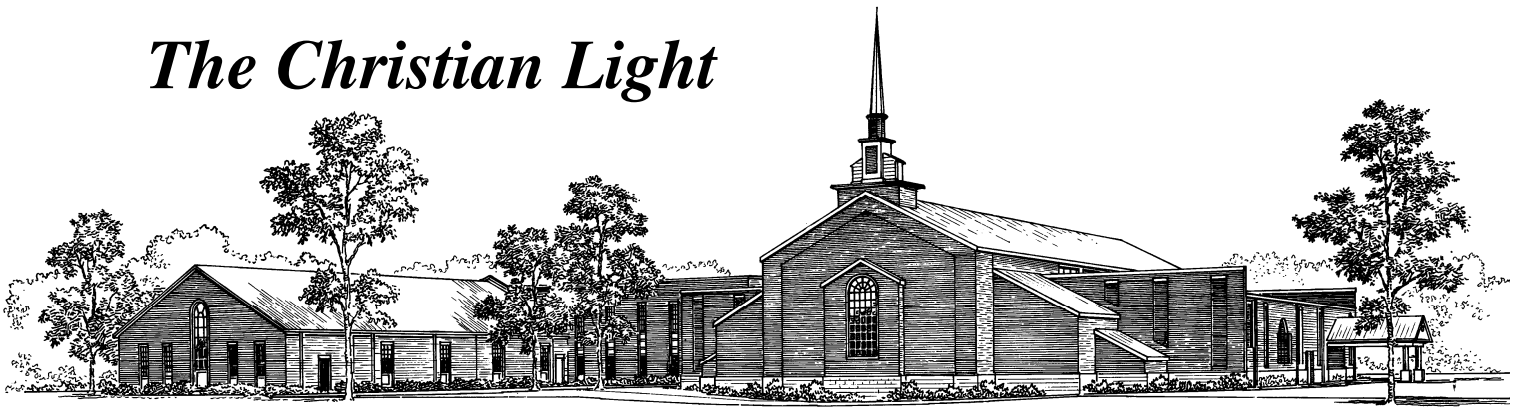


The Christian Light



North Jackson Church of Christ, Jackson, Tennessee

Characteristics Of A Church That Pleases God (12)

This is the last article in this series. We have been looking at characteristics of a church (the local church) that pleases God. Those of us associated with the movement to restore and continue in New Testament Christianity are interested in all aspects of God's will for His church and for the lives of His people.

In times past we have been asked: "Which New Testament church do you wish to restore? The issues-riddled church at Corinth? The lukewarm church at Laodicea? The law-focused churches of Galatia?" Some have asked these questions as if to make a point: Perhaps the restoration plea is not valid because the first century church was characterized by so many problems.

It was never the intention of this movement to restore the church in its weaknesses, but in its strengths. We want to return to the original plan and identity of the church, universal and local, as it is discovered in the Word of God. This inspired Word tells us what makes the church great in the sight of the Lord. It is this we wish to imitate today.

Characteristic # 12:

It Looks Forward To The Future And To The Consummation Of All Things!

At first it may seem odd, but churches that are growing toward maturity are churches that are waiting. This is what the Bible tells us to do: "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself" (Phil.4:20-21). Of course, "waiting" means watching, and praying, and preparing.

Jesus said: "But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. It is like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!" (Mark 13:32-37).

