

INDEPENDENCE CHURCH OF CHRIST~  
OCTOBER 18 & 25, 2020

**SICK/TEMPORARY:** Cody Hadley, April Kinney, and Shelly Cates were all under the weather this past week. Sonny Stewart had successful cataract surgery Monday. Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother) is hoping to be able to move to Andy's house un a could of weeks. Jim and Tammy Turner (whom we support) are both dealing with the Coronavirus—this can be very serious to them, especially to her!

**PROTRACTED:** Janice Bailey—Alzheimers; Scooter Birmingham (friend of Destiny Clayton); Brian Brown (Paul Brown's nephew)—epilepsy; Shelly Cates—fibromyalgia; Gladys Marie Elrod (Mary Ray's son-in-law's mother)—congestive heart failure; Addliae Farrow (Tabatha Clayton's great niece)—heart; Bubba Farrow (Emma Farrow's son)—Alzheimer's; Jimmy Ferguson (former preacher here)—heart rhythm; Jerry Floate (of this community)—liver transplant; Kaylie Hadley—UCTD; Paula Harrison—Meniere's Disease; Wanda Jackson—a-fib; Monica La Rock (granddaughter of Orelia Ferguson and mother of Noah)—recovering from a brain bleed and awaiting further surgery; Garrett Lentz (son of a co-worker of Cody Hadley)—seizures; Sheila Massey—Bell's palsy; Becky Munns (Tabatha Clayton's aunt)—heart problems, Crohn's Disease; Shelby Peyton—knee; Robert Rawson (preacher at Crockett)—diabetes; Ray Reynold's (Sheila Massey and Mary West's dad)—memory trouble; Brett Rutherford (Dan Cates' friend)—MS; Tammy Turner (a preacher's wife whom we support)—dementia; Francis Wallace (friend of Mary Ray).

**CANCER:** Clifton Angel (preacher at Coldwater)—thyroid; Sherry Brown (retired MSOP secretary); Alicia Busby (from the community); Earl Carlton (son of a friend of Syble Embrey)—esophageal; Gary Darnell (Ella Darnell's son)—leukemia as well as diabetes; Brenda Davis (a grandmother of Edra and Ryan Farrow); Tom Gordon (Cody Hadley's grandfather); Nathan Jones (the Hounshells' neighbors' 16 year old family member)—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); John Riley (member of the church who lives in this community)—lung; Tiffany Taylor (the Browns' friend); and Tabby Waters (Tabatha Clayton's sister-in-law)—leukemia.

**SHUT-IN:** Marie Crockett (home), Emma Farrow (in a care facility in Sardis), Orelia Ferguson (home), and Annette Cates (Dan Cates' mother who is at home in Pensacola, FL).

**SERVING:** Dylan and Maggie Cooper (Air Force, Offut AFB, Neb.), Cameron Hadley (Grayson Hadley's dad—Marines, Hawaii), Jacob Petrowski (grandson of former members here—Marines, soon to be let out). 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 (I 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))

**Missions** [the latest reports from these works are on the bulletin board in the foyer]

Independence Mission Fund (next: tbd)

Memphis School of Preaching (Jonathan Jenkins)

Brown Trail School of Preaching (Spanish Department)

Jim and Tammy Turner (Fairfield, North Carolina)

Trent Kennedy family (Four Seas Bible College, Singapore)

Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh, India [Providing Bibles]

Netcasters and Fishers of Men (Tim Wilkes, II)

Tennessee Children's Home, West

Pablo Horna (Costa Rica) [Overseeing funds]

Many one-time, domestic and overseas, mission efforts

# ALCOHOL AND THE BIBLE, Part 4

Nathan Franson

*(Continued from last week)* WHAT ABOUT THE MARRIAGE FEAST?

The favored passages for those attempting to defend alcohol use in the Bible is almost always the first known miracle of Jesus. It is certainly strange that those who use this as a way to welcome “drinking in moderation” are taking the one event where they consumed more wine than in any other record in the Bible.

Those who make this a case to say drinking alcohol is ok have completely overlooked the purpose of the account. It was not a time when Jesus was telling people it was acceptable to drink, but rather establishing His authority as the Son of God by changing the nature of the substance (water into fruit of the vine).

John records, "On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Now both Jesus and His disciples were invited to the wedding. And when they ran out of wine, the mother of Jesus said to Him, 'They have no wine.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what does your concern have to do with Me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Whatever He says to you, do it.' Now there were set there six waterpots of stone, according to the manner of purification of the Jews, containing twenty or thirty gallons apiece. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the waterpots with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. And He said to them, 'Draw some out now, and take it to the master of the feast.' And they took it. When the master of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and did not know where it came from (but the servants who had drawn the water knew), the master of the feast called the bridegroom. And he said to him, 'Every man at the beginning sets out the good wine, and when the guests have well drunk, then the inferior. You have kept the good wine until now!' This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him" (Jn. 2:1-11).

It is relevant to ask a few questions: 1) Did Jesus ever do anything to cause Himself to lose control of His mind or help others lose control of theirs? 2) Did Jesus ever do anything to cause others to stumble spiritually?

Paul writes, “But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak” (1 Cor. 8:9). To understand how much wine was consumed is to realize why it could not have been fermented or corrupted which would lead to becoming a stumbling block. There were six water pots of two to three firkins apiece. One firkin is approximately eleven gallons. Each water pot held 22 to 33 gallons. This makes the total consumed from 132 to 198 gallons total. This is in addition to those who had already “well drunk.” If Jesus provided intoxicating wine at this level, He not only justified drinking (a violation of what Paul

would later condemn), but drink themselves into oblivion, even if the alcohol content was less than today.

Jesus would know wine is a mocker, raging, and those who drink it in its corrupted form are not wise. He would understand the other negative descriptions based on the Law up to that point. If one person was affected by alcohol, Jesus would be deliberately hindering them from the opportunity of heaven. In return, it would make Him a sinner. *(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: What robber was released in Jesus’ place?

Last week’s question: In whose house did Jesus say, "She hath done what she could"?

Last week’s answer: Simon the leper’s (*Mark 14:3,8*)

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**SERMONS:** Truth Versus Subjectivism (*John 18:38*)

“All the Counsel of God”: Angels

*Cody McCoy will be preaching and teaching on the 25th—he will teach the third lesson in the Ready Reference Sunday evening*

## DAILY BIBLE READING (October 19-November 1):

		Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.	Sun.
19th-25th	<b>Matthew</b>	16-19	20-22	23-25	26-28			
					<b>Mark</b>	1-3	4-6	7-10
26th-1st	<b>Mark</b>	11-13	14-16					
			<b>Luke</b>	1-3	4-6	7-9	10-13	14-17

**SCRIPTURE READING (OCTOBER):** Dan Cates (John 17:14-21)

*(NOVEMBER): Thomas Massey*

**PRESIDE LORD’S SUPPER MORNING (OCTOBER):** Carl Hounshell

*(NOVEMBER): Cody Hadley*

**ASSIST LORD’S SUPPER (OCTOBER):** Conor Cates and Cody Hadley

*(NOVEMBER): Ray Stanford and Mark Peyton*

**CLEAN BUILDING (OCTOBER):** The Hounshells

*(NOVEMBER): The Masseys*

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

*(NOVEMBER): Kaylie Hadley*

**PANTRY NEEDS:** Imperishables.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

Shelly Cates	November 9	Tabatha Clayton	November 11
Hunter Clayton	November 15	Mario Arrington	November 23
Mark Peyton	November 25	Lorraine Hounshell	November 25

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

This week (October 18-22)

**Spiritual Sword Lectures** at Getwell.