

Glad Tidings

May

2018

“Buy the truth, and sell it not.” (Prov. 23:23)

FROM THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
LET US GIVE THANKS FOR OUR RELIGION
Strength For Today And Bright Hope For Tomorrow

Philippians 4:13

I Corinthians 15:19

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

People have always tried to blame someone else since the Garden of Eden as Adam blamed the woman God gave him for his disobedience and Eve blamed the serpent. Sin leaves no room to blame anyone but the one who has sinned. However, we have a Saviour who took the **blame** for our sins to appease the wrath of God. God's people were chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world that they would be holy and without blame before Him in love. (Eph. 1:4).

As those chosen in Christ, there must of necessity be one to assume their guilt to finally present them **faultless** before His presence with exceeding joy. (Jude 24). Jacob did not want do let Benjamin go with his brothers into Egypt to see Joseph but Judah spoke up and said, “I will be surety for him; of my hand shalt thou require him: if I bring him not unto thee, and set him before thee, then let me bear the blame for ever.” Judah would be a “surety” (security, pledge) for Benjamin's welfare and if he failed to fulfill that surety, he would bear the “blame”. Likewise, Jesus became our surety. In Heb. 7:22 we read, “By so much was Jesus made a surety of a better testament.” Jesus took upon Himself the eternal “security” of His people as our high priest and will present them “without blame” before Him in love because they were chosen to that end. He shall not fail or be discouraged; Judah could have failed in his surety but not Jesus Christ as He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified. (Heb. 10:14).

We are forever reconciled to God by the shed blood of Christ and it took the death of Christ for this to be accomplished. We were alienated and enemies in our mind by wicked works yet Christ bore our blame in His own body. “In the body of his flesh through death, to present you holy and **unblameable** and unproveable in his sight.” (Col. 1:22). The merits of that shed blood and reconciliation is applied in the new birth. God's born again people are composed of spirit, soul and body and Paul writes concerning these three: “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved **blameless** unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (I Thess. 5:23). I am to blame for many things in my life but what a day that will be when I (by His grace) am presented before the Father without blame before Him in love!

In that eternal day we will be faultless because of what Christ has done for us: however, we are called upon through obedience to do things that we might be blameless in this life. Paul writes for us to do all things without any murmurings and disputings. Why should we do this? The first reason is because the Lord has commanded us and the other reason is given by Paul in Phil. 2:15: “That ye may be **blameless** and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;” We should do the things that are good and pleasing to God without complaining that others who are seeking to find fault might find none. The twelve disciples sent out by Jesus were sheep in the midst of wolves but were told to be wise as serpents but “harmless” as doves. (Matt: 10:16). A dove is a symbol of peace and the Spirit so may we all follow script and be blameless and harmless.

The second coming of the Lord is not an event to scare the people of God to make a decision for Christ which supposedly would save them from hell to heaven. It is quite the opposite; it is a comforting message and a motivator for righteous living. Peter writes about the heavens being on fire and the elements melting with fervent heat. Then he writes, “Wherefore, beloved, seeing that ye look for such things, be diligent that ye may be found of him in peace, without spot, and **blameless**.” (II Pet. 3:14). We should all want to live in such a way that we would be found blameless should the Lord return at any moment. This takes constant diligence and allegiance to the Lord of glory which cannot be done without faith; therefore, this command is for born again children of God because only those have faith.

We are told to run our race with patience, looking unto Jesus as the author and finisher of our faith. (Heb. 12:2). Then we are told to follow peace and holiness, without which no man would see the Lord. (Heb. 12:14). The Bible has a great deal to say about the proper look and it doesn't disappoint in this lofty goal of seeing the Lord. We will all see Him in glory and be blameless but will we see Him by faith through obedience in this life? How do we follow peace and holiness? “Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;” (Heb. 12:15). Grace never fails us but it is possible for us to fail grace, (Elder Larry Wise)

**GLAD TIDINGS
EDITORIAL OFFICE**

Please send all articles, announcements, change of address, correspondence and contributions to the Editor of Glad Tidings at the address below or call 662-489-5017 for announcements. You may also e-mail to **wisepb310@gmail.com**; we reserve the right to reject or edit any material. **All published material must be received prior to the 8th of the month** to be included in the following month's issue and sent to the Editor at the following address:

