

MARCH 22ND, 2026

The Searcher



Published By



SOUTHAVEN
CHURCH of CHRIST

681 Church Road E
Southaven, MS 38671
662-393-2690

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES AND SEEKING THE LOST

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Annual Ladies Day
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Local Hispanic Ministry--Joe Ruiz
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Benevolence

Tennessee Children's Home
- Spring Hill, TN
Children's Home Inc.
- Paragould, AR

WHAT DOES GOD SEE WHEN HE SEES ME? (3)

Robert Jefferies

What does God see when He sees me? So far in our study, we have seen that God sees a teacher and a soldier. For this article, let's notice the next thing that God sees when He sees me. He sees an athlete. "And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules" (2 Timothy 2:5 NKJV).

Athletics was a common theme in Paul's WRITINGS. In the first century there was a competition called the "Isthmian Games" which are similar to our Olympic games. Athletes would compete in wrestling, running, boxing, and chariot racing.¹ His readers would be familiar with the idea of athletics. When the Apostle Paul wrote his first inspired letter to the Corinthians, notice what he said, "Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway" (1 Corinthians 9:24-27). If he is the Hebrews' writer consider what he wrote to them, "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-2).

Athletes desire REWARDS. Athletes and coaches are goal oriented people. Years ago, during a press conference, coach Herm Edwards yelled, "You play to win the game!" When Paul wrote to Timothy he wrote about an athlete being "crowned" (2 Timothy 2:5). Over and over again, the Apostle Paul wrote about a crown and this crown is one that he longed for more than anything. "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:8; cf. 1 Corinthians 9:25; 1 Thessalonians 2:19).

Athletes must follow the RULES. "And also if anyone competes in athletics, he is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules" (2 Timothy 2:5 NKJV). Even in the first century, athletes had rules to follow if they were going to be rewarded. As a spiritual athlete our rulebook is the word of God. It is that book that guides our life. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works" (2 Timothy 3:16-17). It is the same rulebook that we will be judged by one day. "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him: the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day" (John 12:48).

¹ Wikipedia.



SOUTHAVEN
CHURCH *of* CHRIST

GOSPEL MEETING

APRIL 19 - 22, 2026

SPEAKER: BJ Clarke



Sunday Morning Bible Study 9:00 am
"There Really Is A God In Heaven"

Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 am
"The Bible Really Is The Word Of God"

Sunday Afternoon Worship 1:00 pm
"Jesus Really Is The Son Of God"

Monday Evening 7:00 pm
"There Really Is One Church"

Tuesday Evening 7:00 pm
"God Really Does Love You"

Wednesday Evening 7:00 pm
"God Really Will Judge You"

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ALWAYS SAVED

Clifton Angel

Having considered the false teaching of “once saved, always saved,” let us now consider the false belief of “once saved, continually lost.” This is a very real and unfortunate struggle in the hearts and minds of many Christians. It is the idea that because we still have the ability to sin after becoming Christians, we fall in and out of God’s grace and lose our salvation daily or as oft as we sin.

First, let us consider that the faithful child of God’s desire is to never sin. “My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not” (1 John 2:1a). “Whosoever abideth in Him sinneth not: whosoever sinneth hath not seen Him, neither known Him” (3:6). “We know that whosoever is born of God sinneth not; but he that is begotten of God keepeth himself, and that wicked one toucheth him not” (5:18). The “eth” of the KJV and ASV is actually VERY helpful here. The “eth” suffix indicates a continual action with no intention of stopping. Therefore, if someone (even a Christian) enters into a sinning pattern with no intention of repenting of said sin, such an one “sinneth” or “committeth sin.” “He that committeth sin is of the devil; for the devil sinneth from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil” (3:8). This is NOT the conscientious Christian who is concerned about being lost.

Therefore, second, it is important for the conscientious Christian to know of the confidence given in Christ. “But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin...If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness...My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world” (1 John 1:7, 9; 2:1–2). There is great confidence and consolation in knowing we are in Christ where we are continually cleansed by His blood (cf. Rom. 6:3–4; Gal 3:27; Acts 22:16; Rev. 1:5). “And hereby we do know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. He that saith, I know him, and keepeth not his commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him. But whoso keepeth his word, in him verily is the love of God perfected: hereby know we that we are in him” (1 John 2:3–5). John wrote to counter false ideals of his day which share sentiments (and likely are the roots) with that of “once saved, always saved,” which teaches false confidence. Faithful Christians are able to have true confidence! “There is ... no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus” (Rom 8:1).

Sunday Sermons

What Does The Bible Say About Drinking Alcohol? (AM)

A Bible Word That Is Misunderstood (PM)

Bible Passages To Consider

“At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder” (Proverbs 23:32).

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Bonnie Reid is recovering from a procedure she had on Wednesday.

Larry Butler has been released from the hospital and is resting at home.

Veronica Rapp is scheduled to have a second iron infusion on Monday.

Betty Culbreath fell recently and fractured a rib. **Meredith Peek** has been released from the hospital and is resting at home.

Angie Schrimsher has received some tests results. So far, she has received good results.

Karen Oglesby is being treated at Lakeside for depression and her mental health. She is improving and has been placed on medication.

Linda Stone is in stage 4 kidney failure.

