

# HIRAM CHURCH OF CHRIST

www.hiramchurchofChrist.com · 7660 Nebo Road, Hiram, GA 30141 · (770) 943-9977

LARGE ENOUGH TO SERVE YOU AND SMALL ENOUGH TO KNOW YOU

Vol. 16 No. 13 - March 31, 2019

"If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen."

1 Peter 4:11

**"Salute one another with an holy kiss. The churches of Christ salute you." Romans 16:16**

FIRST CENTURY CHURCH IN THE 21ST CENTURY

**MINISTER: MELVIN J. BRYANT II**





## ORDER OF WORSHIP

**Announcements:** Melvin J. Bryant II  
**Opening Prayer:** Melvin J. Bryant II  
**Song Leader:** Kwame Abdul  
**Second Prayer:** Devin Bryant  
**Lord's Table:** Clarence Proctor  
Melvin J Bryant III  
**Message:** Melvin J. Bryant II  
**Closing Prayer:** Alex Johnson

## Attendance

**Morning Hour:** 17  
**Bible Class:** 22  
**Worship:** 28  
**Wednesday:** 13  
**Contribution:** \$TBA

## Weekly Service Times

 The Morning Hour 9:00am  
 Bible Class 10:00am  
 Morning Worship 11:00am  
 Wed. Evening Bible Classes 7:30pm

## The Morning Hour

- Announcements
- Prayer
- Song
- 25 Minute Study - Rightly Dividing
- Card Writing/Mail Outs
- Prepare for 10:00am Bible Class

**Missions:** India & Childhaven

## PLAN OF SALVATION

- ★ Taught by God - John 6:45
- ★ Believe - John 8:24
- ★ Repent - Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30  
(Repentance entails counting the cost)
- ★ Confess - Matthew 10:32-33
- ★ Be Baptized - Matthew 28:18-20
- ★ Live a FAITHFUL life until death - Revelation 2:10

**NATIONAL CRISIS**

**BIBLICAL WARNING**

SUGAR-COATED PREACHING IS DANGEROUS TO YOUR SOUL.  
2 Timothy 4:3-4

**WHAT IF WE BEGAN TO TREAT OUR BIBLES THE WAY WE TREATED OUR CELL PHONES?**

**WHAT IF WE...**

...carried it with us everywhere?

...turn back to get it if we forgot it?

...checked it for messages throughout the day?

...used it in case of emergencies?

...spend an hour or more each day using it?



*What would our lives look like?*

## ONGOING HEALTH ISSUES

Lea Overton (Jeff's mother), Sebastian and Erica Suarez, Ron McCurry (shut in-visits requested), Amy Brown, Polly Tunstall (Amy's mother), Ann Phillips, Harold and Dean Reeves, Potts/Williams family, Kilwonia Chandler, Barbara Helton, Vera Patrick, Mary Troup, Joanie Saporito, Charlie Griffin, Patty Dale, Daniel Welker (kidney transplant), Al Gattis (COPD), Shirley Glosson (radiation), Ben Westbrooks (leukemia)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

(JAMES 5:16)

- ▶ **Brad and Doranda** are in need of prayer as they prepare to relocate.
- ▶ **Carolyn** recently fractured her tibia. The doctor wanted her to use a wheelchair or walker, but she has been hobbling around with them. She has been going through other health issues as well. Please keep her in your prayers.
- ▶ **Mrs. Joanie** has not been feeling well lately. Please keep her in your prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Troup** had mouth surgery and is in need of our prayers.
- ▶ **Ann Phillips** is still in need of prayer.
- ▶ **Ron McCurry** has requested prayers for his son in law, Tommy. He goes in a few weeks to see if he still has fluid in his pancreas, if he does the doctors will put a stint in his colon, which will have him in the hospital 7-10 days.
- ▶ **Traci Bryant's** uncle passed away. Let us keep the Molden family in our prayers.
- ▶ **Erica** is in need of prayer for her overall health. She appreciates the calls and prayers.
- ▶ **Mary Brock** has requested prayers for her daughters.

## BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES & NEWS

### ✓ **March Birthdays**

**Becky** - 15th  
**Erica** - 23rd  
**Patty** - 29th

### ✓ **Local Church News.**

Cartersville Church of Christ is having their gospel meeting with Brother Jody Apple on April 14-17, 2019. Theme: The First Thing Jesus Taught: The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12).

### ✓ **Traveling.**

Matt Johnson. Sis. Pudgy

- ✓ **Patty** is in Oklahoma for a while. Dennis and Beth Johnson has made it back to India.

- ✓ Our fellowship dinner will be canceled until we complete repairs.

### ✓ **Hiram Church of Christ News**

Let us keep James Munsell in our prayers. He was added to the Lord on January 20, 2019. He found our church Youtube channel and studied with Bro. Bryant, now he's a child of

God. He was baptized at the Quivira Heights church of Christ in Topeka, Ks.

- ✓ We have been asked to keep another interested person in prayer. Her name is Maricela, she has asked that we keep her sons, Antonio and Alexander along with ex-husband Torrell and friend Justin in prayer. She lives in California,



# “The Church in the Midst of a National Crisis”

**Psalms 9:17; 33:12**

**By**

**Melvin J. Bryant II**

The church in the world today is God’s covenant people. We are God’s Nation religiously! There are TWO classes of people in this world. There are people who are in the church, And, there are people who are in the World! The people in the church are God’s children, God’s people, And the people of the World are the children of the wicked one (1 John 3:10)!

## **I. BLESSED IS THE NATION WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD**

- A. That word “Blessed” in Psalms 33:12 is “Happy”!
- A “Nation” carries a plurality of meanings in the World and Biblically! (see Genesis 10:5,20,31).
  - BDAG tells us that “Nation” means, “a body of persons united by kinship, culture, and common traditions, nation, people.” (3rd ed., p. 276).”
  - Louw & Nida tells us that a “Nation” is, “the largest unit into which the people of the world are divided on the basis of their constituting a socio-political community—‘nation, people.’” (electronic ed. of the 2nd edition., Vol. 1, p. 129).”
  - Liddell and Scott tells us “Nation” means, “number of people living together, company, body of men, ἑτάρων ἕ., ἕ. ἑταίρων, band of comrades.” (p. 480).
  - The United States of America is a Nation, but; we are FAR from being a blessed (or a happy) nation (as a whole) with ALL the transgressions against God and His word! The Soviet Union is a Nation! The Republic of China is a Nation, *however*, they are FAR from being blessed or Happy since they lead ALL nations with Atheist.
  - From the sons of Japheth according to Genesis 10:2, the “Coastland peoples of the Gentiles (verse 5)” came to be! So, if you ever wanted to know how Gentiles came to be, this is it.
- B. The NATION of the World at ONE TIME spoke One Language and One Speech? (see Genesis 11:1-4).
- They were UNITED, *however*, they were DISOBEDIENT and Rebellious against our Creator, God!
- C. A Defiant Nation of United People. (Genesis 9:1)
- God said for Noah and his sons to “Be Fruitful and Multiply, and FILL THE EARTH.”
  - But what did we find the people with ONE Language and ONE Speech doing in Genesis 11:4? “And they said, ‘Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a NAME for ourselves, LEST we be scattered abroad over the Face of the Whole Earth.’” God had given the instructions, it was for mankind to carry them out!
  - Regardless of what we want to do....
- D. God’s Purpose will be done. (see Genesis 11:5-9)
- God’s WILL will be done regardless of how man tries to accomplish his own will! And, this is how we have ALL the different languages in the World today, and how the WORLD was populated in different areas because GOD confounded the tongues of men, gave them their perspective language, and SCATTERED them abroad over the Face of ALL the Earth! (cf. Acts 17:26). There are different “Nations” that are a body of persons, AND, allow us to understand that there are....
- E. Different “Nations of People” that are set apart Religiously!
- The “Nation of Islam” is a group of people who carry their own religious agenda!