Some read this text and place all the emphasis on what Jesus knows or does not know about the end of the world (and what this means regarding His identity). It is far more important that we pay close attention to His real message: Be



Elders:

Doug Hays	Paul Norris
Dwight Jones	Allen Verell
Randy Hysmith	John Verell
Gary Martin	

Deacons:

Paul Anderson	Kevin Martin
David Beach	Chris Morris
James Boone	Robert Mullins
Jason Brashier	Randall Renfroe
Ken Brodel	Chad Scott
Glynn Carden	Jason Smith
Scott Dahlstrom	John Taylor
Al Earls	Ben Way
Jon Ewing	Chris White
David Forbis	Randy White
Jimmy Johnson	Michael Wilson
Lee Johnson	Joe Witherspoon
Sean Jones	

Ministers:

Brian Giselbach.....	661-1948
email-brian@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com	
David Powell.....	664-9100
email-dpowell@FHU.edu	
Reed Henson.....	313-1810
email- reedhenson@yahoo.com	
Rafael Barrantes.....	267-3287
email-rbarrantes@bellsouth.net	
John McCadams.....	803-0862
email-jmccadams@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com	

Missionaries

B. S. Brown-Jamaica	Hermenegildo Mediana-Peru
Pedro Flores-Peru	Patrick Welcome-Guyana
Fernando Estrada-Peru	
Jose Alvarez & Cristian Cruz-Santiago, Dominican Rep.	

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study.....	9:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship.....	10:00 A.M./6:00 P.M.
Sunday Hispanic Bible Study.....	9:00 A.M.
Sunday Hispanic Worship.....	10:00 A.M.
Wednesday Bible Study.....	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday Hispanic Bible Study.....	7:00 P.M.
Tuesday Ladies Class & Men's Class.....	10:00 A.M.
(September – May)	

Church Office

731-664-7811

Information Line

731-660-9000

www.northjacksonchurchofchrist.com

E-mail: info@northjacksonchurchofchrist.com

Missions website: www.njccmissions.com

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- February 3-5: Renew Youth Rally (Sign-up on the youth board and pay **Sean** or **Vicki Jones**.)
February 17-20: Uplift (Sign-up and pay **Reed, Sean, or Vicki**.)

DEVOTIONALS

- **Northbrooke Health Care** - Thursdays @ 10:30 a.m.
- **Regency Retirement Village** - Sundays @ 1:00 p.m.

THE 96TH ANNUAL BIBLE LECTURESHIP

Freed-Hardeman University
February 5-10
"Faith and Life in James to John
The Behavior of BELIEF"

Keynote Speaker Thursday, February 9: **David Powell**

NOTE: There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board for those who would like to ride the church bus to the F-HU Lecture-ship to hear **David Powell** speak on Thursday evening, February 9. The bus will leave the church parking lot at 6:00 p.m.



BABY SHOWER

There will be a baby shower honoring **Dianne York** on Sunday, February 5, from 1:30-3:00 PM in the fellowship hall at North Jackson.

Selections are at Target, Wal-Mart, and Toys R Us. Baby girl's name is Basye Jewell York.

P B & J FEBRUARY ACTIVITY

Saturday, February 11 (5:30-7:30 p.m.)
North Jackson Fellowship Hall

Everyone needs to bring a *bag of individually wrapped Valentine candy*. We will be making goodie bags. In addition, please bring the following for dinner:

- Kindergarten - chips and a drink
- First Graders - veggie/fruit and a drink
- Second graders - dessert

SR. SINGLES

The Tweens will host a Valentine's Luncheon for the North Jackson Sr. Singles in the fellowship hall on Sunday, February 12, following the morning worship. A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board.

DIRECTORY UPDATE...Lois Hopper, Cara Vita Village, Apt. B-214, 4000 Fieldcrest, Montgomery, Al 36111

CARD MINISTRY RECIPIENTS

Jean Quinn and Mildred Herron (mother of **Sandra Goodwin**)

Please bring cards by....

Wednesday, February 8.

*Thinking
Of You.*

ICU SNACKS

pop tarts/candy

(snack size packages, please)

Snacks are taken to the ICU waiting areas at the hospitals.

We appreciate your help!

PANTRY ITEMS

canned baked beans/canned pork & beans

Thank you for helping keep our pantry stocked.

(continued from front page)

ready always for "the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory" (Mark 13:26).

