Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM Speaker, Robert Emerson Study Sunday 10:00 AM

Worship Sunday Morn Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM Singing every 2nd Sunday evening Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers to dwell together in unity!" —Psalm 133:1



Preacher / bulletin editor: Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

11:00 AM

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Servants during July:

Songleader: David (7/26), Peter (8/2), Chandler (9), Stanley (16), Larry (23), David (30)

Reading: Stanley **Announcements:** Marty

Table: Larry, Chandler, Mike, Robert

Wednesday Lesson: Stanley (7/29), Kris (8/5), Stanley (12), Larry (19), Kris (26)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): Kris (7/26), Marty (8/2), Stanley (9), Robert (16), Larry (23), Kris (30)

Hays Mill church of Christ

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By Bob Craig

The Jews in Jerusalem were displeased when they saw their own people forsaking the Law of Moses and embracing the Christ. Their displeasure was manifested in their persecution of these people. This persecution became so severe that many fled the city and went into the surrounding territories of Judea and Samaria. And the record says in Acts 8:4 [KJV], "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went every where preaching the word."

Persecution has never hindered God's people from preaching the truth. Christians were first persecuted by the Jews. This ceased when Jerusalem and the temple were destroyed in 70 AD. Nero instigated persecution against Christians about 64 AD. and it continued, intermittently, until 313 when Constantine handed down the Edict of Milan giving all religions freedom from persecution.

When persecution ceased, apostasy flourished and produced the Roman Catholic Church which in turn brought forth the Protestant denominational situation we are surrounded with today.

But these Christians of Acts 8:4 did not go everywhere in the known world of their day. "...[T]hey were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria..." Acts 8:1. So I think it can be more accurately stated that "Everywhere they went they

preached the word," [in accord with how the NASB translates that passage: "those who had been scattered went about preaching the word." —KSV]

And that's the way it should be today. We are not obligated to go everywhere but everywhere we do go, we are obligated to preach the word.

Question: are we doing that? Answer: No! Question: why not? Answer: perhaps because we have flourished. 🕮

it so easy. No persecution. No need for defending the word so we don't do it. We expect the government to pass moral laws to do our work. But everywhere THEY went, they preached the word and because of their work, they continued to be persecuted until Constantine and then, protection by the government and apostasy

"those who do right," without legislating against evil and in favor of good?

We can and must write. promote and enforce laws based on what is morally right. We must penalize immorality, so far as possible. God calls for "the punishment of evildoers" and "the praise of those who do right."

The truth is that law, as well as peer pressure, certainly helps to shape our culture's sense of morality: consider: just a few years ago, it would not have been unusual for a child to roam the backseat in a car, or even be in his parents lap in the front seat—now, it seems unthinkable! And who would have thought that a mask would become a "moral" issue?

The only choice we really have is whose morality upon which our laws are to be based: Hitler's? Marx's? Mohammed's? ...Or will we base our laws on the word of the God who created us, knows what is best for us, and truly loves us? —KSV 🕮

Evil has no power if the good are unafraid. — Ronald Reagan

"You Can't Legislate Morality"

By Warren E. Berkley

Of course, if we are talking about making people change and adopt godly values merely by acts of legislation, it is true that morality cannot be legislated. Legislation doesn't necessarily or automatically change a person's basic values and attitudes. Yet, our civil laws should reflect correct principles of morality!

Two fundamental functions of civil government (as ordained by God) are: first, the punishment of evildoers; and second, the praise who do right, those 2:13,14. Pet How can government identify, apprehend, and try "evildoers," without laws against evil doing? How can government praise and protect

Are We Ashamed?

By Whit Sasser

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation," Rom 1:16.

When churches try to lure people to their services by means of gimmicks and big promotions, they make a big mistake. Bingo parties, musical entertainment, films, dinners and such like, only cheapen the gospel in the minds of thinking people. A bigger attendance may be the short-term effect, but less respect for God is the long-term effect. If you gain souls by carnal means, then carnal means will be needed to hold them. The gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of GOD unto salvation, and though fewer may respond to it, salvation is only therein. 🕮

Remember in Prayer &

Stanley's uncle, Eugene, has contracted covid-19, and is in isolation in Limestone Health Facility. Michael Mitchell was exposed to the virus, but has tested negative. **Shane's aunt's** neck surgery has been put off for now due to heart concerns. Please continue to pray for Lois Adams, Madelene Britnell, Carolyn Dennis, Tim and Dot Hice, Bernice Osburn, and **Polly McNatt**...