

"The churches of Christ salute you" Rom. 16:16

Warners Chapel Church of Christ

8999 Lasater Road Clemmons, North Carolina 27012 Telephone 336-766-6078

www.warnerschapelchurchofChrist.org
Youareimportant.net

Preachers: Kevin Rutherford
Mike Glenn

SEPTEMBER 12, 2021

A CORDIAL WELCOME AWAITS YOU

The Lord's Hand is Not Shortened

Isaiah said, "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; and your sins have hidden his face from you" (Isaiah 59:1-2). This was said to the Jewish people under the Law of Moses who were in a covenant relationship with God, and yet who had turned away from God. A similar application today would be with reference to Christians who have turned away from God. There are two important concepts here concerning God's relationship to people who have left God. The first of which is the fact that God is indicating His power to restore them if they will repent. The second being that their sin has pushed them away from God. Both of these factors are also true regarding God's relationship to Christians who turn away from.

Let's consider the first factor: that is; "the LORD's hand is not shortened that it cannot save, nor His ears heavy that it cannot hear." God is telling the Jews that even though they have turned away from Him, He is willing to take them back. He has the power to forgive them and save them. He wants to save them. This shows God's long-suffering and compassion toward the lost. He has not changed. Under the New Covenant God shows the same long-suffering. He is always ready and willing to receive any fallen Christian who wants to be restored. However, they are going to have to repent if they are to be saved by God.

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Repentance carries with it the idea of turning away from sin and Satan, while turning to righteousness and the Redeemer. The cry of the prophet Isaiah to the people of Israel was repent and come back to God. "Come now, and let us reason

together," says the LORD, though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow" (Isaiah 1:18). If they would have repented, turned away from sin, turned to God, and become obedient, they would have been saved (Isaiah 1:19). It is not different today. Christians can pray and ask God to forgive them (Acts 8:22). Christians can go to the throne of mercy and receive grace in time of need (Hebrews 4:16).

The word "church (ekklesia ." has within it the idea of being called out from the world to an assembly. The church assembles. In Hebrews 10 the Lord spoke of forsaking the assembly. The word forsaking refers to an abandonment. Forsaking then is the opposite of repentance. When one repents he turns away from the world, and turns to God, but when one forsakes he is turning away from God, and goes back into the world. Hebrews 10:26-31 shows us the terrible consequences of so doing. Yet, even when this happens we know there is God's concern for the soul that has forsaken Him. There is God's tremendous love for that individual and a desire for him to come back to receive forgiveness (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9; Romans 8:31-32). When Isaiah said, "the Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save," he said this to people who had turned away from God. The same could be said to Christians who turn away from God today. "The Lord's hand is not shortened that it cannot save." God can still save the fallen Christian, if they will come back to Him. John said, "if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:8-9).

The concept of a child of God returning to Him after a period of rebellion is illustrated by the Lord's parables about lost things in Luke 15. A man had one hundred sheep. He lost one. The man leaves the ninety-nine and goes to find the one sheep. When the one sheep is found there is rejoicing. Jesus says, "I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance" (Luke 15:7). Jesus then gave the parable of the lost coin. When it was found there was rejoicing. Jesus made the application, "there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents" (Luke 15:10). But the most touching of all the parables is that of the lost son. When he chose to return to his father, "he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him" (Luke 15:20). Can there be a more powerful picture of the forgiveness of God for a sinner who repents?

Brethren, God's hand is not shortened that it cannot save. He stands ready and willing to embrace with forgiveness every Christian who repents and comes back to Him.

~Kevin Rutherford

READ THE NEW TESTAMENT IN 2021

Sept. 13 - 2 Cor. 6

Sept. 14 - 2 Cor. 7

Sept. 15 - 2 Cor. 8

Sept. 16 - 2 Cor. 9



Sept. 17 - 2 Cor. 10

Sept. 18 - 2 Cor. 11:1-15

Sept. 19 - 2 Cor. 11:16-33

OUR SICKPlease Remember in Your Prayers

Jeff Chrysson, Eddie Manor and his wife and son, Nancy Warner, Jack Piper, Neal Harper, Mary Ellen Dull, Kim Matthews, Elwood Flinchum, Kathy & Wayne Hutchins. Don Jackson, Sandy Smith, & D.J. Harrison.

Ronnie Knost has injured her leg and is in Room 124 at the Davie Baptist Hospital. She is allowed to have visitors (1 adult visitor at a time) and will be there for a few days for treatment of the infection. Please keep Ronnie in your prayers.

Steve Tesh has come down with the COVID virus. Please pray that it will be a mild form and he will be able to overcome it in the near future.

Nikki Santiago went to the emergency Room a few days ago due to having a breathing problem which was thought may have been caused by allergies or asthma. She had a CT Scan and found a small mass at the base of her sternum. She has an appointment with a surgical doctor scheduled for next Wednesday. They also found she has viral pneumonia. Please keep her in your prayers.

It was reported that **Elwood Flinchum** is having difficulties with his cancer at this time. Please keep him in your prayers.

Sandy Smith remains in the Cardiac ICU, Room 5158. She has been put back on the ventilator. Please keep her in your prayers.

Meredith Southern is now at home and doing well in her recovery from the recent surgery. Please continue to keep her in your prayers.

Brad Hoots and Betty Hoots are doing well in their recovery from the COVID Virus. They are still in quarantine at this time.

Vicki Rutherford is doing well and was able to attend church this past Wednesday evening.

