

Overseers

Johnny Davis 307-4232
Dan Fuller 685-4454
*Paul Metzkes 870-8042
Phil Porter 575-4782
Richard Watson 307-2608

*Chairman for the Month of July

Evangelists

Dan Jenkins 379-2325
David Sproule 301-2230
Robert Lupo 315-1411

Deacons

David Brown 972-7608
Victor Colage 719-1490
Lance Collier 985-4407
Kirk Crews 339-9283
Mike Erickson 310-9916
Tim Fry 373-9121
Jeff Goodale 261-1188
Rick Hall 622-5131
Dion Hayes 214-533-5065
Bob Higbee 303-386-6405
Gary Jenkins 889-3585
Jeff Leslie 744-3444
David Lord 346-2228
Buzz Nelson 385-1588
Lawrence Williams 662-3419

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Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ

Vol. LXIII

July 14, 2024

No. 28

**FOREVER
CAMP**

At Central Florida Bible Camp

For Age 10-Grade 12: July 14-20

PRAY FOR:

 **Coordinators: Josh Blackmer & Cam Crotts**

 **The campers:**

Older ones & younger ones

In the church & out of the church

 **The cabin counselors**

 **The Bible class teachers**

 **The chapel speakers**

 **The kitchen staff**

 **The activities staff**

 **The weather**

This year's focus is:

5th SESSION
**FOREVER
CHANGED**
JULY 14-20 2024



By Dan Jenkins

He's Coming in the Clouds

There is no question that someday our Lord will descend coming in the clouds. The clouds that took Him back to the Father will bring Him back. Those messengers from heaven emphatically affirmed that "...this same Jesus who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner you saw Him go into heaven" (Acts 1:11). He will *literally* be borne by the clouds a second time when He comes again.

However, there is a *figurative* usage of this concept of Him coming in the clouds. A failure to realize this robs us of truth and makes some verses hard to understand. The Old Testament poetically speaks about the Lord and the clouds. Moses described God as One who "...rides the heavens to help you, and in His excellency on the clouds" (Deut. 33:26). David said, "Extol Him who rides on the clouds, by His name YAH, and rejoice before Him" (Psa. 68:4). Later, he pictures God as One "Who makes the clouds His chariot, who walks on the wings of the wind" (Psa. 104:3).

It was not just Moses and David who talked about the Lord riding on the clouds. As Isaiah saw the future of Egypt, who for years had dominated many nations, he described the judgment that was about to weaken that nation. Behold, the Lord rides on a swift cloud, and will come into Egypt" (Isa.

19:1). The judgment of that nation was approaching, and the cloud the Lord came on was swift. He came in the clouds into Egypt and this figurative usage of clouds is so powerful.

It may seem strange at first to consider that the Lord figuratively came in the clouds in the first century. This does not deny that in the future He will come in the same manner he left the earth, and Peter vividly describes that day in Second Peter chapter three. Perhaps this figurative usage can best be seen in the words Jesus spoke to Caiaphas and the Jewish council, the Sanhedrin.

He said, "You will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming with the clouds" (Mark 14:62). Matthew's account adds one additional thought. "I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at the right hand of the Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven" (26:64). He adds the word "hereafter." It starts now—from here and henceforth! The ESV translates this word "from now on."

Those men were to figuratively see the Deity of the man they were about to kill. What did they see? That same day they felt the earthquake, they saw the sun going down at noon and the veil in the temple ripped open. Three days later there was the open tomb, and fifty days later they saw and heard the events on Pentecost. Jesus had come in the clouds, and they saw it. Keep this in mind as you read the Bible.

Using the Bible to better understand verses that appear difficult to understand



By David Sproule

Always Looking for the Can't Verses

Too many people approach the Bible as some kind of book of do's and don'ts. They go through the Bible, as it were, making a list of the things they can do and making a list of the things they cannot do. As they do this, they are often looking for the verses that specifically tell them that they can't do something that they want to do. If this is your approach to the Bible, you have completely missed the point of the Bible. Does the Bible contain do's and don'ts? Certainly it does. But is that the only purpose and the only content of the Bible? And what is your purpose, if that is what you are seeking?

