

WOODLAWN FORREST
CHURCH OF CHRIST
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Ministering Evangelist:
Leroy Butler, Jr.

Elders:

Alfonso Breedon
Leroy Butler, Jr.
Steve A. Myers, Sr.
James C. Shearry, Sr.

Deacons:

Charlie Black
Willie C. Ferrebee
Harry Howell, Sr.
Marcus J. Pride

Minister of Maturity:
Andre R. Norwood

Ladies Ministry:
Gloria A. Butler

Youth Minister:
JaCory L. Sermons

SUNDAY SERVICES

7:30am Radio Program
WHLJ 97.5 FM
9:45am Bible School
11:00am Worship
4:00pm Worship

WEDNESDAY

7:00pm Bible Study

THURSDAY

7:00pm Ladies Bible Class
2nd & 4th weeks

SERVICES OFFERED:

- In-Home Bible Studies
- Private Open Bible Studies at the church building
- Bible Correspondence Courses
- Transportation to and from the services.
Call 734-262-0603
- Counseling (marital and personal)

THE HERALD

2021 Theme: "Kingdom Occupied."



A Message From the Minister

Psalm 13:1-6 (KJV)

¹ How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? for ever? how long wilt thou hide thy face from me?

² How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily? how long shall mine enemy be exalted over me?

"The Struggles of the Soul" ... part 1

Most who have commented on this psalm have noticed how this psalm begins on a sour note and ends on a joyful note. It begins with tones of sorrow and ends with rapture and thanksgiving.

We are told that many if not all of the psalms were lyrics to a song. If that is the case then David literally sung himself out of his troubled state of mind. The thing that caused this state of distress is not clear. Could be he wrote this during those days when Saul was chasing him trying to kill him. Maybe he was afraid that if he closed his eyes he would never open them again. It is not clear what caused this distress in David but what is clear however is that this psalm shows the struggle of David's soul.

We can all relate to the idea of a soul in struggle because we all struggle in our souls at one time or another. These struggles have often found expression in the songs we sing. Many of us grew up listening to the blues and then there was soul music. But before there was blues and soul music there were Negro spirituals, songs that exposed the very souls of a people in a struggle for survival, for freedom and for dignity as human beings.

We have been freed from physical slavery but there is a slavery that is much more damaging than physical slavery. Its effects are more far-reaching and the misery it causes cuts more deeply. I'm talking about slavery to sin. The struggle in our souls because of sin is the struggle most of us are familiar with. Young and old, men and women, black and white, red, yellow and brown, sin affect us all.

David mentions his soul's **agitation** in verse 2: *I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily*. Heart and soul are like wet and water you cannot separate them (Deuteronomy 4:29; 6:5, 10:12; 11:18).

1 Chronicles 22:19 says, *"Set your heart and your soul to seek the Lord your God."* David had done this and there existed a close bond between David and his God. He was after all *a man after God's own heart*. But listen to David: *"How long wilt thou forget me? How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily?" (13:1-2)*. Whatever affects the heart will affect the soul. Four times David asks the question, "How long?" The trial through which he was passing had brought him into a state of dread and desperation. And perhaps even depression. He says how long will you forget me? There is with David:

No Sense of God's Presence

Whenever there is a loss of the sense of God's presence there will be agitation of the soul! David says: *"How long wilt thou forget me, O Lord? Forever? How long wilt thou hide thy face from me?" (13:1)*. No believer can lose the Sense of God's presence without experiencing agitation of soul. Even Jesus experienced agitation of his soul in those crucial hours on the cross He cried out, Eli, Eli, etc. ...

Continued on page 4

✚✚ OUR MEMBERS IN NURSING HOMES ✚✚

B/Calvin **Strickland**-Care Home, Forest Park GA BLG 1
S/Betty **Yearby**-Holly Hill Nursing Hm, Valdosta BLG 1

✚✚ MEMBERS AT HOME ✚✚

S/Louise Battle .	BLG #1
B/Samuel Battle Jr.	BLG #1
S/Lucinda Brown .	BLG #4
S/Marjorie Bythwood .	BLG #4
B/Frank Chandler .	BLG #2
S/Roben Collier .	BLG #1
S/Glorice Ferrell .	BLG #4
S/Daisy Fiveash .	BLG #4
S/Dorothy Hamilton .	BLG #5
S/Louise Harden .	BLG #1
S/Robbie Hester .	BLG #2
S/Josie B. Jackson .	BLG #5
S/Barbara H. Jones .	BLG #2
S/Mary McKinnon .	BLG #1
S/Jeniece Myers .	BLG #1
B/Wm. Paul Myers .	BLG #1
B/A. Jerome Rizer .	BLG #1
B/Tony Rozer .	BLG #5
B/Solomon Sanders .	BLG #2
S/Rosa & S/Benita Settles .	BLG #2
S/Louise Simmons .	BLG #1
S/Betty Vann .	BLG #1
S/Mary S. Williams .	BLG #4

We realize that visiting is limited, so pickup a copy of THE HERALD for phone numbers to call our Sick and those who are Shut-in, and for their addresses to sending loving, encouraging cards.

