

Galatians 6:10 *“Therefore as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those of the household of faith.”*

May 1, 2011

Remember in your prayers:

- **Sara Ozley** is having serious back problems; she is unable to get out and has seen a couple of doctors. . **Roger Key** had a pain block on Wednesday for his back pain. **Faye Lawson** has a serious infection in her jaw. **Billy Norris'** (Bunny Richardson's father) condition has worsened. **Gwin Lacy** remains in grave condition. **Randy Kiker** was taken to the hospital this week with complications from his surgery. **Sarabeth Ozley** is still having serious problems with her breathing. **James Roy** is in ICU at Veterans Hospital after falling from a tree and breaking several bones and a punctured lung. **Melissa Morgan** had emergency surgery this week. **Rhonda Knowles** continues to need our prayers
- **Tacoda Goshee, Bessie Sides, Xabien Hall, Paul Odom, Conard Rice, Barbara Addington** (is not doing well), **Lea Cooper**, and **Marvin Dryer's mother**, as they battle cancer.
- **Heather Flowers, Laura Russo and Murry Hyman** who are away at college. **Robert Langley, Jeremiah Hughes** & all of **our servicemen** who are defending freedom. **Our nation** and its leaders. **Those that preach and teach the gospel**; especially those who labor under hardships. Those who have **lost loved ones and belongings** this week.

BLACK CREEK UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Prison Service** Today
- **Ladies and Men's Bible Class**, Monday, May 9th and Tuesday, May 10th.
- **Summer Bible School**: Monday, July 18- Friday, July 22

Area Gospel Meetings: No Notices Received this week.



MISSING SUPPER

When I was a kid, all the activities of the day had to ...be suspended at suppertime. Playing outside had to stop, TV watching had to end; any and everything else had to cease. "Time to eat!" was the oft heard cry. You just didn't miss supper; it was a big deal to my folks, a time not only to "feed our face", but to be together around the table.

Oh, that the children of God would be so minded when it is time to eat the Lord's supper. But sadly, many eat it whenever it is convenient to them, whenever nothing else is going on. In a sense, the Lord is saving each Sunday, "Time to eat!"; but sadly His brothers and sisters often miss "every time they turn around."

My Dad and Mom just wouldn't hear of any excuse for not being at the supper table. It was a rare time indeed and it took an "act of congress" to get out of it. History says that true children of God in days of persecution often risked their lives, arrest and other such dangers, all because they were gathering with the saints to break bread.

We are not endangered in any way, so what must the Lord think of us and our lame excuses for missing Supper?

-- Copied --

The Banner of Truth

Black Creek church of Christ
1235 Alliance Rd; Alliance, Alabama
436-4477

“You have given a BANNER to those who fear you, that it may be displayed because of the TRUTH. “ Psalms 60:4

Editor:

Van Cooper

Schedule of Services

Lord's Day

10:25 A.M. Worship

5:00 P.M. Worship

Elders

436-3055 Philip Jacks
483-7016 Truman Wallace
491-9695 Van Cooper

Wednesday

7:00 P.M.

Deacons

491-1596 Keith Chaney
491-3723 Roger Key

Evangelist

497-9800 Sammy Bynum

Who We Are: The Black Creek Church of Christ is simply a group of Christians dedicated to serving God. We believe the Bible to be the inspired Word of God and it is to be our sole guide. We are committed to preaching the gospel of Christ, which is man's only hope for eternal life.

We are interested in helping anyone who is searching for the way to God. We welcome the opportunity to privately study the Bible with you. If you would contact us, we would be happy to meet with you. In addition, you are invited to visit one of our public assemblies (information is above). At our public Bible studies, we have classes for adults and children of all ages. If we can help you in knowing more about God and His Word, then please visit, call, or write us.

(Visit us on-line at (WWW.blackcreekchurch.com)

THE STORMWARNIG

If a public storm warning were issued right this very second, how would the general public react? If the public knew a killer storm such as a hurricane or a tornado would hit their area within a matter of hours, what would these people do? If massive destruction of property and great loss of life were guaranteed by this storm's arrival, do you think most people would likely sit by and ignore the warning being given?

I think it's a safe assumption to say almost everyone who found themselves in such a position would be likely to seek shelter before the storm arrived. It is the nature of man, his survival instinct, that drives him to seek shelter from a storm. A case in point would be hurricane Andrew. In August of 1992, when Andrew slammed across southern Florida and on into Louisiana, the massive destruction left in its wake would make it the most costly hurricane in history. Over one hundred thousand people would find themselves homeless and jobless and the monetary total of the damage would exceed twenty-two billion dollars.