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Exhortation to Ministers

by Elder Lee Hanks (Deceased)
Advocate and Messenger, March, 1933

In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine shewing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you.' (Tit 2:7-8) Paul as a father in the ministry was writing Titus his own son in the common faith. Paul loved young preachers and knowing the weakness of the flesh most tenderly exhorted Titus how he should live for his good and the good of His Master's cause. It is useless to tell others how to live, if he does not keep under his own body, mortify the deeds of the flesh, and so live as to be a pattern in his ministerial life to the ones whom he teaches. The servant of God should be blameless, not self-willed. This will injure a minister to be self-willed-thinks he knows it all and will not listen to reason or the advice of others. He must not so act as to carry out his own designs, right or wrong when he knows it will divide the church. He had better be humble and not be too hasty in his actions, but weigh matters well, and most prayerfully to. Don't get in a hurry. Many have to retrace their steps by acting hastily. Jesus gave us a good pattern. There was a devil in the church and Jesus knew it, but just waited and Judas went out and hanged himself. The preacher must not be seen angry. A mad preacher is dangerous-his reason is dethroned. He wants to

justify himself in all he does. If there is trouble in the church, the first thing for all to do is to get in a good humor, then the matter can be adjusted.

The preacher should be a pattern of good works that God has ordained and such as are authorized by the Scriptures. He should live and teach all Scriptural works, but no more. In doctrine, he should speak such things which become sound doctrine. Be sure to contend earnestly for the faith (doctrine) once delivered to the saints. He should not neglect the sound, fundamental principles of grace, -- Predestination, Election, Special Redemption, Effectual Calling, Final Glorification in Heaven of all the redeemed. The Primitive Baptists are all the people that will contend for those principles, and I trust they will continue to teach Bible doctrine ---free from extremes, prefixes or suffixes. If all of our preachers will preach the truth in love, we will have peace and unity in the church. The preacher should possess gravity. He should reverence his profession-not be engaged in light, filthy conversation.

He has the highest calling of any one on earth. Much is expected of him. He should be sincere in what he says or does, remembering that he is amenable to God for all of his acts. In preaching the doctrine or practice his teaching should be sound and in harmony with the Bible. And he must not decide that God has made him a regulator and he has to remodel the old church and correct the mistakes of the fathers even if it tears the church into atoms. This is a bad spirit. Beware of the spirit of Diotrephes, who loveth to have the preeminence among them, and receiveth us not. (3Jo 9). He was an ambitious man, wanting to govern everything according to his will. He is ready to but up bars against good brethren, if they do not say and do everything according to his dictates. He will soon run his course. None should feel that they are standards for the household of faith. Preachers should not sow seeds of discord. If they have trouble let it stay there. Don't preach or talk about it. Let each section of the country manage their own discipline. Beware of jealousy. It is as cruel as the grave. There is room in the church for all of God's humble servants. We need all. Don't neglect your faithful old ministers who have hazarded their lives for the cause. Let us pray without ceasing. Let brotherly love continue. Lee Hanks

GOOD QUESTION

What cursed spirit of falsehood moveth priests to close themselves within stone walls for all their life, since Christ commanded all his apostles and priests to go into all the world, and to preach the Gospel?—
John Wycliffe
Preach the word, be instant, in season out of season.

SATISFIED

Elder T. L. Webb, Sr. (Deceased)

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple. Ps 65:4.

It is wonderful to think of the life of David in connection with salvation, in the experimental ups and downs of life and in the church of God. Although a child of God, one of the Lord's anointed and "a man after God's own heart," yet his life was not all joy-it was not all smooth sailing. No doubt in his heart he often sang the sentiment of the words, "Mixtures of joy and sorrow I daily do pass through." But his hope and trust was in God, not only in seasons of rejoicing, but in hours of adversity and sorrows. Sometimes I think the sweetest words he ever uttered are "Why art thou cast down, O my soul? hope thou in God." In every expression of his life regarding his deliverance from sin he gave all praise and honor to the Lord. On one occasion he said, "He brought me up also out of an horrible pit, out of the miry clay, and set my feet upon a rock, and established my goings. And He hath put a new song in my mouth, even praise unto our God."- Ps 40:2-3. David was not telling what he did for the Lord, or what he did for himself, or what some of his religious neighbors did for him; he was not telling how through human instrumentality the gospel rope was let down in the pit, and that he, though dead, reached forth and caught hold of the rope and held on to it, taking step by step, and finally got out of the pit-but he was telling what the Lord did for him. This is still the theme of God's humble poor in the church of God today, and will be while time lasts, and then this grand song of redemption and praise will be sung on and on in eternity. It is said of the dear old church, "God is known in her palaces for a refuge." This cannot be said of any other institution in the world, religious or otherwise. Thank the Lord for a quiet resting place, even in this land of sorrow, where the good old doctrine of grace is still held sacred, and where undivided praise is rendered by the poor saints of God just as sincerely as in days of old.