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We have not resumed all of our 'in person' activities, but you are encouraged to be apart of ...

➤ WORSHIP

Sundays @ 11:00am

In Person & Facebook Live

➤ SUNDAY SCHOOL @ 4:00pm

(Zoom) Meeting ID: 894-681-340

➤ DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays @ 7:00pm

(Zoom) Meeting ID: 832-0380-6755

➤ WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE, 6:30-8:15pm

For ages 1st thru 12th Grades

DAILY BIBLE READING FOR JULY

Date	New Testament	Old Testament
Thursday, 07/01	Acts 7:1-19	2 Chronicles 18-20
Friday, 07/02	Acts 7:20-45	2 Chronicles 21-23
Saturday, 07/03	Acts 7:46-60	2 Chronicles 24-25
Sunday, 07/04	Acts 8:1-25	2 Chronicles 26-28
Monday, 07/05	Acts 8:26-40	2 Chronicles 29-30
Tuesday, 07/06	Acts 9:1-22	2 Chronicles 31-32
Wednesday, 07/07	Acts 9:23-43	2 Chronicles 33-34
Thursday, 07/08	Acts 10:1-23	2 Chronicles 35-36
Friday, 07/09	Acts 10:24-48	Ezra 1-3
Saturday, 07/10	Acts 11	Ezra 4-6
Sunday, 07/11	Acts 12	Ezra 7-8
Monday, 07/12	Acts 13:1-31	Ezra 9-10
Tuesday, 07/13	Acts 13:32-52	Nehemiah 1-3
Wednesday, 07/14	Acts 14	Nehemiah 4-5
Thursday, 07/15	Acts 15:1-21	Nehemiah 6-7
Friday, 07/16	Acts 15:22-41	Nehemiah 8-9
Saturday, 07/17	Acts 16:1-15	Nehemiah 10-11
Sunday, 07/18	Acts 16:16-40	Nehemiah 12-13
Monday, 07/19	Acts 17:1-15	Esther 1-3
Tuesday, 07/20	Acts 17:16-34	Esther 4-6
Wednesday, 07/21	Acts 18	Esther 7-10
Thursday, 07/22	Acts 19:1-20	Job 1-3
Friday, 07/23	Acts 19:21-41	Job 4-6
Saturday, 07/24	Acts 20:1-16	Job 7-8
Sunday, 07/25	Acts 20:17-38	Job 9-11
Monday, 07/26	Acts 21:1-16	Job 12-13
Tuesday, 07/27	Acts 21:17-40	Job 14-16
Wednesday, 07/28	Acts 22	Job 17-19
Thursday, 07/29	Acts 23:1-22	Job 20-21
Friday, 07/30	Acts 23:23-35	Job 22-23
Saturday, 07/31	Acts 24	Job 24-27 📖



What We Believe & Why We Believe It

- We believe** that the Bible is the all sufficient guide for man's salvation. (2 Peter 1:3)
- We believe** that the Bible must be rightly divided to be understood. (2 Timothy 2:15, 3:16)
- We believe** that the Church of Christ is the only true church. Matthew 16:18, Acts 10:38, Romans 16:16)
- We believe** salvation is in Christ (2 Timothy 2:10, 3:15); and no one can get in Christ by praying.
- We believe** baptism in water by immersion is the only way one can get into Christ. (Galatians 3:27)
- We believe** denominationalism is contrary to Bible teaching. (Matthew 17:7-9, Colossians 2:20-23)
- We believe** that there is only one gospel. (Galatians 1: 6-10) It is God's power to save. (Romans 1:16-17)
- We believe** the church began on the day of Pentecost and three thousand souls were added. (Acts 2)
- We believe** in order for a sinner to be saved he must hear the gospel. (Romans 10:17, Matthew 17:5)
- We believe** one must believe the gospel. (John 8:24, Hebrews 11:6, Mark 16:15-16, Romans 10:10, John 7:38)
- We believe** one must repent of his sins. (Acts 17:30, Acts 3:10, Acts 2:38)
- We believe** you must confess Christ (Matthew 10:32) be baptized for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). ■

