

PARDON

In April 1830, George Wilson was found guilty of obstructing delivery of the mail, robbery of the mail, and endangering the life of mail carriers. The court sentenced Wilson and his partner, James Porter, to death. While Porter was hanged in July, President Andrew Jackson issued a pardon to Wilson, thanks to friends lobbying on his behalf. But for inexplicable reasons, Wilson refused the pardon. At that point the case went before the Supreme Court: Did a citizen even have the right to reject a pardon? The court ruled that it had no power to impose a pardon on a citizen: "A pardon is a deed, to the validity of which delivery is essential, and delivery is not complete without acceptance. It may then be rejected by the person to whom it is tendered..." In the end, Wilson was sentenced to be hanged.

Now, who would be crazy enough to turn down any presidential pardon? On top of that, turn down a pardon when you are sentenced to death! There are not many times in this world where people receive a get out of jail free card and reject it... or are there? When It comes to the case of George Wilson, I find myself asking, Did Wilson die because of the crimes he committed, or did he die because he refused the pardon?

Romans 3:23 tells us, "For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God," **Romans 5:12** goes on to tell us, "Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned." We can see clearly that the consequences of all sin is death, and all have sinned. In other words, we all need a pardon from the sentence of death. Fortunately, God wants to extend that pardon to everyone. **1 Timothy 2:3-4** tells us, "This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth."

Although God does not want anyone to perish and be lost, in order to receive this pardon there are some conditions that must be met. His pardon first requires belief. **John 3:17-18** says, "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. Whoever believes in Him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God." Part of that belief is coming to the realization that we are all living with a death sentence and we need someone else to be able to remove it. Next, it requires a confession.

Romans 10:9-10 says, "Because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved." His pardon requires repentance. **Acts 3:19** says, "Repent therefore, and turn back, that your sins may be blotted out," His pardon also requires baptism. **Romans 6:3-5** says "Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His." Finally, His pardon requires a continued faithfulness.

1 Corinthians 9:24-27 says, "Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we are imperishable. So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified."

Just like George Wilson was offered a pardon, we are offered a pardon as well. Unfortunately, just as Wilson refused his pardon, there are many in the world who are lost in sin who reject the pardon that God offers in Christ. I would imagine that we would all agree that George Wilson was pretty foolish for rejecting his pardon. Unfortunately, there are many in the world, just as foolish without realizing it, because they are rejecting God's pardon, Justice John Marshall was right, "A pardon is an act of grace, proceeding from the power entrusted with the execution of the laws, which exempts the individual, on whom it is bestowed, from punishment the law inflicts for a crime he has committed... It may then be rejected by the person to whom it is tendered." **James 4:6-8** says, "But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded." The question is, right now, are you accepting or refusing God's pardon?

Andrew Spivey

COORDINATED BIBLE CLASS STUDIES

Sunday Read – Acts 9:32-43
Wednesday Read – Acts 10

BIBLE STUDY



Questions for last week's reading of **Review Jesus & Peter & Acts 9:1-31.**

1. What did Jesus say the bread and the cup represent?
2. Which day is the first day of the week and why do Christians eat the bread and drink the cup on the first day of the week?
3. Who was the first Christian killed and what happened to the church after he was killed?
4. Why was Saul baptized?
5. Why did the persecutor of Christians become a man who was persecuted for Christ ?

LADS TO LEADERS

Lads to Leaders will meet every Sunday at 3:30 PM from now until convention time, **except 2/26/23** (CYC weekend).

TNT (TUESDAY NIGHT TOGETHER)

TNT will start up on **Tuesday March 7th** in the fellowship room at 7:00 pm. TNT is for all youth from 6th grade & up. There is a sign up list in the back of the auditorium to help out with a small meal or snacks on the dates that TNT meets. Thank you in advance for helping with our youth.

SENIOR GROUP

The Senior Group will meet, **Thursday, March 16th** at 5:00 PM in the Fellowship Room for games and finger foods. Please bring finger foods, drinks and desserts.

SYMPATHY

Our Love and Sympathy to **Jim & Linda Cherry** on the passing of Linda's brother, **Phillip Shannon** on Saturday, February 18th. No services will be held.

Our Love and Sympathy to the family of **Sue Spry** who passed on Saturday, February 18th. Graveside services were held in Woodbury, TN on Tuesday.

Our Love and Sympathy to the family of **Pat Meyer** who passed on Saturday, February 18th. Services were held in Nashville on Wednesday.

