

Elders

Johnny Davis 307-4232
 Dan Fuller 685-4454
 *Jerry Hopkins 818-7164
 Paul Metzkes 870-8042
 Phil Porter 575-4782
 Richard Watson 307-2608
 *Chairman for the Month of August

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins 379-2325
 David Sproule 301-2230
 Josh Blackmer 319-1418

Deacons

Mike Archer 422-2995
 David Brown 972-7608
 Novel Brown 848-6988
 Chuck Clark 627-4132
 Victor Colage 719-1490
 Lance Collier 793-2718
 Kirk Crews 339-9283
 Mike Erickson 310-9916
 Tim Fry 373-9121
 Jeff Goodale 261-1188
 Rick Hall 622-5131
 Bob Higbee 303-386-6405
 Bill Ingram, Jr. 772-341-5463
 Gary Jenkins 889-3585
 Jeff Leslie 744-3444
 Buzz Nelson 385-1588
 Jerry Pittman 389-2935
 Ivan Villard 667-8675

Church Office

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Vol. LX

August 1, 2021

No. 31

Welcome New Members



Hinton, Hunter & Kaitlin

Group 1

Identified July 25





By Dan Jenkins

Signs of the “End of the World”

So many think that the signs of “the end of the world” given by Jesus the week before He died show that it won’t be very long until Jesus shall appear. It is true that Jesus gave signs when the “end of the world” would come, but what “world” did He have in mind? When the disciples asked for these signs given in Matthew 24, what were they asking about?

Look at the context. Jesus had taught the parable of those who had refused to pay the owner for the use of his vineyard. He sent servants to ask for the payment and all of them were abused. He finally sent his son and they laid out plans to kill him. Read the parable of God sending His Son to the Jews in God’s vineyard. What was the expected response on these wicked men? “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers” (Matt. 21:41). Jesus further then amplified the application of the parable when He said, “Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it” (Matt. 21:43).

Look closer at the context of the signs. In Matthew 23, He told these same Jewish leaders that God’s plan was to bring judgment on the Jewish nation who had killed all the prophets sent to them and would soon to kill the prophets Jesus was

**They had killed
the prophets and
were planning to
kill His son—
God’s response?**

sending to them. He said that wrath and judgment was to come on the generation then living (Matt. 23:34-36). God’s judgment was to come on those who had killed God’s messengers/prophets and were at that moment planning to kill His Son. It was to happen *in that generation*. God was no longer with them and their “house was left...desolate” (Matt. 23:38).

He then walked out of that desolate house, and they showed to Him the beauty of that house, that temple. Jesus’ response was that the time was coming when not one stone of the temple would be left on another. He left the city and Peter, James, John and Andrew said to Him, “Tell us, when will these things be? And what will be the sign when all these things will be fulfilled?” (Mark 13:3-4). The house was desolate. God was about to destroy it, and the disciples wanted signs it was about to happen.

Jesus gave the signs and then said, “When you see all these things, know that it is near—at the doors! Assuredly, I say to you this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place” (Matt. 24:33-34). He had told them the Jewish nation was to be removed, its temple destroyed and these disciples would see *all these signs*! It was to all happen *in the generation then living on the earth*.

There is more to be said about the signs of “the end of the world” in next week’s article.



By David Sproule

The Mystery of Christ

Sometimes we might read the word “mystery” in the New Testament and think that it is something cloaked, cryptic and cannot be understood. Such is FAR from the truth. In fact, when we read the word “mystery” in Ephesians 3, it is clearly something that is understandable. Let’s consider together—what is “the mystery of Christ”?

The word “mystery” is found a couple dozen times in the New Testament, and while the word is not always used to address the same subject, the meaning of the word is the same. When God uses the word “mystery,” it is not to scare us off into thinking that something is secretive or inexplicable. Rather, God uses that word to indicate that there was a hidden truth that WAS hidden UNTIL it was revealed, and once it IS revealed it CAN be understood.

In fact, look closely at the wording in Ephesians 3. Paul says that “the mystery” was “made known” to him “by revelation” (3:3), having “been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets” (3:5). The word “revelation” indicates that something is being unveiled or uncovered. And, when Paul, by that same Spirit, writes down this revealed truth about the once hidden truth, his promise is, “when you read you can understand my insight” (3:4).

**The word draws
attention to a
union and
equality that
exists in Christ**

So, what was it that was so special and so amazing that God had been planning? What is “the mystery”? “That the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the [same] body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel” (3:6). Take this in two main pieces.

First, God’s plan involved ONE BODY. That is the emphasis of the entire book of Ephesians (1:23; 2:16; 3:6; 4:4, 12, 16; 5:23, 30). There is only one body—the body of Christ—and Christ serves as its only head. This premier truth is of such utmost value and importance that the Son “gave Himself up for her” (5:25). To understand “the mystery” is to understand there is one church.