The design of the Bible is to introduce mankind to their origin, their purpose and their destiny. It answers the questions, "Where did I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going?" The book details for created beings their Creator. It unfolds for lost beings their Savior. It presents for helpless souls their divine purpose. If you're just looking for do's and don'ts, you will find them and you must follow them, but you're missing the big picture and operating in shallow waters.

The Bible tells you that you have been "created...in the image of God" (Gen. 1:26-27). That makes you unique, special and purposeful to God. Why did He create you? Sim-

ple. "For His glory" (Isa. 43:7). Are you fulfilling your purpose?

The Bible tells you that "God loves you" (John 3:16; 1 John 4:9-10). That makes you unique, special and purposeful to God. Why did He extend His love to you? Simple. "That we love God and keep His commandments" (1 John 4:7-5:5). Are you fulfilling your purpose?

The Bible tells you that, if you have followed God's plan, you have been "saved," for He "washed us from our sins in His own blood" (Rev. 1:5; Eph. 1:7). That makes you unique, special and purposeful to Jesus. Why did He save you? Simple. That you'd be "zealous for good works" (Tit. 2:14; 3:5-8; Eph. 2:10). Are you fulfilling your purpose?

When you come to the Bible and learn and delight in the reality that there is a God in heaven who created you, loves you and saves you, is your immediate thought (or should your immediate thought be), "Well, that's great! But what is there that He won't let me do?" Of course not! Your immediate reaction is (or should be) wonder, respect, excitement, humility and a willing eagerness to love and please this God above everything else. When that's your heart, you will ask the question, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" (Acts 9:6), not "Lord, what will you disappointingly and frustratingly not allow me to do?" He is only and "always" interested in "our good" (Deut. 6:24). Let's love and trust Him!

You're missing the big picture and operating in shallow waters.



By Robert Lupo

You Can't Walk in the Light Alone

When I was a young child, there were a few Sunday mornings when my brothers and I made the mistake of asking the question, "Do we have to go to church today?" Without exception, my dad would reply swiftly with, "No, we don't have to...we GET to!" Thankfully, rather than severe punishment, this response usually resulted in us having a little laugh with our father and proceeding to get ready.

Perhaps your parents had a similar response to this immature complaint. With a simple moment of humor, our parents gently made it clear to us that church was not an option, but a privilege. But, as we get older, do we continue to treat worship that way?

Sometimes we start to see worshipping together as just "a good thing to do" rather than something vital to our lives as Christians. We cannot be ignorant about this. The regular assembling of the saints is commanded by God. As we surely know, Hebrews 10:24-25 says, "And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works, not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together..." This means that choosing to neglect worship is equivalent to abandoning our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Worshipping together is a vital part of church fellowship. As Hebrews said, we stir each other up to love and good

works. Colossians 3:16 says we teach and admonish each other. 1 Corinthians 14:26 tells us, that when we worship together, we build each other up. Worship is incredibly beneficial, but it may be even more important than we realize.

In 1 John 1:7, the apostle writes, "But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin." Here we have a conditional statement. If we walk in the light, what happens? We, then, have fellowship with one another and are cleansed of sin.

So, what if we do not have fellowship with one another? What if we are perfectly fine with meeting with the saints once a week, a month or a year? Understand the consequences of this verse. If we forsake the fellowship of the saints, we cannot be walking in the light and cannot be cleansed of sin.

To walk as Christ walks is to long for time with brethren. Jesus loved spending time with His disciples. The very reason He gave His life was so He might be joined with them in heaven, promising, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also" (John 14:3).

Going to church is not just a good idea. It is the evidence of our salvation. You can't go to heaven if you don't go to worship because you can't walk in the light alone.

Worshipping together is a vital part of church fellowship

Articles Published in PBL Family News Emails Last Week

Looking, looking, looking unto Jesus

The inspired penman of the book of Hebrews continually appealed to his struggling brethren to not turn their back on Christ and give up their faith. As he emphasized their personal need for steadfastness, he penned the great chapter of Hebrews 11. We know and love this great chapter, which highlights the faithful obedience of some of those Old Testament heroes. Why does he spend 40 verses on this?

The author wanted to remind his readers of the great "cloud of witnesses" that had gone before and to urge his fellow Christians to follow in their faithful footsteps. That would be so meaningful to these Christians of Jewish background. But then he circled back to his main point. He did not simply want his readers looking at their heroes of old, he wanted them "looking unto Jesus" (Heb. 12:1-2)!

