

# The South Florida Avenue MESSENGER

**A Friendly Church With a Vital Message Proclaiming the Unsearchable Riches of the Lord Jesus.**  
The Messenger is published weekly by the South Florida Ave. Church of Christ meeting at 1807 South Florida Ave - Lakeland, FL 33803 Vol. 70 No. 02 01-10-17

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## SUNDAY SERVICES

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.  
Worship.....10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship.....6:00 p.m.

## WEDNESDAY

Ladies Class.....10:00 a.m.  
Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

## HOME OF

Florida School of Preaching

## MISSION FIELDS

Dub Hill.....Russia  
Don Iverson.....India  
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Graham McDonald..Scotland  
J. Paguaga.....Honduras, C.A.  
Joey Treat.....Pacific Islands  
Ted Wheeler.....Ghana, W.A.

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IN  
**SEARCH**  
OF THE LORD'S WAY

Sundays @ 8:30 a.m. Check local listings

## All "Love" Does Not "Win"

Brian R. Kenyon

"Love Wins" is a popular cultural slogan. While this phrase is true when qualified by God's love (cf. 1 Cor. 13:13), it is often applied to include sinful love. Yes, some "love" is forbidden by God. Consider what God through John, the "apostle of love," taught.

**Loving the World Does Not Win** John wrote, "Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. <sup>16</sup> For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—is not of the Father but is of the world. <sup>17</sup> And the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever" (Jn. 2:15-17). The "world," as John often uses it, refers to humanity (Jn. 3:16). This "world" rejected Christ (Jn. 1:10); hated Jesus (Jn. 7:7; 1 Jn. 3:13); is ruled by Satan (Jn. 12:31; 14:30; Rev. 12:19); and hates the disciples of Christ (Jn. 15:19).

Love of the world and love of the Father are totally incompatible (2:15-16 cf. Jas. 4:4; Mt. 6:24). The "world," in this sense, has nothing spiritually valuable to offer. "Lust of the flesh" refers to carnal desires for things God does not approve (cf. Ex. 20:17). "Lust of the eyes" are carnal desires activated by what a person sees (cf. Gen. 3:6; Josh. 7:21). "Pride of life" is undo attachment to possession and/or the desire for something God has not willed. "Pride" refers to arrogance (cf. Rom. 1:30; 2 Tim. 3:2; Jas. 4:16) and "life" refers to life in its present concrete manifestation. Those who are characterized by the elements in this "love" do not win because the "world" attached to them "is passing away, and the lust of it"! The only winner is the one "who does the will of God [because he] abides forever"!

**Loving Darkness Does Not Win** John wrote, "And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup> For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed" (Jn. 3:19-20). The "light" that has come into the world is the revelation of God brought by Jesus (Jn. 1:4-5 cf. Jn. 8:12; 12:35-36, 46), but the "world," and even His own people, rejected Him (Jn. 1:10-11). "Darkness" in John's writing carries the idea of ignorance and/or sinfulness, the opposite of God's revelation (cf. 1 Jn. 1:5-7). Why do people reject the "light"? They love to practice evil. Although we live in a world of blatant, unashamed sinfulness, evil doers generally still prefer the cover of darkness! The reason why those who love "darkness" are losers is because unrepentant evildoers will have no part with God in eternity (cf. Ps. 37:9; 101:8; 1 Cor. 6:9-10; Rev. 21:8). The only winner here is the one "who does the truth" because he or she is the one who "comes to the light" (Jn. 3:21)!