JULY

Birthdays & Anniversaries



3rd - Carlo Johnson.
 3rd - Anthony Washington.
 4th - Frankie M. Berrian.
 5th - Sirriah Harris.
 6th - Robert "RJ" Jones.
 6th - Bennie Morris.
 6th - Austin Wright.
 9th - Josie B. Jackson (100-years)! 📅
 10th - Gwendolyn Emanuel.
 10th - Vickey Reed.
 11th - Patricia Black.
 13th - Kaydence Arnold.
 13th - Cynthia Williams.
 14th - Martha A. Bell.
 14th - Aleshia Tillman.
 16th - Latoya Morrison.
 16th - Sharon Thomas.
 16th - Armia T.M. Whetstone.
 16th - Betty Yearby.
 18th - Rashad Brown.
 20th - Jamir Glenn.
 20th - Shernell Irvin.
 21st - James Glenn.
 21st - Knowledge Munford.
 21st - Steve A. Myers, Sr.
 21st - Daphne Sermons.
 22nd - Mary L. Bell.
 22nd - Vorise Harris.
 22nd - Alicia Norwood.
 23rd - Makayla Parker.
 23rd - Darrell Stringer.
 24th - Marjorie Jones.
 24th - Timothy Kelsie, Jr. "TJ".
 24th - Louise Simmons (100-years)! 📅
 29th - Charlie Black.
 29th - Tiandra McNeal.
 30th - Dorothy Hill.
 30th - Jennifer Thompson.
 30th - James "Alex" Godfrey.

1st - Wesley & Ashley Harrell, 10-years. 💍
 1st - Ralph & Jacqueline Neal, 5-years.
 10th - Larry Smith & Charlene Blache, 17-years.
 10th - Clint & LaQuanda Parker, 17-years.
 12th - Steve & LaWanda Kitchen, 13-years.
 18th - Russell & Frankie Berrian, 25-years.
 19th - Harry & Eula Howell Sr., 41-years.
 22nd - Curtis & Katherine Anderson, 16-years.
 23rd - Gregory & Debra Martin Sr., 38-years. ■

📅 Celebrate these Seniors by Showering them with Cards
 For this Monumental Occasion!

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★ Assigned to Serve in JULY ★

Baptismal: LaRonda Boyd, Brenda Hardy, & Nivea Howell.

Kitchen Monitor: Rachel Bradley, Hannah Garrison, & Canvis Smith.

Lock-up & Security: Charlie Black. ★

Church Calendar



3rd - IMAGE Ministry Record/Edit Announcements
 10:30-11:30am each Saturday (10th, 17th, 24th, 31st)

4th - Independence Day.

4th - WFIG Dollar Day\$.

5th - Church Offices Closed in observance of Independence Day.

5th - IMAGE Ministry Meeting 6:00pm.

6th - Tuesday Night Teaching-Teens, 6:00-8:00pm.

7th - Wednesday Night Live, 6:30-8:15pm.

8th - Youth Council Meeting, 6:45pm.



10th - Our **Meals-On-Wheels** Ministry meets, 10:00am to prepare and plate food for distribution.

10th - Clothes Closet Ministry Visitation.

10th - WFIG Club Day & Kidz Zone, 12:00pm.

11th - Kickball - 5:30pm.

14th - Wednesday Night Live 6:30-8:15pm.

15th - TNT— Kidz, 6:00-8:00pm.

17th - **FAMILY BIBLE CHALLENGE** 1:00pm.



19th-23rd - Vacation Bible School
 6:00-9:00pm for Students
 in 1st thru 12th grades.

24th - WFIG, 12:00-2:00pm.

25th - 4th Sunday Family Fellowship.

28th - Wednesday Night Live 6:30-8:15pm.

29th - Leadership Team Meeting 6:00pm.