Friend, are you struggling with your faith? Are you questioning things? Then spend some time—some serious time—"looking unto Jesus." Investigate Him. Dig into the Bible. See if doing such doesn't build you up. —DS



Are you in love?

How much do you "love" the things of this world and the things of this life? Meaning, how much are you devoting yourself to the things of this world and the things of this life? The devil makes it so easy and so appealing to "think" that we are good with God, while at the same time we are pursuing all of the things of this world and this life. Perhaps even the devil leads us to ignore reminders like this article and repeated appeals in Scripture.

We find that word "love" in 1 John 2:15 – "Do not love the world or the things in the world." Of course, we know we are not to do that. But do we? Look at your day. Look at your week.

How much of it is devoted to "the things in the world" and how much is devoted to the things of God? The rest of the verse says, "If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him." Are we willing to risk "the love of the Father" being in us?

Friends, let's examine ourselves. Let's make sure that the devil hasn't duped us into loving this world! —DS

Keep in Your Prayers



Pray for These PBL Members

Michael Archer	in St. Mary's Medical Center, recovering from a fall
Cherylann Banks	dealing with severe pain in her side
Jackie Creary	having another knee replacement surgery on July 22
Betty Davis	recovering from an outpatient procedure
Maria Hackshaw	has been struggling with her health
Charles Hayes	struggling with several health issues
Dick Kelley	recovering at home from major surgery
Robert Shelton	medical procedure on July 11
Isolyn Sinclair	is still dealing with a lot of pain in her ankle
Amy West	is now recovering at home



Stahia Banks, upon the passing of her brother, Tim Young, on Friday, July 5.

Ongoing Health Issues

Robin Landen	multiple health issues
John Loftis	back pain, weakness
Joel Ramirez	dialysis treatments
Sherri Richmond	multiple health issues
Henry Williams	dialysis treatments

Pray for Our Shut-Ins

Millie Ames	Daniel Johnson
Judy Carmack	Kasandra Jones
Josie Dawson	Betty Matter
Zula Garrett	Joyce Parker
Dick Haines	Leigh Puckett
Margie Hardin	Maurine Reed
Loretta Holaday	Ricky Smedley
Joan Holloway	

Pray for These Relatives of PBL Members

Russell Beliech	Stephen Beliech's brother, successful eye surgery
Roy Knowles	Charlene Knowles' husband, skin cancer removed
John Lord	David Lord's father, has prostate cancer
Juanita Morgan	Adelene Honore's sister, recovering from surgery
John Nash	Rosa Nash's husband, ICU in Good Samaritan Hospital
Greg Ryan	Lynne Jorgensen's son, cancer, surgery again soon

Remember Our Mission Works

Pacific Islands
Robert & Mary Martin
Wayne & Kristi Parker

Africa
Nnanna Aforji
Tamuka Arunashe

Bahamas
Tavaro & Shameika Hanna

United States
Apologetics Press
Robert C. Lupo
Mauricio & Kayla Yegros

Answering Macedonian Calls
Josh & Cara Blackmer



Church Family Calendar of Events

Monday, July 15

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

Tuesday, July 16

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

Wednesday, July 17

- ♦ **Summer Series: "When Your Name Is Called Twice"** at 7:00 p.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet in the Auditorium. Terry Frizzell will be speaking on "Moses, Moses - A Call to Lead."

Sunday, July 21

- ♦ **EDP Meeting** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room.

Wednesday, July 24

- ♦ **Summer Series: "When Your Name Is Called Twice"** at 7:00 p.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet in the Auditorium. Grant Fuller will be speaking on "Jacob, Jacob - A Call to Assurance."

Saturday, July 27

- ♦ **PBL Ladies' Prayer Meeting** at 1:00 p.m. in the Family Room. See Maria Hackshaw for more details.

Sunday, July 28

- ♦ **Gift Cards for Mount Dora Children's Home Begins.** Please bring Publix, Wal-Mart or Wawa gift cards by Sunday, September 1.
- ♦ **Wedding Shower for Rachel Byerly & Andrew Jenkins** at 4:30 p.m. in the Family Room. They are registered at www.theknot.com. Gift cards for Amazon, Home Depot and Wal-Mart are appreciated.