Whenever we remind ourselves of the coming of the Lord and His judgment we are promoting a lifestyle of faithfulness and godliness. Peter said: "But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God..." (2 Pet.3:10-12).

Imagining the destruction of the universe and the consummation of all things is a little unsettling to say the least. But a church that pleases God will exalt in God's promise to reward His people for their faith (2 Pet.1:4). The apostle Paul seemed unmoved by the thought of separation from this world when he said to Timothy, "For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing" (2 Tim.4:6-8).

Do you love the thought of His appearing? Such love may very well be an indication of your assurance of where you stand with the Lord in terms of guilt and condemnation. The apostle John wrote, "And now, little children, abide in Him, that when He appears, we may have confidence and not be ashamed before Him at His coming" (1 John 2:28).

And so we wait. We wait for the end of this world and the beginning of our life—eternal life—with Him!

You are the church of Jesus Christ. God is calling *this* church to be all He intends the church to be. Why can't the North Jackson church of Christ be the model for all other churches (like those in Thessalonica; 1 Thess.1:8)? Why can't this church be the church that shows others the way? I am persuaded that in so many ways you are that church.

In the Book of Revelation (a fascinating book by any standard), Jesus addressed seven of His churches. Every Christian should be familiar with these messages. Most of these churches had positive things they needed to continue doing. But the positives were not enough when there were corrections that could be made. All but two of the seven had corrections to make.

Are there things we need to repent of? Are there corrections we need to make? What are the things we need to continue doing? A church is a collection of individual believers. What if every member were just like you? What part will you play in making this church a church that pleases God?

Brian Giselbach

RESPONSE

On Sunday morning, January 29, **Jason Young** responded to the invitation. He stated that he did not feel he had been the kind of father he should be and he requested prayers for forgiveness and for strength. It was our privilege to pray with and for Jason and we will continue to do so.

GOLDEN LUNCH BUNCH

The Golden Lunch Bunch will meet for lunch in the fellowship hall at 12:00 noon on Saturday, February 11. The meal will be hosted by Group 2.

GROUP 5... The flower fund for Group 5 needs to be replenished. Money should be given to **John Verell**.

OUR SICK

JACKSON GENERAL: Jerry McKay, room 936

CONTINUE TO REMEMBER: Maxine Avery; Irene Counce; Mary Duncan; Wanda Forsythe; Reed & Amanda Henson (in Cincinnati following pre-natal surgery); Steve Hopper (doing well following kidney-stone procedure); Laura Jones; Jeanne Mallard (undergoing tests); Charles Patrick; Mary Tole (having tests); Mary Etta Williams (now @ home); Elizabeth Young (now @ home), daughter of Steve & Heather Young; Kim Laws, sister of Sherry Carwile; Dorothy Sanders, aunt of Sherry Carwile; Chuck Walden, uncle of George Cherry; Gerald & Belinda Colbert, brother & sister-in-law of Donnie Colbert; Charlie Cooper, father of Chuck Cooper; Allen Duncan, son of Jerry & Mary Duncan; Cyndie Griggs (good report - tumor was non-malignant), sister of Larry Forsythe; Thomas Gordon, brother of Billy Gordon; Ginger Snyder, mother of Vicki Jones; Susan Trull, mother of Robin Maguire; Anneli Myers, mother of John Myers; Hazel Lewis, mother of Mary Ann Phillips; Caleb McClarin, 6-year old grandson of Wayne & Phyllis Sappington; Linda Vaughn (following surgery on Friday, January 27), mother of Brian Vaughn; Joan Rudd, relative of Horace & Bonnie Wamble; Christie Andre, niece of Chris White

Please continue to remember ALL of our members and member relatives and friends who are dealing with cancer & other serious illnesses as well as our shut-ins at home & those in nursing facilities.

FROM THE MAILBOX...



North Jackson church of Christ,

Enclosed is a donation to North Jackson church in appreciation for the Act of Christian Love shown to us by Kevin Martin, John Brown and Crew. Thanks so much for cleaning up & hauling off the BIG limb the recent storm dumped in our front yard.

