

The Ripley Reminder



RIPLEY CHURCH OF CHRIST

1300 HALL DRIVE-RIPLEY, MS 38663

PHONE:662-837-9011

WEBSITE: www.rmschurchofchrist.com

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study..... 9:30 AM

Sunday Morning 10:20 AM

Sunday Evening 5:00 PM

Wednesday Evening..... 7:00 PM

MINISTERS

Dr. Donnie DeBord

Cole Chapman

Tucker Shapley

ELDERS

David Cook

Michael Harrison

Mark Martindale

DEACONS

Ronald Chapman

Rob Elliott

Shane Green

David Hudson

Sonny Meeks

Brad Pounders

Nathan Robertson

Kenny Schmitz

Justin Thompson

Benny Wallis

Bruce Wallis

BULLETIN

Announcements 662-837-9011

E-mail.....rmschurchofchrist@gmail.com

Reservations



2026 GRADUATES

Hayden Kuhl

Sophie DeBord

Tanner Alsup

Colee Stroupe

Josh Gowdy

Colton Wilbanks

Abbey Cloninger

These students will be honored May 3rd after our morning worship service.

LET'S TAKE A MINUTE. . .

PRESIDENT JEFFERSON'S BIBLE

“All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

The Life and Morals of Jesus of Nazareth, commonly known as The Jefferson Bible, was created by our third President, Thomas Jefferson who had the reputation as an inventor and tinkerer. It was his own translation of the Scriptures as he included only the passages he deemed most important.

With the use of a razor and scissors, Jefferson carefully cut out portions of the text from a full edition of the Bible and pasted the pieces in a sequence consisting only of the moral teachings of Jesus. This resulted in a ‘new testament’ of his own creation. None of the Lord’s miraculous deeds, such as His healings, calming of the sea, walking on water, nor His resurrection and ascension, were included in his new collection of passages! Instead, The Jefferson Bible was his own, personal, interpretation of the Scriptures which he chose to include in it.

Jefferson’s ‘homemade bible’ was created for the President’s own private use and kept secret for decades. This from a man who spent a lifetime grappling with, and doubting, religion. The 84- page book is on display at the Smithsonian Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

Paul said that “All Scripture is given by inspiration of God!” It follows that no man has the right to deny, change, distort, cut up, reject, or in any other way, change its wording to suit his preconceived conclusions! Mankind is warned not to “add to, nor take away” from that which is written! (Deut. 4:2; Rev. 22:18-19)

An old adage, often quoted, says: “God and His word are right, and if we differ from them, we are wrong!” This is the confidence any honest man or woman must have in their approach to God’s sacred Word! Even as Samuel said in I Samuel 3:7: “Speak Lord, Thy servant heareth!”

My minute’s up!

James A. Horton

Should I Think About God?

If God is incomprehensible, should I work to know about God? Instead of investing energy in concepts which cannot be grasped, perhaps our time should be devoted to learning and practicing good behavior for a better society. Some have even said that we shouldn't invest in study and reflection on the fundamental nature of God since, according to them, the divine nature has little impact on salvation or morality.

In the 17th century, for example, Francis Turretin said of some prominent groups, "they let go the whole of religion as to fundamentals, the knowledge of mysteries being excluded. Evidently their object is this: to take away the necessity of the knowledge of the doctrines of the Trinity, incarnation, etc. and thus more easily to pave the way to a common religion (i.e., to atheism) by which all promiscuously may be saved." Interestingly, Turretin argued that a religion without a focus on the fundamentals of the divine nature is akin to atheism. Such a system would be an attempt to provide morality without the Giver of the law.

Not long after Turretin's time, rationalism, as a worldview, took over. The hyper focus on human reason and what can be grasped by human reason led to a new version of Christianity practiced without a dependence on the revelation of Scripture or the Revealer of Scripture. This system led to empty ritualism and then finally to a mass exodus of former practitioners who knew no God to adore, value, trust, or obey.

Perhaps, meditation on God and his nature is the most practical activity we might undertake. Jesus invites us to "learn of me" (Matt. 11:29). Again, Jesus said "eternal life" is to know the Father and the Son who was sent (Jn. 17:3). Without a knowledge of God gained from revelation, we will undoubtedly create a god in our image who is blasphemously inferior to the true God who wants us to know him. We would be guilty of having access to the knowledge of God but not honoring him as God and we would fall into the darkening of our own senseless minds without the true knowledge of God (Rom. 1:21).

When reading your Bible, perhaps we should ponder what God reveals about himself in that text. Perhaps we should focus on God rather than ourselves. With this God centered orientation, perhaps our lives and loves might finally be rightly ordered.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

- Paul Macaluso is recovering at home following a stay in the hospital with what his doctor said was a bout with diverticulitis. Please pray that he heals completely soon.

Please keep these in your thoughts and prayers:

Susan Ainsworth, Ann Akins, Ali Rae Barkley, Pattie Box, Annette Brooks, Dianne Butler, Wade Carmichael, Cora Chills, Alice Cross, Paula Dowty, Roger Cunningham, Grevil Flores, Chris Grisham, Ann Izard, Kenny James, James Johnston, James Allen Johnston, Johnnie Jumper, David Lipe, Billy Hugh McBryde, Donald McTizi, Sharon Monson, Steve Robinson, Jan Rooker, Brandie Rutgers, Carol Smith, Trey Smith, Anna Hearn Thompson, Peggy Wallis, Austin Wentz, Jimmy Willingham
Diversicare: Terri Barkley C-9, Cindy Holly D-8

NEWS & NOTES

- Our weekly fellowship meals will be paused for the summer. Meals will resume in the fall.
- Andy and Sharon Clemmer have placed membership with our congregation. Be sure that you introduce yourself and make them feel welcome .
- This Sunday the graduating seniors of our congregation will be honored with a catered fellowship meal. All food will be provided. Group 2 will be the hostesses.
- The new ladies Bible class being taught by April Pounders will move to the fellowship hall because they have outgrown their classroom.
- There will be a L2L’s Recognition/Kickoff Ice-Cream Supper on May 17th after evening services. Everyone is encouraged to attend. A sign-up sheet will be placed in the foyer.
- Freed Hardeman University will present a CHURCH LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP May 1-May 2 hosted by Gloster Street Church of Christ. See flyer posted in foyer for schedules.
- Cole Chapman, Caroline Chapman, and Sophie DeBord will be traveling to El Salvadore this summer on a mission trip. If you would like to aid them in doing this good work, donations can be given to one of our Elders. Please pray that they have a safe and successful trip.
- Heather and Isla Shappley will care for the nursery during our worship services.

Worship Service May 3, 2026

Welcome.....	Donnie DeBord
Song Leader AM.....	Dan Shappley
Opening Prayer AM.....	Sonny Meeks
Read Scripture.....	Tucker Orman
Lord’s Supper AM.....	Michael Harrison
Assisting at the Lord’s Table AM.....	Mike Hudson, Damon Mock, Justin Luster
.....	David Hudson, Rodney Chapman, Scott Kuhl
Closing Prayer AM.....	Caleb James
Song Leader PM.....	Tucker Shappley
Opening Prayer PM.....	Palmer Jones
Lord’s Supper PM.....	Hayden Kuhl
Closing Prayer PM.....	Timmy DeBord