



The Voyager

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

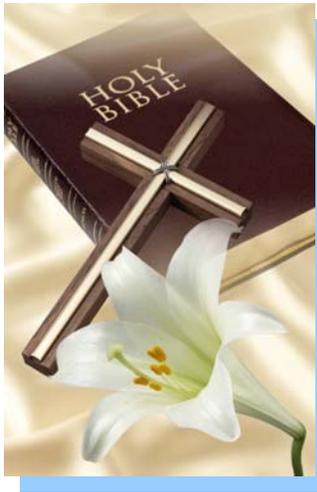
APRIL 2012



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The Seven Last Words of Christ



The Seven Last "Words" of Jesus Christ from the cross are actually seven short phrases that Jesus uttered on Calvary. For centuries the last words of Christ have inspired numerous sermons, meditations, Holy Week devotionals, sacred music, and entire books about the spiritual meanings of these last words Jesus spoke .

To find all of the seven last words of Jesus Christ, one must read all the gospels since none of the evangelists records all seven last words. Three of the sayings appear exclusively in the Gospel of Luke and three appear exclusively in the Gospel of John. The other saying appears both in the Gospel of Mark and the Gospel of Matthew.^[3] In Mark and Matthew, Jesus cries out to God. In Luke, he forgives his killers, reassures the good thief, and commends his spirit to the Father. In John, he speaks to his mother, says he thirsts, and declares the end of his earthly life.

- ◆ *Father forgive them, for they know not what they do (Luke 23:34).*
- ◆ *Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise (Luke 23:43).*
- ◆ *Woman, behold your son: behold your mother (John 19:26-27).*
- ◆ *My God, My God, why have you forsaken me, (Matthew 27:46 and Mark 15:34).*
- ◆ *I thirst (John 19:28).*
- ◆ *It is finished (John 19:30).*
- ◆ *Father, into your hands I commit my spirit (Luke 23:46).*

We invite you to go deeper during this Holy Week as we reflect upon the sacrifice Our Savior made for all of us. You are encouraged to attend the 14th Annual Historic Parish Street District Passion Week Community Worship Services April 2-4 at 7:00 p.m. each night. *(Please see pages 4-5 for a full schedule.)*



Reverend Charles Spann will be the guest preacher on Palm Sunday (April 1st) for the occasion of Rev. Rhodes' second year as pastor of Mt. Helm Baptist Church.

Living With Expectation

When the dark day of Jesus' crucifixion drew to a close, it seemed that the most



wonderful of all lives had come to an end. For a few brief years, Christ had astounded the crowds and His followers with the wisdom of His teaching and the wonder of His miracles. But Jesus chose not to save Himself

from the cross, and now His life was over. It seemed that nothing more could be expected of Him.

Hope returned, however, on that first resurrection morning. A painting by Eugene Burnand portrays Peter and John running to the tomb. Shortly after dawn, Mary Magdalene had told them that she and her friends had found the tomb empty. In Burnand's painting, the faces of Peter and John show contending emotions of anguish and relief, of sorrow and surprise, of despair and wonder as they race toward the tomb. Their gaze is eagerly fixed forward, turning the viewer's attention to the sepulcher. What did they find? An empty tomb—the Savior was alive!

Christ still lives. But many of us go from day to day as if He were still in the grave. **How much better to look beyond the empty tomb to the One who can fill our lives with the power of His resurrection!**

LAUNCH OUT INTO THE DEEP

We Salute Pastor C.J. Rhodes



We, the members of Mount Helm Baptist Church, continue to be thankful, excited, and pleased that God saw fit to place you here as our leader. You answered the call and became the twenty-third pastor of Mount Helm Baptist Church. On the occasion of your Second Year Anniversary as pastor of this historic church, we reflect on just how meaningful and how productive your two years have been.