"We shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house." I cannot hope to investigate this subject as I desire to, for lack of space, unless I continue it in another issue. Oh, how much is embraced in it-the goodness of the Lord's house! There are so many good things in the dear old church. In fact, everything that God has placed in the church is good. It's origin, doctrine and practice are all good. I would like to tell why they are good to me and why I am satisfied with what God has blessed the church with, and why I am not willing to recognize any new measures. I am just as well satisfied with the goodness of God's house-her origin, doctrine and practice-as I was the fourth Sunday in July, 1896, when I was received into the fellowship of dear old Harmony Church. I don't have to mean by saying this that I am satisfied with the

way all of us Old Baptists have conducted ourselves and treated each other. And I don't have to mean by saying that I am satisfied with the goodness of God's house that the Old Baptists are perfect and can't make mistakes, but I mean that, notwithstanding their mistakes, they can be defended as the church of Jesus Christ from any angle, and please let me say, frankly, that I do not appreciate any intimation that our people have reached a period where they cannot be defended. Such suggestions as that are much more embarrassing to me than it would be to try to defend our people on the vital issues as the church of our Saviour.

David did not claim to be satisfied about everything, but he was satisfied with the goodness of God's house. He was not altogether satisfied with himself and his own imperfections, but said that he would be in the home beyond. In humble petitions, he would say, "Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear unto my cry; hold not thy peace at my tears: for I am a stranger with thee, and a sojourner, as all our fathers were. O spare me, that I may recover strength, before I go hence, and be no more." He did not mean by this that he was not hoping for something beyond the grave. Listen to the final conclusion of it all: "As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied when I awake with thy likeness."- Ps 17:15. Is not this our experience and hope today, as we look on and up, by an eye of faith, even though it be through a glass darkly and often through blinding tears, for the final change that awaits us all?

(From "*Little Things*" by Elder T. L. Webb Sr.)

THE LITTLE THINGS

God is not always interested in the monumental things that we do in service to Him. We might not think we have done anything very significant in our Christian service. What matters is the motive whether the deed is small or large. Jesus saw a certain poor widow casting all her living into the treasury which consisted of only two mites. What did Jesus say about this? "And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all:" (Luke 21:2-3). Jesus tells us that whosoever would give just a cup of cold water to one of His little ones in the name of a disciple would not lose his reward. (Mark 10:42). The reward is in this life and not in the world to come. The Lord doesn't forget our labour of love no matter how large or small. It is God's recognition that is important. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." (Heb. 6:10). Sometimes it is the little things that count.-Elder Larry Wise-April 8, 2011

Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature

Acts - The Book of - Sylvester Hassell (Deceased)

The Book of ACTS: Sylvester Hassell: The book entitled the Acts of the Apostles forms the bridge between the gospels and the epistles. It is a direct continuation of the third gospel, by the same author, Luke, and is addressed to the same Theophilus ("friend of God"), probably a Christian convert of distinguished social position. In the Gospel Luke repeats what he heard and read; in the Acts what he heard and saw. The Gospel records the life and work of Christ; the Acts the work of the Holy Spirit, who is recognized at every step. The word Spirit, or Holy Spirit, occurs more frequently in the Acts than in any other book of the New Testament. It might properly be called "the Gospel of the Holy Spirit."

The Acts is a cheerful and encouraging book, like the third gospel. It represents the progress of Christianity from Jerusalem, the capital of Judaism, to Rome, the capital of heathenism. It is a history of the planting of the church among the Jews by Peter, and among the Gentiles by Paul. More than three-fifths of it are devoted to Paul, and especially to his later labors and journeys, in which the author could speak from personal knowledge. Luke was in the company of Paul, including some interruptions, at least twelve years. He was again with Paul in his last captivity, shortly before Paul's martyrdom, his most faithful and devoted companion (2Ti 4:11). He probably began the book of Acts or a preliminary diary while with Paul at Philippi, continuing it at Caesarea during Paul's two years' imprisonment there, and finishing it soon after Paul's first imprisonment in Rome, before the terrible persecution in the summer of A.D. 64, which he could hardly have left unnoticed.

The Acts and epistles supplement each other by a series of coincidences in all essential points. Paley's examination of these numerous and undesigned coincidences in his *Horae Paulinae*, and James Smith's *Voyage and Shipwreck of St. Paul*, furnish to readers of sound common sense and unbiased judgment with unanswerable arguments for the credibility of the Acts. No ancient work affords so many tests of veracity as the Acts, because no other has such numerous points of contacts in all directions with contemporary history, politics and topography, whether Jewish, or Greek, or Roman.