**Loving This Life More Than Eternal Life Does Not Win** John recorded the words of Jesus, "He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life" (Jn. 12:25). John also wrote of God's people who "overcame" Satan "by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of (continued on bottom of page 4)

**Special Monday Forum on Youth Topics! Take Advantage of MLK, Jr. Day!**



F. Antemesaris



Stephen Atnip



Bob Bauer



George F. Beals



Brownlow-Dindy



Charles Broyles



Daniel F. Cates



Jimmy Clark



Thomas Wise



Trent Wheeler



David Stearsman



Daniel Stearsman



Bryon R. Schulz



Ty Rhymes



Walt Person



Melvin Otey



Hiram Kemp



Sam Jones



Sam Hester



David Hester



Nathan Franson

# Florida School of Preaching

1807 South Florida Avenue, Lakeland, FL 33803 ♦ (800) 320-9780

## Do You Understand The Biblical View of End Times?

42nd Annual Lectureship **Jan. 16-19, 2017** Brian R. Kenyon, Director

### MONDAY

9:00 "First Century Times" or "End Times"? Brian R. Kenyon  
 9:40 "End Times" Preaching in Acts Daniel Stearsman  
 10:20 BREAK  
 10:50 Intertestamental Expectations David Dixon  
 11:30 LUNCH

#### Forum: Living for the "Then," Not the "Now"

1:30 Your Life Matters Now and Forever Ty Rhymes  
 2:00 Esau: Living for "Now" (Heb. 12:16) Forest Antemesaris  
 2:30 Moses: Living for "Then" (Heb. 11:26) Hiram Kemp  
 3:00 BREAK  
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
 4:30 DINNER  
 6:30 Congregational Singing  
 7:00 Parable of the Virgins Thomas Wise  
 7:45 Jesus' Authority to Judge Sam Jones

### TUESDAY

9:00 "End Times" Teaching in Mt. 24 T. Brownlow-Dindy, Sr.  
 9:40 Daniel's "Seventy Weeks" Emmanuel B. Daugherty  
 10:20 BREAK  
 10:50 "End Times" in the Book of Hebrews Stephen Atnip  
 11:30 LUNCH

#### Forum: Which "End" Is What?

1:30 Is the "Shortened Time" (1 Cor. 7:29) the End? E. Edwards  
 2:00 When Does the OT End and the NT Begin? George Beals  
 2:30 Knowing the "AD 70 Doctrine" David Hester  
 3:00 BREAK  
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
 4:30 DINNER  
 6:30 Congregational Singing  
 7:00 Parable of the Talents Bryon R. Schulz  
 7:45 Judgment Scene in Revelation 20:11-15 Jimmy Clark

### WEDNESDAY

9:00 "End Times" Teaching in Luke 21:5-36 Bruce Daugherty  
 9:40 Daniel's Final Revelations Emmanuel B. Daugherty  
 10:20 BREAK  
 10:50 "End Times" in Second Thessalonians Jimmy Clark  
 11:30 LUNCH

#### Forum: "End Times" Fables of False Religion

1:30 Islam Trent Wheeler  
 2:00 Mormonism Nathan Franson  
 2:30 Jehovah's Witness Charles Broyles  
 3:00 BREAK  
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
 4:30 DINNER  
 6:30 Congregational Singing  
 7:00 Parable of the Dragnet David Stearsman  
 7:45 In View of What Is to Come Bill Davis

### THURSDAY

9:00 "End Times" Teaching in First Corinthians Earl Edwards  
 9:40 Premillennialism and Its Variations Walt Person  
 10:20 BREAK  
 10:50 The Living and the Dead at His Coming Melvin Otey  
 11:30 LUNCH

#### Forum: End Times and the Book of Revelation

1:30 Political Leaders, "Mark of the Beast," Etc. Bob Bauer  
 2:00 The 1,000 Year Reign and Premillennialism Daniel Cates  
 2:30 The Holy City John Saw Coming Down Sam Hester  
 3:00 BREAK  
 3:30 Questions And Answers On Forum Topic  
 4:30 DINNER  
 6:30 Congregational Singing  
 7:00 Parable of the Tares Hiram Kemp  
 7:45 Being Children of the Day Melvin L. Otey

**Do You Understand The Biblical View of End Times? ..... \$16**

A CD containing all our lectureship books plus other FSOP works will be ready in January for \$35

