

**Today's Order of Worship**

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Eddie Dickinson

Opening Prayer: David Key

On the Table: Head - Josh Berryhill  
Servers - Billy Box  
Charles Berryhill  
Greg Lowery

Closing Prayer: Al Corkren

Preparing the Lord's Supper Shelia Box

**Weekly Service Times**

Sunday

Bible Study 10:00 am

Morning Worship 10:45 am

Evening Worship 5:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Study 7:00 pm

**Visit Our Website**

[www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.brilliantchurchofchrist.org)

Elders: Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

Leonard Key / David Key

Billy Box / Eddie Dickinson

Minister: Greg Lowery

**Contact Information:**

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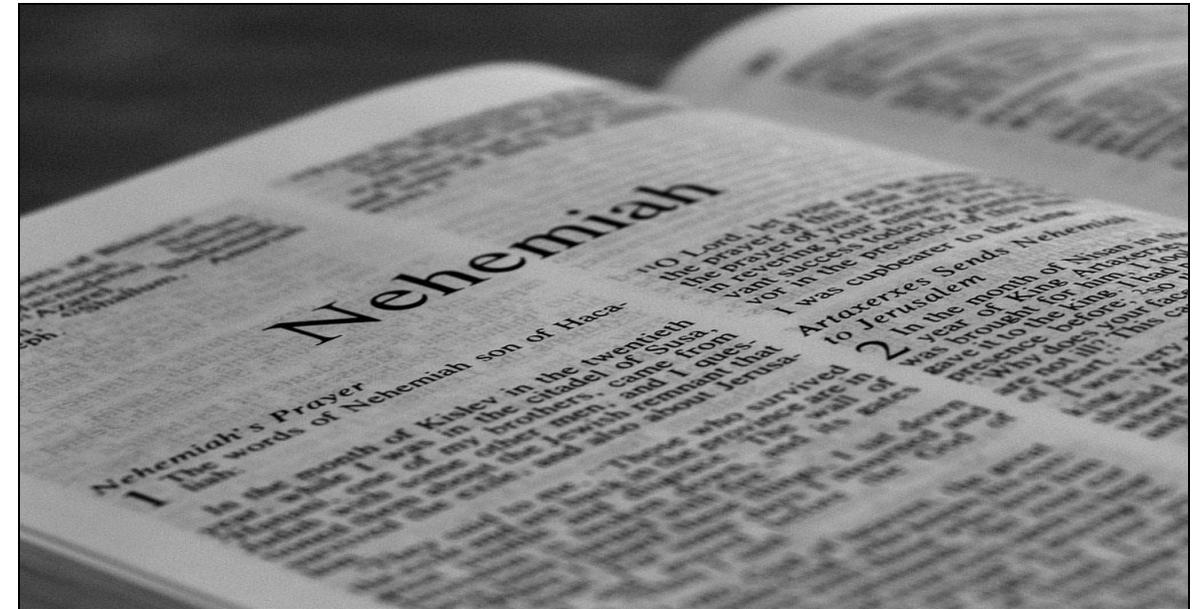
Brilliant Church of Christ

930 Main Street

P.O. Box 222

Brilliant, AL 35548

# Shouldn't We Be Concerned



*The  
Brilliant  
Beacon*



**Compassion Is Love In Action**

By Judy Corns

Compassion is defined as a sympathetic attitude, one of sadness; a real concern for someone’s misfortune; grief over another’s distress; pity. To have compassion then is to express a feeling of concern. To express is to do something about something! When acting upon that concern, love—agape love—will gallop forward at a breakneck speed to alleviate the problem or pain. Compassion is a concern for the welfare and comfort of others. It swiftly moves on that concern to bring about a change for the better.

