

### Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM  
Study Sunday 10:00 AM  
Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM  
Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM  
*Singing every 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday evening*  
Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

### Preacher / bulletin editor:

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“Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, **let us press on to maturity**, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God,”

—Hebrews 6:1



### Servants during October:

**Songleader:** Stanley (1), Larry (8), Stanley (15), Larry (22), Stanley (29)

**Reading:** Mike M

**Announcements:** Stanley

**Table:** Larry, Mike M, Marty, Stanley

**Wednesday Lesson:** Kris (4), Larry (11), Stanley (18), Kris (25)

**Lawn Mowing (week starting):** Kris (1), Marty (8), Stanley (15), Larry (22), Kris (29)

**Area Meetings:** Elgin Hills (Rogersville), Leon Mauldin, 10/8-11; Fourth St (Cullman), Cody Hairston, 10/8-12; Tharptown, Daniel Parrish, 10/8-12; Somerville Road (Decatur), David Cox, 10/15-18; Jackson Dr, Greg Chandler, 10/15-20

### Hays Mill church of Christ

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# The Bible . Examiner

“Examine everything carefully...” —1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

Volume 6

October 8, 2023

Number 18

# SHALLER! SHALLER!

by Robert F. Turner

My grandfather once described a certain preacher with two words (of his country dialect): “Shaller! Shaller!!” In case you city folk do not recognize those words, they say there was **no depth** to the man.

We must not confuse muddy water with depth, and we cannot expect all saints to be master theologians; but to “press on to maturity” (Heb 5:12-6:2) involves putting the surface pieces of Bible information together, **and** digging out the basic principles God would have us know. We are vulnerable to “kooky” interpretations of detail in close proportion to our failure to grasp the basic underlying truths.

God expresses His grace toward man “in Christ” (Eph 1, 2, 3), a principle clearly taught. When He gave His Son to die for us, He established the realm in which, and the means by which the individual

may be partaker of His grace. If this was clearly taught and understood we would erase much of the speculation concerning “grace” as a sort of Watkins liniment to be rubbed on at the 11th hour; or an “enabling power” God sends to indwell certain ones (the elect?).

The “church” is God’s **herd, flock, covey**, etc., of people who put their trust in Christ, looking to Him as Lord and Savior. Centuries of history have wed us to the idea of “church” as a **society** in which blessings are stored or dispensed by the administrators; a society which must validate baptism, the Lord’s Supper, and even the proclamation of truth. This confusion over the **nature** of “church” continues to lead us into problems.

Extremes range from a denial of the “entity” of a local church, to putting the local church in

practically the same position Romanism puts the universal church. We must better understand the N.T. use of “church” before we can work out many details.

Justification by faith, a solidly based Bible principle (Rom 3, 4; Gal 2:16-3:29) has been smothered beneath negations of “faith only,” Old and New Covenant confusion, and evangelical ideas of depravity and imputation. Until we get the basic idea of justification by faith

straightened out in our heads, we will run wildly about, striking at this or that error of detail, but leaving our brethren shaken and dazed as respects principles.

Free-will, Direct Relation of Man to God, Ultimate Authority, the Role of Conscience, Judgment, and other like topics must be given our careful study. Our pride, and “know it all” attitudes must give way to “seeking” (Mt 7:7) or we will remain **SHALLER!**

—via Plain Truth, Sept, 1980 

# Prepare to Meet Thy God

by Kevin O'Banion

In Matthew 24:42,44 Jesus tells his disciples to “Therefore be on the alert, for you do not know which day your Lord is coming. ...For this reason you also must be ready...” Paul echoes this thought when he writes, “so then let us not sleep as others do, but let us be alert and sober,” 1 Thess 5:6. And John records the words of Christ in Revelation 22:12, “Behold, I am coming quickly, and My reward is with Me, to render to every man according to what he has done.”

These verses, as well as others, remind us of the inevitability of meeting God in judgment. As the song states, “There’s a great day coming...”

and it seems that the vast majority of humanity is failing to prepare for that day. James warns us that this physical life is too uncertain to go unprepared to meet our Maker, Jas 4:14. If we wish to have an eternal home with God, we must begin our preparation now.


We cannot begin to make significant preparation to meet God in judgment until we have developed the proper attitude. Solomon points out that our attitude determines what we do or say. In Proverbs he writes, “For as he thinks within himself, so he is,” and “Watch over your heart with all diligence, For from it flow the

springs of life,” Prov 23:7; 4:23. Christ also emphasizes this truth when he says, “...the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart,” Mt 12:34. If our **actions** are to be pleasing to God, we must set our **hearts** “...to study the law of the LORD and to practice it...” Ezra 7:10. Our attitude should be “Speak, for Your servant is listening,” 1 Sam 3:10. If we develop within ourselves the desire to serve God, our actions will reflect this desire. We will remain steadfast in our preparation by continuing to learn all we can concerning God’s will.

David’s **attitude** motivated him to meditate on God’s law day and night, Psa 1:2. Because of his desire to serve God, the Psalmist exclaimed, “Teach me, O LORD, the way of Your statutes,” Psa 119:33. David knew that God’s word was the **only** guide which could prepare him to meet his Creator. The Bereans, in Acts 17:11, were aware of this fact, so they were “examining the Scriptures daily.” Also, Paul instructed Timothy to “give attention to the public reading of

Scripture, to exhortation and teaching,” 1 Tim 4:13f. All of these men had a desire to serve God. This **attitude** motivated them to prepare to meet their God.

When we finally meet God in judgment, our attitude will greatly influence the outcome. Countless numbers will be lost because their hearts, or attitudes, are not right. Precious souls will be left outside the marriage feast crying “Lord, lord, open up for us,” Mt 25:1f—they thought they had a little more time. Many, because of a selfish attitude, will be asked, “now who will own what you have prepared?” Lk 12:16f—they desired to serve themselves rather than God. You know what your attitude is—you know whether or not you are striving to serve God to the best of your ability. If your attitude and service to God is not what it should be, remember the words of Amos 4:12—“Prepare to meet your God”!

—via Plain Truth, Mar, 1980 

## Remember in Prayer

Please continue to pray for **Betty; Carolyn; Dot; John, Sylvia, and Paige Pollard; Joyce; Mike, Deborah, and Serenity; Pam and Julie.**

Both the apostles Paul and John knew the power of prayer, as they would pray for others, and others to pray for them. For instance, Paul:

“Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me,” Rom 15:30; and John: “Beloved, I pray that in all respects you may prosper and be in good health, just as your soul prospers,” 3 Jn 2. Brethren: pray! 