

AUGUST 16TH, 2026



The Searcher

Published By



SOUTHAVEN
CHURCH of CHRIST

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SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES AND SEEKING THE LOST

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Tennessee Children's Home
- Spring Hill, TN
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THE ONLY PATH TO RIGHTEOUSNESS

Chad Ramsey

In what is arguably the thesis statement of his letter to the Romans, the apostle Paul wrote: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, 'The just shall live by faith'" (Romans 1:16-17).

The Righteousness of God vs. the Unrighteousness of Man. According to Paul, the saving gospel message reveals the righteousness of God. God's righteousness, however, stands in stark contrast to man's unrighteousness. Describing man, Paul declared: "There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God" (Romans 3:10-11). Describing God, Paul wrote: "But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe" (verses 21-22).

God's Plan for Righteousness. Paul wanted his readers to know God was making it possible for them to be forgiven and made righteous. God's plan did not involve their perfection. Rather, it required the death of His perfect Son. Stressing this point, Paul noted: "Therefore, as through one man's offense judgment came to all men, resulting in condemnation, even so through one Man's righteous act the free gift came to all men, resulting in justification of life. For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous" (Romans 5:18-19). Righteousness comes through obedience to the gospel, not perfect law keeping.

The Path to Righteousness. Those who attempt to secure righteousness through their own efforts will ultimately be disappointed. Like Paul, they will find themselves violating the law they want to obey (Romans 7:15-20). If they evaluate their efforts properly, they will parrot his conclusion: "O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!" (verses 24-25). The path to righteousness is not through personal resolve. Instead, it comes through complete submission to the Lord. We must be found "in Christ" and follow the Spirit rather than our fleshly lusts (Romans 8:1).

The Distinction of God's Righteousness. In Romans 10:1-13, Paul emphasizes the distinction between God's righteousness and man's futile attempts at securing righteousness. Regarding those who depended upon their own efforts, he wrote: "For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to the righteousness of God" (Romans 10:3). Conversely, those who submit God and rely upon His saving plan do not have to perform impossible tasks in order to obtain righteousness. We must simply trust and obey (verses 8-13).

God's way to righteousness is the only way.

WEATHERING THE STORM: FINDING STRENGTH IN TRIAL & HARDSHIP

Date	Title	Speaker
8-Jul-26	Weathering the Storm By Building on Solid Rock	Joe Ruiz
15-Jul-26	Weathering the Storm When the Storm Strikes Without Warning	Jameson Steward
22-Jul-26	Weathering the Storm When the Clouds Gather	Tommy Haynes
29-Jul-26	Weathering the Storm When the Storm Lasts Longer Than Expected	Chris Perry
5-Aug-26	Weathering the Storm By Remaining Calm in the Midst of the Storm	Cody Westbrook
12-Aug-26	Weathering the Storm By Holding Fast in the Storm	Chris Butler
19-Aug-26	Weathering the Storm Battling the Storm Within	Chad Ramsey
26-Aug-26	Weathering the Storm Light Through the Dark Clouds	Josh Walker
2-Sep-26	Weathering the Storm Because the Storm Refines Us	Andy Brewer
9-Sep-26	Weathering the Storm ... of Opposition	Aaron Gallagher
16-Sep-26	Weathering the Storm By Rising After the Storm	Mark Teske
23-Sep-26	The Storm Weathered: When the Sky Clears	Robert Jefferies

WILL WE KNOW EACH OTHER IN HEAVEN?

Jameson Steward

People are an integral part of our lives on this earth. The relationships we forge throughout our lives mean so much to us. But will those relationships be maintained beyond our lives on this earth? The question of whether we will know each other in heaven is one of the more common questions people have about heaven. Let's consider what the Bible says about this question.

The Example of the Rich Man. When Jesus tells about a "certain rich man" and Lazarus, he reveals that Lazarus was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom - a place of comfort and rest - while the rich man was in torments (Luke 16:19-23). The rich man sees Lazarus a long way off and recognizes him (Luke 16:23). Abraham reminds the rich man of the things both he and Lazarus had received in life (Luke 16:25). Later, the rich man also remembers his five brothers and wants Lazarus to go back and warn them not to come to the place of torments (Luke 16:27-28). The implication is that he would recognize his brothers if they joined him in the place of torment. This indicates that we can recognize and know people beyond this life.

