

**Today's Order of Worship**

Announcements: Greg Lowery

Song Leader: Josh Berryhill

Opening Prayer: David Key

On the Table: Head - Billy Box  
Servers - Ralph Burleson  
Bradley Box  
Greg Lowery

Closing Prayer: Eddie Dickinson

Preparing the Lord's Supper: Lellie Dickinson

**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: Leonard Key / David Key  
Billy Box / Eddie Dickinson

Deacons: Al Corkren / Josh Berryhill

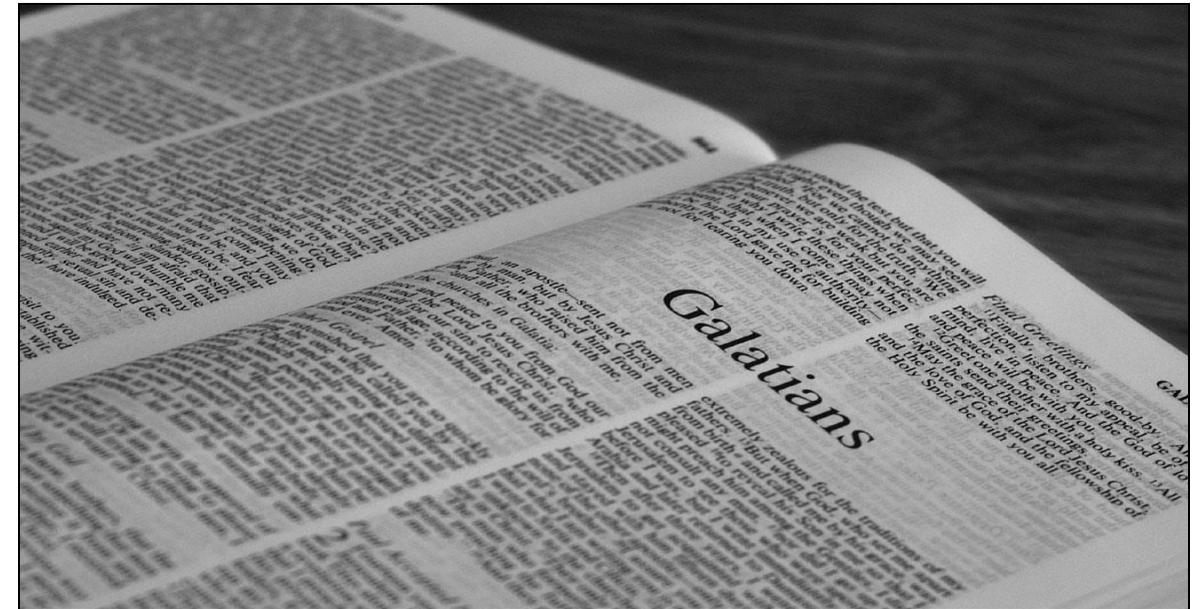
Minister: Greg Lowery

**Contact Information:**

Brilliant Church of Christ  
930 Main Street  
P.O. Box 222  
Brilliant, AL 35548

Phone: (205) 465-9142

# We Do Not Lose Heart



*The  
Brilliant  
Beacon*



**Christ Cancels Sin**

By Robert Johnson

We live in the age that seeks “cancel culture.” It involves a denial of most that has come before, and its proponents will resort to destruction and violence to cancel it. So, monuments to the past are destroyed because they do not fit this culture’s sensibilities. Don’t like the reality of our nation having a Civil War? Tear down statues, not just of the Confederate states, but attack the Lincoln monument as well. Don’t like the Constitution? Then, try to eradicate everything in it. Think Christianity has been the problem with the world? Then, do everything possible to negate it and make it look irrelevant for today’s world. Almost everything that is rooted in the past is targeted. Yet, is removing everything from the past to manufacture a new reality even possible?

