

2140 Highway 78 W. Oxford, AL 36203 P.O. Box 3323 256-831-0651

December 11, 2016

Today:

"Rituals or Relationship"

Tonight:

Youth Christmas gathering at the Stratton home after PM worship!

<u>Tuesday:</u> Ladies Christmas Devotional Fellowship Hall—5:30pm Bring finger foods and a wrapped ornament

<u>Wednesday:</u> Christmas gifts for Giving Tree due back wrapped (by PM worship service)

Food items due for Christmas Food Drive

Contact Elder for December – Elton Carter 256-493-6120 Order of Worship Call To Worship Song #: All To Us

BETTAVIEW

Prayer - Bubba Bullington

Song Leader: David West

Song #1018: Joy To The World (1,2,4) Song #1001: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (1,3) Song #382: Why Did My Savior Come To Earth? (1,2)

Communion & Offering

Song #867: To Canaan's Land I'm On My Way (1,2,4) Children dismiss to Children's Bible Hour

Scripture Reading: Bailey Livingston Matthew 23:1-3

Message: John Ross

Song #396: No Not One (1,3)

Announcements
Song #470: Victory In Jesus (1)

Prayer - JC Smith

In Him Was Life, And That Life Was The Light Of All Mankind. The Light Shines In The Darkness, And The Darkness Has Not Overcome It.

Knowing Jesus



The Jesus portrayed in our culture rarely measures up to the One we read of in the New Testament. The Gospels show Him to be humble and appealing, engaging and life-transforming. He is God among us who rescues, heals, and empowers.

But something happened in the fourth century that changed everything. The Roman Emperor Constantine took control of the church and morphed the Body of Christ into a hierarchical institution that looked more like a government or a business.

From that time forward, people have had to form their opinions of Jesus through their experiences of an often overbearing church. As a result, the greatest single cause of atheism in the world is a church that has been at various times materialistic, acquisitive, racist, predatory, sexist, and otherwise incongruous in character to its founder.

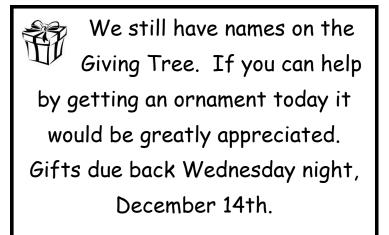
Contrary to the advice of some cynics who believe that, "If you love Jesus, burn the church!" our response should be to find ways to connect with Jesus. Identify with Jesus. Reform itself into Jesus' image. Become what it was at first.

Christianity is not serving the spiritual lives of people very well these days. If you doubt that, perhaps you should know that the fastest-growing segment of religious affiliation these days is not Catholic or Protestant, Jew or Muslim the fastest growing religious affiliation is "None".

My hunch is that most of these "no-religion" people have made their determination because their experience with the church didn't resemble its founder. They are looking for a challenge to their faith that is worthy of being associated with Jesus Christ.

My fear is that what we have come to call Christianity has blurred our vision of Jesus. If that is true, we need to dig beneath the debris of religious rituals and conventions that have accumulated over centuries to reclaim and live the vibrant gospel that turned the world upside down – and could do so yet again. What we know of Jesus was before Constantine's church (bigshot, uppity, privileged, hypercritical, disparaging, dismissive Christianity). We know that He was a servant to the servants. He stepped between rock-throwers and guilty-as-sin people. He laughed, went to parties, held babies, touched blind people, hung out with outcasts, and otherwise showed humans the true nature of God.

That God is love. That God is decent and holy, without being pompous about it. *That's the Jesus I want to know!*



Upcoming Events



December 13: Ladies Christmas Devo-

tional—5:30pm

December 14: ALL Gifts for Community Christmas due—wrapped with ornament taped to package.

December 14: Food items due for Christmas Food Drive—Boxes located in foyer & 1st—3rd classroom.

December 18: Community Christmas Dinner

December 20: GEMS Meeting-10am

December 21: Kids Christmas program following brief devotional.

December 25: No Sunday school classes. Worship at 10:30am—no 5pm service.

