the time of writing largely hinges upon how great a gap exists between the writing of it and the writing of Acts, which question is not answered. Accordingly, the location of writing could be wherever Paul was at the time of writing, perhaps Asia or Macedonia (Acts 16:10) or Rome (Col. 4:14; 2 Tim. 4:11).

The audience ("recipient" may be an even better designation in this case) and purpose of the book are tied together. Luke wrote to Theophilus (Luke 1:3), whose name (Θεόφιλος) means "friend [or "lover" or "loved," depending on the dictionary consulted] of God." Of Theophilus, also, not much is known. He must have been very interested in the events of Jesus' life and the history of the early church. Being "most excellent" implies that he was a Roman official of some sort, so of Gentile background in an area like Antioch [as many have supposed]. Luke told Theophilus he wrote "That thou mightest know the certainty of those

things, wherein thou hast been instructed" (Luke 1:4). It would seem that Theophilus was close enough to the events of those days to know of Christ but was far enough removed from the events that he only had incomplete information; Luke's task was to provide a complete account.

The key word of the book is "lost" which is used just seven times but which in important discourses described influence, sheep, money, and children (individually and collectively). The key phrases of the book include the "son of" phrases, showing Jesus' equality with God twenty-three times and with man an additional seven times, and the phrase "kingdom of God" which is found thirty-two times. The key verses are Luke 1:4 (Theophilus could know with certainty concerning Jesus), Luke 9:27 (which demonstrated that the kingdom was soon to come), and Luke 19:10 (revealing Jesus' mission to save the lost). The key chapter, Luke 15, carries the same thought, as it speaks of the lost sheep, coin, and son. (*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: Who told Joshua to "be strong and of good courage"?

Last week's question: For whom were the Thessalonians examples?

Last week's answer: "All that believe in Macedonia and Achaia" (1 Thessalonians 1:7)

SERMONS: A.M.: *In the Service of God ...* (Joshua 1:1-9)

P.M.: *The Beginning of Our Confidence:* Chapter 11: God's Seed and Our Soils

Also, *Bodie Meredith* will give us a brief report on his recent mission trip this evening.

DAILY BIBLE READING (August 7-13):

| | Mon. | Tues. | Wed. | Thur. | Fri. | Sat. | Sun. |
|-----------------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Jeremiah | 6-8 | 9-12 | 13-16 | 17-20 | 21-23 | 24-26 | 27-29 |

READ SCRIPTURE (AUGUST): Mario Arrington (Joshua 1:9)

(*SEPTEMBER*): *Cameron Hadley*

PRESIDE OVER LORD'S SUPPER (AUGUST): Dylan Cooper

(*SEPTEMBER*): *Carl Hounshell*

ASSIST ON LORD'S SUPPER (AUGUST): Sonny Stewart and Conor Cates

(*SEPTEMBER*): *Savion Rayson and Ray Stanford*

CLEAN BUILDING (AUGUST): Suzanne Brown and Katie Brown

(*SEPTEMBER*): *Thomas and Sheila Massey*

PREPARE COMMUNION (AUGUST): Kim Arrington

(*SEPTEMBER*): *Melinda Haas and April Kinney*

PANTRY NEEDS: Canned goods.

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

No upcoming events.