

BIBLE WORD SEARCH!

An Orderly Life (1 Thessalonians 4:9-12)

U M S B A N O T H E R
M K S U A S P I R E E
O C I S C C K N B L I
R G A I O B M C R I V
E N I N M R A R E N T
L O V E M O C E T D O
R A P S A T E A H E W
L L H S N H D S R E A
A S A R D E O E E D R
C O N C E R N I N G D
K N D V D L I F E D U
P H S V G Y A L E A D

ALSO	ANOTHER	ASPIRE
BRETHREN	BROTHERLY	BUSINESS
COMMANDED	CONCERNING	HANDS
INCREASE	INDEED	LACK
LEAD	LIFE	LOVE
MACEDONIA	MORE	TOWARD



Edifier

“Let all things be done unto edifying” 1 Corinthians 14:26

April 21, 2024

P. O. Box 94

Jena, LA 71342

318-992-4620

Schedule of Services

Sunday	Bible Study: 9:30 AM Worship: 10:30 AM Sunday Afternoon 12:30 PM
Wednesday	Bible Study: 6 PM

STEPHEN AND CANCEL CULTURE

Stephen was a man of tremendous courage who preached God’s Word with great boldness. On the occasion of Acts chapter 7, Stephen preached that he saw the heavens opened and Jesus standing at the right hand of God (Acts 7:56). In the audience that day were unbelieving Jews who rejected Christ. When they heard Stephen preach Christ, they were enraged and “stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, and cast him out of the city, and stoned him” (Acts 7:57-58). Notice from this text that the Jews “stopped their ears.” They refused to listen to what Stephen preached. Rather than listening, they stoned to death an innocent, godly man.

We live in a time when some refuse to hear any opposing view. Rather than granting others freedom to express opposing views, the culture “cancels” them. “Canceling” often involves some type of punishment against those—mostly conservative—who attempt to express controversial views. One may lose business, be fired, or publicly shamed if one dares to share an opposing viewpoint. Much like the unbelieving Jews “stopped their ears,” some “stop their ears today” and cancel all opposing views.

However, the unbelieving Jews who stoned God’s faithful preacher, Stephen, did not change the truth about Jesus. They refused to listen, even stopping their ears, but their rejection of Stephen’s message did not change the truthfulness of the message.

Likewise, refusing to listen to opposing views today will not change the truth. Refusing to listen to the pro-life position that abortion is taking innocent, human life, does not change the truth about abortion. Silencing the voices of those who oppose homosexuality, does not change the truth that homosexuality is a perversion of God’s plan for human sexuality (Leviticus 18:22; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10). “Canceling” those who affirm that there are only two genders, male and female, does not change the truth that being transgender is a distortion of God’s original plan (Genesis 1:26-27).

Christians must always speak with love and compassion for others (Ephesians 4:15). However, if ever there was a time when bold, brave, Christian voices were needed, that time is now! “And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word” (Acts 4:29).

Mark Lindley
church of Christ
Ripley, MS

<i>Preaching the Gospel</i> GBN <i>Counterpoint</i> GBN	<i>Sunday:</i> 6:30 A.M. <i>Tuesday</i> 6:00 PM <i>DISH 267 and DIRECT 376</i>	
<i>Good News Today</i>	<i>Sunday:</i> 7:00 A.M. <i>FOX 14</i>	
<i>Gospel of Christ</i>	<i>Sunday:</i> 7:00 A.M. <i>DISH 39</i>	
<i>Search</i>	<i>Sunday</i> 7:30 A.M. <i>FOX 14</i>	

Web Site: www.jenachurchofchrist.org www.gbntv.org

CHURCH NEWS:

We have begun running a weekly radio program on 102.7, KJNA, our local radio station. Our Sunday morning Bible class will be aired each week beginning around 9:15-9:30 a.m. It is a 45-minute radio spot.

Our VBS week will be June 22-26 this year and will feature a community-wide acapella singing at the Strand Theatre here in Jena on Saturday night, the 22nd at 7:00 p.m. Sunday will run as usual, except with many visitors, I’m sure. VBS will be Monday through Wednesday nights.

Remember in Prayer:

Vicki Zeagler
Dave Reed
Susan Joy
Adison Summers
Mary Slaughter
Joyce Thompson
Mitchell Norman
Cynthia Prewitt
Macy Mott
Donna Evans
Vickie Jones
Theresa Beagan
Scarlett Kent
Ann Cockerham
Melanie Robertson
Georgia (Ada Mount’s sister)
Summer Lamb
Sidney Amyx
Suzanne Norris Harris
Jill Guthrie
Donald Wayne Meyers



Elaine Smith
Susan Jones
Eileen and Terry Head
Jerry Benetato
Ollie Summers
Ada Mount
Red Hailey
Sherry Parker
Catherine Wilcoxson
Dirk Palten
Judy Beauchamp
Mary Eva Windham
Tommy Cater
Buddy Waldron
Ken & Naomi Burrow
Randy Desoto
Joanne Routon
Kathy Spann
Donnie Cooper
Charlie Chapman
Amber Pentecost

- Let’s remember Jonathan Gaddis in our prayers as he recovers from broken bones and burns suffered in a recent automobile accident.
- Remember Devin Cotton’s brother, Ethan, who is recovering from injuries suffered when he fell from a tall ladder last week.