Yes, Pastor Rhodes, your ministry and leadership have significantly impacted our church congregants as well as the entire Jackson community. The theme you have chosen, *“LAUNCH 2012: Leading Enthusiastically ... For Such a Time As This”*, reflects a vision that translates the message that you are a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ, ready and willing to nourish this flock. Your messages Sunday after Sunday and at the Wednesday night Bible Study show that you speak and think biblically and that you spend a large portion of your time interacting with the text of the Scripture. Because of this virtue, you are able to articulate the Word of God in a simple, inspiring and meaningful way so as to enhance our spiritual growth.

We are reminded of Paul’s teachings in 1 Timothy 4: 6-16 when he delineates the characteristics of being an excellent servant of Christ. A brief summation of these follows:

- * **The excellent servant warns people of error.**
- * **The excellent servant is an expert student of the scripture**
- * **The excellent servant avoids the influence of unholy teaching.**
- * **The excellent servant disciplines himself in personal godliness.**
- * **The excellent servant is committed to hard work.**
- * **The excellent servant teaches with authority.**
- * **The excellent servant is a model of spiritual virtue.**
- * **The excellent servant has a thoroughly Biblical ministry.**
- * **The excellent servant fulfills his calling.**
- * **The excellent servant is totally absorbed in his work.**
- * **The excellent servant is continually progressing in his spiritual growth.**

Indeed we are tremendously blessed to have a leader who possesses the aforementioned characteristics. We thank God for this committed servant who is “Leading Enthusiastically...For Such a Time As This.”

HAPPY SECOND YEAR ANNIVERSARY, PASTOR RHODES!

Mt. Helm Baptist Church

REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE AT THE
ORGAN DEDICATION SERVICE
SUNDAY, APRIL 1, 2012 – 4:00 P.M.

GUEST ORGANIST PATSY SIMPSON
ALLEN ORGAN COMPANY



Mount Helm Celebrates Women's Day



The Annual Women's Day Program and activities will be celebrated on **Sunday, April 15, 2012**. The day begins with Sunday School at 9:30 A.M. and continues with the Morning Worship Service at 11:00 A.M. The women will assume their usual leadership roles for all services.

Our guest speaker for the occasion will be **Sister Monique Mosley**. The theme for Women's Day is "The Strength and Influence of a Godly Women for Such a Time as This."

Each woman of Mount Helm is asked to contribute \$100.00 and each man \$50.00. All women should dress in white and wear a red corsage.

Please invite relatives, friends, and neighbors to join in the fellowship with us on April 15, 2012. Your efforts and continued support for a glorious celebration are appreciated.

Yours in Christ,
Sister Mary Anne States, Chairperson

2012 Women's Day Committee

- Sister Jeffie Bowman
- Sister Barnessa Cook
- Sister Arva Fuller
- Sister Brenda M. Harris
- Sister Emma Hurley
- Sister Geraldine Kelly
- Sister Jacqueline Lampley
- Sister Jessie Lampley
- Sister Tori Robinson
- Sister Beverly Shaeffers



April Birthday Greetings

Sis. April Bowman	02
Sis. Mary Anne States	10
Sis. Ryan Herd	12
Sis. Geraldine Kelly	14
Bro. Lincoln Lampley	15
Sis. Elizabeth Lampley	18
Sis. Vera Norwood	18
Sis. Garnette Galloway	19
Sis. Emma Hurley	19
Sis. Willene Holmes	20
Bro. Frank T. Lampley	21
Sis. Katherine Rush	27
Sis. Beulah Morris	28
Bro. Ernest Cook	29
Sis. Eliana Ransom	29



Sick & Shut-In Members

Sis. Magnolia Brown
Forest Hill Nursing Home
601-373-6297

Sis. Mattie Rundles
710 Watson Street
601-354-8948

Sis. Bernice Warden
1120 N. Lamar Street
601-354-2450



Special Prayer Requests

Military personnel and their families

- Bro. Emmanuel Bailey
- Bro. Joseph Bowman and family
- Sis. Lillian Cooley
- Sis. Anita Hall
- Bro. Carey Holmes (U.S. Air Force)
- Bro. Barry Hubbard
- Sis. Cybrathia Hubbard
- Sis. Ethel Lawson
- Bro. Mario Lewis (U.S. Army)
- Bro. Willie Peale
- Sis. Joyce Morris Prior
- Sis. Naomi Sams
- Bro. James Shelby
- Bro. Robert Lee Thomas

President Barak Obama
"Prayer for those in authority over us"
(2 Chronicles 1:10-11)

FELLOWSHIP NOTE: Please pray for all the sick among us. All who request prayer are lifted during Intercessory Prayer on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.



**14TH ANNUAL HISTORIC FARISH STREET DISTRICT PASSION WEEK COMMUNITY
WORSHIP SERVICES
APRIL 2-4, 2012 – 7:00 P.M. NIGHTLY**

**HISTORIC FARISH
STREET
DISTRICT FELLOWSHIP**

BLAIR STREET A.M.E. ZION CHURCH
BELINDA JOHNSON, PASTOR

CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
STEPHEN COOK, PASTOR

CHRIST TEMPLE
CHURCH OF CHRIST HOLINESS, USA
ANDRE' TYLER, ELDER

VOICE OF CALVARY FELLOWSHIP CHURCH
NEDDIE WINTERS, PASTOR

FARISH STREET BAPTIST
HICKMAN JOHNSON, PASTOR

MOUNT HELM BAPTIST CHURCH
C.J. RHODES, PASTOR

NEW DIMENSIONS MINISTRIES
THOMAS JENKINS, PASTOR

NEW HOPE M. B. CHURCH (HAMILTON)
MARK WILLIAMSON, PASTOR

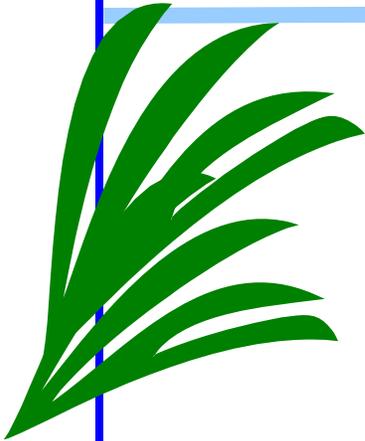
TRUE LIGHT M.B. CHURCH
MARCUS E. CHEEKS, PASTOR

ORDER OF SERVICE

MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2012
HOST CHURCH
CENTRAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

- Prelude ----- Musician
- Call to Worship----- Stephen Cook, Pastor
- Hymn of Praise ----- "O How I Love Jesus"
- Scripture ----- Host Church Minister/Deacon
- Invocation ----- Rev. Marcus E. Cheeks
- Hymn of Consecration ----- "Down At the Cross"
- Welcome ----- Host Church Member
- Occasion ----- Rev. Neddie Winters
- Special Music----- Christ Temple Church of Christ
Church Choir

- Sermon ----- Bishop Campbell
Christ Temple Church of Christ
- Invitation to Discipleship ----- Host Church Pastor
- Offering ----- Host Church
Music Guest Choir
- Benediction ----- Bishop Campbell



Palm Sunday is the day we remember the "triumphal entry" of Jesus into Jerusalem, exactly one week before His resurrection (Matthew 21:1-11). Some 450-500 years earlier, the Prophet Zechariah had prophesied, "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey" (Zechariah 9:9). Matthew 21:7-9 records the fulfillment of that prophecy: "They brought the donkey and the colt, laid their clothes on them, and set Him on them. And a very great multitude spread their clothes on the road; others cut down branches from the trees and spread them on the road. Then the multitudes who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: 'Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Hosanna in the highest!" This event took place on the Sunday before Jesus' crucifixion.



**14TH ANNUAL HISTORIC FARISH STREET DISTRICT PASSION WEEK
COMMUNITY WORSHIP SERVICES
APRIL 2-4, 2012 – 7:00 P.M. NIGHTLY**

ORDER OF SERVICE

TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 2012
HOST CHURCH
TRUE LIGHT M.B. CHURCH

Prelude ----- Musician
Call to Worship----- Marcus E. Cheeks, Pastor
Hymn of Praise -----“Bless that Wonderful
Name of Jesus”
Scripture ----- Host Church Minister/Deacon
Invocation ----- Rev. Stephen Cook
Hymn of Consecration ----- “Down at the Cross”
Welcome ----- Host Church Member
Occasion -----Bishop Joseph Campbell
Special Music----- Mt. Helm Baptist Church Choir

Sermon ----- C.J. Rhodes, Pastor
Mt. Helm Baptist Church
Invitation to Discipleship ----- Host Church Pastor
Offering ----- Host Church
Music Guest Choir
Benediction -----Rev. C.J. Rhodes

ORDER OF SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 2012
HOST CHURCH
FARISH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

Prelude ----- Musician
Call to Worship----- Hickman Johnson, Pastor
Hymn of Praise ----- “Because He Lives”
Scripture -----Host Church Minister/Deacon
Invocation ----- Rev. Neddie Winters
Hymn of Consecration----- “Down at the Cross”
Welcome -----Host Church Member
Occasion ----- Rev. Hickman Johnson
Special Music----- True Light Male Choir

Sermon ----- Mark Williamson, Pastor
New Hope Baptist Church (Hamilton)
Invitation to Discipleship ----- Host Church Pastor
Offering ----- Host Church
Music Guest Choir
Benediction ----- Rev. Mark Williamson

Palm Sunday is (cont.)



In remembrance of this event, we celebrate Palm Sunday. It is referred to as Palm Sunday because of the palm branches that were laid on the road as Jesus rode the donkey into Jerusalem. Palm Sunday was the fulfillment of the Prophet Daniel's "seventy sevens" prophecy: " Know therefore and understand, That from the going forth of the command To restore and build Jerusalem Until Messiah the Prince, There shall be seven weeks and sixty-two weeks; The street shall be built again, and the wall, Even in troublesome times" (Daniel 9:25). John 1:11 tells us, "He (Jesus) came to His own, and His own did not receive Him." **The same crowds that were crying out "Hosanna" were crying out "crucify Him" five days later (Matthew 27:22-23).**

From www.gotquestions.org.

Train Up A Child

By Sister Arva Fuller

The late Reverend John C. Chapman's favorite verse was II Timothy 2:15: *"Concentrate on doing your best for God, work you won't be ashamed of, laying out the truth plain and simple."* (The Message Translation)

Rev. Chapman firmly adhered to this principle from II Timothy and let it be known that he believed that the greatest gift one can give a child is the knowledge of God.

As the originator of Mt. Helm's Children's Church, Rev. Chapman's work glorified God and trained young minds to "do their best for God." Children's Church was and is, the training ground for our youth. Aside from Sunday School, which every child should attend, Children's Church/Youth Ministry gives our young people opportunities to learn the Bible, to learn to pray in front of a congregation, to lead responsive readings and to train in various functions of a church worship service. In essence, a youth gains valuable leadership skills from participation in church

related activities. Knowing this, the Mt. Helm Youth Ministry accedes to the admonishment of Solomon in Proverbs 22:6: *"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, will not depart from it."* (King James Version)

Participation in youth ministry activities helps youth develop deeper spiritual experiences. It encourages evangelism and gives them guidance as they matriculate into young adulthood and beyond. Another benefit is the bond of fellow believers who are their peers. They encourage one another as they participate in various church and extracurricular activities.

The church benefits also. Prepared, spirit-filled youth are ready to assume more responsibility in church, and to lead various church auxiliaries. It also encourages our youth to become young adults full engaged in their church, and ensures that our church will thrive and grow under their leadership into the future.