Monday-Wednesday, July 29-31

- ♦ **Vacation Bible School hosted by West Broward** each night from 6:30-8:15 p.m. This year's theme is "Jonah: Second Chances." There will be classes for all ages. Register online at www.wbcofc.org.

Wednesday, July 31

- ♦ **Summer Series: "When Your Name Is Called Twice"** at 7:00 p.m. Jr. High, Sr. High and adults will meet in the Auditorium. Gale Nelson will be speaking on "Abraham, Abraham - A Call to Faith."

Palm Beach Lakes church of Christ **Young Adults**

Saturday, August 3

- ♦ **Young Adult Bible Study & Game Night** at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Trish Clark. See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday, August 9

- ♦ **Ladies & Lattes** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Mary Brown. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited to fellowship and grow together in God's word. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert. See Casey Bound for more details.

Saturday, September 7

- ♦ **Young Adult Day Retreat.** Mark your calendar and plan to attend! See Ivan Villard for details.

Friday, September 13

- ♦ **Ladies & Lattes** at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Reanna Lupo. All PBL women in Grades 9 and up are invited to fellowship and grow together in God's word. Coffee and tea will be provided. Please bring a dessert. See Casey Bound for more details.



Palm Beach Lakes **Youth**

Sunday-Saturday, July 14-20

- ♦ **Forever Camp at CFBC** for Age 10-Grade 12. Please keep the counselors, staff and campers in your prayers this week.

Saturday-Wednesday, July 20-24

- ♦ **Upward Bound at CFBC** for Grades 9-12. Register online at www.cfbiblecamp.org.

Saturday, July 27

- ♦ **Picnic for Grades 5 & Under** at 4:00 p.m. at the church building. See Ivan or Amber Villard for details.

Monday-Wednesday, July 29-31

- ♦ **Vacation Bible School hosted by West Broward** each night from 6:30-8:15 p.m. This year's theme is "Jonah: Second Chances." There will be classes for all ages. Register online at www.wbcofc.org.

Friday, August 2

- ♦ **Jr. High & Sr. High Hangout.** Location and time TBD. See Robert Lupo for details.

Can a Sheep Stray from the Fold?

by Wayne Jackson



"A friend of mine insists that a Christian can never fall away from the grace of God so as to be lost. One of the Bible verses that she uses in support of this idea is in John's Gospel, chapter 10, verses 27-28. 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: and I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand' [KJV]. Would you comment on this passage?"

The Gospel of John is a very selective piece of literature relative to the events of Jesus' earthly ministry. John fills in some of the "blanks" that the other Gospel writers purposely leave because of the particular design of their records. For example, John's account of the Lord's visit to Jerusalem at the time of "the feast of the dedication" (Jn. 10:22ff) is unique to his narrative. On that occasion, the Savior uttered these words: "My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me" (Jn. 10:27).

There are some extremely important thoughts here that qualify the promise subsequently made.

First, it is clear from the overall context that the term "sheep" is here employed of those who are the Lord's disciples. They are plainly set in contrast to the hostile Jews who, though they had been exposed to ample information concerning Jesus' identity, nonetheless did not believe on him, hence, refused to follow him (see Jn. 10:25).

Second, one must take note of how the sheep are precisely described. This is crucial because the character of the sheep emphasizes why they are secure.

My Sheep Hear My Voice

First, the sheep hear the shepherd's voice. "Hear" is from *akouo* signifying a sheep who listens. The word is found fifty-eight times in John's Gospel. In this context, as with many others, it denotes an obedient listening to Jesus (Thayer, 23). Too, the verb is in the Greek present tense, which suggests not a spasmodic interest but a sustained determination to do the Lord's will.

My Sheep Follow Me

Those who hear the shepherd's voice follow him. This verb translates a compound term, *akolouthéo*, which contains the two ideas of "likeness" and "way." It pictures one who is walking or traveling in the same direction.

In the four Gospel records, the word occurs seventy-seven times. Significantly, seventy-six of these have to do with following Christ! Again, it is a present tense form. Thus, the meaning is if we may paraphrase: "The one who keeps on listening [obeying] Jesus Christ, will find himself continuing in the same direction as his Shepherd."