31st - 12:00 noon, WFIG sponsors,



Members are asked to contribute **School Supplies** to help make this event a big success. Some of the items needed are:

- ♦ Book Bags or Back Packs
- ♦ #2 Pencils
- ♦ Pencil Case
- ♦ Wide-rule Notebook Paper
- ♦ Blue Pens
- ♦ Black Pens
- ♦ Red Pens
- ♦ Pocket Folders
- ♦ Blunt Tip Scissors
- ♦ 3-ring Binders
- ♦ Crayon
- ♦ Highlighters
- ♦ Calculator
- ♦ Colored Pencils
- ♦ Glue Sticks
- ♦ Large Pink Eraser
- ♦ Elmer's Washable School Glue
- ♦ Spiral Notebooks
- ♦ Crayola Washable Markers
- ♦ Assignment Book
- ♦ Index Cards
- ♦ 12" Ruler with both Inches and Centimeters
- ♦ Stretchable Book Covers
- ♦ Pack of Graph Paper
- ♦ Pack of Dividers
- ♦ Composition Books
- ♦ Hole Puncher
- ♦ USB Flash Drive
- ♦ Scientific Graphing Calculator.

Encourage Yourself – Part 3

Psalms 63:6 (KJV)

6 When I remember thee upon my bed, and meditate on thee in the night watches.

Lastly, David encouraged himself by meditating on what God has done for him.

Meditation means “the act of focusing one’s thoughts: to ponder, think on, muse.” Meditation consists of reflective thinking or contemplation, usually on a specific subject to discern its meaning or significance or a plan of action.

A lot of times we don’t think what we are going to say or do, we just react to the situation. David’s men didn’t meditate on what was going on. They just said were going to stone David because he is the leader and the reason why we are in this mess.

Before you react to your situation, meditate. Take the time to think about what is really going on. Pray and ask God for wisdom and guidance in dealing with the situation.

Philippians 4:6 - Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known unto God.

*Submitted by JaCory L. Sermons
Youth Minister*



UPCOMING EVENTS

◆ Remember **Dollar Day** \$ the first Sunday of each month for our Youth Ministry. Every member is asked to

Please make a generous donation toward the ongoing activities and programs planned for our young people.

◆ WFG will host a **monthly Kickball Game** on the second Sunday of this month due to the holiday. The game will begin at 5:30 p.m. on the church campus.

◆ **Wednesday Night Live**, open to all students in the 1st - 12th Grades. Students will meet at 6:30 p.m. in the classroom area. Sessions will last until 8:15 p.m.

◆ **Vacation Bible School 2021:**

Will be held **July 19th - 23rd** for All Students in grades First through Twelfth. Registration is required.

As always, in order for our VBS to be a success, we need great **Staff Members!!** Teachers, Security, Kitchen Help, Monitors, etc.

We need at least 30 adults to staff VBS! Please contact Bro. JaCory Sermons if you can service in any of these capacities. ■

Continued from page 1 ... The Struggles of the Soul, part 1

“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Mark 15:34). It was on the cross that the Lord Jesus took the punishment for human sin in order to provide divine righteousness and eternal life for all who would believe and obey. He became sin for us and God looked away.

No one can begin to comprehend the degree to which the Lord’s soul was agitated in that hour. That’s because no one has ever been as close to the father as Jesus. No one could ever know the level of pain Jesus felt when that separation occurred.

David felt some of that anxiety and we experience some of that when we have no sense of His Presence. I don’t know what brought about David’s sense of separation but for many of us it’s sin. Sin separates (Isaiah 59:1). God has had to turn His face away from Israel because of sin. For *sinner*s, the ultimate end of such forsakenness is eternal hell, which is the portion of all who reject the way of salvation as revealed in our Lord Jesus Christ.

What David felt must be similar to what a person feels when they have separation anxiety. We have all experienced separation anxiety. You see it in toddlers who cry for mama. You see it in small children who just about panic when they lose sight of a parent. This can also affect older people even adults. They can become depressed when separated from a loved one they have grown attached to. They can’t sleep. They may experience dizziness, nausea, palpitations, sadness, withdrawal, apathy, difficulty in concentrating, and nightmares. Of course the nightmare to end all nightmares is Eternal Separation from God (they call it hell). The bible says there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Not only did David have no sense of God’s presence but also he had ...

2) No Sense of God’s Purpose

David was taking counsel with himself, planning and purposing and plotting but none of it did any good. He says, “How long shall I take counsel in my soul, having sorrow in my heart daily?” (13:2) The psalmist confesses all his own plans and schemes to get himself out of trouble were fruitless and futile. The more he tried to escape the more hopeless he became. The bible says many are the plans in the heart of men but the purpose of God it shall stand.

If we sense a loss of God’s presence it may be because we have no sense of God’s purpose in our lives. Either we are not yielded to it or we don’t know it. God’s purpose will always trump our purpose. Therefore we should never formulate any strategy without taking God’s purpose and will into consideration.

*Evangelist Leroy Butler, Jr. - Minister
Part 2, Next Issue*