Our youth need the same encouragement Paul gave to Timothy, "concentrate on doing your best for God." This happens when we train up a child.



Support the Youth Ministry Fundraiser

The youth of Mt. Helm will make and sell Gift Baskets. The baskets will be for "all" ages. Surprise your friend, family member, co-worker, sick and shut in members, etc. with a beautiful basket filled with goodies.

The price range will be from \$20 to \$40. Please place your order with any member of the Youth Ministry and specify gender, age group and price.





BOOKS FOR THE MONTH

Christ in All the Scriptures By A.M. Hodgkin

Reviewed by Brother Charles Holmes

One online reviewer says about this seminal book, *"If we want to learn about Jesus Christ our first port of call is usually the Gospels. Matthew, Mark, Luke and John tell us about Jesus' life on earth, but if we think that Christ can only be found in those four precious books then we are missing out on the big picture."*

As the title suggests, this book shows that the message and life of Christ runs through every part of the Scripture. In the Old Testament we have prophecies of his coming and parallels of his sacrificial life, in the New Testament we have the realization of Christ as the Messiah and the impact that this is going to have on the individual believer and the entire World."

Yes, Christ is in all the scriptures from Genesis to Revelation. Beginning March 11, the International Sunday

Just Like Jesus By Max Lucado

Reviewed by Merle Harten, Jr. and H. Wilkes

The theme of Max Lucado's book (first published in 1998 and reprinted in 2003) travels a great distance. Just when we think he is taking us one place, we end up going another—and that is part of the delight of this fertile reflection on personal change.

"God loves you just the way you are, but he refuses to leave you that way. He wants you to be just like Jesus." Starting from that simple declaration, Lucado appears to be taking us to the ways God moves us toward holiness. Of course, we do go there, but not until we first come to know the heart of Jesus, a heart that is: forgiving, compassionate, responsive, Spirit-led, hungry for worship, focused on service, honest, unpolluted, full of hope, joy-filled, and tireless to the end. In twelve chapters he takes us on a jour-

School open with the topic "The Word Becomes Flesh". For the remainder of this spring, the lessons focus on God's creative word--Jesus Christ.

We learned that Christ was the word in the beginning of creation. Some readers might question whether Christ could be in the books of Esther and even Ecclesiastics. Although God is not mentioned in Esther, the author points out that the book of Esther is designed to show God's providential care of His people.

In Esther we learn that she was willing to lay down her life for her people. The author indicates that not only was Christ willing to lay down His life for us but, He actually did. Hodgkin notes that the chief design of Ecclesiastics is to test things in order to prove how inadequate they are to satisfy the deepest and truest meaning and longs of the human heart.

Can the world, apart from God, meet their needs? The verdict is: "All is vanity." When seen in the center of

ney with select Scripture, stories, and lessons on facets of Jesus' expressed love for us. For Lucado, only until we know the heart of Jesus can we understand the changes we need to make in our lives, really appreciate our special circumstances, and fathom the depths of God's commitment to our transformation.

Along the journey's way, Lucado forces us to look at our lives from new perspectives, from uncommon angles, and often through eyes without scales. This is a book about earnestly seeking God. This is a book about being ready, every day, for the Spirit-led life.

The jacket notes read: Where did we get this idea that we can't change? From whence come statements such as, "It's just my nature to worry. I'll always be pessimistic. I'm just that way. I can't help the way I react. I have a bad temper."?

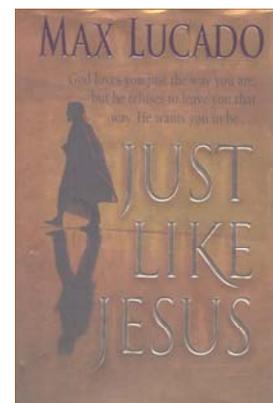
Such thoughts are not from God. He

our life, and when everything is looked at from that standpoint, all is failure. When we find Christ in the center of life, the author emphasizes in Ecclesiastics, and everything revolves around Christ, then all things fall into their right place, and one finds rest and satisfaction in one's soul.

