

# Announcements

*“Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven” (James 5:13–15).*

Dorothy Brasiel \* Jo Byrnes (back surgery tomorrow) \* Betty Cannon \* Joyce Coones (Ayers) \* Sleatha Gore \* Essielene Henderson \* Faye Kilpatrick (Tri-County) \* Sally Smith (North Florida Regional Rm. 608) \* Carl Rutter (N. Fla. Regional Rm. 621) \* Gary Ogden \* Randy McElroy

## Elders/Deacons Meeting

The elders and deacons will be meeting monthly beginning tomorrow night (Monday, April 6). Our intention is to meet the first Monday night of each month.

## Area Gospel Meetings

- Beginning today through Friday — **Cherry Sink congregation**, Trenton \* Steve Dewhirst, preaching \* 7:30 PM every night.
- **South Pine Avenue** congregation, Ocala \* Danny Roberts, preaching \* April 19–24 \* 7:30 PM Monday through Friday.

## This Week's Anniversary

Galen & Donna Watson (Saturday)

## Church of Christ

Meeting at 211 NE 2nd Street in beautiful Chiefland, Florida  
PO Box 2539, Chiefland FL 32644 • (352) 493-1242

# THINGS REVEALED

*“If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God. Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.”*

— Colossians 3:1-2 —

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**ELDERS** Tony Beach, Buddy Johnson, Devoise Lord  
**DEACONS** Brent Brooks, H.C. Henderson, Jamey Hinds, Jerry Smith

**PREACHER** Jamey Hinds

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# Considering the Outcome

By Bill Hall

**W**e have no sympathy for those who at every funeral “preach the dead right on into heaven,” who ignore the obvious failure on the part of the deceased to serve the Lord, who try to think that all will somehow get to heaven in spite of their disobedience. There is a hell, and the many of this earth (in contrast to the few) are going there (*Matthew 7:13–14*).



But we must not allow one extreme to beget another. While the majority will be lost, there are those in this world whose single purpose in life is to serve the Lord and go to heaven when they die; who devote themselves daily to studying God's word and living by its precepts. When such people die, it is right to speak of their good life and faithfulness to the Lord; it is right to commend their example of faithfulness and perseverance to those who may be discouraged; it is right to speak of their eternal reward.

The Hebrew writer stated it this way: "Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith" (*Hebrews 13:7 NASV*). Three things are implied in this verse: **(1)** There had been men in their midst who had served the Lord faithfully unto death; **(2)** The Hebrew Christians were to be confident that the outcome of the lives of those men was a happy one; **(3)** Considering this, they were to imitate their faith.

We, like the Hebrews, have had the good fortune of knowing many who have lived godly lives and have now passed on to their reward. Some were elders; some were preachers; some were Bible class teachers; others were

just good, faithful, dependable disciples of the Lord who placed His kingdom first in their lives. We are not speaking of the lukewarm and indifferent. We are not speaking of those who claim to be Christians, but were lacking in the fruits of Christianity. We are speaking of the truly dedicated ones who constantly reflected the character of their Father and their Lord Jesus Christ. Their influence on our lives was tremendous. They were men and women of whom this world was not worthy. And the list grows with each passing year.

Every one of these had to overcome serious obstacles to be faithful to the Lord. The Devil challenged each one of them, but he failed. They gained the victory through Christ. Now they are eternally happy because they persevered. Could we ask any one of them, "Was it worth it," his reply immediately would be, "It was a thousand times worth it!" Not one of them regrets a single moment he spent in the Lord's service.

We thank God for such people. We rejoice in their salvation. We look on their passing not as those "who have no hope." And "considering the result of their conduct," we dedicate ourselves to imitating their faith.