Your Act of Service was greatly appreciated.

In Christian love,
Jimmy & Dorothy Johnson

Dear Christian Friends,

Thank you seems so inadequate to express my thanks to all who helped make my 83rd birthday so special. You sent lots of cards, visits, phone calls and a birthday cake. I appreciated them all.

Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,
Neil Etheridge

Dear Church of Christ Family,

Finally getting around to thank you all for the prayers and expressions of sympathy during our daughter Patti's illness and eventual passing. Thank you also for continued prayers for our granddaughter, Christie Andre, in her battle with cancer. Being a young wife and mother - we pray God will answer all our prayers.

Also would like to thank you all for the support and comfort you give our son, Chris, & Diana & family.

Thank you again for all the prayers & hope you will continue.

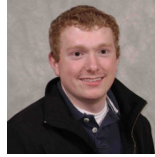
Roy & Pauline Riel
(Parents of Chris White)

MISSION EFFORTS

Please continue to remember our members who are involved in various mission efforts. Dennis Christensen is involved in a mission effort in the Philippines. He plans to return February 6. Howell & Mary Ferguson are working in Tanzania and plan to return March 13. Seth Ferguson, who has also been working in Tanzania, will be returning this week.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome Spencer Clark to North Jackson. Spencer is a student at F-HU. His address is F-HU, Box 462, 158 East Main Street, Henderson, TN 38340. His phone number is (865) 274-1183. He will be Group 5.



Spencer Clark



Hannah Smith

We also welcome Hannah Smith to North Jackson. Hannah is a student at F-HU. Her address is F-HU, Box 199, 158 East Main Street, Henderson, TN 38340. Her phone number is (865) 742-6498. Hannah is the sister of Lauren Smith Woodall. She will be in Group 5.

If you have not already done so, please give Spencer and Hannah a warm North Jackson welcome at your earliest opportunity.

SYMPATHY

We express our deepest sympathy to Bill Jones in the recent death of his sister, Doris Newman. Funeral services were held in Sarasota, Florida on Sunday, January 29.

Our love and sympathy is expressed to Steve Crabtree and family in the recent death of Steve's mother, Mrs. Madison (Frankie) Crabtree. Graveside services were Saturday, January 28, in Gurdon, Arkansas.

We express our heartfelt sympathy to Phil and Angie Bradley and family in the death of Phil's grandfather, J.D. Bradley, on January 23. Funeral services were January 25 in Benton, Kentucky.

We continue to remember Amanda Gordon in the death of her grandmother, Bessie Norris. Funeral services were Tuesday, January 24, in Bells, Tennessee.

We continue to remember Shirley Cordle in the recent deaths of two of her nieces. Services for Audrey Stanfield were held January 10 and services for Betty Jean Hutcherson were held January 16.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Leon & Mable White will celebrate their 66th wedding anniversary on Thursday, February 9. We wish for them an especially happy anniversary and we appreciate their fine example to us!



NEW BABY

Congratulations to Janelle Waddell on the birth of a new great-granddaughter. Avery Trace Moore was born on Friday, January 27, weighing 7 pounds, 11 ounces. Proud parents are Jason & Heather Moore.



F-HU ASSOCIATES

The F-HU Associates will be serving breakfast and lunch during the F-HU Lectureship. We need your help in providing food. We need sheet cakes, pies, diabetic desserts (angel food, etc.), sausage or ham and biscuits, fried pies and crackers. We can also use donations for purchasing drinks and paper products. The Jackson Chapter will be serving lunch on Thursday. We need helpers to serve and we need several gallons of chili and soup. Please see Jenet Garner of Gean Seward for recipes for these. All food items can be brought to North Jackson on Wednesday night, February 8, and placed in the kitchen for us to pick up. Please mark items as F-HU Associates. Thank you for your continued assistance.

