



South Florida Avenue CHURCH OF CHRIST *MESSENGER*



1807 S. Florida Ave.,
Lakeland, FL 33803

Vol. 77 No. 43 October 24, 2023

ELDERS

David Anderson
Brian Kenyon
Bobby Sheumaker

DEACONS

Tyler Anderson
Jason Hendrix
Stacey Paulin

MINISTER

ASSOCIATE MINISTER

Vince Daugherty

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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.

WEB PAGE

SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

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Florida School of Preaching
since 1969

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MISSION FIELDS

Dub Hill Russia
Don Iverson India
Marc Veary Malawi, Africa
Graham McDonald Scotland
J. Paguaga Honduras
Ted Wheeler Ghana, W.A.

Invite Your Family, Friends & Neighbors



Spiritual Family Matters

SOUTH FLORIDA AVENUE CHURCH OF CHRIST
FALL GOSPEL MEETING

NOVEMBER 12-15, 2023

MEETING SCHEDULE

Sunday Bible Class	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 AM
Sunday Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Monday Evening	7:00 PM
Tuesday Evening	7:00 PM
Wednesday Evening	7:00 PM



Speaker: TOMMY BROOKS

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Brother Brooks is from the Highland
Heights church of Christ in Houston, Texas

Does the “Holy Land” Still Belong to Israel?

Brian R. Kenyon

With the recent attacks upon Israel by Hamas (named from an Arabic acronym that translates into “Islamic Resistance Movement”), questions again arise about Israel’s being God’s people and if that land still belongs to Israel by divine decree. Future articles will deal with whether Israel is still God’s special people. In this article, however, we will examine whether today’s Land of Palestine belongs to Israel by divine decree.

God’s Land Promises Were Fulfilled

God’s promise to Abraham involved a future land. The Lord told him, “Get out of your country ... To a land that I will show you” and “I will make you a great nation,” which also implied land (Gen. 12:1-3). Neither Abraham, Isaac, nor Jacob received the land. Abraham only bought a cave in Machpelah, which was used for a burial ground (Gen. 23:1-20 cf. Gen. 25:9; 50:13). However, when God delivered the children of Israel from Egyptian bondage through Moses, He intended to give them the land soon after crossing the Red Sea (Num. 13:2, “I am giving to the children of Israel”), but because of their unbelief (Num. 14:26-38), they wandered in the wilderness forty years (Ps. 95:10; Heb. 3:17). Under Joshua, one of the faithful spies whose confidence in God was rejected by the vast majority (Num. 14:6-10), God’s initial land promise to Abraham was fulfilled: “So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the LORD had said to Moses; and Joshua gave it as an inheritance to Israel according to their divisions by their tribes. Then the land rested from war” (Josh. 11:23). As Joshua was dying, he said that “not one thing has failed of all the good things which the LORD your God spoke concerning you. All have come to pass for you; not one word of them has failed” (Josh. 23:14). “All” and “not one word ... failed” would certainly include the land promises!

God’s Land Promises Were “Re-Fulfilled”

Israel’s remaining in the land was conditioned upon their obedience. Moses warned that when they:

[A]ct corruptly and make a carved image in the form of anything, and do evil in the sight of the LORD your God to provoke Him to anger ... ²⁶that you will soon utterly perish from the land which you cross over the Jordan to possess; you will not prolong your days in it, but will be utterly destroyed. ²⁷And the LORD will scatter you among the peoples, and you will be left few in number among the nations where the LORD will drive you. (Deut. 4:24-27 cf. Josh. 23:15-16)

Because Israel violated God’s covenant, both the Northern and the Southern Kingdoms were eventually taken captive and removed from the land (2 Kgs. 18:9-12; 25:8-12, 21). However, true to God’s promises (Jer. 25:12; 29:10; Ezr. 1:1), He brought back a remnant from *each* of the twelve tribes (Ezr. 2:70; 3:1; 6:16-17; 8:35).