No other history of thirty years has ever been written so truthful and impartial, so important and interesting, so healthy in tone and hopeful in spirit, so aggressive and yet so genial, so cheering and inspiring, so replete with lessons of wisdom and encouragement for work in spreading the glad tidings of salvation, and yet withal so simple and modest, as the Acts of the Apostles. (Hassell's History ppg 204, 205)

Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature**Abel**

By Elder Harold Hunt

ABEL Abel was the second son of Adam and Eve (Ge 4:2). God often favors the second son. He is a figure of the obedient child of God, worshiping according to the God-ordained pattern. His offering of the firstlings of the flock (Ge 4:4) pointed back to the animal slain (Ge 3:21) to provide clothing for his parents, and it pointed forward to Jesus Christ, the lamb slain to atone for the sins of his people (Joh 1:29).

Heb 11:4, "By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain." His sacrifice was more excellent because of what it represented, or symbolized; it symbolized the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God. It signified the shedding of his blood. Cain brought an offering "of the fruit of the ground," a bloodless sacrifice. The one represented the substitutionary death of Jesus Christ; the other represented the works of men's hands. God's acceptance of Abel's sacrifice, and his refusal to accept the sacrifice of Cain is the first indication in the Bible that the works of man's hands are not sufficient for his salvation, and that God will not accept any religious service that suggests anything to the contrary.

Heb 9:22, "And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission."

We are told (Ge 4:4) that "God had respect unto Abel and to his offering." God had respect, first to Abel, then to his offering. Abel was a sinner in need of salvation as surely as Cain was; but Abel brought "a more excellent sacrifice than Cain." Abel's sacrifice was a bloody offering; it was a confession of his own sinful condition, and his need for the suffering and death of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, as an atonement for his sins.

We cannot imagine the burning, bloody flesh of Abel's sacrifice was as physically appealing as the mounds of fresh, delicious, and colorful, fruits and vegetables which Cain brought. But physical beauty is not the proper criteria; obedience to the commandment of God is. Even in its physical unattractiveness Abel's sacrifice represented the suffering and death of the Lord. Isaiah tells us, "He hath no form nor comeliness; and when we shall see him, there is no beauty that we should desire him" (Isa 53:2). hlh

WHO WE COME TO NOW

"And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel." (Heb. 12:24)

REMISSION

By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)
(From "The Best of Elder Guy Hunt")

Heb 10:17-18, "And their sins and iniquities will I remember no more. Now where remission of these is, there is no more offering for sin."

For a person to believe that we have something to do with our eternal salvation, he must believe that Christ did not remit our sins as he sets out in the Hebrew letter, for he clearly states in the inspired writing of the Apostle Paul that where remission of the sins and iniquities of his people are, there is no more offering for sin. This would certainly include the frail works of man in his life and actions upon this earth. If our righteousness was something more than filthy rags, this would even then exclude us from making an offering, or a partial offering, in order to remit sins. This scripture will leave out everything that man is supposed by the doctrines of men to be capable of doing, such as accepting the Lord, believing on his name, being baptized, living faithful to the end, getting the Holy Ghost, and so forth.

I would hate to think that my works, and the offering of my little service, would improve upon the complete washing of our sins, which our Savior does. We read that without the shedding of blood there is no remission. I certainly do not think there is anything I could do that would improve my lot with my Lord and my God any more than being washed in the righteous blood of the Son of God, do you?

Those whose sins are remitted will not become unremitted. That is why the salvation of those who were given by the Father to the Son is so sure. However, the process or application of his blood to remitting our sins is certainly in the hands of God, and he paid the full price sufficient to remit the last sin that the last heir of promise that ever lives shall ever commit. That is the kind of storehouse that God is.

He sat down at the right hand of God. This means he finished the job he came to do, and that was to save his people from their sins. I don't think my Lord and my Savior will remove himself from that exalted seat on high, just because some poor, puny man, versed in the doctrines of men, thinks there is something left for his children to do in order to live with God in glory. Our Savior knows he paid the price, that he remits our sins to be remembered against us no more forever. In spite of the errors and ignorance of men, their disbelief in the righteousness of God, his ability to redeem, to remit, some sweet day all the redeemed family of God, with their sins remitted will sing the praise of God in glory.

