February 8, 2026

He's Coming Back

Some things happening in our world right now are deeply disheartening. At times, it's hard not to wonder how much longer God will tolerate the direction things seem to be heading.

There's anger and division. Injustice and violence. God's design for sexuality and marriage is increasingly dismissed as outdated or intolerant. Unborn lives are still being taken, and fewer people see Jesus Christ as God's revelation of himself. The moral and spiritual drift around us is hard to ignore.

James wrote to believers who felt that same weariness. Some of his readers were being oppressed by people in positions of authority, and they were growing tired of holding on. They were asking the same question many of us still ask: How much longer?

James answers by pointing them forward:

> *Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand (James 5:7-8).*

Twice in these verses, James directs their attention to the same hope: the return of Jesus. When life feels unjust and unresolved, he reminds them where history is headed.

He uses the image of a farmer who works and waits. Waiting does not mean passivity. It means trusting that God is at work even when the harvest is not yet visible. Just because things have not been set right yet doesn't mean they never will be.

It's good for Christians to be future-focused. Discouragement often grows when we fix our eyes only on what is in front of us, whether that's the state of the world or struggles much closer to home.

You may be tired or discouraged. You may be carrying burdens that feel heavier than usual. Your faith may be tested, and you may be wondering how much longer you can endure.

Here's the anchor James gives us: Jesus is coming back. And when he comes, he will reward faithfulness.

"Soon" in Scripture doesn't always line up with our clocks. We're living in the final age of the world, and at the time appointed by God, Jesus will return and deliver the kingdom to the Father.

But he *is* coming back. And when he does, the things that trouble us now will no longer trouble us then. There will be no more injustice left unanswered. No more fear or discouragement. No more weary bodies, anxious hearts, or broken worlds.

He's coming back.

Keeping our eyes fixed on that truth helps us endure whatever we face in this temporary life. —Chuck

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Schedule of Services

Sunday
9:00 a.m. Bible Class
10:00 a.m. Worship
5:00 p.m. Worship

Wednesday
7:00 p.m. Bible Class

ELDERS

Reggie Arnold	602-4211
Steve Cotney	531-7517
Jimmy Lyles	616-1109
Harold Rhodes	876-9296
Kyle Wadley	792-5922
Chuck Webster	586-5610
Rick Williams	706-5735
Donnie Winningham	222-7635

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YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTER
Marcus Williams
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Worship Assignments

Elder to Contact in February for Needs: Reggie Arnold

Sunday AM and PM

Greeters:
Connie Morrison (Handicap Entrance)
Greg & Jean Coker (Back Entrance)

Usher: Wes Blankenship

Nursery: Deebe Taylor

AM Singing: Kyle Wadley

Scripture Reading: Jason Blakemore

AM Opening Prayer: Mark Lackey

AM Sermon: Chuck Webster

AM Communion: Chandler Montgomery

Announcements: Kyle Wadley

AM Closing Prayer: Jason McKeown

PM Song Leader: Paul Kirby

PM Opening Prayer: Greg Coker

PM Speaker: Luke Barnard

PM Closing Prayer: Paul Kirby

Audio/Cameras: Will Spurlin/Grant Dalton

Video: Marc Handley

Security: Daniel Warren/Stephen King

Bible Reading Plan for February 8-14

- **Sunday, February 8:** Leviticus 26-27; Psalm 39
- **Monday, February 9:** Numbers 1-4; Psalm 40
- **Tuesday, February 10:** Numbers 5-7; Psalm 41
- **Wednesday, February 11:** Numbers 8-10; Psalm 42
- **Thursday, February 12:** Numbers 11-13; Psalm 43
- **Friday, February 13:** Numbers 14-16; Psalm 44
- **Saturday, February 14:** Numbers 17-18; Psalm 45

Today

Visitors, welcome to our worship service this morning—we're glad you're here! Please **scan the QR Code** on the card in the pews. We would like to know where you are from.

Sunday Bible Classes for Adults: Wade Warren is teaching in the **Auditorium**, and his topic is **"Preparation of the World for the Messiah."** Wes Blankenship and Donnie Winningham are teaching a class in the **Library** called **"Goliath Must Fall."**

This evening at 5:00, our Knit Together Groups will meet in homes to worship and fellowship. We will also have a lesson in the auditorium presented by **Luke Barnard** from Faulkner University.

News and Events

Fellowship Meal (February 15): On Sunday, February 15, we will enjoy our monthly fellowship meal together following morning worship. Unlike our usual potluck meals, the church will provide the food for everyone who attends. As we continue working toward our $130,000 goal to complete the building renovations, we invite everyone to join us for the meal that day and, if you choose, to make a contribution toward the renovation fund. Gifts are welcome anytime between now and February 15, and giving is always optional, but we hope this meal will be a meaningful way for our church family to come together and help bring this project to completion.

The Young at Heart will meet in the fellowship hall on Friday, February 20, at 5:30 p.m. for their monthly **Birthday Celebration and Game Night**. The menu is Breakfast. Contact Rhonda Bush or Virgie Banks; they are hosting this event.

The Young Adults are meeting on Friday, February 27, for a worship service and lesson presented by Micah Long.

Important Church-Wide Meeting—Sunday Evening, March 29

The elders met on Saturday, January 17, for an all-day planning session, and we're encouraged by where we believe the Hoover church is headed. We spent time in prayer and in honest conversation about our congregation—where we are, where we've been, and where God may be leading us.

One of our commitments as a new eldership is to communicate openly and regularly with the church. On Sunday evening, March 29, we plan to share some of the ideas and priorities that are taking shape as we think ahead to 2026 and beyond. This will be an opportunity to hear what we're discussing and how we're approaching the work God has given us.

