



# MESSENGER

VOL 4

January 9, 2022

ISSUE 2

1014 South Jog Rd.  
West Palm Beach, FL 33415

**OFFICE:**

P 561-684-8114  
Hours: 9:00am—1:00pm

Monday—Thursday

Halle Johnson, Secretary  
secy@cocopb.org

**GOSPEL PREACHER:**

Heath Johnson  
preacher@cocopb.org

**LEADING MEN:**

leadership@cocopb.org

**TIME OF SERVICES:**

Sunday Bible Study: 9:00am

Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Sunday Evening Worship:  
6:00pm

Wednesday Bible Study:  
7:00pm

If you are interested in a home Bible study or would like a free Bible correspondence course with which to study by mail, please inform the minister or any of the men leading worship services. We are glad you are here!

## The Judgement

Asia Minor was a dangerous place to wear the name “Christian.” In Ephesus they compensated with a watered down version of Christianity. At Sardis they hedged by overlooking the wickedness of the world around them. Over in Laodicea they ignored both, and were happy in their blindness. Hardly anyone was left untouched by the senseless wrath of the unbelieving world. Some had made the supreme sacrifice, such as Anitpas (Revelation 2:13), but all were familiar with the ever present possibility of death. It makes man rather uncomfortable for death to intrude upon one’s thoughts in spite of the fact that it is appointed unto man to die and after this to face the judgment (Hebrews 9:27). It was this point that our Lord, through John, addressed when he said, “Be faithful until death” (Revelation 2:10). In another context John wrote that the believer should “walk in the light” and taste the blessing of forgiveness (1 John 1:7). It is in that light where one finds grace, forgiveness, truth and mercy, the very traits that are required to overcome God’s judgment. A healthy appreciation of these characteristics will keep one walking in the light and faithful until death. The one walking in darkness, no matter for how long, spurns each and every one of those traits. How would Jesus answer the modern Christians’ question regarding the future judgment? I think he would stress the importance of the totality of one’s life agreeing with the state of one’s death (Mark 13:13). Live in and leave this world knowing the forgiveness of Jesus’ blood and you can look forward to a victorious entrance into eternal life.

David Bragg

# He Chose Us

## WELCOME!

**Welcome to the services of the church of Christ of the Palm Beaches! You are our honored guest!**

**We are a congregation of the church of which you can read in the Bible. We strive to do Bible things in Bible ways and to call Bible things by Bible names; to be Christians and Christians only. It is our goal to simply and plainly preach and teach New Testament Christianity.**

**You will find our worship simple and according to the New Testament pattern. We worship the same way that Peter, Paul, and John worshipped—In spirit and in truth (John 4:24).**

**Our Headquarters is in heaven, our Creed is Christ and our book is the Bible. The Bible only will make Christians only and that is our plea.**

**We certainly hope that all we do will be encouraging and uplifting to you. Please take a moment to fill out a visitors' card located in the pew in front of you and place it in the card holder at the end of the pew.**

