

HARD HEADEDNESS

With deer season well under way, and deer on the rut, it brings to mind both the beauty and power of seeing two large bucks square off in a field. They see each other and approach as they begin to snort and size up their opponents. Suddenly, their antlers lower, and their feet begin moving swiftly as they lock up and begin pushing each other in a display of dominance. It is like watching nature’s medieval jousting event take place. Maybe you have seen videos or pictures of deer, rams, or even bison participating in this act of dominance and direct opposition to their enemies. You can only imagine how hard headed those animals have to be in order to take on such force. But did you know that we need to be this spiritually hard headed as well?

If you look in Ezekiel, you will see a time where Israel is in complete rebellion. And because of their rebellion, they had become exiles in Babylon along the Chebar river. God did not exile the Israelites just to punish them. Instead, He intended the punishment in Ezekiel’s day to be a means to an end and bring Israel to a state of repentance and humility. But that is easier said than done sometimes, and God knew it. Look at what God said to Ezekiel in **Ezekiel 3:7** “But the house of Israel will not be willing to listen to you, for they are not willing to listen to me: because all the house of Israel have a hard forehead and a stubborn heart.” Israel was stubborn and hard headed. Because of this, they refused to listen to God. So, in the next verse, God says what He is going to do to Ezekiel. **Ezekiel 3:8-9** “Behold, I have made your face as hard as their faces, and your forehead as hard as their foreheads. Like emery harder than flint have I made your forehead. Fear them not, nor be dismayed at their looks, for they are a rebellious house.” The imagery is not so much of antlered animals confronting each other, but of hard-headed saints butting heads with hard-headed sinners.

God’s message must be delivered even when we know ahead of time that it will not be easily received, or even received at all. What God told

Ezekiel is what He also tells us in **2 Timothy 4:2-5**. The passage says, “preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.”

We live in a world of “political correctness”. A world where many, even in the body of Christ, are trying to alter and change the Word of God to please others instead of our Heavenly Father. Our “politically correct” world also often tries to avoid conflicts over rebellion against God’s Word. To oppose practices like abortion, homosexuality, and other sinful acts cause us to be labeled as uncaring, unloving, or a bigot. The hard headed world wishes to silence us and the Word of God. The world has no desire to hear it. So what do we do in times like these? Just remember that God makes our head harder their theirs.

We must remember that it is our duty as the Lord’s servant to speak out for the truth. Not for our own selfish gain, but to bring others to repentance and to Christ. Although God blesses His people with a hard head, He also blesses them with a soft heart. **2 Timothy 2:24-26** says “And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth, and they may come to their senses and escape from the snare of the devil, after being captured by him to do his will.” Let us be willing to stand up for the truth and defend the faith while we share the love and desire that God has towards all people.

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES Sunday Read – 1 Corinthians 3-4 Wednesday Read – 1 Corinthians 5-6



Questions for last week's reading of;

Acts 18:23-19:20 & 1st & 2nd Corinthians.

1. What did Paul do as he traveled to the places he had already been?
2. What did Aquila and Priscilla do to help Apollo's?
3. What did the men receive when Paul placed his hands on them and why?
4. What was Paul's message to the church at Corinth in 1 Corinthians 1:10?
5. Who are the ones perishing and the ones who are being saved?

LADIES BIBLE CLASS

The next Ladies Bible class will be on **Tuesday December 12th at 6:30-8 pm** at the home of **Valerie Senn**. Please bring an ornament to exchange and bring your favorite cookie to share.

FIRST SUNDAY SINGING

The New Hope Road church of Christ at 2600 New Hope Road in Hendersonville, will host the First Sunday Singing on **Sunday, December 3rd at 2:30 pm**.

COOKIES WITH SANTA

Saturday December 16th at 1:00pm., Santa will be here at Nashville Road to visit, take pictures and have milk and cookies. Make plans to bring your children to see Santa. *If anyone would like to help with bringing cookies, homemade or bakery cookies would be wonderful. Thank You.*

*The LORD will give strength unto
His people; the LORD will bless His
people with peace.
Psalm 29:11*

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

December 3, 2023

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Eric Stephenson
Auditorium Lesson.....Andrew Spivey

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Scripture Reading.....Ben Hutson
Song Leader.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Don Wilson
Lord's Supper.....Charlie Seals
Servers.....R. Buck, C. Nelsen, D. Thompson
B. Sever, J. Johnson, F. Evans

Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Ken Veale

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Tony Butler
Sermon.....Andrew Spivey
Lord's Supper.....Brent Smith
Closing Prayer.....Kevin Siler

WEDNESDAY

November 29, 2023

7:00 PM

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Jim Cherry
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ellis
Door Greeters – West Door.....C/P Newby
East Door.....T/J Cummins
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Linda Cherry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL
Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

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 Gallatin, TN 37066
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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Marilee Frederick is at Gallatin Rehab, Room 417 under hospice care. **Maxine Cothron** has been diagnosed with vitreous hemorrhage. She has been referred to an eye surgeon. **Tom & Faye Hart**, both having health issues. **James Spivey** has been diagnosed with lung cancer and has begun his radiation treatments. **Tony Perry**, husband of Sherry Perry & son of Betty Buttrey, has been diagnosed with liver cancer. **Dixie Elam**, wife of Demar Elam, is home recovering from back surgery. Please keep them in your prayers. **Heather Lemley** daughter of Michael & Cathy Lemley, had surgery for breast cancer. **Bethany Shoulders** granddaughter of Evelyn Harris has been diagnosed with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia. She is home now and will continue with treatments. **Mike Martin**, friend of the Jennings & Cato families, continues to not do well.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Center 438 N. Water Ave, Room 417;
Jane Hughes, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill**.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	82
Morning Worship.....	132
Sunday Evening.....	76
Wednesday Evening.....	82
Contribution.....	\$9,054.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$3,761.00

PRAYER LIST

Sara Hosman; Anita Cato; Shauna Lockett; Jean Knowles; Zach Tooley; Mary Ann Reinhart; Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; **Shelby Ross; Sandi Jones; Lena Baggett; Maxine Cothron; Frances Catron; Jean Deaton; Charlie Cliburn; Alexa Miller** sister of Olivia Ellis **Bryan Grissom** cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill; **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals; **Betty Ann Muncie**, sister of Stella Messer.

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister