**Clarksville Church of Christ** 407 W Lewis & Clark Pkwy Clarksville, IN 47129-1649 (812) 944-2305 www.clarksvillechurchofchrist.org Sundays Bible Study...... 9:30 AM Worship......10:30 AM Worship.....6:00 PM Wednesdays Bible Study.....7:30 PM Elders Allen L. Morris......812-967-4536 

Deacons Jeffrey B. Hunt.....502-931-5766 Elbert Metcalf......812-246-5938 Rondal O. Thompson Jr....812-944-8295

Editor Stephen W. Nale......502-727-7559

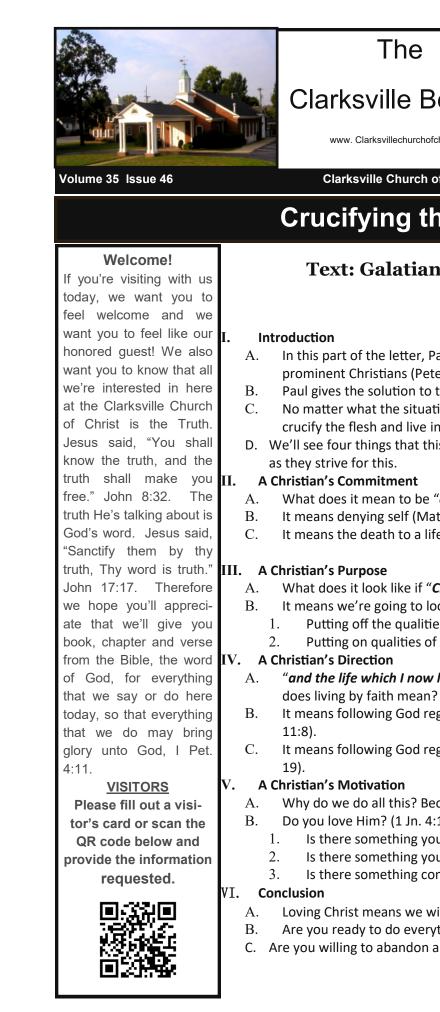
Beginning Our 65th Year Dec. 4, 2022

### **Clarksville Church of Christ**

407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwv Clarksville, IN 47129-1649

Goals For 2023 Prayer List <u>Theme</u> "Courageous Christians in 2023!" Attendance: Sunday Bible Study: 40; Sunday AM: 50 Sunday PM: 40; Wednesday Bible Study: 30 Giving: Meet Our Yearly Budget Invitations: 130 Every Member Committed To Daily Bible Reading Every Member Committed To Daily Prayer Every Member Committed To Be At Every Service Support the Work in Vincennes, Indiana Hold A Men's Training Class Hold One Gospel Meeting -Like us on Facebook-View us on YouTube at Clarksvillechurch Luke Capps will be preaching today. We are on week # 46 of our daily Bible reading.

Sharon Nale, Polly Ward, Macon Ward, Debby Spears (Roseann's sis) Sharon Thompson, Kay Thompson Gene Ward & Beth McFarland Brooke Thomas, Pam Caudill Debbie Lewellen. Cathie Hall THIS MONTH: Christ Giving Us Courage Acts 28:15, Heb. 9:14 Who Have You Invited To Services This week? Lord's Supper Reading Isa. 53:1-6 Scripture Reading AM: Galatians 2:20 PM: Matt. 13:3-9 Encouragement Tally Invites this month 0 Invites last month: 12 Visitors YTD: 12 Place Stamp Here



Clarksville Church of Christ Crucifying the Fles	November 12,'2023
www. Clarksvillechurchofchrist.org	Clarksville, IN 47129 First Service December 7, 1958
Clarksville Beacon	"Courageous Christians!" 1 Cor. 16:13 Clarksville Church of Christ 407 W. Lewis & Clark Pkwy.
The	Our Theme for 2023

## Text: Galatians 2:20

### **CRUCIFYING THE FLESH**

- A. In this part of the letter, Paul has to speak of some hypocrisy that had infected some prominent Christians (Peter and Barnabas).
  - Paul gives the solution to this problem in Galatians 2:20.
  - No matter what the situation we, like Peter, Barnabas, and even Paul must strive to crucify the flesh and live in Christ.
- D. We'll see four things that this verse reveals to us about what a Christian's life looks like

- What does it mean to be "*crucified with Christ*"?
- It means denying self (Matthew 16:21-24).
- It means the death to a life of sin (Romans 6:3-7, 11-14).

- What does it look like if "Christ lives in me"?
- It means we're going to look like Him (Romans 8:29).
  - Putting off the qualities of sinfulness and ungodliness (Colossians 3:5-9).
  - Putting on qualities of Jesus (Colossians 3:10, 12-14).

