

Johns Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

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Reverend Willie White, Jr., Pastor

The Sermon by Pastor Willie White, Jr.

July 26, 2020

“DON'T CAST YOUR FLEECE!!!”

Judges 6:36-40; verse 37 = Behold I will put a fleece of wool in the floor, and if the dew be on the fleece only and it be dry upon all the earth beside, then shall I know that thou will save Israel by mine hand as thou hast said.

My Christian brothers and sisters, the book of Judges reminds me of this particular couple who were struggling in their relationship. They went to a local psychiatrist seeking for help. The woman said to the doctor "My husband is crazy, he is stone cold, crazy." The doctor asked the woman, "Why you think your husband is crazy?" The woman said "Because he believes he is a chicken; every day he behaves like a chicken." The doctor said to the woman "Tell your husband that he is not a chicken" and the woman said "I can't do that; I need the eggs!" Lol! When crazy is with crazy, it is a crazy situation!

Here in our text this morning the children of Israel were in a crazy situation because they engaged in sinful activities before God. This book is so relevant for us this morning as children of the living God, living in today's society. This book deals with cycles. This book shows us how the children of Israel were close to God and this book shows us how quickly they drifted away from God. This book has been tagged as the ABCDE book, (A = Abandoned, B = Bondage, C = Crying Out, D = Deliverance, E = Ease).

Let us look at verses 1 - 6 and we will uncover **point number one**.

1: FEAR (Scared, Timid, Afraid). How can we handle our fears? One way of handling our fears this morning, we must never leave God out of our thinking. The text says in verse number one, they did what was evil in the sight of God. They left God out of their thoughts, and whenever you leave God out of your thoughts, fear will kick in, fear will take over. We are facing some tough situations and some difficult people in today's society. We are dealing with many

Grab, Drop & Go Message – “Grab a Sermon, Drop Offering and Go Home” & Parking Lot Worship in Cars -
Coronavirus Pandemic 2019-2020

issues right now, like the coronavirus, COVID-19 pandemic, race issues, police brutality, Hurricane Hanna, racial profiling, stereotyping, sexism, classism, unemployment, pensions, immigration, housing and health care, just to name a few (BUT GOD) God has promised that He will never abandon us or fail to help us. We can overcome our fears when we fear God and see Him as a Holy God. To fear God is to recognize God for who He is: holy, almighty, righteous, pure, all knowing, all powerful and all wise. **My Christian brothers and sisters**, appropriate fear will allow you to see God as a special God.

DON'T CAST YOUR FLEECE!

Let us glean from verses 11-35 and pick up **point number two**.

2: FRUSTRATION (Anger, Hopelessness, Mistakes). How should we handle frustration? We can handle frustration by avoiding making important decisions when we are frustrated. We can handle frustration by remaining obedient to God while we are frustrated. We can handle frustration when we are not motivated by frustration. And we can handle frustration when we are not causing frustration in the lives of others.

DON'T CAST YOUR FLEECE!

As I close from the text this morning, let us unpack verses 36-40 so that we can pinpoint, **point number three**.

3: FAITH (Belief, Confidence, Trust). God wants Gideon to operate out of Effective faith, not Ineffective faith, nor weak faith, but effective faith. Ineffective faith is marked by a lack of trust in God. Weak faith tends to lack endurance. Effective faith depends on God. Effective faith, total dependence on God, and a willingness to do His will. Effective faith is not something we use to put on a show for others. It is complete and humble obedience to God's will, and readiness to do whatever He calls us to do.

DON'T CAST YOUR FLEECE!

