

## TIME OF SERVICES

### Sunday:

Bible Classes	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Worship Service	6:00 p.m.

### Wednesday:

Bible Classes	7:00 p.m.
---------------	-----------

### Preacher & Editor

Dick Blackford

Office (870) 933-9134

Home (870) 919-2266

### Elders

Kemuel Camp (870) 930-0971

Scott Stubblefield (870) 934-9974

### Deacons

Phillip Cassidy (870) 623-2588

Jeff Ladyman (479) 236-5365

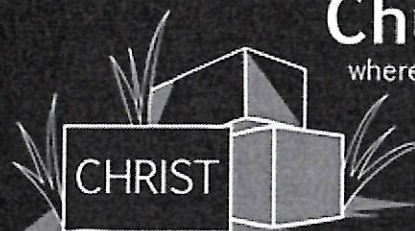
Steve Lands (870) 974-1976

Travis Moody (870) 650-1649

**THE BIBLE AND THE BIBLE ONLY, MAKES  
CHRISTIANS AND CHRISTIANS ONLY.  
THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IS COMPOSED  
OF CHRISTIANS WHO HAVE NOT  
JOINED A DENOMINATION.**

# StoneRidge Church of Christ

where CHRIST is the chief cornerstone  
1 Peter 2:7



Vol. 15, No .2

September 4, 2022



## The Jerusalem Rooster

Perhaps each person experiences that "one moment in time," that moment of truth when he sees himself in reality, just as God sees him. This happened to several men in the Bible. Let's notice some.

**PETER.** Peter denied that he would deny the Lord, even if everyone else did and even if it meant his own death (Mk.14:29-31). That "one moment in time" that piercing moment, for Peter was when the rooster crowed and everything came rushing home to him of how the Lord had told him that "before the rooster crows twice, you will deny me three times." When the rooster did crow the second time, "the Lord turned and looked upon Peter." This was the point at which Peter went out and wept bitterly (Lk.22:60-62).

**KING AGRIPPA.** Paul rehearsed the account of his conversion when he appeared in chains before the king. As Paul had changed his mind about Jesus, he hoped Agrippa and his companions would put themselves in Paul's place and draw the same conclusions. He showed how Jesus fulfilled what Moses and the prophets had said, including his resurrection and that the gospel was for both Jews and Gentiles.

Governor Festus loudly interrupted and accused Paul of being out of his mind (Gk. "mania"). Paul flatly denied it and replied in the king's hearing that he was



from front page

confident the king was keenly aware of the truth for "these things were not done in a corner." Agrippa wasn't ignorant about the situation. His head hadn't been buried in the sand, for Inspiration has Paul calling Agrippa an expert in all customs and questions among the Jews and saying to him, "I know that you believe" (Acts 26:5,27). Paul pressed him for a commitment and Agrippa felt the power of Paul's persuasiveness. Agrippa didn't deny that he believed. In fact he admitted the truth of all Paul had said when he responded, "Almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian."

Agrippa's declaration of Paul's innocence and that Paul should have been set free is an admission that Paul spoke the truth and that Agrippa believed it. The king felt the heat when he clearly saw the truth and jumped up immediately and withdrew himself from the situation. This was Agrippa's "one moment in time" – his Jerusalem Rooster.

THE PRODIGAL SON. This son wasted his total inheritance on self-indulgence (Lk.15:13,14). When he sank so low that he coveted to eat with swine, which were literally and ceremonially unclean, he "came to himself." This was his moment of truth – his Jerusalem Rooster. He had to make a serious and critical decision.

OTHERS. There were others in Scripture who had their "Jerusalem Rooster." Naaman heard it when confronted by his servants (2 Kgs.5:13-15); David, when confronted by Nathan the prophet (2 Sam.12); Simon the Pharisee when confronted by Jesus (Lk.7:36f); the people on Pentecost when confronted by Peter and were "pricked in their hearts" (Acts 2:36-41).

CONCLUSION: Your "Jerusalem Rooster" is a critical time. Some responded favorably while others did not. If one's "Jerusalem Rooster" results in turning to the Lord it could be his best "moment in time."

Has the rooster crowed in your life? -db (a reprint)

## *News/Notes/Quotes.*

**THE SICK.** Continue to pray for **Kim McCann**, the daughter of **Almon** and **Belva Williams**, and sister to **DeAnne Mundy**.... **Joyce Riley** is still dealing with shingles. Remember **Billie Johnson** and **Rhea Vines** who have been fighting Covid... **Kathy Blackford** has improved but is fighting the after effects of Covid... **Donald Crisler** continues his treatment for cancer... Remember our shutins: **Madonna Vines** is confined at home. **Gail Brooks** and **Rita Kieffer** are both at St. Bernard Village... **Shirley Coots** at Lawrence County Nursing (hospice care)... **Joyce Riley** is at St. Elizabeth's Place... **Charles Bradsher** at Craighead County Nursing Home... Continue to remember all of these in your prayers.

### **GOSPEL MEETINGS**

**Sept 10 – STONERIDGE – Singing!**

**October 2-7 – STONERIDGE – John Mundy!!!**

Oct. 21-23 – Raymore, MO – Dick Blackford

### **The Twenty-Eight Minute Church**

The 28-minute church. That reminds me of the 10-minute oil change and one hour dry cleaning. Can you imagine it? This "church" really exists. The preacher believes that people are too busy for an hour service, so he has come up with the 28-minute service. A little singing, a little praying, possibly a little communion, a little giving and definitely a little preaching. It's had rave reviews and he is now up to five services on Sunday. Sounds convenient, doesn't it? But there are a few problems with this format: Where is the fellowship? And how about the fact that members are exposed for hours of ungodliness at work, school and from the media – how does he think 28 minutes is going to prepare anyone for the onslaught each week?

Brethren, I say we need more time for prayers, singing, study, fellowship and all the rest of the things that people need to be strong Christians – NOT LESS! Our culture cries, "Give me less of what I need and more of what I crave." The Lord said, "Don't let the world squeeze you into its mold." If I had my way, every member of the congregation would attend Bible class and assembly PLUS have home Bible study, home training and family devotionals. We would also have quality time working and being together as a church family, not less. Is 28 minutes enough? I think not. - Author Unknown