

## Those To Serve

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Bobby Smithee

Closing: Jim Bangs

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Jim Case

Closing: Johnny Knabe

Singing: Bobby Smithee

**Wednesday, May 21, 2025**

Singing: Johnny Knabe

Devotional: Randy Harris

## The Record:

### Attendance:

**Sunday, May 11, 2025**

AM 46 PM 25

*[Average for the Year]*

AM [49] PM [32]

**Wednesday, May 14, 2025**

31 *[Average for the Year]* [31]

### Contribution:

**Sunday, May 11, 2025**

Actual \$ 2,202.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

*[Year-to-Date] \$ 44,934.00*

*[Average] \$ 2,364.95*

*[+/- Budget] \$ (298.00)*

*[YTD +/- Budget] \$ (2,566.00)*

## Elders

Randy Harris

(870) 251-6723

Johnny Knabe

(501) 345-2627

Dwayne Millikin

(870) 613-3910



## Deacon

Bobby Smithee

(870) 612-2892

## Minister: Billy Cline

(870) 236-0225 Cell

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**May 18, 2025**

## Thoughts from Bill:

### *The Three Things That Felix Was Frightened About*

*Acts 24:22-27*

Our text recounts Paul's encounter with the Roman governor of Judea, Felix Porcius. After Paul gave his defense to Felix, it is said that Felix had "more accurate knowledge of the Way" (v. 22). Felix granted Paul certain freedoms during his captivity and even brought his "wife" Drusilla, a Jewish woman, to listen to Paul. Verse 25 in the NET says, "While Paul was discussing righteousness, self-control, and the coming judgment, Felix became frightened and said, "Go away for now, and when I have an opportunity, I will send for you." In this lesson we want to consider the three things that Felix became frightened of and why.

We first want to shed some light on the life of Felix from historical records. Baker's Bible Dictionary gives several facts about the life of Felix. Felix was chosen to be governor by Nero. It

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## Plan of Salvation

*Hear*

Mark 12:29; Romans 10:17; Acts 2:22

*Believe*

Hebrews 11:6

*Repent*

Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38

*Confession*

Matthew 10:32, 33

*Baptism*

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21

## Sermons for May 18, 2025

**A.M.—The Three Things That Felix Was Frightened About**

**P.M.—A Study of Galatians (5)**

**Scripture: Acts 24:22-27**

## Schedule of Services

**Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 AM**

**Sunday AM Worship: 10:00**

**Sunday PM Worship: 5:00**

**Wed. Bible Study: 6:00 PM**

**Website: [www.southsidechurchofchrist.info](http://www.southsidechurchofchrist.info)**

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is said that during his rule, Felix used robbers to have Jonathan the high priest murdered. Felix had three wives, and Drusilla “left” her husband King Azizus at the age of sixteen to marry Felix. Drusilla’s lineage had some “skeletons” in the closet also because she was the great-granddaughter of Herod the Great who tried to kill the baby Jesus. With these things in mind, we now pay attention to the three things Felix became frightened about in Paul’s reasoning.

Felix became frightened about *righteousness*. Righteousness implies right living, and it also involves the realization that failing to be righteous involves some sort of punishment, especially since God is a righteous judge (Psa. 7:11). More on this later. I hasten to add that God is a righteous judge, but He wants everyone to be saved (2 Pet. 3:8). The idea of facing a righteous judge like God frightened Felix.

Secondly, Felix became frightened about *self-control or temperance*. There is not a single living person who is not lacking when it comes to self-control, but that does not mean it is all right to lack self-control. Self-control is simply controlling self. It is evident that Felix was not the “posterchild” when it came to self-control, and sometimes neither are we. Galatians 5:23 and 2 Peter 1:6 list self-control among many other things one should have in their lives. Self-control involves a person being able to master themselves. How many times has God had to exercise self-control to keep Himself from destroying humanity? Self-control takes work and it takes mental preparation and practice to achieve and maintain. Felix knew he lacked self-control, and this is what frightened him. What about us, do we lack self-control? I do, how about you?

Finally, Felix was frightened about *the judgment to come*. Thinking about the judgment of God needs to be a sobering thing for all. Solomon wrote in Ecclesiastes 12:13-14: “Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man’s all. For God will bring every work into judgment, Including every secret thing, Whether good or evil.” Paul echoed these words in 2 Corinthians 5:10: “For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.” Revelation 20:11-12 says, “Then I saw a

great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is the Book of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books.” For those unprepared like Felix was, truly these scriptures are frightening.

To our knowledge, Felix never did find the “convenient” or “opportune” time to get right with God. How about you?

### *News and Notes*

**Those We Need to Remember in Prayer:** **Lea Barber, Jaxson Barber, and Isiah Grady** have been sick. **Michael England** is waiting for test results. **Glen Mize** is still dealing with shortness of breath. **Eunice Mize** had some cancer cells removed from her nose. She has a cardiologist appointment on June 2 to see why she is short of breath. She also has an eye doctor appointment on June 17. **Bobby Smithee** will have an MRI done on Monday and will see a cardiologist on Tuesday. **David White** is in room 3352b in WRH for rehab. He now has his pacemaker and is feeling better. **Lavon Rogers** had two stents placed on Monday. **Nancy Duncan** is struggling with her health. **Darrel Fulbright**, the father-in-law of Robert and Frances’ daughter Vanessa, is waiting for pathology results to come back.

**Others We Need to Remember in Prayer:** Joy Hutson, Pat and Manda McGough, Dwayne Millikin, Glenda Mitchell, and David Yates

**Nursing Home Service:** This month’s service at Mountain Meadows will be today at 4:00 p.m.

**Children’s Home Shopping List:** Flavored Instant Oatmeal

**Vacation Bible School:** This year’s VBS is June 2-5. The theme is “Untangled—Wild about God’s Plan.” Please start praying and working for a successful VBS. We will need pre-packaged Little Debbie snack cakes for refreshments. If you would like to bring snack cakes, please write your name on the sign-up sheet in the foyer.

**Request for Help:** Inez is in need of some cardboard toilet paper rolls for a VBS craft. It would be appreciated if you would save them and give them to her.