The short answer is, “No.” Years ago, Solomon pointed out there is nothing new under the sun (Ecclesiastes 1:9). As an illustration, many have become enamored with socialism and communism. Think that is new? Speak to those who lived under the regimes of Lenin and Stalin in Russia, or those who currently live in China or North Korea. Think you can do it differently? So did those who joined in overthrowing the czars, but the number of government executions and the poverty that became real for their lives was not what they bargained for either. You see, there was the same promise of change with each new Pharaoh, king or Emperor in so many nations that have come and gone. In the end, there are still those who are rich and those who are poor (Matthew 26:11). The joke told still seems to be true. “Remember the golden rule, that those with the gold make the rules.” It seems things like this will not be canceled.

However, many things of the past are not being changed. The cry to use green vehicles and the technology of computing and smartphones, which are fundamental to this culture, come from their past. They just did not appear yesterday. What about all those who are promoting cancel culture? Are their actions and attitudes all untarnished? Hate and violence as tools to advance many causes are as old as humanity. Just ask Abel (Genesis 4:8). Not only this, but what will the next culture that comes along do when it doesn’t like what the cancel culture established? It is a matter of keeping what is convenient and removing whatever is disadvantageous. Again, it has been done, time and again. If one generation can cancel its predecessors’ culture, do not think another will not rise to do that to the cancel culture movement, too.

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Lannie & Glenda Key: be praying for both of them during this difficult time

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

Jimmie Ann Hardy {Carolyn’s Sister} is in the nursing home in Guin, pray for her she has some ongoing health issues

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

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

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

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.

Pam Braden: she is dealing with some ongoing health problems, please continue to keep her in your prayers

Guy Weeks: is undergoing cancer treatments, please pray that this cancer will be defeated

Maddie Bishop (young girl South Haleyville) diagnosed with stage 4 Ewing sarcoma, please pray for her and her family and that treatments can defeat this cancer

**THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS**

Billy Lee {Carolyn’s Brother} he is in renal failure, is back at the nursing home in Guin, please be praying for him and the staff caring for him

Timmy Weeks: he is having some ongoing health problems, please pray that he will receive treatments that can restore his health

Danny Berryhill: diagnosed with thickness of the heart, please be praying that doctors can successfully help him with this problem

Bill Berryhill: dealing with cancer found new spot on his kidney, please be praying that his battle with cancer can be controlled and won

Mason Estes: he is need of a liver transplant; please be keeping him and his family in your prayers

Frank Farris: is dealing with some health problems, please pray that he gets better

Judy Barker (David Barker’s Mother): she had been diagnosed with bone and lung cancer; please keep her and her family in your prayers

Kristi White: diagnosed with cancer affecting her esophagus, stomach and other areas taking treatments at MD Anderson, please pray this cancer will be defeated

Vertie York: has a spot in her head and will be seeing a Neurologist October 25<sup>th</sup>, let us be praying that it will be nothing serious

Austin Carter (Travis Garrison’s Nephew): scans found a mass on his thyroid, please be praying that this does not turn out to be a serious problem

Cancel culture is based on the principle of getting what one wants or desires for today, without a respect of the past, present or future. This should not surprise us since selfishness is rooted in sin – Satan’s specialty, and Satan is the master of deception. He only cares about our destruction, and he is the ultimate power behind these things –seeking to cancel the good that God provides through Christ.

**Real change comes only in Christ**, Who makes it possible for us to change from sinfulness to righteousness, from darkness to light, from despair to hope, from pursuing the flesh to seeking the spiritual, from engaging the temporal to embracing the eternal. Christians are new creations in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17) and have the offer of an abundant life (John 10:10). The children of God enjoy life and godliness (2 Peter 1:3) and eternal life (John 3:16). Only the change that God offers through the blood of Christ, defined in His Word and accountable by us in judgment, is true and lasting change. It lasts while nothing in this life does. It offers freedom from the effects of sin, where there is no pain, sorrow, suffering, tears or anything else sin brings (Revelation 21:4). In Christ, the culture of sin is removed for what is genuine, true and real, which will never be canceled. Jesus Christ offers us everything, while Satan, who has deceived the world (1 John 5:19), promotes sin and offers only eternal condemnation.