Second, God’s plan involved ALL the saved being EQUALLY in the SAME BODY. Again, that is emphasized throughout the book of Ephesians (1:22-23; 2:14-22; 3:6, 11, 15; 4:12-16; 5:21-33). Look at the prefix “fellow” used three times in verse 6—“fellow heirs, fellow members, fellow partakers.” The word draws attention to a union and equality that exists in Christ, that did not exist before and does not exist anywhere else.

“The mystery of Christ” is the eternal plan of God (3:10-11) to establish His ONE church (4:4), that belongs to Him (2:14-22) and over which He exercises full authority (1:22-23), which must obey His laws (5:1-27), teach one faith (4:5) and accept all members as “one” (2:14-22). What a truth!



By Josh Blackmer

God Rescues His People (Part 2)

Jesus set us free from the shadows. "For He rescued us from the domain of darkness, and transferred us to the kingdom of His Son" (Col. 1:13). We have escaped into the kingdom, but a "domain of darkness" waits for those who want to go back.

It isn't that people want to be slaves. Most will deceive themselves into thinking they're returning to some kind of freedom. What they want is comfort at any price. They want someone to handle their problems but without telling them what to do. They want life to be what they want it to be. Faced with the monotonous manna of a righteous life, they are willing to slip back into a lesser life.

We must be those that are obedient.

The wilderness is hard. It takes focus to fight the pull of Egypt, but what makes it even more difficult is when we make decisions as if we still lived in Egypt. Some of the shadows from the domain of darkness have remained in our head. This often results in bad decisions and strangely enough, this is the very kind of thing that can urge us to make the even worse decision of giving up and going back.

You can see it in how we handle trials. There are troubles in this wilderness. Some of them are allowed by God to test our heart. "You shall remember all the way which the LORD your God has led you in the wilderness these forty years,

that He might humble you, testing you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not" (Deut. 8:2). Others are simply bad decisions caused by the kind of thinking we did back in Egypt. When troubles kick down the door, our first urge is to look to the world for answers. God spoke about those "who execute a plan, but not Mine, and make an alliance, but not of My Spirit, in order to add sin to sin" (Isa. 30:1). Praying is often a last resort. We try to fix things ourselves. Instead of going to God, instead of looking to other Christians for encouragement, we gaze back at the comforting shadows of Egypt, little by little luring ourselves away from the light. We try to walk toward God but with our eyes on Egypt. One of the main reasons is that deep down we know that if we face forward and walk right behind Jesus, we will have to make some changes. Just about anyone is up for the message from the edges of Scripture.

Even an actual verse or two that makes the day seem more bearable is good, but usually not if it conflicts with our own world views.

That was another reason the people of God wanted to go back to Egypt. When God sent prophets to help the people with their problems, the people didn't want to hear it. The people wanted help from God, but only if they got to keep doing what they wanted to do. We must be those that are obedient.

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Keep focused

The Bible draws a sharp distinction between that which is "temporary" and that which is "eternal." Unfortunately, we have a hard time keeping that distinction clear and foremost in our minds. It is so easy to get "fixed" on money (having it or not having it), houses or cars (having nice ones or needing new ones), our jobs (having one or not having one, liking it or hating it) or our health (keeping in shape or treating illnesses), that we lose sight of what really matters.

Paul would not let the suffering and "affliction" that he endured get his mind off track. Instead, he looked for some positive effect of the suffering, by making sure that he did "not look at the things which are seen (i.e., temporary), but at the things which are not seen (i.e., eternal)" (2 Cor. 4:16-18). The word "look" in this verse is not just a visual exercise but a mental consideration of setting a goal and keeping one's attention fixed on it.

What's your focus? What are you doing to keep it on track? – DS



"I want more!"

The Little Mermaid Ariel expressed the hearts of many. She had lots of "neat" "stuff." Most would think her "collection's complete" and that she was "the girl who has everything," with "treasures untold...gadgets and gizmos a-plenty...whoohits and whats-its galore." Even with all that she had, her heart poured forth, "No big deal. I want more!"

Are we like that? Look around at your "neat stuff." Look around at your "collections." Look around at your "treasures" and "gadgets." Would someone living in another country begin "looking around" your life and "think, 'Sure, he's/she's got everything'"?