To those who cannot understand the beauty of such a wonderful God, I extend to you my love, my compassion, and my prayers, knowing that regardless of whether you believe it or not, nevertheless, without our assistance, our sins are remitted by this Savior, and we'll sing together and understand it better by and by. (Sept., 1966)

Something To Think About:

By Elder Bobby Willis (Deceased)... 12-7-16

Unbelief Leads To Complaining

Complaining is so easy to do. It just doesn't take much for any of us to complain about something. The car isn't running right, house is never clean enough to suit us, never enough time for a "vacation" away from it all, I am tired and it won't matter if I miss church today, and on and on. We even complain about the church; not enough visitors, nobody else wants to help clean it, the preacher just didn't comfort me today, and etc., etc. Maybe you are the one person that never complains about any thing. Congratulations, be sure to send me an email and let me know there is a second person who has walked this earth sinless.

Now, if you will, let us look at some serious complaining by Israel which reflects some of the same things we do if we are not careful in allowing the flesh to get the best of us. If there was one thing the people of Israel knew how to do and do it really well was to complain. The book of Numbers records much of their griping and whining concerning their condition. True, it was harsh much of the time compared to our air-conditioned homes, decent automobiles, and lifestyles we live today.

Numbers 11:1 says, "**And when the people complained, it displeased the LORD.**" Complaining about things instead of facing them head on while praying unto the Lord to give us the strength and courage to deal with them is displeasing to God. Why? Because it reflects our lack of faith. In Numbers 14:2 we find Israel murmuring, "**And all the children of Israel murmured against Moses and against Aaron: and the whole congregation said unto them, Would God that we had died in the land of Egypt! or would God we had died in this wilderness,...**" One more effort on their part to complain is in Numbers 17:12 when they felt they were about to die (perish); • "**And the children of Israel spake unto Moses, saying, Behold, we die, we perish, we all perish,...**"

When I am talking about complaining, be sure to understand that I am not talking about the kids not picking up their toys like they should, or about how quickly the dust settles on the end table. We all do that and God is not concerned with those type of things. However, constant complaining about our situation in life shows our lack of confidence and faith in our Lord helping us face our trials, afflictions, and discouragements.

In Mark chapter 9 we find a healing which Jesus did. There was a man among a multitude with a son with a dumb spirit. This boy was in dire distress. The father said, "**I have brought unto thee my son...**"

(Continued on Page 6)

BIBLE FILL IN THE BLANK

1. But of the times and _____, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. I Thess.5:1
2. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a _____ in the night. I Thess. 5:2
3. Ye are all the children of _____, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of _____. I Thess. 5:5
4. For they that _____ sleep in the night; and they that are _____ are drunken in the night. I Thess. 5:7
5. Bur let us, who are of the day, be _____, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the _____ of salvation. I Thess. 5:8
6. For God hath not appointed us to _____, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ. I Thess. 5:9
7. And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which _____ among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you. I Thess. 5:12
8. And to esteem them highly in _____ for their works's sake. And be at peace among yourselves. I Thess. 5:13
9. See that none render evil for _____ unto any man; but ever follow that which is _____, both among yourselves, and to all men. I Thess. 5:15
10. In every thing give thanks: for this is the _____ of God in Christ Jesus concerning you. I Thess. 5:18

IN WHAT BOOK OF THE BIBLE ARE THESE VERSES?

1. But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.
2. But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.
3. Yea, the light of the wicked shall be put out, and the spark of the fire shall not shine.

(Answers on Page 8)

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

When our two oldest boys, now Primitive Baptist preachers, were small, Jonathan was hitting David over the head with a foam baseball bat. I told him not to be doing that; we don't hit people over the head. He quickly replied, "Bugs Bunny doos it."

Read this quote from a five year old: "It would be terrible if the Red Cross Bloodmobile got into an accident. No, wait. That would be good because if anyone needed it, the blood would be right there."

PARENTAL LOVE

Dear Lord,

Thank you for this child that I call mine; not my possession but my sacred charge. Teach me patience and humility so that the best I know may flow in its being. Let me always remember, parental love is my natural instinct but my child's love must ever be deserved and earned; That for love I must give love, That for understanding I must give understanding, That for respect, I must give respect; That as I was the giver of life, so must I be the giver always. Help me to share my child with life and not to clutch at it for my own sake. Give courage to do my share to make this world a better place for all children and my own.

--Source Unknown

Love of Father and mother
Is like no other.

Except that of our Heavenly Father.

(Continued from Page 5)

The disciples had been unable to help the lad. **"Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth. And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief."** (Mark 9:23-24).

The rendering of this father's story with his son is one of faith and belief in the power of our Lord Jesus Christ to help us in our time of need. The father stated that he believed but also realized there were times when unbelief could cause him to murmur and complain just like the Israelites did when they were faced with hardships and trials. Yes, times are difficult and we all face adversities, so let us not complain, but rather pull up our boot straps and pray unto the Lord to **"help thou mine unbelief"** so that I may not complain and murmur and displease my Lord. "Think About It!"