The Sheep Have Free Will

The text does not claim that the sheep have no volition, no power of choice. Clearly, they do. They voluntarily hear and follow. Accordingly, if they continue in this course of sustained fidelity, no one will be able to "pluck" or "snatch" (ASV) them from the Lord's hand. The term "snatch" is from the Greek *harpazo*, which carries the idea of "to grab or seize suddenly so as to remove or gain control" (Danker, 134). It is used here in the sense of taking someone captive by force (cf. Jn. 6:15; Acts 23:10).

Can anyone force the child of God to abandon his Savior? The answer is, "No." But can the Christian voluntarily surrender his own faith and forfeit his hope of eternal life? He certainly can, and there is ample Bible evidence establishing this sad reality.

Sources

Danker, F. W., et al., 2000. *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Chicago: University of Chicago.

Thayer, J. H. 1958. *Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Edinburgh: T. & T. Clark.

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

Members Traveling
this week



Thank You
for worshipping with us

Sunday,
July 7

LOCAL VISITORS: Mr. Huderson Aldonza; Mrs. Astrid Arevalo; Mr. & Mrs. Thomas & Young DiNetta; Mrs. Sherry Douglas; Mr. Lawrence Gilmore; Ms. Dorothy Pernell; Mr. Bernard Santini; Mr. Joshua Tull; and Mr. Terry West.

OUT-OF-TOWN VISITORS: Ms. Elsie Burdeos, Butuan City, Philippines; Mr. & Mrs. Rod & Christie Cable, Sparks, NV; Miss Amy Cable, Sparks, NV; Mrs. Kinsey Deming, South Bend, IN; Mr. & Mrs. Mark & Elsa Lester, Orlando, FL; Mrs. Cathy Payne, Oneida, TN; Ms. Darlene Smith, Valdosta, GA; Mr. & Mrs. Gary & Shantay Williams, Hialeah, FL; and Mrs. Aleksandra Wolek, Poland.

Birthdays & Anniversaries
This Week

Sunday, July 14th
Kasandra Jones

Thursday, July 18th (cont.)
Carolina Beliech

Monday, July 15th
Robert & Norma Mariano (Ann.)

Friday, July 19th
David & Traci Sproule (Ann.)
Jeff Leslie

Tuesday, July 16th
Jim Davis

Saturday, July 20th
Gorman Ericksen

Thursday, July 18th
Chuck & Marisa Reeves (Ann.)

Thank You

Thank you, church family, for your prayers, cards and calls over the past four months of Zula's health issues. They meant so very much to all of us! Mom is improving slowly, and we are grateful to God for his providing during the difficult days.

In Him,

David & Skye Brown and Zula Garrett

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, July 14

Opening Prayer Jeff Leslie
Singing Gary Friedly
Contribution Ivan Villard
Scripture Reading Jimmie Banks
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Lord's Supper
Singing
Closing Prayer James Green

Serve at Table:

Kirk Crews	Cayden Scriven
Connor Goodale	Joseph Snyder
Graysen Hayes	Cristian Suarez
Islay Rodriguez	Marty Williams
Vincent Rogers	

Sunday Evening, July 14

Singing Stephen Beliech
Opening Prayer John Hoelzer
Scripture Reading Jim Rogers
Singing
Lord's Supper Joe Maloney
Contribution
Singing
Sermon
Singing
Closing Prayer Mike Archer

Serve at Table:

Jack Holoman John Patrick

Audio this week: David Brown

Computer this week: Israel Cuevas

Video this week: Scott Studer

Wednesday Evening, July 17

Singing Ivan Villard
Invitation Paul Metzkes
Family Prayer Jeff Goodale

Our Record

Attendance	July 7	June Avg
Sun. Bible Study	171	146
Sun. AM Worship	271	258
Sun. PM Worship	112	108
Wed. Bible Study	130	138
Contribution	\$17,669	\$17,380

2024 Weekly Budget: \$16,452

Y-T-D Contribution-to-Budget: \$22,310

Service Coordinator:
Eugene Williams

Ushers for this week: Lance Collier & Michael Erickson
Safety Team for this week: Lawrence Williams



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: **David & Natalie Perez**

SO SHALL **MY WORD** BE
THAT GOES OUT FROM MY MOUTH;

IT SHALL NOT RETURN TO ME EMPTY, BUT IT SHALL ACCOMPLISH THAT WHICH I PURPOSE, AND
**SHALL SUCCEED IN THE
THING FOR WHICH I SENT IT.**

ISAIAH 55:11