Yet in spite of this destruction, the loss in human life was very small, and the word "warning" explains why. The public had warning of Andrew's coming. Weather bulletins were issued days in advance and eventually came as often as every thirty minutes. Through the bulletins, the public could see for itself the severe danger posed by Andrew. Thanks to these warning bulletins, most of the people were able to seek refuge and safety, which I feel is the main reason so few lost their lives in Andrew's fury.

A man's survival instinct will make him seek refuge in a storm. This is man's nature. Unfortunately, it is also the nature of man to question any warning of something he can't visualize or actually see. In

the case of Andrew, we could see the threat. Images on radar screens and pictures taken from satellites in space painted a picture that was too real to be denied. We didn't question the danger, because our information, our "warning" said that the danger was real. With this kind of proof, people acted accordingly.

Yet even now, as I write, there is a storm coming. There is a storm coming and a storm warning has been ringing out for close to two thousand years, while the majority of society acts as if they could not care less. In 2 Peter 3:10, the apostles Peter wrote:

The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up.

This will be a storm unlike anything ever witnessed by man. There will be no advance warning other than the warning we already have. The news media will not issue thirty-minute bulletins, nor will it report in the aftermath of the storm's passage. There is going to be nothing left to report, nor a news media left to report it.

Even so, very few people are prepared for the storm that we are warned of in the word of God. Very few are actively seeking shelter. The attitude most people seem to have about refuge is to stick their head in the sand like an ostrich. It's like people are saying, "If I ignore it, maybe it will go away."

Hebrews 11:1 tells us, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

This is where most of society has a problem. They have a faith of sorts, but theirs is a faith that requires proof before they can believe. They require something tangible, something physical

before their hardened hearts will open and respond.

Society has become much like one of our Lord's own disciples. Look at the apostle Thomas: Here was a man chosen by Christ to be one of the twelve. Here was man who sat at our Lord's feet, broke bread with him, was taught by him. Yet when he was told of our Lord's resurrection, what did Thomas do? Was he overcome with joy? Did he leap about praising God? No, Thomas responded with:

Unless I see his hands the print of nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put by hand into his side, I will not believe! On. 20:25, emphasis mine — DN)

Take a look at the Pharisees and Sadducees in the time of our Lord. In Matthew 12:38 and Matthew-16:4, they came demanding a sign. A condition of their belief or faith required a sign. When Christ gave them no new sign, they refused to accept him. Like our storm warning in 2 Peter, was not the coming of our Lord foretold in the Scriptures? Did not Moses, Isaiah, Jeremiah, and others speak plainly of the Christ, his works and miracles? Did not the nation of Israel know of this and what to look for? Still, when the signs pointing to Christ were fulfilled, how did the rulers of the Jews react? They demanded a new sign! They wanted proof! Their faith was conditional! How much like the Pharisees and Sadducees have the people of this age become? The written word of God is not acceptable; they need pro-of, a sign. Faith and obedience have become arbitrary.

The apostle Paul warned, "For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine, but according to their own desires, because they have itching ears they will heap up for themselves teachers; and they will turn their ears away from the truth and be turned aside to fables" (2 Tim. 4:3-4).

Peter also warned, "That scoffers will come in the last days, walking according to their own lust and saying, where is the promise of his coming? For since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of creation" (2 Pet. 3:3-4).

People today have become a society of scoffers; a people who are unstable in belief who have itching ears and unwillingness to believe in the unseen. They seek salvation without obedience and their itching ears listen to fables. They have turned from the truth and been pulled so far from it, that they no longer desire it.

Hearing you will hear and shall not understand, and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the hearts of this people have grown dull, their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them (Isa. 6:9-10; Matt. 13:14-15).

The judgment day of our Lord brings a storm of everlasting destruction. The word of God gives a warning. The word of God is our only key to open a door into refuge, a safe haven from that which is to come.

If anyone hears my words and does not believe, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. He who rejects me, and does not receive my words, has that which judges him — the word that I have spoken will judge him in the last day On. 12:47-48).

A storm is still coming; a warning still rings. Let each of us take heed that we do as the Lord wills, and not as men will do. By **(David Nelson Guardian of Truth XXXVII: 11, p. 22-23 June 3, 1993)**