Elder Bobby Willis
Editor: ShareTheWord

CHURCH NEWS

Harmony Primitive Baptist Church, Tupelo, MS invites everyone to come worship our Lord and Saviour during our annual meeting the 1st weekend in May, 2018. Services will begin Friday night, May 4th, with supper at 6:00 and service at 7:00. Saturday, May 5th, morning service will be at 10:00, followed by lunch and afternoon service. Sunday, May 6th, morning service will be at 10:30, followed by lunch and communion service. We look forward to sweet fellowship with our beloved brethren and sisters. If you are unable to attend, please remember us in prayer. Elder Tony Lester is Pastor of Harmony.

Everyone is invited to the May Communion Meeting at Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS the 3rd weekend in May, 2018 (May 18-20). Services Friday night, May 18, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, May 19, supper served at 5:00 p.m. with worship services at 6:30 p.m. Sunday at 10:00 a.m. with communion and then lunch. Elder Ronald Lawrence, Nashville, TN is the invited guest minister. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Heber Springs, AR the 4th weekend in May, 2018 (May 25-27). Services Friday, May 25, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Saturday, May 26, schedule of services is the same. Sandwich supper, singing and fellowship at Hopewell church on Thursday night prior to services on Friday. Several visiting ministers are expected. Elder Danny Adcock is Pastor of Hopewell.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting with Yalobusha Primitive Baptist Church, Water Valley, MS the 4th weekend in June, 2018 (June 22-24). Services Friday night, June 22, at 7:00 p.m. Services Saturday, June 23, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Regular services on Sunday with Communion. Elder Larry Wise is invited minister. Elder James Hall is Pastor of Yalobusha.

Everyone is invited to the summer meeting at New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, Fairground Rd, New Albany, MS the 1st weekend in June, 2018 (June 1-3). Services Friday night, June 1, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday night, June 2, supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Elder Houston Patrick, Martin, TN is invited minister. Elder Grady Camp is Pastor of New Prospect.

"Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully." Psalm 24:3-4

CHURCH NEWS

Correction from new member post from Raleigh PBC Memphis, TN from last issue of Glad Tidings: It should have read Sister Sydnie Thornton asked for a home on New Year's Eve. Her mother (Jennifer) was inadvertently listed instead of her daughter.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Raleigh Primitive Baptist Church, 3625 Austin Peay Highway, Memphis, TN, June 15--16, 2018. Services are as follows: Friday night, June 15, at 6:30 p.m.; Saturday, June 16, at 10:00 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon services. Invited minister is Elder Paul Blair, pastor of New Antioch Primitive Baptist Church, Lexington, TN. Elder Chase Harrison is pastor at Raleigh. Please be in prayer that we can all worship in spirit and truth and glorify God through our service.

Re 20:4

April 16, 1936

Elder C. H. Cayce (Deceased)

We have been requested to give a definition of the word souls in Re 20:4. That is, we have been asked to tell through the paper what that word means. The expression containing that word says, "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them; and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God," etc. The word soul in this text is the same word as is used for the word soul in Mt 10:28, where the Saviour said, "and fear not them which kill the body, but are not able to kill the soul: but rather fear Him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell." This is sufficient to show that the soul is something which is separate and distinct from the body-that the body is one thing and the soul is another. This is evidently and emphatically true when simply the body or the soul is spoken of or referred to. It is true that the word soul sometimes means living beings or persons-such as "man became a living soul;" or "the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." But when the body, in the abstract, is spoken of, it does not mean the soul; or when the soul is spoken of, in the abstract, it does not mean the body. The word soul in Re 20:4, means breath, the principle of animal life, the life; the immortal soul; the soul as the seat of moral and religious sentiment; the soul as a seat of feeling; the inner self, and so on. See Bagster's Analytical Greek Lexicon. Thayer's Greek Lexicon gives it as "the soul freed from the body, a disembodied soul," and cites Re 20:4. The word cannot possibly mean anything else. For a person to try to twist it to mean the body is to twist into our Lord's teaching something the Book does not contain. C. H. C. (*"Writings of Elder C. H. Cayce"*)

WORDS

By Elder Rickey Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

My Dad gave me some good advice on many occasions but one item I remember with extreme clarity was, "Never miss an opportunity to keep your mouth shut". I regret not having followed that admonition closer than I have. Sometimes in the heat of a moment or some kind of conversation or controversy you and I know that things can be said and words exchanged that any other time might not have been said. Proverbs 18:21 says, "Death and Life are in the power of the tongue". He is talking about Words. Hurt that will not heal has been done to others just because of what someone said. I am talking about Words. Great harm has come to some because of the deliberate words of some used in retaliation because of a disagreement, a misunderstanding and sometimes, sad to say, an outright lie may be set forth out of pure malice or jealousy. There is not a fountain in all the world that can send out both sweet and bitter waters. However, the tongue with its vocabulary can both bless God and curse men. It is full of deadly poison, it defiles the whole body, it is a world of iniquity and no man can tame it. Wild beasts of every sort have been tamed by men but not so with the words of the tongue. (James 3: 4-13).