There are some remarkable things about this short letter written to the church in Ephesus. First, this is one of the letters Paul writes from prison (3:1; 6:20; see Acts 21:33, 28:20). Second, it is a letter filled with so much teaching about the institution thought up by God from eternity (3:9-11) and described with several different images throughout the letter. That institution is the church. The Bible, in so many ways, writes about the glory of the church. Nowhere is that glory depicted so brightly in such a brief book than Ephesians. Ephesians 1:3-14 is the longest sentence in the entire New Testament. Written with complex clauses, the heart of the sentence is comprised of a subject, verb, and direct object: "He chose us." If you have ever faced rejection, you appreciate the humbling privilege and honor of this statement. Especially is it a confidence-builder because of who wants to accept, embrace, and choose us. The "who" is God Himself! Notice at least a few things about this choice. He Chose Us In Christ. This is an unmistakable emphasis not only in this paragraph, but throughout the entire letter. Starting with the broad statement of acknowledgement, that God has reserved "every spiritual blessing in Christ" (3), Paul refers to all that God has done in Christ. He chose us in Christ (4), predestined us for adoption in Christ (5-6), redeemed and forgiven us in Christ (7), purposed to reveal the mystery of His will in Christ (9), chose us in Christ (11), reserved hope in Christ (12), included us in Christ (13), and sealed us to Himself in Christ (13). There is no mistaking that God chooses all those who are in Christ. That's what makes it so powerful and important to understand how one gets into Christ. It's not Paul's purpose to teach that truth to those whom he knows have already done what it takes to get into Christ. Yet, elsewhere, Paul tells us how one gets into Christ. The Romans were baptized into Christ (Rom. 6:3). Through their faith in Him, so were the Galatians (Gal. 3:26-27). So, we know without doubt how these Ephesians got in Christ. As the one blessing us with the privilege of being His first and only choice, He has every right to stipulate how that is achieved. He Chose Us For What We Might Be. This choice is not one-sided, nor is getting into Christ the end of the process. There is a purpose to His choosing us in Christ. He foresaw that we should be holy and blameless before Him (4). He chose us to be His children (5). All this salvation and redemption language, along with the predestination picture he paints, reminds us that our life in Christ marks us for spiritual greatness. We are to live righteous lives and we are to point others to the privilege and blessings awaiting them if they will believe and obey Him. The beginning of the letter is addressed to "God's holy people," "the faithful" (1). The privilege of salvation is accompanied by a change in us, leading us to holiness and faithfulness. He Chose Us To The Praise Of His Glory. The Father selected us to the praise of His glory (4-6). The Son saved us to the praise of His glory (7-12). The Spirit sealed us to the praise of His glory (13-14). Does this phrase, "to the praise of His glory," mean that we should praise Him for the selection, salvation, and sealing? Or does it mean that we, by being selected, saved, and sealed, are the means by which God is glorified? The best way I can answer that is "yes." Both of these are accomplished. I should endlessly praise and adore Him for causing these things to happen, since it benefits me without measure. But it also tells me a lot about Him that He sees me as so valuable that my selection, salvation, and sealing is His utter joy and rejoicing. If I get a hold of that, I will do everything in my power to know Him and share Him!