From time to time, someone will talk about the “lost ten tribes of Israel,” and that when these tribes are found and God restores Israel their land, the end times will come (including the rapture, the Battle of Armageddon, etc.). However, there are no “lost ten tribes.” The passages from Ezra cited above prove this point! Additionally, Luke mentioned, “Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher” (Lk. 2:36). It would be impossible to identify her this extensively if Asher, one of the ten Northern tribes, was still lost at the time Luke wrote!

Conclusion

There are no “lost tribes of Israel.” There is no earthly land that belongs to Israel. In fact, political Israel today *is not* the Israel of the Old Testament, any more than denominational churches today are the church of the New Testament! God’s kingdom today has no earthly boundaries (Jn. 18:36). Its boundaries are the hearts of those who have submitted to His will (Lk. 17:20-21; 1 Pet. 3:15). “For they are not all Israel who are of Israel, nor are they all children because they are the seed [physical descendants] of Abraham” (Rom. 9:6-8). Only those who live according to the gospel are “the Israel of God” (Gal. 6:16)!

PRAYER LIST

Current: Dottie Fife is recuperating at home following a fall, Toney Wilson is having some medical issues and upcoming tests, Rachel Zapata has been sick at home, Amanda Faneuf is having pain in her arm and may need surgery

Continual: Declan Potvin (eye); Debbie Bush (struggles); Brian Smith (heart health); Antoine & Marcella Swain (health); Geny Johnson (health); Bill & Carlene Long (health & strength); Ron & Judy Ford (health); Bobby Simpson (health); Annett Phillip (health); Janie Wise (health); Jim Turner (health); Margaret Coone (health); Melody Baxter (health), Melissa Craft (health) Charles Paulin (health), Kathy Nester (health)

Shut-ins: Joyce Burbage, Carol Eason, Kenny & Reba French, Barbara Jones

Thank You! There is a thank you card on the bulletin board from Anita Shearer and the Womens Care Center in Barton thanking everyone for the supplies that were donated to benefit the women there.



Trunk or Treat: Following evening service on Sunday Oct 29 we will have our annual Trunk or Treat in the parking lot. Please change into costumes after services. All are invited to participate!

SCHEDULED TO SERVE

October

Designated Elder.....Bobby Sheumaker

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

Announcements.....Jimmy Sweeney
Song Leader/prayer.....Vince Daugherty
Devotional.....Jarred Spivey
Prayer.....Tim Croson

Sunday, October 29, 2023

10:30 A.M.
Sermon.....Vince Daugherty
"You Choose" (Matthew 7:13-14)

6:00 P.M.

Youth Led Service.....Peyton Willcut

Those to Serve

10:30 A.M.

Song/Prayer before class.....Landon Willcut
Song Leader (both services).....Terrance Dindy
Announcements(both).....Brian Kenyon
Scripture reading/prayer.....Steve Tydings
Lord's Table (both).....Josh Estridge
Closing PrayerJeff Bingle
Open/Close bldg (both).....Jason Hendrix
Greeters.....Ralph and Pat Rogers
Attendance cards (both).....Ellis/Declan
Sound Booth (both).....Kyle Bingle

6:00 P.M.

P.M. Song LeaderLandon Willcut
Scripture reading/Prayer.....Camron Bailey
Closing Prayer.....Vince Daugherty
Greeters PM.....Kenyon's

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

Announcements.....Rick Kenyon
Song Leader/prayer.....Tucker Sweeney
Devotional.....Kurtis Leaks
Prayer.....Paul Sweeney

Upcoming Events 2023

October

24 FSOP ladies class @ 7:00 PM
29 Trunk or Treat
29 5th Sunday- Contribution for Building Fund

November

4 Men's lectureship @ Eagle Lake
5 Daylight savings ends, set clocks back 1 hour
7 Senior Saints meeting
10-12 Fall Family Camp at Weeki Wachee Camp
12-15 Fall Gospel Mtg at SFA- Tommy Brooks

~ HOW ARE WE GIVING ~

Oct 08	.....	\$6,699.00
Oct 15	.....	\$8,265.00
Oct 22	.....	\$5,281.25
Contribution Average	.....	\$6,985.13
Weekly budget	.....	\$7,410.00



Fall Fundraising Festival & BBQ

Saturday, Nov. 4
3:00-6:00pm

Open Games
3:00-6:00 p.m.
Disc Golf, GaGa Ball, Carpetball, Corn Hole, Ping Pong, Basketball, Volleyball, 9-Square-in-the-Air, & Carnival Games

Facilitated Activities
3:00-5:00 p.m.
Hayrides, 1,000' Zip Line, Giant Swing, Axe-Throwing & Laser Tag (all free)

Serving of BBQ
4:30-6:00 p.m.
\$15 Adult
\$10 Kids <12 yrs.
Take-out available.