The Transfiguration of Jesus. In Matthew 17:1-9, we read of Jesus' transfiguration on a high mountain, witnessed by Peter, James, and John. On this occasion, Moses and Elijah appeared and talked with Jesus. Remarkably, the Lord's apostles knew who Moses and Elijah were. We know this because Peter said, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for **Moses**, and one for **Elijah**" (v. 4). Having never seen these two men before, how did Peter know who they were? I do not know, and yet, he knew. This new piece of evidence suggests that we will not only recognize the people we knew in this life, but will also know *everyone* in heaven.

In the Resurrection. When we are raised, our physical body will be changed to be "incorruptible" and "immortal" (1 Corinthians 15:51-53). While we could speculate endlessly about how we will be changed, it's likely best just to leave it as the apostle John did: "it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is" (1 John 3:2). Whatever our transformation looks like in the resurrection, it doesn't erase our identity - which means the relationships we have will also endure. I believe the Scriptures provide sufficient evidence to believe that we will know one another in heaven. Although we don't have all the answers to all the questions about heaven that we may have, heaven is where God will be, and where our saved loved ones will be too — so it's where we should want to be (Revelation 22:1-5).

Sunday Sermons

Growing Together (AM)

Common Fallacies About God (PM)

Bible Passages To Consider

"In the beginning God created the heaven
and the earth" (Genesis 1:1)

IN NEED OF PRAYER

Mike Jones had a pacemaker put in on Wednesday. He is recovering at home.

Erica Stuckey is now at home after spending several weeks in the hospital. She is scheduled to follow up with her cardiologist in six months.

Rona Johnson is at home with pneumonia.

Karen Oglesby is now back at home.

Sheila Winstead is taking physical therapy.

Jerry Baird continues to be on oxygen at home.

Dorothy Butler is dealing with low oxygen levels.

Rannie Butler is taking therapy at Senatobia Healthcare and Rehab.

Jean Jones is taking therapy at Desoto Healthcare.

Lannie Smart, husband of Danna Smart, had skin graft surgery on Tuesday. He will see the doctor two-three times a week for wound care and observation.

Ronnie Sowell, father of Erin Sowell, has had his heart procedure postponed. He has some other health issues that need to be addressed first.

Please continue to remember the following: **Betty Culbreath**, **Lucy Chamberlain**, **Joyce Valentine**, **Don Sykes**, **Meredith Peek**, **Barbara Day**, **Alan & Linda Stone**, **Debbie Shull**, **Pat Pierce**, & **Beverly Parnell** in your prayers.

BATTLING CANCER

Please remember those who are fighting, or recovering from cancer: **Alan Stone**; **Pam Eaton**; **Charlene Farris**; **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**; **Phyllis Smith**, The Gold-ton at Southaven Room #116.

MEN TO SERVE - August 16th, 2026

Preside: Bill Phillips

Serve: **Tyrone Willingham**, **Gary Barch**, **Lucas Gahagan**, **Jason Griffin**, **Walter Warren**, **Dalton Wienenke**, **Tim Vanderhook**, **Michael Agyemang**,

AM Opening Prayer: Neal Weatherford

AM Closing Prayer: Allen Roberts

PM Opening Prayer: Con Lambert

PM Closing Prayer: John Stubblefield

Wed. Opening Prayer: Kellen Christian

Wed. Closing Prayer: John Stephen Stubblefield

Announcements: Chris Tice

Song Leader: Michael Gahagan

Scripture Reading: Jayden Parker

Security: TJ Johnson

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

AUGUST FOOD TEAM

Captain: Mary Baldwin

Bonnie Reid, Charlotte Dunaway, Rhnea Grady, Kim Wallis

OUR RECORDS

Bible Study	247
A.M. Worship	315
P.M. Worship	172
P.M. Wed. Worship	173
Contribution	\$



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Schedule of Services

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