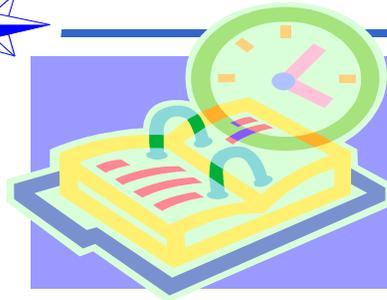
The author of the book analyzes how the each of the sixty-six books of the Bible points to Christ.

In this classic book, (originally published in 1909) we are shown the breadth of impact of the Christ. Every book of the Bible is touched on, and we are shown that the Bible stands as a whole, a planned, inspired and flawless whole with a constant thread of God's rescue plan for mankind, rather than a disparate mosaic of books on unconnected issues.

can no more leave a life unchanged that a mother can leave a tear untouched. His plan for you is nothing short of a new heart. If you were a car, God would want to control your engine. If you were a computer, God would claim the software and the hard drive. If you were an airplane, he'd take his seat in the cockpit. But you are a person so God wants to change your heart.



God loves you just the way you are, but he refuses to leave you there. He wants you to have a heart like his. He wants you to be Just Like Jesus.



On the Horizon: April Events

DID YOU KNOW . . .



Gaylord Nelson, then the junior United States Senator from Wisconsin is often cited as one of the key founders of the modern environmental movement. Nelson called for an environmental teach-in, or Earth Day, to be held on April 22,

1970. Over 20 million people participated in the first Earth Day. It is now observed annually by more than 500 million people and several national governments in 175 countries.

Senator Nelson, an environmental activist, took a leading role in organizing the celebration, hoping to demonstrate popular political support for an environmental agenda. He modeled it on the highly effective Vietnam War teach-ins of the time. Earth Day was first proposed in a prospectus to President Kennedy written by Fred Dutton. However, Nelson decided against much of Dutton's top-down approach, favoring a decentralized, grassroots effort in which each community shaped their action around local concerns.

Nelson had conceived the idea for his environmental teach-in following a trip he took to Santa Barbara right after the horrific oil spill off the coast in 1969. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. *The first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts.* To learn more about Earth Day visit www.epa.gov/earthday.

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Sister Arva Fuller, Writer

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The *Mt. Helm Voyager* newsletter will be available to our members on the first Sunday of each month. Members are encouraged to visit www.mthelm.org to access a downloadable pdf on the Monday following the first Sunday of each month.

Articles, photographs and notices of special events may be submitted to Sister Barbara Hilliard. We thank you for your support.

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www.mthelm.org

1 COMMUNION SUNDAY
Palm Sunday
Second Year Anniversary of Pastor C.J. Rhodes

11, 18, 25*

6:00 p.m.—6:30 p.m. Food and Fellowship (Fellowship Hall)
6:30 p.m.—7:00 p.m. Intercessory Prayer (Sanctuary)
7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Bible Study (Sanctuary)

6 Passover Begins

8 Resurrection Sunday
Children's Special Program

9 Brotherhood Bible Class Meeting — 6:30 p.m.

11 W.W. Colley Missionary Society Meeting — 10:00 a.m.

15 Worship Service
Women's Day Observance — 11:00 a.m.

19 Trustee Board Meeting — 6:00 p.m.

22 Worship Service
Earth Day

27 Arbor Day

29 Fifth Sunday Early Church Service Schedule
Sunday School — 8:00 a.m.
Worship Service — 9:20 a.m.
Music provided by the Youth Choir

1st, 2nd, and 4th Sundays: Children and Youth Services — 11:00 a.m.

Each Saturday: Choirs practice at 9:30 a.m.

*There will be no Wednesday night activities on April 4 to allow members to attend Passion Week Service.