It would be good for us all, I think, to remember that words do hurt. I believe most everybody has had that experience. In the position that I have held for many years I have had many hurtful things said to me and about me but that goes with the territory...it was not pleasant but it is expected. On the other hand I have had a number of opportunities to help people personally in my ministry and with programs that have been administered through my office and their thanks and their kind words have been appreciated and remembered. I assure you from experience that people, most of the time, FORGET what you might do for them over time. But you can be assured of another thing that what you SAY, most of the time, will never be forgotten. Words can tear down a multitude of success and put a lasting blemish on their bearer.

I use my thoughts today because of hurt done to others by what someone may say or just an opinion someone may express. The so-called SOCIAL MEDIA is a leading culprit so be careful how you use such things.... if you use such things. I personally have enough problems without SOCIAL MEDIA. You and I can never know what some one else may go through or circumstances that may bring on a certain situation or point in life. I say that it is very needful for all of us, as God's people, to cast a mantle of charity and not be too quick to judge others like a Pharisee and to say what we think about what we really do not

know. I say this toward churches and preachers as well those who may closely be associated with situations just in a general sense. Remember that Proverbs 18: 7-8 says, "A fools mouth is his destruction and his lips are the snare of his soul". "The WORDS of talebearer are as wounds and go down into the inner most parts of the belly". Sure, words have their proper place. Words are needful tools in how we communicate thoughts and ideas. Words are needed to correct us at times and are truly necessary but may the lord help us to use our words and our tongue wisely and remember that a word fitly spoken is like an apple of gold and a pitcher of silver. Proverbs 25:11.

I trust you will pray for me that I personally will remember what I have said here and I sincerely believe most of you will agree with it. I pray the lord will forgive me for some unnecessary things I have said along the way. To UNDO it is like trying to UNSCRAMBLE AN EGG or like TRYING TO PUT TOOTHPASTE BACK IN THE TUBE; It cannot be UNDONE neither can they be taken back. To say it in better language and on bible ground is found in 2nd Samuel 14:14. It is that those words are like "water spilt on the ground that cannot be gathered up".

In Hope,
Elder R.D. Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

TONGUE IN CHECK

On a windswept hill in an English country churchyard stands a drab, gray slate tombstone. The quaint stone bears an epitaph not easily seen unless you stoop over and look closely. The faint etchings read:

Beneath this stone, a lump of clay, / lies Arabella Young, / Who on the twenty-fourth of May, / began to hold her tongue.

Source Unknown.

**ANSWERS
IN WHAT BOOK OF THE BIBLE
ARE THESE VERSES?**

1. Philippians (Phil. 4:19)
2. Jude (Jude 20)
3. Job (Job 18:5)

The number of square people, not the number of square miles, makes a great country.

If you can't enjoy a sunset, you're on the wrong road.

(*"The Messenger of Zion"*, May 13, 1934)

TOUCHED

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

Jesus is the friend of sinners and knows all our strengths and weaknesses and He was in all points tempted as we were yet without sin. In view of this, we can understand how He is touched when our weakness manifests itself and we are about ready to throw up our hands and give up. We read this description of our great high priest: "For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin." (Heb. 4:15).

Jesus was a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief and made like unto His brethren, facing and defeating all temptations he encountered. Therefore, He is able to come to our rescue and strengthen us to resist temptation, endure trials and walk in the light of the Lord. Hebrews 2:18 tells us, "For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted." Jesus prayed "if it were possible;" that this cup might pass from him but "not my will but thine be done." An angel of God came down from heaven and strengthened Him. (Luke 22:43). As a **man** in His humanity, He needed God's strength, and we need it a hundredfold. He is touched with our dilemma and provides what we need when we need it.

Jesus was touched when the woman who was a sinner came behind Him and washed His feet with the tears from her eyes and wiped them with the hairs of her head. He knew she was a sinner and in need and was thus touched. He desires us to feel our need and recognize that they which are whole need not a physician but they that are sick. He gave her some good news when He, told Peter, "Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little." (Luke 7:47) Then He told the woman, "...Thy sins are forgiven." "...Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace." (Luke 7:48, 50).