Dorothy Butler received a blood transfusion recently. She continues to be very weak.

Rannie Butler is taking therapy at Senatobia Healthcare and Rehab.

Joyce Valentine has completed her chemotherapy. She is being placed on a management medication.

Jean Jones is taking physical therapy at Desoto Healthcare.

Ronnie Sowell, father of Erin Sowell, has decided to hold off on seeing a new cardiologist after speaking with another physician. He is not a good candidate for surgery at this time.

David Jones, friend of Terry & Brenda Harris-member at Goodman Oaks, remains in Baptist Desoto Hospital. He is awaiting biopsy results.

Shawn Everson, cousin of Larry Everson, is recovering from open heart surgery.

Bob Lawrence, father of Erica Stuckey, will see an electrophysiologist soon to have another heart cath to try and stop the A.Fib.

Please continue to remember the following:

Barbara Day, Brenda Dreher, Danna Smart, Alan Stone, Debbie Shull, Pat Pierce, Beverly Parnell, Lucy Chamberlain, Vern Schrimsher, & Don Sykes in your prayers.

BATTLING CANCER

Please remember those who are fighting, or recovering from cancer: **Alan Stone; Brenda Dreher; Pam Eaton; Larry Butler; Charlene Farris; Justin Camp**, husband of Kim Camp; **Andrew Utz**, great nephew of Peggy Shull; **Varda Cole**, sister in law of Linda Davis; **Don Cheathour**, friend of the Sykes family; **Joe Daly**, online

viewer in England; **Houston Hall**, great nephew of Karen Oglesby & Beth Roney; **David Taylor**, neighbors of the Sykes; **Dan Manuel**, friend of Tommy & Peggy Shull; **Heather Butler**, daughter of Lewis Dawson; **Vickie Parker**, sister of Nick Parker; **Kim Butler**, sister in law of Larry Butler; **Lily Jane Jordan**, neighbor's granddaughter of Terry & Brenda Harris; **Oakleigh Free**, great granddaughter of Alan & Linda Stone; **Mandi Singer**, friend of Erica Stuckey; **Mandy Dunbar**, friend of Erica Stuckey; **TJ Holt**, cousin of Amber Wallis; **Margarito Zuniga**, father of former member Alan Zuniga; **Becca Reynolds**, niece of Anita Sanders; **Laura Sowell**, mother of Erin Sowell, **Doreen Harris**, former member, **Glenn Jenkins**, the husband of Bonnie Reid's niece, **Carol Tierce**, sister of Peggy Shull & **Whitley Joy**, great niece of Larry & Elaine Melton.

SHUT-INS/ NURSING HOME

Lucy Chamberlain; Debbie Shull; Beverly Parnell; Pam Eaton; Tommy Eaton, State Veterans Home in Oxford, MS; **Phyllis Smith**, The Gold-ton at Southaven Room #116.

MEN TO SERVE - March 22, 2026

Preside: Jonah Adams & Brian Williams

Serve: Hilton Jefferies, Edwin Reyes, Greg Wilson, Walter Warren, Jefferson Mendoza, Jason Griffin

AM Opening Prayer: Joe Ruiz

AM Closing Prayer: Chris Billingsley

PM Opening Prayer: Coleman Simpson

PM Closing Prayer: Perkins Cochran

Wed. Opening Prayer: Wesley Williams

Wed. Closing Prayer: Robert Chamberlain

Announcements: Josh Walker

Song Leader: Jason Bayless

Scripture Reading: Dustin Rowe

Security: Brian Williams

REMINDER:

If you are a song leader, scripture reader, or have opening prayer, you are asked to sit on the front pew when worship begins.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 22: Potluck Luncheon

March 29-April 2: MSOP Lectures

March 31: Southaven will be serving lunch for the MSOP Lectures. Please let Sheila Winstead or Angie Schrimsher know if you are able to help serve.

April 19: Potluck Luncheon

April 19-23: Gospel Meeting with BJ Clarke

April 25: Ladies Day with Celine Sparks

June 14-20: Sardis Lake Christian Camp

MARCH FOOD TEAM

Captain: Shelley Selby

Bonnie Reid, Charlotte Dunaway, Morgan Willis, Wanda Cochran

OUR RECORDS

| | |
|-------------------|-----|
| Bible Study | 188 |
| A.M. Worship | 290 |
| P.M. Worship | 156 |
| P.M. Wed. Worship | 196 |
| Contribution | \$ |



SOUTHAVEN CHURCH OF CHRIST

681 Church Road E
Southaven, Mississippi 38671
Telephone (662) 393-2690

Email addresses

southaven-elders@googlegroups.com
secretaries.southavencoc@gmail.com
robert.minister@gmail.com
josh.walker8898@gmail.com

Schedule of Services

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|-----------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Bible Class..... | 9:00 a.m. |
| Sunday Worship..... | 10:00 a.m. |
| Sunday P.M. Worship..... | 1:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday P.M. Service..... | 7:00 p.m. |

ELDERS

Gary Barch
Larry Everson
David Rister

DEACONS

Bruce Dunaway
Michael Gahagan
Aaron Gallagher
TJ Johnson
John Stubblefield
Chris Tice
Andy Young

MINISTERS

Robert Jefferies
Josh Walker