Ouch!



Jim Scarborough
Retired Pastor

Inspiration

As I sat down to work on this column a few minutes ago, my wife was in the kitchen making a practice batch of cookies. She has a new set of cookie cutters to make Christmas figurines with that she wanted to try out before the holiday rush. As the aroma made its way to my office, I heard her say what I wanted to hear: "They're done!" I quickly made my way to do the taste test, and without her looking I attempted to sneak a piece of a Christmas star. Unfortunately they were still too hot and my sample piece crumbled beyond recognition. Since she was not looking, I slyly made my way back to my workstation unnoticed. But it was not long before I heard her calling out, "Did you break a piece off of my star?" Without saying a word I stayed focused on my work without responding, but it was only a short while before Ms. Gale entered the room and stood by my side. We'll let the story end there and leave you hanging without giving the Paul Harvey "And now for the rest of the story" conclusion. It is a good reminder, though, that none of us like to be confronted about our misdeeds, nor do we enjoy the consequences that we sometimes pay for our acts of disobedience.

Painful though it is, one of God's greatest indications of His supreme love for us is that He loves us enough to confront us with our sins and disciplines us accordingly. The writer of Hebrews acknowledged this truth with these words recorded in Hebrews 12:5-7: "And you have forgotten that word of encouragement that addresses you as sons: 'My son, do not make light of the Lord's discipline, and do not lose heart when He rebukes you, because the Lord disciplines those He loves, and He punishes everyone He accepts as a son.' Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons. For what son is not disciplined by his father?" (New International Version). And in the Old Testament the psalmist writes, "Blessed is the man you discipline, O Lord, the man you teach from your law" (Psalm 94:12). God would be less than the loving God that He is if He ignored our sinful and lawless acts without intervening to direct us back toward righteousness.

We live in a world that seems to be growing increasingly against correcting those who do wrong. Such a posture produces a weak, careless, and dangerous society, and allows children to grow up with no respect for authority on any level. When we Ignore God's directives and fail to follow His example, the end result is never good; lawlessness comes with a high price tag.

Because God's discipline is a demonstration of His love for us, we can rest assured that His correction of His children is an application of pain with purpose. Again, in Hebrews 12, we are reminded that "No discipline seems pleasant at the time, but painful. Later on, however, it produces a harvest of righteousness and peace for those who have been trained by it" (verse 11). It is not meant to be pleasant when God corrects us, but the pain He inflicts in whatever fashion He chooses is meant to be for our good; its purpose is for restoration and not for destruction. It leads us toward deeper spiritual maturity and guides us toward the path of righteousness, and trains us to live lives of consistent obedience.

As humans, we sometimes fall short in our attempts to apply discipline, but God always does right; He disciplines at the right time, in the right way, for the right purpose. Chuck Swindoll acknowledged this truth when he wrote, "God's discipline is not something we should either resist or run from. . . . Through the suffering of discipline we are brought toward a greater end: spiritual healing, strength, and the ability to run the race set before us in faith and hope."

When God corrects you it will produce "Ouch!" for a season, but in the end you will be a better person for it.

Obituaries



Rufus Powell

Mr. Rufus Powell, 89, of Sylvester, died on Sunday, November 1, 2026 at Phoebe Putney Memorial Hospital.

The funeral service was held at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, November 4, 2026 at Banks Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Matt Greene, Rev. Phillip Dove and Rev. Jason Boyd officiating. Interment followed in the Hillcrest Cemetery.

Mr. Powell was born on August 22, 1937 in Worth County, GA to the late Addie G. and Mamie Farmer Powell. He had lived in Worth County all of his life and owned Powell Pest Control for many years before retiring. Mr. Powell enjoyed working in his yard and spending time with his friends and family, especially his grand and great grandchildren. He enjoyed making people laugh and never met a stranger when he went places. Mr. Powell loved sharing his faith with others and helping anyone who was in need. He was a member of Unity Baptist Church where he served his Lord Jesus faithfully in many roles.

Survivors include his daughters, Terry Wilkerson (Steve) and Cindy McGee (Chris); grandchildren, Miranda Baucom (Matt), Clete Wilkerson (Heather), Carrie Curtis (Loren) and Casey Knight (Ross); great-grandchildren, Jones Baucom, Smith Baucom, Kellar Baucom, Christopher McGahee (Skylar), Graham Knight, Ava Knight and Sloane Curtis; sister, Hazel Davis; and host of extended family members and friends.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Powell was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 61 years, Virginia M. Powell; his siblings, Leroy Powell (Christine), Addie Mae Castleberry (Herbert), and William Powell (Betty).

The family received friends on Tuesday from 5:00-7:00 PM at Banks Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations may be made to Unity Baptist Church Building Fund, 101 Bryant Drive, Sylvester, GA 31791.

Please sign our online guest registry at www.banksfh.com .

Banks Funeral Home in Sylvester is in charge of arrangements.



Nathaniel Roberson 10/23/26
Barbara Cooper 11/2/26
Stephen L. Burse Sr. 11/1/26
Kenyatta Lashiba Jackson 10/30/26

Worth voters buck state trend in election

Democrats swept Georgia in the election.

Statewide officers are all Democrat, the first time in decades.

Jon Ossoff held on to his seat as a US Senator for Georgia.

It was part of a Democrat wave that say the D take control of the US Senate in January, 54 seats to the Republicans 44.