One of the hardest lessons to learn in life is to "be content with such things as you have" (Heb. 13:5). But "to be content" is the very context of the verse that says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" (Phil. 4:11-13). Do you find yourself saying, "No big deal. I want more"? If so, earnestly seek the blessing that comes from "giving," rather than "receiving" (Acts 20:35). – DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Mike Archer	dealing with severe pain
Johnny Davis, Jr.	immunotherapy treatment for kidney cancer
Glen Dawson	recovering from cardiac ablation surgery
Eva Fulton	recovering at home
Loretta Holaday	in MorseLife for rehab on her hip and arm
Joan Holloway	dealing with extreme pain and various health issues
Ophelia Holmes	in severe pain with her rheumatoid arthritis
Marcia Kelley	having a heart catheterization on Monday
David Lord	Delray Medical Center being treated for pneumonia
Maddon Reeves	having surgery on his fractured elbow on August 3
Les Sawyer	recovering at home
Willie Smith	recovering from invasive oral surgery, in a lot of pain

Ongoing Health Issues

Lillian Bankston	dialysis treatments
Judy Carmack	multiple health issues
Terri Hahn	leukemia
Inell Ingram	Courtyard Gardens (Jupiter)
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Joe Holland
Josie Dawson	Daniel Johnson
Dianne Frye	Betty Matter
Margie Hardin	Les Sawyer
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley



The family of our sister, **Adrienne Banks**, who passed away on Friday, July 23. Please pray especially for **Jimmie, Freddie, Jr., Lena and Adrienna**. The funeral will be on August 13 in our building.

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Kyle Crews	Kirk Crews' brother, recovering from open heart surgery
William Jackson	Johnnie Green & Mary Jackson's brother, now in rehab
Clara Medina	Carolina Alvarenga's sister, multiple health issues
Ariel Nagamatsu	Yolanda Stewart's sister, recovering from surgery
Mary Reeves	Chuck Reeves, Jr.'s mother, still awaiting test results
Ulysses Smith	Mary Brown's brother, hospitalized and not doing well
Ann Teague	Sabrina Pietro's mother, undergoing tests for cancer

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands

Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker
Joey & Tammy Treat

Africa

Tamuka Arunashe
Nnanna Aforji

Montgomery, Alabama

Apologetics Press

Coral Springs, Florida

Mauricio Yegros

Bahamas

Tavaro & Shameika Hanna



Church Family Calendar of Events

Sunday, August 1

- ♦ **House-to-House/Heart-to-Heart Labeling** at 5:00 p.m. in the Family Room. Everyone is encouraged to come and help out.

Monday, August 2

- ♦ **Monday Night Bible Study** at 7:00 p.m. in the Family Room.

Tuesday, August 3

- ♦ **Tuesday Morning Bible Study** at 10:30 a.m. in the Family Room.

Sunday, August 8

- ♦ **Back-to-School Ice Cream Social** after evening worship in the Family Room. Bring ice cream, toppings and ice cream scoops.

Sunday, August 29

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room.
- ♦ **Chad Wagner Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. about the work in Nigeria (Nnanna Aforji). Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults meet in the Auditorium.

Sunday, August 29 (cont.)

- ♦ **New Member's Orientation Class** at 9:00 a.m. See Tim Fry for more details.
- ♦ **Fifth Sunday Finger Foods** after evening worship in the Family Room.

Sunday, September 5

- ♦ **New Member's Orientation Class** at 9:00 a.m. See Tim Fry for more details.
- ♦ **Joey Treat Mission Report** at 9:00 a.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults will meet in the Auditorium.

Saturday, September 11

- ♦ **Widows & Widowers Luncheon** from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the home of Kane & Fran Campbell. Come and enjoy food, fun and fellowship. Please RSVP to Kane or Fran.

Sunday, September 12

- ♦ **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the Family Room.

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ Young Adults

Friday, September 3

- ♦ **Sr. High & Young Adult Ladies' Hangout** at 7:00 p.m. Bring snacks, drinks and your Bible.

Saturday, September 4

- ♦ **Young Adult Devo** at 6:00 p.m. Location TBD. See Ivan Villard for details.

Tuesday, September 7

- ♦ **Young Adult Ladies' Prayer Night** at 6:30 p.m. See Amber Villard for details.

Monday, September 13

- ♦ **Men Meet Monday Night** at 7:00 p.m. at the church building. All PBL men in Grades 9 and up are invited. Bring your Bible, a chair, some meat to grill, a drink and your own plate/utensils. This is a great opportunity for men of all generations to fellowship.

Saturday, September 18

- ♦ **Jr. High & Young Adult Family Bowling** at 4:00 p.m. See Ivan Villard for details.



Palm Beach Lakes Youth

Saturday, August 7

- ♦ **CANCELLED: Charged By Christ** with Clint Davison.

Saturday, August 21

- ♦ **Jr. High Game Night** at 5:00 p.m. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Sunday, August 22

- ♦ **Jr. High Family Devo** after evening worship. Please bring a drink, dessert or chips.
- ♦ **Sr. High Devo** after evening worship. See Josh Blackmer for details.