**Watch the Lectureship Live on [www.fsop.net](http://www.fsop.net)**



### Previous Lectureship Books Still Available:

- Do You Understand Sin ('16)
  - Do You Understand Jesus' Sermon on the Mount ('15)
  - Do You Understand Truth ('14)
  - Do You Understand Biblical Morality ('13)
  - Do You Understand the Local Church? ('12)
  - Do You Understand the Biblical Value of Women? ('11)
  - Do You Understand Expediency? ('10)
- Each Is Just \$16.00 + postage**

**Early Lectureship Specials: entire set of 17 available books \$100 or buy any 3 books and get a 4th free!**

# SFA FAMILY MATTERS

## Prayer List

**Our Members:** Both Melody Baxter & Cheryl Barker are sick. Bill Long is home from the hospital & recuperating at home. Nancy Jacobs has Shingles. Also, keep Jim Turner, Ginny Hamby, Jacqueline Dopwell, Joe Dopwell, Carlene Long, JoAnne Mitchell, Kenny French, JoAnn Hoback, Carol Eason and Margaret Coone in prayer.

**Relatives:** Wayne Hendrix, Tonya Mathis, Dee Moore, Margie Bolding, Blanche Dopwell, Sarah Blevins, Willie Williams, Owen Lewis and Dayne Romine.

**Shut In Members:** Virginia Plumlee, Dick & Joyce Burbage, Don Starks, Sharon Edler and Duane Nelson.

**Others:** Joyce Stearsman and Chrissi Fuesner.

## Upcoming Events

**January 14th:** Ladie's Day at the Orange Street Church of Christ in Auburndale. Registration starts at 8:00 a.m.

**January 20th:** Memorial for Jackie Stearsman at the Orange Street Church of Christ at 11:00 a.m.

**January 20th & 22nd:** Meeting at Orange St. Auburndale Church of Christ. Melvin Otey will be the speaker. See Bulletin Board for times of meeting.

**February 4th:** Ladies Day at Sebring Parkway church of Christ. See Bulletin Board for more information.

## Sympathy



We are saddened to announce that Ann Howard, 97 years of age and a faithful member of the South Florida Avenue church of Christ for many years, passed away Sunday, January 8, 2017. Visitation will be Jan. 12th at 10:00 am & funeral services will be at 11:00 am at Lakeland Funeral Home.

## Visitors

Mary Moore, Caz & Allison Cazaubon, Kathy & Jerry Bourguignon, Audra Bouldin, Mark Barber & Carl Begley,



Tune into AM 1330 (station WWAB) with your friends and neighbors every Monday from 5:00-5:30 p.m. for the "Way of Truth" program. This is a joint effort to evangelize involving Terrance Brownlow-Dindy (6th Street) and Hiram Kemp. Let's point our community to the Bible!

## SCHEDULED TO SERVE

### January

Kenny French ..... **Table** ..... Fred Strickland  
Ken Walker ..... **Assist** ..... Bobby Simpson

### Sunday, January 15, 2017

9:30 A.M.

**Song at Bible Class** ..... Jim Turner  
**Prayer** ..... Kenny French

10:30 A.M.

**Announcements** ..... Bobby Shuemaker  
**Song Leader** ..... Jason Hendrix  
**Opening Prayer** ..... Paul Romine  
**Sermon** ..... Hiram Kemp  
**Closing Prayer** ..... John McShane

6:00 P.M.

**Song Leader** ..... Casey Paulin  
**Opening Prayer** ..... Paul Romine  
**Sermon** ..... Hiram Kemp  
**Greeters** ..... The Fifes  
**Att. Cards** ..... Antonio & Paul  
**Closing Prayer** ..... David Deal  
**Open & Close Building** ..... Jason Hendrix

### Wed. January 18, 2017

**Song Leader** ..... Steve Hunley  
**Opening Prayer** ..... Phil Fife  
**Closing Prayer** ..... Ken Walker

*Please meet in the library. If you cannot serve, please call Chuck Wyatt so he can get a replacement - 859-5231 or 602-9005*

### Sunday, January 22, 2017

9:30 A.M.