ORDER OF SERVICES

SUNDAY

February 26, 2023

9:00 AM

BIBLE STUDY

(Classes for Nursery – High School upstairs)

Song.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Brent Smith
Auditorium Lesson.....Tim Strickland

10:00 AM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Scripture Reading.....Jason Sever
Song Leader.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Carl Newby
Sermon.....Tim Strickland
Lord's Supper.....Rick Gallagher
Closing Prayer.....Eric Stephenson

5:00 PM SERVICE

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Fate Evans
Sermon.....Tim Strickland
Lord's Supper.....David Thompson
Closing Prayer.....Matt Ellis

WEDNESDAY

March 1, 2023

7:00 PM

Welcome.....David Johnson
Song Leader.....Bob Brown
Opening Prayer.....Garrett Rowlett
Lesson.....Andrew Spivey
Closing Prayer.....Jim Cherry

Door Greeters – West Door.....Z/A Tooley
East Door.....B/M Smith
Visitor's Desk Volunteer.....Linda Cherry

IF YOU CANNOT SERVE, PLEASE CALL

Alex Sherrill.....615-289-9935
Church Office.....615-452-3431

Nashville Road Church of Christ
 1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066
 Web Site: nashvilleroad.org
 E-mail: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Bible Study 9:00 a.m. - Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.
 Sunday Evening Worship 5:00 p.m. - Wednesday Evening Worship 7:00 p.m.

SICK LIST

Lena Baggett is home recovering from a ruptured disc. **Mary Ann Reinhart** has been diagnosed with cancer. **Aza Topik**, grandson of Charlie & Wanda Seals, is home now but continues with rehab. **James McCloskey** a former member has begun chemo treatments. Treatments will continue for about 10 months. **Mike Martin**, friend of the Jennings & Cato families, is now at Life Care Center in Old Hickory. He is improving some. **Paul Norman**, nephew of Carolyn Vester and cousin to Valarie Senn & Wanda Sherrill, has been diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer. **April Cothran**, a good friend of Celena Marshall has been diagnosed with stage 4 adenosquamous carcinoma of the pancreas. She is taking chemo treatments.



PRAYER LIST

Vetrus Mee, Charter Senior Living of Gallatin; **Shelby Ross**; **Sandi Jones**; **Maxine Cothron**; **Gerald Miles**, The Waters of Gallatin, 555 E. Bledsoe Drive, Room 305; **Frances Catron**; **Jean Deaton**; **Charlie Cliburn**; **Bryan Grissom** cousin to Joyce Clark & Robbie Glover; **Vycki Puckett**, daughter of Jack & Anita Cato; **Larry Bailey** son of Tina Bailey; **Ty Tyler** son of Ann Tyler; **Ricky Cantrell**; **Wade & Wanda Kennedy** parents of Diana Stephenson; **Ida Lou Sherrill**, mother of Alex Sherrill; **Lawrence Redding**, son-in-law of Betty Melcher; **Taylor Lackford**, niece of Brenda Veale; **Dustin Lackford**, nephew of Brenda Veale; **Janice Haskins**, sister of Jim Cherry; **Larry Conley**, friend of Wanda Proctor; **John Gregory**, brother of Bob Gregory; **Harold Cole**, friend of Lena Baggett; **Bobbie Carter**, sister of Janice Johnson; **Betty Billingsley**, sister of Wanda Proctor; **Walter Wooten**, brother of Wanda Sherrill.

SHUT-INS

Marilee Frederick, Gallatin Rehab, Room 220; **Joyce Savage**, NHC Place Sumner, room 322; **Jane Hughes**, 126 Seabury Dr., Greenville, SC 29615; **Melba Hill**.

We depend on families and friends to help us update this list. Please notify us of any changes.

OUR RECORD THIS WEEK

Bible Study.....	115
Morning Worship.....	150
Sunday Evening.....	68
Wednesday Evening.....	53
Contribution.....	\$7,779.00
Youth Group Account.....	\$5,691.00

Elders

Tony Butler.....	615-452-0560
Jim Cherry.....	615-479-2149
David Johnson.....	615-300-9084
Alex Sherrill.....	615-289-9935
David Thompson.....	615-598-6621

Deacons

Carl Newby	Jonathan Senn	Brent Smith
Eric Stephenson	Ken Veale	Adam Williamson

Nashville Road CHURCH OF CHRIST

1883 Nashville Pike
 Gallatin, TN 37066

Phone (615) 452-3431

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 2:30. p.m.

Web Site: www.nashvilleroad.org

Email: nashvilleroadcoc@comcast.net

ANDREW SPIVEY, Pulpit and Family Minister
TIM STRICKLAND, Associate Minister
GARRETT ROWLETT, Youth Minister