## Wildwood Church of Christ

Theme for 2021 Step By Step: Grow With Jesus May 2, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Song #583 I Am Thine O Lord Song #576 More Holiness Give Me Prayer Song #349 I Believe In Jesus The Lord's Supper

Song #586 More About Jesus Sermon Song #923 There's A Great Day Coming Song #5 Step By Step

# The Intermediate State of the Dead

To help us better understand the judgment to come, one of the questions that many people have is "Where are the dead?" Many refer to this as the "the intermediate state of the dead." In the religious world, there are four views concerning the state of the dead.

\* The first one is <u>Soul Sleeping</u>: They believe the soul exists in a deep coma between death and the resurrection. Scriptures to help your understanding and to refute such a false dogma of the unconscious state: Luke 16:19-31 (note\*vs.22-28); Job 14:22; Revelation 6:9-11; Isaiah 14:9-11; Matthew 17:1-3; Luke 9:30-31; 1Peter 3:19

\* The second view is <u>semi-intermediate state revision</u>: They teach that at Jesus' ascension, the upper sector of Hades, Paradise (Abraham's bosom) was taken up to Heaven. Scriptures that counter this belief are: 2Corinthians 5:10-11; Acts 3:20-21; 1Thessalonians 4:13-18; John 14:3.

\* The third is the <u>limbo-purgatory hypothesis</u>: According to Roman Catholic theology, the souls of the dead are assigned forthwith to limbo, Purgatory or Hell. (The Catholic Encyclopedia, vol.XII, pg.575.) Scriptures that refute this hypothesis are: Luke 16:19-21; Romans 14:11-12.

\* The fourth view is the <u>Sheol-Hades</u> found in the Bible. This biblical view follows closely the implication of the parable of the rich man and Lazarus. The state of the rich man and Lazarus mentioned in the parable are interpreted as intermediate states, not the final states for either the just or the unjust. The words Sheol and Hades have the same exact equivalent: The realm of disembodied spirits. Here are the reasons why Paradise was not yet in Heaven: Jesus, on the day of His death, journeys with the penitent thief to Paradise – Luke 23:43. The scripture states that the Lord did not ascend to His heavenly Father – John 20:17 – "I am not yet ascended to My Father." Jesus, therefore, did not yet go to Heaven during the interval of His death. That means that Paradise, as it contemplates the state of the blessed dead, is not Heaven. During the period of His death, the Lord was in Hades (see Acts 2:27, 31), and He was in Paradise. Therefore, this means that Paradise is in Hades, and the Lord was not in Heaven yet. To further help you grow in your knowledge about this subject, a chart has been provided for your own personal study.

### Prayer List

Our sister **Peggy Murphy** was in the hospital again but is home now. Her blood pressure went extremely high again and she is struggling with her health issues. She is feeling some better now and her blood pressure has come down a little.

**Flossie Sands** is having an ultrasound done of some lymph nodes on May 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Jeanette Harris** had her last chemo treatment and she will have a CT scan done on the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. She then goes to the doctor on the 18<sup>th</sup> to see when they will start radiation treatments. Jeanette sends her love and thanks for all the cards, calls and prayers.

We are so thankful to God that **Alicia Barrett** is able to be back at services with us after her stroke! **David Deason,** the Yarborough's son-in-law, is not doing well. He had an MRI and the cancer has gone deeper into the tissue that protects the brain. He will be having more radiation. David and his family need our prayers.

**Teresa Broyle,** Charles Wright's daughter, has been battling cancer and the cancer has now spread throughout her body. She needs the many prayers of the church family.

**Remember**: Shirley Threet; Alicia Barrett; Dale Jones; Linda Grove; Marlin Kilpatrick; Charlotte Martin; Martha Pope; Millie Tudor; Joyce Freeman; Ken Scott; Leigh Workman; Richard Menninger; Joyce Albert; Larry Hyder; Lew & Dorcas Faulkner; Teresa Broyle; Levi Cook; David Deason

#### **Announcements**

~ It is **so good** to see many of our members able to come back to services after dealing with Covid for over a year! What an encouragement to be together again and worship our God in unity and spirit and truth! With this in mind, we would ask for **all** to please be thoughtful of some who are dealing with various illnesses and need to be careful. We ask that everyone still wear your mask until you are seated and to please keep your social distance. Let us all be respectful of each other and enjoy our worship and fellowship together.

**~ Did you know . . .** that our brother Jamie McCartney puts the bulletin on our website every week? And the sermons are also on the website for you to enjoy. You do not have to have Facebook to watch the lessons. Once they are uploaded on our website which is usually by later Sunday afternoon, you will be able to watch them. Check out our website at: <u>www.hischurch.faith</u>

∼ It is time to bring your "Change for Children" cans so we have them ready when someone from the children's home to pick them up. They will be here sometime next week.

**\*\*FISH FRY: Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup>** for the **Central Florida Bible Camp** – A work day to prepare for summer camp will start at 8:00a.m. to 1:00p.m. then the Fish Fry will be served from 1:00-2:30. Please come and support the camp by helping with the work day then enjoy some delicious food and fellowship. Please RSVP for work day and/or fish fry: <u>cfbiblecamp@gmail.com</u> or call (352) 357-6316. There are more details on the bulletin board.

**~ Cody & Shelbie Hileman** have moved into a new house. Please make the address change in your directory: 5760 County Road 547, Bushnell, FL 33513

The Member Update Forms are in the foyer again. If you have not already filled one out and even if your information has not changed, please fill out a form and put it in the basket. We are keeping these on file to update our directory and to finish our pocket directories. Thank you so much.
Lew and Dorcas Faulkner's new address will be: The Enclave Senior Living, 2351 Oakmont Drive, #308, Round Rock, TX 78665-1609 Their cell phone numbers will be the same.

~ Ladies Day, May 8<sup>th</sup> at the Sanford Church of Christ. The sign-up list is on the table in the foyer. Continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. More details are on the bulletin board.

**Pantry Items** - Cooking Oil

#### May Birthdays

Lew Faulkner-2; Edra Nell Courtney-2; Gavin Mikeals-5; Leigh Workman-10; Mike Whisenant-14; Aly Blankenship-15; Samantha Stone-18; Lena Thayer-22; Taylor Williams-22; Joyce Prather-23; Chris Hallmark-26; Sam Costa-26; Cindy Pope-30; Debbie Bunch-31; Derek Fort-31 May Anniversaries

Chuck & Charity Stambaugh-2; David & Sarah Myers-27