- A. *"and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God"* What
  - It means following God regardless of where it leads (2 Corinthians 5:7; Hebrews

It means following God regardless of why He leads a certain way (Hebrews 11:17-

- Why do we do all this? Because Jesus "loved me and gave Himself for me." Do you love Him? (1 Jn. 4:19)
  - Is there something you're not willing to do for Him?
  - Is there something you're not willing to repent of?
  - Is there something competing with your relationships with Him?
- Loving Christ means we will give ourselves over to Him.
- Are you ready to do everything He says?
- C. Are you willing to abandon all other allegiances and loyalties for Him?

# Luke Capps

# Sowing the Seed

## Matthew 13:3-23

## I. Introduction

- A. It is often well said, "A parable is an earthly story with a heavenly message."
- B. Parables are powerful because they help us see what we sometimes struggle to see heavenly themes/language/etc.
- C. Parables often contain many good applications, but we want to particularly focus on the main application God is teaching.
- D. So what is the point of the Parable of the Soils?

## II. The Kind of Heart That Receives The Word (Luke 8:11)

- A. There is only one good soil/heart (Matthew 13:23).
  - 1. This means the other soils/hearts are not the kind we want.
  - 2. So what is the difference between the good soil and the bad soils?
- B. The wayside does not allow the seed in at all unlike the good soil (v. 19).
  - 1. This is the heart that refuses to listen.
  - 2. But the good heart listens intently.
- C. The rocky soil does not let the seed root deeply unlike the good soil (vv. 20-21).
  - 1. This is the heart that initially hears & acknowledges the Truth but there's no commitment.
  - 2. But the good heart holds the Truth fast with continued zealousness.
- D. The thorny soil is not fruitful unlike the good soil (v. 22; Luke 8:14).
  - 1. This is the heart that deceives itself into thinking it has properly taken in the Truth, but has nothing to do with it (Jn. 15:2-4).
- E. The good soil succeeds where all of the other soils fail (Luke 8:15).

## III. What's The Point of This Illustration?

- A. To help people identify which soil/heart they have.
- B. The disciples had the good soil (Matthew 13:10-12, 16-17).
- C. The rest had one of the bad soils (vv. 13-15).
- D. But just because one currently has a bad soil/heart doesn't mean they have to continue with it.

## IV. So How Do We Cultivate The Good Soil?

- A. Plant the seed.
  - 1. Have we exposed ourselves to the Word of God?
- B. Break up the hard ground and cultivate a soil that will allow the seed to penetrate.
  - 1. Have we broken down the walls that we've built up against the Word?
- C. Move the rocks that hinder the seed.
  - 1. Have we removed the stumbling blocks that keep the Word from our hearts?
- D. Cut out the thorns that choke the seed.
  - 1. Have we cut out the distractions of the world that wage war against the soul?
  - 2. Are we actively doing this?
- V. Conclusion
  - A. Which soil are you?
    - 1. Are you continuing to do things necessary to maintain the good?
    - 2. Are you doing the things necessary to cultivate the good?

# The Legacy Of Ananias and Sapphira

**THE** apostle Peter asked Ananias a very poignant question in Acts chapter 5, verse 3. *"...Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back part of the price for the land?"* Ananias had just conspired with his wife, Sapphira to attempt to deceive Peter and the other apostles about the amount of money they had received for a piece of ground they had sold. The money from the sale was to be used to help alleiviate the needs of the saints in the burgeoning Jerusalem church after the conversions on the Day of Pentecost. Many had done this (Acts 2:34), but Ananias and Sapphira "kept back part of the price," while implying by their actions that the full price was being contributed. Peter referred to their action as "lying to God" and "tempting" the Spirit of the Lord. They paid for this deception with their lives. They also left a five-fold legacy worth noting.

**Great fear** came upon the church and outsiders. Verse 11 says, *"And great fear came upon the church and upon as many as heard these things."* The word translated "fear" is *phobos*, meaning fright or terror. This great sin of Ananias and Sapphira and its immediate punishment got the attention of the people! As a result...

**Greater respect for the power of the Holy Spirit** is evidenced by that fear. When Ananias lied to Peter he was lying to an inspired apostle. The Holy Spirit knew the mind of Ananias, hence, so did Peter. Those in attendance now had to view their own honesty (or lack of it) knowing the power of the Holy Spirit to know the hearts of man.

**Greater respect for the church by outsiders** is demonstrated by the conduct of those who were not Christians toward the assemblies of the saints. They esteemed them highly according to Acts 5:13. They saw them assembling together at Solomon's porch and observed the wonders and signs performed by the apostles under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. As a result...

**Greater growth of the church** occurred as more and more men and women were moved to accept the apostles' teaching, confirmed by the signs they performed (Acts 5:14). Finally,

**Greater interest in the healings done by the apostles** followed these conversions as more and more of the sick and demon possessed were brought to the apostles for healing. The faith of the people in the Holy Spirit was definitely building.

Such was the legacy of two deceitful Christians who thought they could hide the true intents of their hearts from God. God dealt with them swiftly and harshly. Such should be a lesson for us today. *"Behold therefore the goodness and the severity of God..."* Rom 11:22

Luke Capps

## Steve Nale