**Neal Pollard**

## PRIVILEGED TO SERVE

### Sunday Morning Worship

**SONG LEADER: Sterling Frederick**

**OPENING PRAYER/ SCRIPTURE**

**READING: Ron Cullom**

**PRESIDING: Jim Bowman**

**SERVING: Angus May, Norman  
DeLong, Richard Gray & Ron  
Cullom**

**CLOSING PRAYER: Richard  
Gathright**

### Sunday Evening Worship

**SONG LEADER: Norman DeLong**

**OPENING PRAYER/SCRIPTURE**

**READING: Joe Lewis**

**PRESIDING: Chuck Canteen**

**SERVING: Jim Rogers**

**CLOSING PRAYER: Tom Ramsey**

### Wednesday Bible Study

**SONG LEADER: Jim Rogers**

**OPENING PRAYER: Richard  
Gathright**

**CLOSING PRAYER: Jim Bowman**



*Keep in your prayers...*

#### COCOPB Members

**Robin Landen**, is still recovering from her stroke.

**Kay Vaughn**, is doing well, and continues to need our prayers.

**Jon Jordan**, needs our prayers.

**Monica Sinclair**, is doing well, and continues to need our prayers.

**Helen Quintero**, had her surgery, and is recovering.

**Javon Reed**, has been sick.

**Tom & Benita Ramsey**, have COVID-19.

#### Family of COCOPB Members

**Penny Hinton**, Michelle Hinton's mother, is struggling with her health.

**Laverne Byzek**, John Smith's sister, continues to need our prayers.

**Hazel Voight**, Nancy Sparks' sister, is in hospice care and is suffering with bed sores.

**Tony Flegert**, Maureen machan's son in-law, is in the hospital.

**David Echeverria**, Carlos Echeverria's brother, is having difficulties and need's prayers.

**Katie Goodell**, Terry & Sandy Mann's niece, had a very successful brain surgery and is recovering.

**Keith Ford**, Justin Ford's Father, Has COVID-19.

**Jan Richardson**, Marsha Morakis's mother, was diagnosed with lung cancer.

#### Friends of COCOPB Members

**Tina Wagner**, continues to need our prayers.

**The Family of Glenda Smith**, a friend of Heath and Halle's Family, Glenda Smith Passed away.

#### COCOPB Members Traveling

**Warren & Nancy Sparks** (Dunellon), **Brett & Richard Gray** (AZ)

#### Shut-ins

**Jack Lee**

**Lena Morris**



# THE PREACHER'S FILES



## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

‘ “Taste” your words before you talk them. If you don’t like how they taste, neither would anyone else.’

-D Hibbard

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

You cannot hold hands with the devil and walk with God.

## GEMS FROM GREEK

Adelphoi (Noun). Gr. ἀντελφοί

“brother, brethren.”

This word occurs some 346 times in the NT. It carries the meaning of a brother, one having the same parents or parent, belonging to the same people or countrymen. This connotation carries over into the church as we are brethren in Christ all having the same spiritual Father being in one spiritual family. It is the word from which we get “Philadelphic”—phileo = love and adelphi = brother meaning the city of brotherly love. See Mark. 3:24-35 ; Heb. 2:17.

## PEARLS FROM PROVERBS

“He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him.”

**Prov. 18:13**

## WEEKLY BIBLE READING

Jan. 9th	Prov. 12-13	Gal. 4:21-5:9
10th	14-15	5:10-26
11th	16-17	6
12th	18-19	Eph. 1:1-14
13th	20-22:16	1:15-2:10
14th	22:17-23	2:11-22
15th	24-26:12	3

By following this schedule, you will be able to read the entire Bible in a year.



## NEWS & NOTES



### BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



#### BIRTHDAYS



#### ANNIVERSARIES



MAUREEN MACHAN 1/8

ERIBERTO VASQUEZ 1/21

WARREN & NANCY SPARKS 1/17

MICHELLE HINTON 1/9

BRETT GRAY 1/23

ANNA IGLESIAS 1/14

VERA GRAY 1/28

RON CULLOM 1/18

DONNA MACDOUGALL 1/19

#### ATTENDANCE Jan. 2nd

Sun. Bible Study: 18

Sun. A.M. 48

Sun. P.M. 24

Wed. Bible Study: 22

Contribution: N/A

Weekly Budget: \$4,147.00

Variance: N/A

#### TODAY'S SERMONS

AM: "SIN IN THE CAMP"

PM: "HOW TO STAY  
FAITHFUL"



Make sure to mark your calendars! We will be having a fellowship BBQ here at the church building on Saturday Jan.15th at 12:00pm In complements of Carlos Echeverria! There is also a list on the table in the foyer if you would like to bring any sides or desserts!



The Minister and Mocha is starting back this month!! If you didn't get a chance to sign up last year, look for new sign up sheets coming soon on the table in the foyer!



The pantry Needs no more donations at this time!! Thank you to those who donated!



Please do not take any pantry items out of the donation bin In the foyer! Please see **Maureen Machan** if you need assistance with the pantry! Thank you.



## What is a Home Without a Bible?

The following poem by an unknown author asks the question, "What is a home without a Bible?" and then answers the question.

"What is a home without a Bible?

'Tis a home where day is night.

Starless night, for o'er life's path,

heaven can shed no kindly light.

What is a home without a Bible?

'Tis a home where daily bread

For the body is provided,

but the soul is never fed.

What is a home without a Bible?

'Tis a family out at sea,

Compass lost and rudder broken,

drifting, drifting, thoughtlessly."

Brethren and friends, what would our home be like without a Bible? Would it be just as it is now, or would it be very different?

It's something to seriously think about! (cf. 2 Timothy 2:15; Psalm 78:1-8).

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## GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

### Hear God's Word

Romans 10:17

### Believe the Gospel

John 20:30-31

### Repent of Your Sins

Luke 13:3

### Confess Faith in Jesus

Romans 10:9-10

### Be Baptized

Acts 2:38

### Live Faithfully

Revelation 2:10



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