“And, behold, a woman . . . diseased . . . touched the hem of his garment . . . and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole” (Matthew 9:20-22). Yes, the faith of this woman brought her to the hem of Jesus’ garment, but Jesus, aware of her faith, had mercy and she was whole again! He gave her comfort! On that day he also gave life back to a maiden. He gave sight to the blind and he drove out demons from the bedeviled. All because he had a great compassion for those who needed and asked for his help. In turn, they confessed “according to their faith.” His sympathetic love touched them, making them whole. He noticed their misfortune, was concerned and healed them. He loved them!

Today we do not possess the powers to cure illness as did Jesus, but we can learn to practice the compassion of agape love! Attending to the needs of others, never passing up an opportunity, we can show love to all our fellow men. We are to give ourselves, our time, all that we have, knowing in so doing we are but obeying the commandments of the Lord.

As he climbed the hill with his cross, “there followed him a great company of people . . . Jesus turned saying Daughters of Jerusalem, weep not for me, but weep for yourselves, and for your children” (Luke 23:27-28). “For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?” (Luke 23:31). One person explains this verse thus: If innocent Jesus could meet with such an end, what horror is to befall on the day Jesus’ accusers are judged? Are we concerned?

When they came to the place called Calvary, Jesus said, “Father forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Luke 23:34). He spoke just moments before his death, asking God the Father to forgive his accusers! Jesus showed compassion and did something about it! Those who wept on his behalf along with those who mocked our Lord, then

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Mary Rainey: has bone cancer throughout her body, please be praying for her and her family

Billy Lee & Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Brother & Sister} both are in the nursing home in Guin, please continue to pray for them they both have some health issues

Joey Colburn: is taking treatments for cancer, please pray that the treatments will be successful in defeating his cancer

April Tidwell Dawson: she has recently been diagnosed with stomach cancer; please be praying that this cancer will be defeated with successful treatments

Angie Ganey Gardner: fighting against breast cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Shauna Silas: diagnosed with thyroid cancer, please be praying that with treatments this cancer will be defeated

Ruth Addison: ongoing health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Mary Box: some ongoing other health problems, please keep her in your prayers

Glynda Long: she is fighting stage 4 colon cancer, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Don Lawrence: is recovering from a recent stroke, please be praying that there will be no long term complications or any further problems

Eddie Dickinson: recovering from recent colon surgery, let’s be praying that he makes a full recovery with no complications

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Celia Grace Hamlett, daughter of Gary and Kassie Hamlett, was diagnosed with MLD(Metachromatic Leukodystrophy); planning on gene replacement treatment; please pray that these treatments will be successful.

Karen Chaffin: has had fainting spells, please pray that the doctors can determine what is wrong and that she will have no serious problems

Pray for all those dealing with COVID especially those of the household of faith.

Pam Braden: she is dealing with some ongoing health problems, please pray that those working with her can help her

Myra Miles: had surgery please pray that tests will show that she does not have cancer

Guy Weeks: had surgery please pray cancer will be defeated

Farrah Garrison: she is scheduled to have surgery Tuesday (4/13) please pray that everything goes well

listened as he asked his Father to forgive those involved in his demise. “The centurion saw what was done, he glorified God, saying, certainly this was a righteous man” (Luke 23:47). Even the centurion glorified God! Jesus the pure and righteous man, identified by one who was not!

Jesus was hanged on the tree for sins of the world, not his own. On that shameful cross he said to the one hanging there near him, “Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.” This was an answer to a last-minute request. That answer was a unique, unmerited gift of agape love from the Savior! Jesus was dying on the cross, yet there he promised life eternal to one who asked for his mercy. He needed mercy, he was shown love. Jesus gave him paradise!

Through the life of Jesus, we see his compassion for others. His warm love covers penitent persons in a blanket of understanding and care, buffering them against the chill winds of the wicked world. His love caused the sudden vanishing of volumes of troubles and turmoil. Jesus was love in action! He taught, “He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love” (1 John 4:8). Action and love comforted the concerns of the hungry crowds. Even the angry crowds were quieted by his attitude. Jesus knew how to show God’s love. We can know the love of God because we can know Jesus. He came to be the great example. He taught the disciples. God gave us the inspired Word, that we might find the way of love and use it. It is full of power and life eternal.

