UPCOMING

Prayer List

Pray for all those with ongoing health ailments.

- Renee Cumberland (cancer)
- Ora Barrett
- Scott Williams
- Irvin Skinner (India)

Communion **Preparation**

2025 preparation list is in foyer

Birthday / Anniversary

Mark Potts - 6th Larry Montgomery - 13th Robbi Cooper - 20th Kylie Joiner - 23rd

Men to Serve

Announcements - Shay Cooper

Scripture Reading - Hebrews 11:1 - 6

Lead Singing - Chuck Rowell

Head of Lord's Table - Corey Murphy

Assist on Lord's Table - James Johnson

Scripture Reading - Matthew 27:21 - 26

Closing Prayer - Larry Montgomery



03/02/2025

WELCOME

We are a body of believers whose soul intention is to glorify and serve the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the head of His church. Our desire is to reflect that of our God--that all be saved. Anyone who is willing to humble himself before the mighty hand of God can be saved.

WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

Psalms Bible Class // 9:30 am Worship Service // 10:30 am

WEDNESDAY

2 Thessalonians Class // 7:00 pm

NORTHSIDE CHURCH OF CHRIST

4217 Highway 39 N // Meridian, MS 39301 **PHONE:** (601)483-2726 **WEB:** www.nscocmeridian.com

Join us via live stream for our worship service!

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SERMON NOTES

My Credit Card and My Soul

By Rufus Clifford III

We all heard about Capital One's megabreach back in August of last year. I happen to have a Capital One card but gave it little thought until somehow, I was in two places at once. Apparently, I was in Tampa, Florida, having a nice supper and home at the same time. Then I went on a spending spree, to the tune of over a thousand dollars, while sleeping in my bed. I discovered this by checking my account online that weekend.

What steps did I take?

I locked my card! Someone kept trying to use it but to no avail.

I contacted Capital One and reported the incident

Capital One wiped out those fraudulent charges and sent me a new card.

Naturally I thought about sin and my soul. The devil, like those hackers, is constantly trying to stain my soul by getting me to sin. I guard against this, prepare for it, and take precautions but sometimes he breaches my defenses and I sin. I discover this by reading God's word and examining myself (2 Timothy 2:15; 2 Corinthians 13:5).

What steps do I take?

I lock (shut out) that temptation from my life. The devil continues to try but to no avail. (James 4:7)

I contacted (prayed to) God and confessed the incident. (1 John 1:9)

God forgave (wiped out) that sin and cleansed me from my unrighteousness. Why? Because of Jesus! (1 John 1:7-9)

It's nice to have a good credit card company who will make right the damage done by hackers. But it's better to be a Christian and have a wonderful Savior who will make right the damage done by sin!

The Church's Purpose

By Bill Hall

What is the purpose of the Lord's church? Is it to eradicate poverty, disease, social injustice, illiteracy from among men? Is it to bring about a cessation of war and conflict? Is it to campaign for a temptation-free society for Christians to live in?

If the church had as one of its great goals the eradication of disease, the Lord could have easily equipped it to accomplish that goal. Could not the same power that enabled one blind man to see have enabled all blind man to see; that enabled one lame man to walk have enabled all lame people

to walk; that cured many people of varied diseases have cured all people of all diseases? And could not this same power have been given to the church in all generations?

If the church has as one of its great goals the eradication of poverty, the Lord could have easily equipped it to accomplish this purpose. After all, He fed the five thousand with five loaves and two fishes. He similarly fed four thousand on another occasion. Could not He who did these marvelous works have enabled His church in all generations to feed, clothe, and shelter the impoverished masses of the world through miraculous powers?

If the Lord had wanted His church to become a lobbyist group to apply political pressure toward a temptation and persecution free society in which to live, He would have given instructions in that direction. He did not even lead His church into a direct effort to destroy slavery, but taught the Christian slave to be a better slave and the Christian master to treat his slaves as he would have his heavenly Master treat him (Colossians 3:22-4:1).

The church's purpose is to save souls and prepare people for eternity. It holds out to the impoverished the hope of some day walking a street of gold; to the suffering a time when there will be no pain; to the sorrowing a moment when "God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes." It tells the tempted and persecuted that there is value in these afflictions, that the testing of their faith is "more precious than of gold," and to rejoice. It tells all to live godly lives in whatever environment they find themselves. It seeks to change people through the power of the gospel, not society through the coercion of legislators. Its weapons "are not carnal, but are mighty through God." Its motivating theme: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

When churches become involved in hospital and health clinic work, or when they build schools for the education of their children, or when they see as one of their great missions to provide for the world's poverty, or when they feel obligated to create social upheaval and campaign for human rights, or when they feel called upon to express their views on the government's use of nuclear armaments or whatever, they have a distorted view of the purpose of the church.