Neal Harper is reported to be doing well in his recovery at this time. Please keep him in your prayers.

Mike Glenn is also reported to be doing well but still has a problem with a cough at this time. Please keep Mike and Teresa Glenn and Will in your prayers.

B.J. Harrison is having difficulty with chest pains at this time. Jim has recovered from COVID and they have a grandson that has now come down with the virus, but is said to be doing okay with it at this time. Please pray for this family.

Tony Minor is now waiting for the doctor to set up an appointment to have his surgery soon. Keep him in your prayers.

Karen Martin Moore reported that a five year old child family member named **Kolbie Tittsworth** has come down with the flu and the Covid virus.



WE ARE HAPPY TO HAVE YOU VISITING WITH US THIS MORNING. WE INVITE YOU TO RETURN THIS EVENING AT 6:00 P.M. FOR THE SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE AND AT 7:00 P.M. EACH WEDNESDAY EVENING FOR THE MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY.

WARNERS CHAPEL EVENTS:

<u>Sept. 16</u> - The Zoom Ladies Class begins at 7pm. On Thursday. We hope you will be able to join us for our NCSBS Class.

<u>Sept. 12</u> - There will be a "Drive through" bridal shower for Bethany and Nathan Roy today from 2-4 p.m. this afternoon.

<u>Sept. 12-16:</u> - Evangelism Seminar with Rob Whitacre. He has made a number of overseas mission trips, has produced a video series on evangelism, works with the House to House Evangelism Workshop, and conducts Evangelism Seminars across the country.

OUR SICK - (Continued)

Please pray for **Lori Spencer**, Nancy Minor's sister, who is undergoing further tests on a mass in her neck. If you would like to send her a card, her address is: 714 Garden Ct., Anderson, IN 46011.

Jacob Woodbury's father, **Bob Woodbury**, thought to be able to return home last week but was not able because of his oxygen levels were not good. He is now looking forward to going home this weekend. Keep him in your prayers.

Please pray for Roger Allen's brother, **Johnny Allen**, who has come down with the COVID is reported to not doing well at this time in recovering from the virus. He is having kidney problems at this time. Please keep him in your prayers.

Roger Allen, is still having problems with pain in his shoulder from undergoing surgery. Please keep him in your prayers.

Jessica Kollar (a visitor at Warners Chapel) has tested positive for the COVID virus and may be quarantined for possibly 20 days with her two children due to school restrictions. Jessica's address is 275 Shady Lane, Apt. 205, Advance, NC 27006. Please pray for them.

FOR THE RECORD

 SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY
 Sept. 5, 2021

 SUNDAY WORSHIP -A.M.
 Sept. 5, 2021
 - 76

 SUNDAY WORSHIP -P.M.
 Sept. 5, 2021
 - 55

 WED.
 Sept. 8, 2021
 - 63

SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS

SEPTEMBER, 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY AND WEDNESDAY: ANDY SANTIAGO

COMMUNION FOR SEPTEMBER: MIKE LUNDGREN

DEVOTIONS:

<u>SCRIPTURE</u>	SONG LEADER	PRAYER
Sept. 8 - Rodney Brown	Wayne Allen	Todd Hinson
Sept. 12 - Mark Minor	Steve Tesh	Kevin Rutherford
Sept. 19 - Gene Ruark	Gene Southern	Mike Glenn
Sept. 26 - Al Lawson	Justin Little	Jim Harrison

OPENING PRAYERS FOR SEPTEMBER:

SUNDAY A.M.	SUNDAY P.M.	WEDNESDAY
Sept. 5 - Joe Byrd Sept. 12 - Carl Cooper Sept. 19 - Tim Allen Sept. 26 - R. J. Landry	Sept. 5 - Wayne Allen Sept. 12 - Bob Tesh Sept. 19 - Clayton Workman Sept. 26 - Nathan Roy	Sept. 1 - Adam Warner Sept. 8 - Jason Allen Sept. 15 - Allen Knight Sept. 22 - Rodney Brown Sept. 29 - Bill Carothers

SECURITY AND GREETING: JIM HARRISON & SHAWN THOMASON

PLEASE OPEN BUILDING BY 10:30 A.M., 5:40 P.M., AND WEDNESDAY BY 6:40 P.M.

SONG LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER:

<u>SUNDAY P.M.</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>
	Sept. 1 - Wayne Allen
Sept. 5 - Charley Belch	Sept. 8 - Roger Allen
Sept. 12 - Clayton Workman	Sept. 15 - Nathan Roy
Sept. 19 - Steve Tesh	Sept. 22 - Roger Allen
Sept. 26 - Wayne Allen	Sept. 29 - Gene Southern
	Sept. 5 - Charley Belch Sept. 12 - Clayton Workman Sept. 19 - Steve Tesh

IF YOU SHOULD BE UNABLE TO SERVE ON ASSIGNED DATES, PLEASE GET SOMEONE TO TAKE YOUR PLACE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.

GENE SOUTHERN

"GETTING TO KNOW YOUR BIBLE" at 10:30 p.m. each week night on Cable 8 SEARCH PROGRAM - Sunday Mornings at 7:30 a.m. on Cable 68

WARNERS CHAPEL CHURCH OF CHRIST 8999 LASATER ROAD CLEMMONS, NC 27012

ELDERS DEACONS

Tim Allen Randy Warner
Todd Hinson Keith Warner
Steve Tesh Mark Minor
Andy Santiago Jody Everett Gene Southern
Shawn Thomason
Mark Roy
Adam Warner