The Democrats are blue and have a donkey as the party symbol. Republicans are red and have an elephant as the party symbol.

The same thing happened nationwide as Democrats took a commanding victory in the US House of Representatives races.

As the president is a Republican and has shown little interest in cooperating with Democrat initiatives, the next 2 years are likely to be extremely contentious.

Worth County defied state and national voting trends handing Republicans decided wins at the County level for state and national races.

The amendments also passed statewide.

Amendment 1 raises the cap on how much land a single owner can enroll in Georgia's conservation use program.

Amendment 2 is "requires that probate judges be elected on a nonpartisan basis."

Amendment 3 creates a specific fund to upgrade Georgia's 9-1-1 system.

Local election results

US Senate
Mike Collins 67.23% 4,329
Jon Ossoff 32.77% 2,110
Governor
Rick Jackson 70.76% 4,572
Keisha Lance Bottoms 29.24% 1,889
Lieutenant Governor
Greg Dolezal 69.99% 4,469
Josh McLaurin 30.01% 1,916
Secretary of State
Tim Fleming 70.36% 4,501
Penny Brown Reynolds 29.64% 1,896
Attorney General
Brian Strickland 69.90% 4,495
Tanya Miller 30.10% 1,936
Commissioner of Agriculture
Tyler Harper 71.47% 4,581
Katherine E. Juhan-Arnold 28.53% 1,829
Commissioner of Insurance
John King 70.88% 4,539
Keisha Sean Waites 29.12% 1,865
State School Superintendent
Richard Woods 70.53% 4,520
Lydia Powell 29.47% 1,889
Commissioner of Labor
Bárbara Rivera Holmes 70.70% 4,524
Nikki Porcher 29.30% 1,875
PSC - District 3
Fitz Johnson 70.08% 4,468
Peter Hubbard 29.92% 1,908
PSC - District 5
Josh Tolbert 70.43% 4,513
Shelia Edwards 29.57% 1,895
US House of Reps - District 8
Austin Scott 71.05% 4,567
Kelly Esti 28.95% 1,861
US House of Representatives - District 8
State Senate - District 13
Carden H. Summers 100.00% 5,261
State House of Representatives - District 152
William J. "Bill" Yearta 73.23% 4,687
Mitchell Rosa 26.77% 1,713
Solicitor General
Elizabeth Wilmot Torres 100.00% 5,246
County Commission - Chairperson
E. Dice Roberts
Percentage100.00% 5,227
County Commission - District 2
Billy Anglon 100.00% 1,661
County Commission - District 3 - Rep
Chad McDonald 100.00% 1,279
County Commission - District 4
Kemp S. Willis 100.00% 1,259
County BOE - At Large
Hubert Souter 100.00% 5,277
County BOE - District 1
Saudia Powell 100.00% 1,186
County BOE - District 4
Marc Haralson 100.00% 1,250
Constitutional Amendment 1
Yes 57.35% 3,536
No 42.65% 2,630
Constitutional Amendment 2
Yes 72.69% 4,464
No 27.31% 1,677
Constitutional Amendment 3
Yes 75.82% 4,672
No 24.18% 1,490

Rams fall to Carver Tigers 42-14 in Columbus

Worth County High School Football Rams traveled to Columbus to play the Carver Tigers for the right of being first in 1-AAA Region but fell 14-42 Friday November 6th. The Rams were 5-3 Overall and 3-0 in Region vs the Tigers who were 5-4 Overall and 3-0 in Region. Worth County came in this game with three straight wins but Carver also had three straight wins. Carver kicked off to Worth County to start the game. The Tigers were first put to points on the board. The Tigers were leading 21-0 but the Rams scored when Junior Noah Marlin scooped and ran 71 yards for their first touchdown, PAT was good by Brodey Hancock in the second quarter. The Rams trailed 7-28 at halftime. Worth County held Carver to seven points in the third quarter. In the fourth quarter, Lyndon Worthy threw a 13 yard touchdown pass to Hayden Short, PAT was good by Brody Hancock. Carver added seven more points in the fourth quarter with the final 42-14. Lyndon Worthy completed 17 passes in 29 attempts. Khody Crutchfield rushed 12 times for 64 yards, Kevarius Tyler rushed two times for 14 yards. Jaquaveon Nelson received 5 times for 80 yards, Tra Matthews two times for 19 yards, Keaton Tucker three times for 21 yards, Hayden Short four times for 39 yards, Cayson Shipp one time for seven yards and Khody Crutchfield two times for 33 yards. Brodey Hancock punted four times for 119 yards and made two extra point kicks. Kevarius Tyler had kickoff return four times for 76 yards and Tra Matthews two times for 49 yards. Worth County advances to the playoffs as Team 17 and will travel to Barnesville and take on the Lamar County Trojans Team 16 on November 13th. The Trojans are 7-3 Overall and 5-2 in Region.

JAY CROWE
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Phone: 229.777.0772 jay@crowefirm.com
LOCATED AT 101-D NORTH ISABELLA ST., SYLVESTER, GA





Daily Bible Verse

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the LORD is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations. Psalm 100: 4-5

Have a blessed day!
COMPLIMENTS OF QUAIL VALLEY FARMS

RUSS TREE SERVICE
28 years experience
Russ Spurlin
Tree Removal Expert
1349 Pearson Rd,
Sylvester, Georgia
(229) 821-0875
russspurlin@gmail.com