December 28: Singing Night & Birthday / Anniversary Celebration

This Week's Back-Pack Food Items

-Cheese Crackers



- Applesauce



ATTENTION MEN!

Sue Ryker needs some men from the congregation to stay with her husband, Bill, so she can take a few hours off one day a week and run errands. If you are able to help with this, please let Andi know. If you could help once per month it would be helpful.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

12/13—Dan Adams

12/14—Virginia Brewer, Holly Beasley

12/16—David Austin

12/17—Tory Tillson

12/18—Macy Pressley, Corby Tinney, M/M Cary Camp, M/M Wayne Carden

Remember in Prayer..



Our Sick...

Patsy Ruth Adams is dealing with some health issues. (1125 McElderry Road, Munford 36268) David Pugh is recovering from surgery this past week. (2911 England Road, Lincoln 35096) Lucile Forbus has been moved to NHC. She is in room 303.

Encourage & Support...

Ben Eudes responded to the invitation last Sunday morning asking for the prayers and forgiveness of the BVH congregation. He stated that he has not been walking with Christ and he is ready to be anchored in our Lord. (365 Jerrie Dale Drive, Oxford 36203)

Robin Houston also responded to the invitation last Sunday morning asking the prayers and support of the BVH family. She states that she has said and done things that don't reflect Christ like actions. (328 Deyo Street, Anniston 36201)

Please remember our brother and sister in Christ as you pray in the days ahead and show them your love and support during this time.

CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE

November 30th thru December 14th Boxes are located in the foyer and in the 1st -3rd grade classroom. Items needed are:

Canned Sweet Potatoes, Boxed Au Gratin or Scalloped Potatoes, Canned Vegetables, Dry Beans, Cornbread or Roll Mix, Tea Bags, Sugar, Vegetable Oil, Cake Mix, Icing



Community Christmas Dinner

Everyone please plan to be at our Community Christmas Dinner next Sunday night following PM worship. The church will provide meat and dressing. Members please bring side dishes, desserts, and drinks.

Those Privileged to Serve:

December 2016

Song Leaders:

11th-David West 18th – Rusty Stephens 25th – Shane Champion

AM: Opening Prayer

Closing Prayer

Bobby Lackey

Marcus Denney

IC Smith

11th: Bubba Bullington 18th: Charles Elston 25th: Rusty Stephens

PM: <u>Opening Prayer</u>

Closing Prayer

11th: Kevin Brilev 18th: James Farmer 25th: NO PM SERVICE Jeff Tims Shaun Stancil

Those to Serve at the Lord's Table:

Presiding: Jamie Burgess Assisting: Marcus Denney, Matt Smith, Ben Lackey, Duane Stephens, Kenny Stratton, Eric Ishee, Wayne Carden, Mike Tims

Ushers:

Keith Yarbrough, Calvin Phillips, Eddie Jennings, Patrick Houston, Ted Haynes, Marty Livingston

Little Lambs:

11th: Jan Templin & Susan Briley 18th: Donna Timmons & Linda Carter 25th: Shannon Smith & Piper Smith

Greeters:

West Entrance: Linda Galbreath & Debbie Stewart East Entrance: Bob & Jan Templin Main Foyer: Glenda Reaves, Carolyn Elston, Harold & Pattie Bean, Anna Livingston

Security Duty:

11th: James Galbreath & Kevin Briley 18th: Jay Painter & Russell Johnston 25th: Spencer Austin & Geoff Williams

Prepare Communion: Pam Stratton Secure Building: Kenny Stratton Youth Activity Host: Lackey family Contact Elder: Elton Carter

If you are unable to serve please contact Brian Forbus @ 256-831-2471.