The apostle Paul lived under the rule of Nero in the Roman Empire. It was corrupt and degrading. In the Book of Romans, Paul, nevertheless, said to submit to its authority (13:1), because the ultimate authority, God, is in control. He also said to pray for those in authority, for their sake and the sake of the saved (1 Timothy 2:1-4). How did Paul envision canceling the sinful culture of Rome? Through the preaching of the Gospel of Christ. What we need is not a culture that cancels what has come before it for more of the same, wrapped in a different package. We need real change that cancels the effects of sin and offers real life. Live for Jesus. It is in Him real change is possible, now and forever. That is what we really need and should desire. Is Christ making a change in you?

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**Bad Company**

By Denny Petrillo

“My son, if sinners entice you, Do not consent!” (Proverbs 1:10). I find it interesting that once Solomon got past the introductory material for the Book of Proverbs, the very first topic he addressed with his son was his friends (or potential friends).

Really, the very first topic? The wisest man to ever live (1 Kings 3:12) felt that he needed to start there? What about God? What about God’s Word? What about the Temple (or for us today, the church)? There are dozens of vital things to learn, but Solomon started with his son’s friends. That fact alone is deserving of pause. Solomon did this because he knew the following truths.

**First, one’s friends can determine his interests.** You are going to be drawn to what they like. The music they like will become the music you like. The sports they think are dumb you will think that, too. The people they like, you guessed it. They will become the type of people you like as well. Solomon knew that if his son chose friends who were sinful, they would destroy any interest in God, His Word or the Temple.

**Second, one’s friends can shape a person’s character.** Here Solomon was afraid that his son might choose to go with friends who were interested in robbing and stealing to get a lot of money. They were even prepared to kill the victim if necessary. How does one become like this? Well, in part it was because he chose bad friends. Solomon knew that his son could become just like them. Paul said it clearly: “Do not be deceived. Bad company corrupts good morals” (1 Corinthians 15:33; Proverbs 28:7). Apparently, one can be “deceived” into thinking, “It won’t hurt if I hang around with them,” or “They won’t be able to change who I am.” Wrong. They will. Don’t be so foolish to think otherwise.

**Third, one’s friends do not have power over him.** Peer pressure is a powerful force. No doubt about it. Yet, one can overcome that power and simply just say, “No.” What friends offer may sound appealing – a house filled with wealth (v. 13). How does it get any better than that? Yet, as appealing as that may be, a son has to be wise enough to see through it. He has the right to choose and to reject such an offer.

While this material is about the young, it remains true for people of all ages. Choose well your associates. Teens need to find friends who have spiritual interests. College students need to find those on campus who have a relationship with God. Adults need to find a work environment that will enable them to pursue righteousness. No one ought to choose the TV to be his “companion” or music by non-spiritual, godless people.

Make good choices. Eternity is at stake.

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**Are We Devoted to the Breaking of Bread?**

By Brian R. Kenyon

Luke summarized the first church of Christ, established in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost following the resurrection of Christ. “And they continued steadfastly in the apostles’ doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers” (Acts 2:42). The term, “continued steadfastly” means to be devoted (Acts 1:14; 2:46; 6:4; Romans 12:12). There are four specific areas, all spiritual in nature, to which these early Christians were devoted. In this article, we will examine the third of these. They were devoted to “the breaking of bread.” The term “breaking of bread” can refer simply to a common meal, as it does in Acts 2:46. However, in the context of Acts 2:42, the term refers to a special “breaking of bread,” which is the Lord’s Supper (cf. Matthew 26:26-29). In Acts 2:42, the original language has two definite articles that do not come across in most English translations. The term literally reads, “the breaking of the bread,” which clearly distinguishes this from “breaking bread [from house to house]” (Acts 2:46). The day and frequency with which the Lord’s Supper was to be taken is not given here, but we find elsewhere that it was taken on the first day of every week (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 11:20). The Lord’s Supper is communion with Christ (Matthew 26:29; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17), as worshipers remember His death (1 Corinthians 11:23-29). “The breaking of bread” likely serves as a synecdoche (a part used for the whole) to indicate all worship. Spiritual obligations were a matter of devotion for the early church (Acts 20:6). How important is worship and “the breaking of bread” to us?

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