Privileged to Serve
PreacherBill Collins
Announcements Dick Vinson
Song Leader Andy Duncan
Attendance Terry Dyer/Jacob King
Morning
Scripture/Opening PrayerLamar King
Lord's Supper
Presiding
* Randy Rives
Assisting
Charles Dooley * * Tim Beech
Charles Dooley * * Tim Beech Jacob King * * Logan Miller Closing PrayerJack Mears
Closing PrayerJack Mears
Evening
Opening Prayer Tom Fair
Lord's Supper
Charles Dooley * * Tim Beech Closing PrayerMike Cumberland
Closing PrayerMike Cumberland
Communion Preparation
Month of May Kitty Dooley
Month of JuneLinda Bullock
Nursery Attendant; Backup
May 27Lara King; Katie Agan
June 3 Katie Agan; Angela Duncan
Wednesday Evening - May 30, 2018
Prayer/AnnouncementsBill Collins
Song LeaderPaul Guy
DevotionalByron Madison
Service Times
SUNDAY
Bible Study
Morning Worship
Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY

Elders
ANDY DUNCAN (662) 416-2222
Tom Fair
Deacons
LAMAR KING
Byron Madison (601) 227-1374 Youth
RANDY RIVES
EDUCATION & WORSHIP
ALBERT ST. CLAIR (601) 626-7815
Preacher
Bill Collins
Works Supported Robert Martin Stacey Ferguson South Pacific Missions
Pine Vale Children's Home Corinth, Mississippi
Attendance Last WeekSunday Bible Class29Sunday Morning Worship63Sunday Evening Worship25Wednesday Bible Study42
Wednesday bible Study 42
Contributions & Other IncomeContribution Last Week\$ 2,349.00
Daily Bible Readers
May 20, 2018 19 = 30.17% of attending *Figures Unavailable

A weekly publication of the *Meridian church of Christ* 2229 Highway 19 North ~ PO Box 3476 ~ Meridian, MS 39303-3476 ~ **Phone: (601) 482-5318** www.meridianchurchofchrist.org ~ Email: <u>churchofchristme@bellsouth.net</u>



May 27, 2018 So Meridian Messenger & Welcome Visitors! What Mean These Stones?

Joshua 4:19-24

God's people, under the leadership of Joshua, have just entered the land promised to their forefathers. Notice the events of the past: (a) 400 plus years of bondage in Egypt; (b) Moses had led Israel for some 40 years prior to his death in the land of Moab; and (c) the law of God had been given to the people of the exile from Egypt to Mt. Sinai (Exodus), to the people of the inheritance of Moab (Deuteronomy), at the Jordan River was crossed via dry land, and the children of Israel are now in the Promise Land — but what do they do first? Under the Lord's instruction, Joshua establishes a "memorial" by having each of the twelve men he had chosen to remove a stone from Jordan. These 12 stones were then placed as a memorial of their passing through the Jordan River.

Memorials are for the purpose of reminding us of certain events. They serve as valuable lessons to succeeding generations. Examples: (a) the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; (b) the Lincoln Memorial; (c) the Washington Monument; (d) Memorial Day; and (e) a spiritual memorial — The Lord's Supper. Later when those who saw the stones would ask, "*What mean these stones*?" – In asking, an important question will have been raised; in answering, some valuable lessons will be taught. What might have been some of the possible answers that were given?

What mean these stones? — These stones meant that God is a God of Providence. He cares for His people. He provides for His people. God made provisions for His people in the past: (a) Joseph to prepare the grain to preserve the Hebrew nation; (b) Moses rose up to be God's deliverer; (c) manna & quail provided in the wilderness; (d) a law to live by; (e) protection from their enemies; (f) His presence to guide them — Cloud and Pillar of Fire; (g) a new leader to succeed Moses; and (h) miraculous parting of the Jordan River. Even though time and time again the Lord provided for them, it was important that they be reminded of God's graciousness and God's provision for them. God continues to provide for His people under the Christian dispensation (Romans 8:28; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 8:35-38) God's providence is abundant today!

What mean these stones? — These stones meant that each succeeding generation must be taught about God in Joshua 4:21-22. Why? Note Joshua 4:24. Some things should not be forgotten. Some things should always be remembered. Deuteronomy 6:1-9 teaches: (a) Moses charged the people to teach their children and grandchildren; (b) they must be taught God's law; and (c) that which is taught is to be taught the way God would want it taught — no addition or subtraction. The obligation to teach our children is enjoined on us today. In Ephesians 6:4 we read: if we do not teach our children the world *~continued inside~*