We ask for your prayers as we seek wisdom and discernment, and we encourage everyone to attend if possible. We're grateful for this church family and hopeful about the future God has in store for us.

Happy Birthday

Joan Arnold	February 8
Gale Jett	February 8
Ava Lyles	February 8
Dena Percer	February 8
Lee Bowman	February 10
Henry Harris	February 11
Jason McKeown	February 12
Donna Rhodes	February 14

Youth

- **Wednesday, February 11:** Backpack Buddies at 6:15 p.m.
- **Sunday, February 15:** Area-Wide Devotional at the Hoover Church of Christ.
- **Friday-Sunday, February 20-22:** Middle School Trip.
- **Wednesday, February 25:** F.A.M. Group Meetings.

Carelines

Sondra Moss needs surgery on both rotator cuffs and carpal tunnel in both wrists. Her first surgery is this Wednesday, February 11.

Taran Hicks, Betty Crawford's son, needs our prayers for his well-being and safety.

Giana Kidwell requests prayers for her cousins, **Jim and Marie Bryers**, who lost their home and belongings in a fire. They attend the Harpeth Hills Church of Christ in Nashville, TN.

Brigitte Doutre is now in rehab at Brookwood Medical Center.

Merv Prince has a follow-up appointment with his cardiologist on February 17.

Scarlette Smith, JoAnn McDonald's daughter, is undergoing chemotherapy for ovarian cancer and will see another oncologist in New York on February 17.

Sue Adams, Jim and Denia Petruzella's aunt, is at Galleria Woods Senior Living Facility recovering from recent falls.

Mike Hooper is recovering from procedures for AFib.

Jeremy Schopper, Alyssa Long's cousin, has been moved to a long-term care facility and continues to need our prayers.

Judy Smith continues physical therapy following her recent knee replacement and is doing well.

Zach Warbington, Sam and Melody Warbington's son, is facing serious medical issues. Please continue to pray for his physical and spiritual well-being.

Remember our shut-ins: **Nancy Griner, Joyce Baker, and Sylvia Huffman**.

Remember our church family: **Diann Tippins, Gail Powell, and Tyler Tippins**.

Remember our family and friends: **Keith Hills** (Melinda Richardson's brother-in-law), **Don Cicero** (Matthew Cicero's father), **Moranda Garrett** (Jayne Ivy's friend), **Rex and Jeanne Anderson** (former members of Hoover), **Kathy Culbertson** (former member of Hoover), **Doug & Cathy Abbott** (Joel Abbott's parents), **Richard Lawson** (Alyssa Long's dad), and **Charlie Pflueger** (Tom Kidwell's dad).

The Very First Verse

The Bible's first verse contains five basic facts about science:

1. Time: In the beginning.
2. Force: God.
3. Action: Created.
4. Space: heaven.
5. Matter: Earth.

Remarkable, isn't it?

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."
Genesis 1:1

God's Plan for Saving Man

- Divine Love: John 3:16
- God's Grace: Ephesians 2:8
- Christ's Blood: Romans 5:9
- Holy Spirit's Word: 1 Corinthians 2:12-13
- Sinner's Faith: Acts 16:31
- Sinner's Repentance: Luke 13:3
- Sinner's Confession: Romans 10:10
- Sinner's Baptism: Acts 22:16
- Christian's Love: Matthew 22:37
- Christian's Work: James 2:24
- Christian's Hope: Romans 8:24
- Christian's Endurance: Revelation 2:10

What does Jesus' love teach us?

As we reflect on Jesus' love for us, it's clear that this love is deep, transformative, and inspiring. It teaches us about forgiveness, guidance, comfort, enrichment, and the importance of love in serving others.

Why do we need to understand Jesus' love?

Understanding Jesus' love is essential for our growth in faith and relationship with Him. Each scripture reveals the depth of His affection and commitment towards us, reminding us that we are cherished children of God.

How did Jesus show love?

Jesus demonstrated His love by sacrificing Himself for our sins, showing us that love is not just a feeling but action. His sacrificial love calls us to embrace others in the same manner, loving selflessly and wholeheartedly.

Attendance and Offering February 1, 2026

Attendance
Bible Study: 170
AM Worship: 307
PM Worship: 117
Wednesday: 170

Contribution: $16,824.19
Weekly Budget:
Weekly Average: $18,791.74
Contribution to Date: $93,958.70

Hoover Supported Works

- *Childhaven, Cullman, AL*
- *Churches of Christ Disaster Relief*
- *Clothing Closet*
- *Food Pantry*
- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*

Mission Trips

- *Tanzania*
- *Philippines*
- *Peru*

Oversight

- *Christ Happy Childhaven, Philippines*
- *Tanzania Missions*

Visitors and members, please scan the QR Code below to log your attendance.

Who can forgive sins?
(Mark 2:1-12)

Jesus identifies our deepest _____ before meeting our most obvious one

Jesus extends grace even when faith is _____ and _____

Jesus claims God's _____

GriefShare Class

Any of our members who have struggled with loss are invited to participate in our **GriefShare** class. If you have friends who might benefit, please let them know about this class as well. **We will meet on the following Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon: December 13, March 14, and June 13.**

So many people in the world have experienced significant losses in their lives, so we're thankful to be able to offer this GriefShare Ministry. It is organized around a thirteen-week small-group program where participants meet together for around two hours each week and watch professionally-designed videos featuring professional grief counselors and also people who are grieving. These presentations are coupled with discussions that are designed to internalize what participants learn in the videos.

We have additional information for Griefshare Sessions offered on other days and times in the Birmingham area. Please see **Harold or Donna Rhodes** if you have any questions regarding GriefShare. You can also find additional information at https://www.griefshare.org/.

hoover
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Place
Postage