The apostle Peter wrote, “God’s divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness through the knowledge of him” (2 Peter 1:3). This knowledge comes from God; Peter just put it into script for us to use. God has given “us exceeding great and precious promises . . . having escaped the corruption” (2 Peter 1:3-4). We are to add to our faith, virtue and knowledge. To this brotherly kindness we are to add charity. Charity is love—agape love—a love that knows no boundaries and has no equal! If we have these things in us and they abound, we will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the Lord. We are blind if we do not have these things. Blind, we will return to our old sins. If we give diligence to make our calling and election sure, we shall never fall! (2 Peter 1:5-10).

We are to go into the world of today with love and teach the lost, baptizing in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Try reaching out and touching someone with an honest and genuine compassionate love and let the action begin! God’s love can bring lasting peace. His compassion is love in action.

**Silence**

By Winfred Clark

The term silence or its equivalent is found often in your Bible. We often sing a song that has this word within it which is taken from Habakkuk 2:20. It is here that men are told to "keep silence before him." There is much more to that than just being quiet in the assembly where God is worshipped.

Take a look at some cases of silence that may be either good or bad.

**I. There Is A Silence That Is Suitable**

There are no doubt times when it is best to say nothing. Was this the case with the friends of Job? You know they came and sat with Job for seven days and "none spake a word unto him: for they saw that his grief was very great" (Job 2:13). It seems that the only fitting thing to do was just say nothing. They could, however, just be there to let him know of their concern and sympathy for him. Isn't this the case when death occurs, and we just go to be with those who have suffered the loss? No, we may not say a thing, but just being there is enough.

**II. There Is A Silence That Is Selfish**

Have there not been times when a word of thanks ought to have been uttered? Have there not been times when words of encouragement needed to be stated? Yet, there was not heard a single word. Wasn't this the case with those nine lepers that should have turned back to give thanks for their healing (Luke 17:17-18)?

How many times have wives or husbands, fathers or mothers, sons or daughters failed to express the word of thanks that should have been expressed?

**III. There Is A Silence That Is Sinful**

Yes, there is a time to be silent, but there is also a time when such would be sinful. Wouldn't that be the case if you saw a person about to be killed but would not warn them? Wasn't there a time when the apostles were told to not speak or teach in the name of Jesus (Acts 4:18-19)? Would it not be a sin for them to just say nothing? After all, they were compelled by the Lord's commandment to preach the gospel. To be silent in the face of threats would indeed be sinful.

**Thankful for Jesus the Christ**

By Kevin Cauley

"For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6).

Christianity is the only world religion that teaches salvation by grace. The other world religions teach that "salvation" is based on merit. This means as long as one is 51% good, he may claim salvation. He can be 49% evil and be "saved." This implicates God in evil since God would be obliged to "save" people who are 49% evil. In such a system, God must condone evil. What kind of a god would condone evil?

In Christianity, God doesn't condone evil. He demands that everyone be holy as He is holy (1 Peter 1:16). This means, however, that one must be perfect to be saved. If one sins just one time, he is lost. He isn't lost because God is evil, but because he is evil. How can a person be saved? There is only one way; God must pay the price for his sins. He did this through Jesus' perfect life and sacrifice on the cross.

Since Jesus paid the price, Jesus may give salvation to whoever He desires, and Jesus desires that salvation be given to those who trust and obey Him in love (John 14:15). Hebrews 5:9 says, "And having been perfected, He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him." Salvation is by grace through faith because we trust that Jesus will save us when we obey Him (Ephesians 2:8-9). Our obedience doesn't merit salvation as if God owes it to us; obedience is simply the response of one who trusts Jesus for salvation. Do we obey perfectly? No, but Jesus forgives those who are trying to be faithful to Him, and He knows who is and who isn't (2 Timothy 2:19). I am so thankful for Jesus.

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