**Song at Bible Class** ..... Ken Walker  
**Prayer** ..... C. J. Grimes

10:30 A.M.

**Announcements** ..... Bobby Sheumaker  
**Song Leader** ..... Jason Hendrix  
**Opening Prayer** ..... Ken Walker  
**Sermon** ..... Hiram Kemp  
**Closing Prayer** ..... Tucker Sweeney

6:00 P.M.

**Song Leader** ..... Casey Paulin  
**Opening Prayer** ..... Steve Hunley  
**Sermon** ..... Hiram Kemp  
**Greeters** ..... The Longfellow's  
**Att. Cards** ..... Paul & Ian  
**Closing Prayer** ..... Jimmy Sweeney  
**Open & Close Building** ..... Jason Hendrix

### Wed. January 25, 2017

**Song Leader** ..... Bill Long  
**Opening Prayer** ..... Jeff Bingle  
**Closing Prayer** ..... Tucker Sweeney

## ~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Dec. 18.....	\$4,170.00
Dec. 25 .....	\$5,822.73
Jan. 01.....	\$5,697.85
Jan. 08.....	\$4,834.30
<b>Contribution Average.....</b>	<b>\$5,266.08</b>
<b>2016 Weekly Budget.....</b>	<b>\$4,422.60</b>

# "This Is Going to Hurt Me More Than It Will Hurt You"

Back in the day when spanking as a form of discipline was more common, parents would sometimes say, right before the licks, "This is going to hurt me more than it will you." Children will never really fully understand the meaning of this until they have children of their own. It really breaks a parent's heart to have to firmly discipline children, especially when they, at least from their parents' perspective, should have known better than the wrong they did. The Bible clearly teaches the value of spanking when done with the right attitude (Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 22:15; 23:13; 29:15, 17). As worthy of discussion those verses from Proverbs are, from this point on, consider how God feels when we, His children, sin. God through Isaiah expressed His heartbreak: "I have nourished and brought up children, And they have rebelled against Me; The ox knows its owner And the donkey its master's crib; But Israel does not know, My people do not consider" (Isaiah 1:2-3). It was also expressed by Ezekiel: "For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies" (Ezekiel 18:31-32). Even Jesus confirmed: "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem ... How often I wanted to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, but you were not willing!" (Matthew 23:37). Although we know God's will, we sometimes willfully rebel against it. God's justice requires punishment for sin, but oh how it breaks His heart! Let us not force God's hand, but be of a "contrite spirit" and "tremble" at His word (Isaiah 66:2). ❤️ Brian



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The End of Your Search for a Friendly Church . . .

(continued from page 1) their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death" (Rev. 12:11). When people love this life more than eternal life, they will love to have the "praise of men more than the praise of God" (Jn. 12:43); they will love to have preeminence over others (3 Jn. 9); and they will love to lie (Rev. 22:15)! Obviously, people like this are losers in eternity (Eph. 5:3-7; Rev. 21:8). The winners are those who are willing to be "persecuted for righteousness' sake" (Mt. 5:10), who "hold fast" to Jesus, even to the point of death, like "Antipas ... My faithful martyr, who was killed among you" (Rev. 2:13).

## Conclusion

All "love" does not "win." Only "love" that is God-approved will stand the test of time and eternity! Do we love God enough to do what He says? "Keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life" (Jude 21).



On Saturday, Jan. 14, our youth group will begin at the Bingle's @ 4:30 pm, where appetizers and games will take place, then progress to the Sweeney's for dinner and a devo conducted by Ty Rhymes, and end at the Kenyon's for dessert and a bonfire!

We are planning again for a YES II mission trip to Penonome, Panama, July 1-9, 2017. If you want to go, please see Brian ASAP. If you would like to contribute funds, please see one of our elders. Please pray for us!