BVH Leaders

Elders:

Bill Brewer Kevin Briley Elton Carter Fred Denney Brian Forbus James Lindsey Bob Templin

Deacons:

James Galbreath (Food Ministry, Building) **Eddie Jennings** (Homebuilders, Young Adult Activities) Marty Livingston (Youth, Office Administration, Widows Needs) Forester Tillson (Worship Sound / Audio) Jeff Tims (Public Relations, Lads to Leaders) **Tommy Tinney** (Attendance, Baptistery, Marquee Sign, Grounds) Duane Stephens (Education Director, Visitation) Kenny Stratton (Finance)

Preaching Minister: John Ross

Children's Ministry Activities Coordinator: Eric Ishee

Youth & Family Minister: Jacob Leonard

Service Times:

Sunday Bible Study: 9:30 a.m. Worship: 10:30 a.m. Worship: 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday

Morning Study: 10:00am-11:00am Bible Study: 6:30 p.m. **Phone:** 256-831-0651

Email:

bvhsec12@gmail.com jrossbvh@gmail.com jleonardbvh@gmail.com

Website: www.bettaview.org

We Care and We Pray...

Payton Thornton, Lance Young, Janice Emmit, Don Creason, Mabel Dowdey, Hazel Waites, Ann Frazier, Marie Finch, Ken Bean, Doug Layne, Donald Wooten, Bill Henshaw, Liz Everett, Alan Epps, Alvin & Juanita Wallace, Daisy Horne, Mary Ellis, Alice Moore, Pam Shaddix, Joy Williams, Wallace & Dot Smith, Wayne Lambert, Jimmy Dickerson, Jewell Haynes, Laken Landen, Elbert Lewis, Tommy Green, Larry Harris, Mike McDonald, Paula Lyons, David Dennis, Jackie Riley, Leroy Prothro, Annabelle Kate McKinney, Larry Robertson, Linda Sharpe, Laureen Nelson, Jimmy Dickens, Doug Trantham, Brian Bradley, Dede Bradley, Abby Usher, Linda Hurst, Fred & Debbie Csaky, Ann McKinney, Leslie LaPlante, Reggie Smith, Burma Bible, Inez Clark, John Mayfield, Melissa Gunter, Elaine Mayfield, Jerry Ramsey, Sherry Jones, Cassie Brock, Burke Bowie, Tommy Tinney, Lilly Thacker, Kerry Owens, Angelynn Luckadoo, Rosa Shiflett, Erin Burford Smith, JulieAnna Lyons, Joni Badgett, Nakita Monhollen, Mary Hooks, Scotty Appleton, Shirley Cambron, Susie Ulrey, Glenda Robertson, Sheila Strickland, Scott Dunaway, Tammy McBurnett, Samantha Creech

Rituals or Relationship

Matthew 23:1-33

Jesus accused the Pharisees of:

- 1. Not ______ What They ______ (23:1-4)
- 2. Doing Things only to be _____ by _____ (23:5-12)

Jesus' prescription: "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

You might be a Pharisee if:

- 1. You _____ People out of the _____of God (23:13-15)
- 2. You Read Scripture Looking for _____ (23: 16-25)
- 3. You are more concerned with ______ over _____ (23:25-28)

4. You _____ Your Own _____ (23:29-33)

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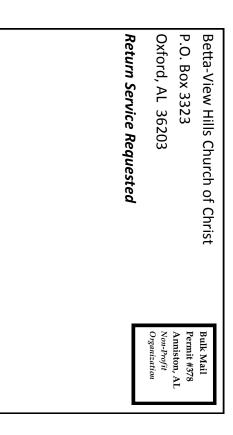
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Email:

bvhsec12@gmail.com jrossbvh@gmail.com jleonardbvh@gmail.com

Website:

www.bettaview.org



Rituals or Relationship Matthew 23:1-33

Jesus accused the Pharisees of:

- 1. Not <u>PRACTICING</u> What They <u>PREACH</u> (23:1-4)
- 2. Doing Things only to be <u>NOTICED</u> by <u>OTHERS</u> (23:5-12)

Jesus' prescription: "Let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." (Matthew 5:16)

You might be a Pharisee if:

- 1. You <u>KEEP</u> People out of the <u>KINGDOM</u> of God (23:13-15)
- 2. You Read Scripture Looking for <u>LOOP-</u> <u>HOLES</u> (23: 16-25)
- 3. You are more concerned with <u>IMAGE</u> over <u>SUBSTANCE</u> (23:25-28)
- 4. You <u>DENY</u> Your Own <u>WEAKNESS</u> (23:29-33)

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