

Schedule of Meeting Times:

WKAC 1080 AM Sunday 7:30 AM
Study Sunday 10:00 AM
Worship Sunday Morn 11:00 AM
Worship Sunday Eve 5:00 PM
Singing every 2nd Sunday evening
Study Wednesday 7:00 PM

Preacher / bulletin editor:

Kris Vilander, (256) 472-1065

E-mail: kris@haysmillchurchofchrist.org

Website: www.haysmillchurchofchrist.org

"It was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ."

— 2 Thessalonians 2:14



Servants during September:

Songleader: Larry (1), Dwight (8), Stanley (15), Larry (22), Dwight (29)

Reading: Stanley

Announcements: Larry

Table: Mike M, Marty, Stanley

Wednesday Lesson: Kris (4), Larry (11), Stanley (18), Kris (25)

Lawn Mowing (week starting): Kris (1), Marty (8), Stanley (15), Larry (22), Kris (29)

Area Meetings:

Singing River (Florence), 22-27, Greg Gwin; **Pepper Road,** 23,24,26,27, Bruce Reeves; **South Cullman,** 29-10/1, Greg Kline; **Danville Road,** 10/6-9; **Elgin Hills (Rogersville),** 10/6-9, Wiley Deason

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road
Elkmont, AL 35620

The Bible . Examiner

"Examine everything carefully..." 1 Thessalonians 5:21 NASB

Volume 7

September 22, 2024

Number 16

"All Things Work Together For Good"

by Floyd Thompson


"...And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose," Rom 8:28.

A mother loses her precious baby through some accident or illness. She is grief-stricken. Some would-be comforter (like Job's friends, miserable comforters) comes up to her, pats her on the shoulder, and says, "It's all right. Remember, all things work together for good to them that love God."

A father is killed in an accident, leaving his wife and children without a means of support. Someone tries to console her with "All things Work together for good."

That does not even remotely fit the thing the Lord was talking about. Read verse 32: "He who did

not spare His own Son, but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us **all things**?" The "all things" of verse 32 are the same "all things" of verse 28. What did God give us in the "all things"? The entire scheme or plan of redemption. God worked it out, brought it about in His own good time, sent Christ at the right time, taught people by the prophets, and later by the apostles as they were guided by the Holy Spirit, in order to bring the plan into being. He calls people by this plan. He justifies them by this plan, and He glorifies them by this plan, this scheme of redemption. God worked it all out **for our good**, and that is the thought, the teaching, the consideration of "all things."

—via Thompson, Ruth, **Book, Chapter, & Verse**, p589 

TESTING

by Floyd Thompson

In James 1:13-15, we read, “Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am being tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.”

Many years ago, I attended a World’s Fair at San Diego. The Ford Motor Company had erected a huge building devoted to the manufacture and demonstration of various components of a Ford automobile. There was one particular portion of this demonstration that intrigued me. They were testing steel balls to be used as bearings. The balls were made and tested here in this plant. They moved slowly down a chute, dropped onto a very hard steel plate, bounced, and landed into a reservoir several feet high. The opening into this reservoir was about four inches in diameter. There they came, one after another, with clock-like regularity. Then one would miss, come shy of the opening. Too soft: it would not have functioned well in the automobile.

Two or three more good ones, then one would bounce completely over the receptacle. Too hard: it would have crystallized in use. Another, just slightly out of round, would bounce to one side or the other.

I thought to myself, this is the way God tests us, to see if we are made of the right kind of material for His kingdom. As the passage we have just read teaches, God does not tempt us to do evil. He wants us to do right. But He *allows* the devil to tempt, try us, in order to test us. If we were never tested, how could we know our own weaknesses and strengths?

Jesus Christ was tempted, as we are, and came through every test with flying colors, “fit for the Master’s use.” We can, too. He showed us how. Another illustration: certain metals are attracted to a magnet, a lodestone, because of similarities in their makeup. People are attracted to evil (at times) because of certain evils in their makeup. With God (Christ), there is *no* evil; there is nothing in the makeup of God or Christ that would be attracted by evil at all. We can become like that. As we overcome our sins, are tested and tried, we, unlike the steel balls, can

change our characters to conform to the likeness of Christ. When we reach that maturity we are no

longer attracted by the magnet of sin.

—via Thompson, Ruth, Book, Chapter, & Verse, p586-588 

How Are We Called?

by Floyd Thompson

Did you receive a “calling”? If you are a member of the church, you did! But some people have been led to believe that God will speak to them in a dream, or that you will be alone in some isolated spot, and God will speak to you in a still, small voice. They imagine their “calling” will come about in some mysterious, unexplained kind of way. If you do not experience this, you haven’t been called into His service. That’s not it!

An advertisement in a magazine or paper may “call” you into a desire for the product.

That’s what advertising is for. That’s what the gospel is for. It stimulates you with a desire for what it has to offer. That is how you are called by the gospel. You are invited by Jesus Christ, “Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”

His gospel makes an appeal to people, for the benefits and blessings that are going to be theirs through obedience to the gospel, and tells us how to receive it.

—via Thompson, Ruth, Book, Chapter, & Verse, p542,543 

Remember in Prayer

Mike B is to have open heart surgery in a little over a week in Nashville (10/1). **Becky** is still struggling with shingles. **Hazel** is doing well; please continue to pray that she can come home soon. **Carolyn** has been released with therapy through October to help with walking and balance! **Stanley**

has finished with his skin cancer radiation treatments! Please continue to pray for those other brethren we know and love, including Dwight’s brother, **Steve**; **Mark** and **Vicky Horton**; **Betty**; **Barbara**; **Kathy Mitchell**; **Joshua V**; **Faye**; and **the Pollard Family**. 