Privileged to Serve		
Guest PreacherAndy Duncan		
AnnouncementsBruce Clopton		
Song Leader Tom Fair		
Attendance Terry Dyer/Jacob King		
Morning		
Scripture/Opening PrayerLamar King		
Lord's Supper		
Presiding		
* Dwight Callens		
Assisting		
Lloyd Smith * * Ralph Hubbard Randy Rives * * Jared Agan		
Randy Rives * * Jared Agan		
Closing PrayerRob Warren		
Evening		
Opening PrayerAndy Duncan		
Lord's Supper		
Lloyd Smith * * Ralph Hubbard		
Closing PrayerJacob King		
Communion Preparation		
Month of October Cindy Harper		
Month of NovemberBrandie Madison		
Nursery Attendant; Backup		
October 21Glenda Rives; Brandie Madison		
October 28Lara King; Katie Agan		
Wednesday Evening - October 24, 2018		
Prayer/AnnouncementsAndy Duncan		
Song LeaderTom Fair		
DevotionalJared Agan		

Privileged to Serve

Service Times	
SUNDAY	
Bible Study9:00 a.m.	
Morning Worship 10:00 a.m.	
Evening Worship5:00 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY	
Bible Study6:00 p.m.	-2

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Elders		
<b>ANDY DUNCAN</b> (662) 416-2222		
TOM FAIR (601) 681-8293		
Deacons		
<b>LAMAR KING</b> (601) 604-2656 BUILDING/GROUNDS		
<b>Byron Madison</b> (601) 227-1374 YOUTH		
<b>RANDY RIVES</b> (601) 513-4785 EDUCATION & WORSHIP		
ALBERT ST. CLAIR (601) 626-7815		
Works Supported Robert Martin Stacey Ferguson South Pacific Missions		
Pine Vale Children's Home Corinth, Mississippi		

#### Attendance Last Week

Sunday Bible Class	31
Sunday Morning Worship	68
Sunday Evening Worship	33
Wednesday Bible Study	26

#### **Contributions & Other Income**

\$ 2,131.00 Contribution Last Week

### **Daily Bible Readers**

October 14, 2018 \* = \*% 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: churchofchristme@bellsouth.net



# October 21, 2018 - Meridian Messenger «

Welcome Visitors!

## THE PROBLEMS OF A TWO-HEADED SNAKE

A woman in Woodbridge, Virginia, saw a rarity in her front yard: a two-headed copperhead snake. The snake only has one heart and one set of lungs, but each head has its own brain. This produces multiple problems. Both heads want to eat, and since eating takes time the snake is vulnerable to predators for twice as long. Second, each snake wants to go its own way. That means they can't respond very quickly when under attack. Even getting water can be precarious, as one head

can drag the other down when drinking. An expert at the Wildlife Center of Virginia said, "Based on the anatomy, it would be better for the right head to eat, but it may be a challenge since the left head appears more dominant" (Dana Hedgpeth, The Washington Post, 9/24/18). Experts also say that these internal conflicts prevent these rare "dual-cephalic" creatures from living very long.

James tells us that the double-minded man is unstable in all his ways (1:7) and implies that double-mindedness reflects impurity of heart (4:8). The first instance of the word relates trusting God or doubting in times of trials, and the second relates to following a spiritual leader, whether the devil and the world or God. It is hard to



run with the devil and walk with God. So often, there's the temptation to try to do both. But, this conflict is so basic and so contradictory that it will contribute to our spiritual death. It makes us vulnerable to attack.

What this requires is decisiveness. Jesus taught, "No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth" (Mat. 6:24). We must choose who we will listen to (Josh. 24:15). Otherwise, we will remain in peril and we will ultimately, spiritually die. Paul put it this way, "they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace" (Rom. 8:5-6). The struggle is real but the problem must be overcome. We must strive to be single-minded in our dedication and devotion. That means we can't live for the world and the Lord. It is an either/or proposition. Jesus says, "He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me, scatters" (Luke 11:23). Let's make the right choice and simplify every-thing. Let's honor one head and make it the right one (cf. Eph. 1:22). Neal Pollard † The Encourager † Calvert City Church of Christ