Sunday, August 29

- ♦ **2 Week Mini-Session Classes Begin.** Age 3-Grade 5 meet in the Sr. High Room. Jr. High, Sr. High and all adults meet in the Auditorium.

Sunday, September 12

- ♦ **New Bible Classes Begin** at 9:00 a.m. for all children and adults.
- ♦ **Youth & Family Singing** after evening worship in the



IN MY RESOLVE

TO

EXERCISE GREATER

SELF-CONTROL

AUGUST

"...always abounding in the work of the Lord..." (1 Cor. 15:58)



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
July 25

Birthdays & Anniversaries This Week

Tuesday (August 3rd)

Rick & Betsy Donahue (Ann.)
Stephen Beliech
Allison Roman
Seth Watson
Henry Williams

Thursday (August 5th)

Roy & Charlene Knowles (Ann.)

Friday (August 6th)

Lena Gadson

Saturday (August 7th)

Jeff & Jennifer Goodale (Ann.)
Kirk Crews

Wednesday (August 4th)

Sharon Masciarelli

LOCAL VISITORS: Ms. Kaylee Dickerson; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Young DiNetta; Mrs. Amelia Dixon; Mr. & Mrs. Grant & Kathryn Fuller; Mr. Keith Hutchison; Mr. & Mrs. Dennis & Kim Jackson; Ms. Robyn Landen; Ms. Guerline Paul; and Ms. Jettie Sweetenbury.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Mrs. Linda Baker, Centreville, VA; Mr. & Mrs. Chad & Conley Brown, Tupelo, MS; Ms. Ann Graham, Keystone Heights, FL; Mr. & Mrs. Victor & Laquita Harris, Shannon, MS; Mr. Colton Kelley & Mr. Jacob Kelley, Plantation, FL; Mr. Alphonso Paul; and Mr. & Mrs. Gordon & Corinne Porter, Crestview, FL.

Those to Serve

If you are unable to serve, please contact the Service Coordinator for the week or Rick Hall at 827-4269.

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday morning, please meet in the Grades 6-8 classroom at **9:50 a.m.***

*If you are scheduled to serve on Sunday evening, please meet at the front of the auditorium at **5:50 p.m.***

Sunday Morning, August 1

Singing.....Gary Friedly
Opening PrayerDan Fuller
Scripture Reading.....Andres Fernandez
Singing
Lord's Supper Bill Ingram, Jr.
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing PrayerDavid Lord

Serve at Table:

David Brown	Cody Price
Ed Buonadonna	Chuck Reeves, Jr.
E. Gower-Winter	Dirk Summerlot
Gary Jenkins	Daniel Wagner
Brent Leslie	Brandan Widner

Sunday Evening, August 1

Singing Dan McLeod
Opening Prayer Dirk Summerlot
Scripture Reading..... Daniel Lord
Singing
Lord's Supper Eugene Williams
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Bob Higbee

Serve at Table:

Connor Goodale David Lord

Wednesday Evening, August 4

Singing..... Daniel Wagner
Invitation Josh Blackmer
Family Prayer John Hoelzer

Our Record

Attendance	July 25	Jun. Avg
Sun. Bible Study	112	172
Sun. AM Worship	186	253
Sun. PM Worship	92	133
Wed. Bible Study	100	143
Contribution	\$14,991	\$16,118
2021 Weekly Budget: \$14,994		
Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$31,291		

Service Coordinator:
Bob Higbee

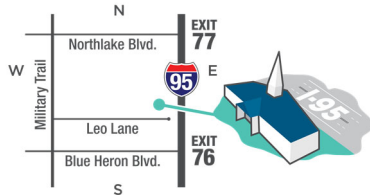
Ushers for this week: Lance Collier & Ed Gager
Safety Team for this week: Darin Summerlot



Palm Beach Lakes CHURCH OF CHRIST

4067 Leo Lane
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

*Speaking where the **Bible** speaks, Silent where the **Bible** is silent.*



Service Schedule

Sunday:

Bible Classes..... 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:

Bible classes 7:00 p.m.



Front Cover: Alice Nelson & Cindy Nelson

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Strengthen and defend your faith!

What Must I Do to Be Saved?

The Bible says...

1. Believe that Jesus is the Son of God

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved" (Acts 16:31).

2. Repent of your sinful ways

"Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out" (Acts 3:19).

3. Confess your faith in Jesus

"If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus...you will be saved" (Rom. 10:9).

4. Be immersed in water

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved" (Mark 16:16).

5. Commit to a lifetime of faithful service

"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Rev. 2:10).