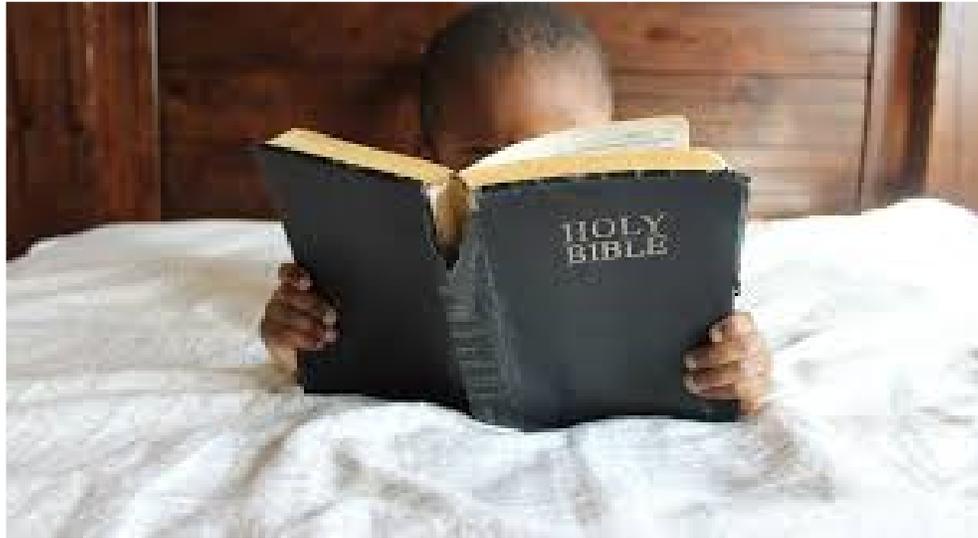
I LOVE BEING YOUR PASTOR HOT DOG

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Please check texts, e-mails and website for updates johnschapelamec.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS –SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020



--Please remember all the children in prayer as decisions are made regarding how they will return to school during the ongoing **Coronavirus Pandemic**, and stay abreast of the latest directives. www.cdc.gov
<https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov> www.aarp.org



REMEMBER TO WEAR FACE MASKS IN PUBLIC AT ALL TIMES – CHILDREN TOO!

NEW REQUIREMENT BY GOVERNOR IVEY

--Pastor White presents: **“SERMON DASH”**. You may receive a hard copy or a CD/DVD of sermons via text, phone call, e-mail or word of mouth, etc., and we will get the sermon to you.

WEEKLY OPPORTUNITIES TO WORSHIP & SERVE – Check e-mails and text messages for info

--EACH SUNDAY – Worship service in cars at **9:00 a.m.**. Grab & Go – **10:45-11:45**; Full Church School Lesson **12:00 NOON** via conference call. Dial-in # 605-313-5111 Access code 737936.

--EACH WEDNESDAY – JC Bible Study via conference call - 7:00 p.m. Dial-in # 605-313-5111 Access code 737936

--The Summer Feeding Program for Children ended on Friday, July 24. Many thanks to all who helped in any way. **The Food Give Away** will be held on the third Wednesday of every month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. for 50 people starting in August. People MUST apply. Applications may be picked up until 30 July from Johns Chapel from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. For more info, please see Sister Helen Nichols.

-- The Johns Chapel Family sends condolences to our beloved First Family: Sister White, Pastor White, Brittany, Chynna and Jeremiah, after the passing of Mrs. White's Mother, Mrs. Minnie Powell on last Saturday. Please remember the entire family in prayer.

PRAYER LIST Week of July 26-30, 2020

-- Sister Annie Pearl Allen (wife of Brother Roland)
--Sister Eleanor Bailey
-- Jennifer Bigham – Doing well at home
-- Debra D. Brown -Address: 74 Davis Street, Charles Town, WV 25414-
--Sister Geraldine Booth
--Sister Brenda Crawford
--Caiden M. Gary, Grandson of Sis C. Jones
--Ms Fay, lives in another state – A believer asked us pray for her sister to have a closer walk with God
--Sister Annie Pearl Frazier
--Sister Ruby Grayer
--Sister Dorothy Holmes
--Sister Kim Jackson—Sister of Bro. Golden
--Sister Constance Jones & Family
--Sister Mable Mays
--Sister Ann McGaughey



--Dr. Russell Nichols
--Sister Patricia White – Bereavement – Passing of her Mother, Sister Minnie Powell
--Pastor Willie White, Jr. –Bereavement -Passing of his Mother-in-Law
--Brittany Bradley, Chynna Clark & Jeremiah Bradley – Bereavement – Passing of Grandmother & Great-Grandmother
--Sister Rosetta White & Brother Willie White, Sr. — Parents of Pastor White
--Sister Johnnie Sanders
--Brother Larry Wilson—Husband of Sis. Shun Wilson
--Sister Eloise Williams
--The United States of America & the World
***New entries in bold print**
Remember to pray for and check on our shut-in members.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July 27, 1990

Shervekia Bell

July 30

Tiffany Britt



NO ANNIVERSARIES ON RECORD THIS WEEK

--**JC MEMBERS ARE OBEYING THE LAW AND RESPONDING TO THE CENSUS.** -- Pastor White is asking Class Leaders to please check on all class members to see how they are doing and also inquire if they have completed the Census. If not, please emphasize the importance, and let them know help is available. **Volunteers:** LauReen McDaniel 334-470-1816; Franklin Simmons 334-494-2377; & Marge Simmons 334-477-1962.

26 Households reporting! OUTSTANDING! If you have completed the Census and your name is not listed above, or if you have not completed the census, please do so today and let Sister Marge know. Check out the website www.census2020.gov and encourage others to respond. .

To get our fair share of funding, we all must stand up and be counted.