FALL FAMILY CAMP

JOSHUA 24:15

NOV. 10-12TH, 2023

WEEKI WACHEE CHRISTIAN CAMP

SPRING HILL, FL

REGISTER BY NOV. 3

\$35 PER PERSON/AGES 4 AND UNDER

ARE FREE.

SEE FLYER ON BULLETIN BOARD FOR MORE INFORMATION!

JOIN US FOR A WEEKEND OF PEACE AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST!

Eagle Lake Church of Christ

MEN'S LECTURESHIP



What Does it Mean to be A Champion

Saturday, November 4th

9:00 AM-2:45 PM

Breakfast will be served from 8:00-8:45AM

Lunch will be provided.

Schedule

Lesson 1, Rusty Hilliard - 9:00-9:45

How to become a Champion.

Lesson 2, Dustin McClelland - 10:00-10:45

King Josiah II Kings 22-23

Lesson 3, Ronald Cox - 11:00-11:45

Jochebed Exodus 2:11

LUNCH - 12:00-1:00 PM

Lesson 4, Forest Antemaris - 1:00-1:45

Barnabas Acts 4:11

Lesson 5, Vince Daugherty - 2:00-2:45

John Mark

Closing remarks and Prayer

THE MILLION DOLLAR GIFT

He had only a pauper's plenty. His three room shack held a bed with no bedspread and his closet was a metal rod in the corner of the room holding three shirts and two pairs of khaki pants. A forty watt bulb hung from a cord in the ceiling. In the living room was a couch, a rocking chair and a coffee table holding a Bible. Week after week I sat with Mr. Hill as he shared his life story. His parents, older brother and he picked oranges in Central Florida for a living. Some days they had enough to eat. Mr. Hill's father eventually left the family, unable to face his inability to provide for them any longer. His mother, brother and he headed to South Florida where they heard there was work in the cane fields. Somewhere along the way, he learned about Jesus and his heart was filled with love. He married, raised two sons and buried his mother. Then, his sons moved away and his wife passed away. He accepted it all with grace.

After thanking Mr. Hill for sharing his story, I ended every visit with a question, "Do you need anything, Mr. Hill? Let me know if you do." His answer was always the same: "More of Jesus; more of Jesus."

I listened. I understood. And I remember. I received a million dollar lesson from a pauper. What a gift!!

Matthew: 16:26 "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"

Proverbs 16:16 "How much better to get wisdom than gold! To get understanding is to be chosen rather than silver."

Youth Section

Christian Apologetics

The Moral Argument For the Existence of God (Adapted from Warren-Flew Debate)

1. T/F -taking pleasure in the murdering of infants is morally wrong
2. T/F- Nazi Germany murdering of six million Jews morally wrong
3. The torturing and murdering of six million Jews by the hands of Nazi Germany violated which law?

Law of Germany?

Law of England?

Law of The United States?

A Higher Law?

When the Nazi's were put on trial for crimes against humanity, some gave the defense-- "we did not violate any laws". What law were they in violation of? Not one of man's divizing so it must be something outside of man, something higher. God is the ultimate giver of value. Humanity is made in His image (Gen. 1:26). There is an objective standard (higher than a subjective morality) and it comes from God our Maker. - VD

www.SouthFloridaAvenueChurchOfChrist.com

Email us: SFA.church@gmail.com

For sermons and podcasts, find us here.



**South Florida Avenue
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

1807 South Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33803-2653

Return Service Requested

**"You are my hiding place;
You shall preserve me from trouble;
You shall surround me with songs of
deliverance. "**

Psalm 32:7



If you prefer to receive the bulletin via email, contact us.