- According to Wikipedia, the Nation of Islam is an African American political and religious movement, founded in Detroit, Michigan, by Wallace D. Fard Muhammad on July 4, 1930, who was succeeded by Elijah Muhammad and now, Louis Farrakhan! The problem with the “Nation of Islam” is their God is NOT the God of the Bible!
- How do we know? Hebrews 1:1-2! Jesus has the FINAL AUTHORITY of ALL things in heaven and on earth! God the Father appointed Jesus as heir of ALL things, NOT Muhammad!
- *In addition*, the Quran is too late! Muhammad, (as they proclaim) through the archangel Gabriel, incrementally over a period of some 23 years, beginning on 22nd of December 609 CE, (CE means “Common Era”) when Muhammad was 40, and concluding in 632, the year of his death!
- Notice what we are told regarding the Gospel and Angels in Galatians 1:6-9!
- The Quran was written in 7th century AD by a man in the desert who claimed an angelic being visited him! There is NO Verification, NO Witnesses, of this visit, and NO miracles by Muhammad! Yet, he revealed a New Book, the Quran, a NEW Doctrine that contradicts the scriptures of the Bible.

## II. THE LORD’S PEOPLE, THE CHURCH IS A NATION (see 1 Peter 2:9)

- A. God puts an “Identifying Mark” on His children by names or descriptive terms in this world. (cf. Matthew 28:19 - Disciples; Acts 11:26 - Christians; Romans 8:16 - Children of God).

## III. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A HOLY NATION?

- A. Holy is to be, “...dedicated or consecrated to the service of God!” (BDAG pg. 10).
- We are God’s “Special People, God’s HOLY Nation of Religious People” and our duty is to “Proclaim the Praises of Him who called us Out of Darkness into His marvelous light!” (1 Peter 2:9)! Not only are we His Holy Nation, we are God’s....
- B. Living Sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2).
- We are God’s LIVING sacrifice, set apart for His service to and to do according to what He has commanded so that we may PROVE what is that Good, Acceptable and Perfect will of God!
  - So, our conversations is different! We don’t CURSE like we use to! Our cloths are different, we don’t dress according to the world in bathing suits, etc., we have transformed our minds to fit the confinements of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

## IV. WHAT NATIONAL AND RELIGIOUS CRISIS DOES THE CHURCH FACE?

- A. As the church, we are faced with a National Crisis because of what we read in Psalms 9:17.
- The Unites States of America continues to corrupt itself from the commandments of God!
  - When I was growing up, there was nothing wrong with us praying in public schools! *However*, many may not be aware but on June 25, 1962, the United States Supreme Court decided in Engel v. Vitale that a prayer approved by the New York Board of Regents for use in schools violated the First Amendment because it represented establishment of religion!
  - *Nonetheless*, they force their acceptance of homosexuality in school! Their acceptance and promotion of promiscuity in schools! They parade wickedness before the Lord’s people!
  - There is a Heartbeat Bill that is soon to pass in Georgia which makes abortions illegal as soon as the fetus' heartbeat can be detected! Many Georgians and Celebrities are against this bill and have threatened to take their movie and film industry from Georgia to the tune of the state losing BILLIONS of dollars! *Nonetheless*, God’s word against such SIN needs to continue to echo from the mouth of His LIVING sacrifices, His children, the church!
- B. We’re also in a Religious Crisis
- There are SO MANY people leaving the church and the organized structure that God has put in place! The simplicity of Worship and the Order that God has put in place does not appease to man’s worship appetite! The simplicity of singing (Colossians 3:16), the Lord’s supper (1 Corinthians 11:23ff), preaching the oracles of God (1 Peter 4:11). Today, the danger the church faces the entertainment value the world offers its partitioners! *Nonetheless*, as God’s LIVING SACRIFICES we press on, continuing to do the will of God in a hostile and sinful generation!