Jesus was touched with the heartache of Martha and Mary when their brother Lazarus died and they lamented their loss. Jesus tarried for some two days to manifest His glory and power and groaned in the spirit when He witnessed their sorrow. The first place we find where Jesus wept was at a death scene. We may also be weak when we have lost a loved one and wonder if we will make it through the loss. However, Jesus is touched and promises us grace to bear up. He doesn't lament the death of Lazarus because He knows He is about to raise him from the dead, but Jesus has compassion for Mary and Martha. Paul describes how the Lord provides to bear up in difficult times in I Cor. 10:13: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be

tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

Paul knew from first hand experience that Jesus is touched as he prayed that his thorn in the flesh might depart from him. He prayed three times for the thorn's removal similarly as Jesus prayed three times for removal of His cup of suffering. The Lord tells Paul, "And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." (II Cor. 12:9). The thorn in the flesh was an infirmity and our high priest is touched. When are we at our strongest? It is when we are at our weakest for Paul goes on to say, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." (II Cor. 12:10). What a high priest we have who is perfect in knowledge and power but yet is still touched with the feelings of our infirmities! None of us desire to go through trials and sorrow but it is a comfort to know we have someone who is at our beck and call at any time, day or night.

"AWAKENING"

By Doris Webb Smith
Milan, Tennessee

Each Spring as I look at nature's miraculous transformation, I wonder "could this be compared to the difference between earth and heaven?" What a remarkable contrast there is in seasons in our part of the country! It seems that about over night everything puts on new life—the life evidently being there all along as if asleep and now bursting forth in glorious restoration!

When the springtime comes forth in brilliant color after the dull, drab grays of the winter, it makes you feel as if you have been awakened from a long night's sleep. It seems like the difference in midnight and noonday. Now, the sun seems to shine right through you, greatly warming your cold body with rejuvenating strength and making you forget the past, long winter season. Even the birds singing sounds so new, and every leaf and blossom seems to bring forth the promise of resurrection.

I believe that when we are carried to a place called Heaven, it will be an even greater contrast, where we will awaken to a glorious springtime! Our bodies, like the flowers, will have put on new life, completely changed and warmed by the Son of God. And then we will never, for a moment, remember the cold, gray, stormy, afflicted lives of our winter time on Earth.

--Doris W. Smith

LAUGHTER

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Genesis 21:6: "And Sarah said, God hath made me to laugh, so that all that hear will laugh with me."

Is laughter a part of our spiritual lives while here on earth? Yes, I believe the Bible tells us that it is. It is mentioned numerous times throughout the scriptures. Ecclesiastes 3:4 tells us that there is a time to laugh. Laughter is a part of our life and it is a joy that God gives us. There is a time for it, and we should recognize when it is the right time for us to laugh.

We begin by looking at two different kinds of laughs that are mentioned in the word of God. Matthew 9:24 "He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn." There is a laughing with a person and there is a laughing **at**. Here the funeral singers laughed Jesus to scorn because they didn't see him as the Son of God, but just an ordinary man. Scorn means to **deride** or laughed down at someone. This is the kind of laugh that someone would make through their sinful nature. Not at all honoring unto the Lord Jesus Christ; However, their laughter stopped, when the Lord raised the damsel from the dead!

Another example of this type of scornful laughing we see in Abraham and Sarah. Genesis 17:17 "Then Abraham fell upon his face, and laughed, and said in his heart, Shall a child be born unto him that is an hundred years old? and shall Sarah, that is ninety years old, bear?" Genesis 18:10-12 "And he said, I will certainly return unto thee according to the time of life; and, lo, Sarah thy wife shall have a son. And Sarah heard it in the tent door, which was behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old and well stricken in age; and it ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. Therefore Sarah laughed within herself, saying, After I am waxed old shall I have pleasure, my lord being old also?"

In these verses we see that though Abraham and Sarah were faithful, yet they laughed at the promise of God to give them a child through natural childbirth. While they laughed inwardly in their heart, where man cannot hear it. God did hear it.

Genesis 18:13 "And the Lord said unto Abraham, Wherefore did Sarah laugh, saying, Shall I of a surety bear a child, which am old?" Sarah would deny that she laughed, but God will tell her, Nay but you did laugh. The Lord said nothing else about it. Leaving Sarah to think about what she had done. Something similar to the "timeout" in the corner punishment! God loved both of them, and he would bring his promise to pass at the time that it pleased the Lord.

Genesis 21:1-3 "And the Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did unto Sarah as he had spoken. For Sarah conceived, and bare Abraham a son in his old age, at the set time of which God had

spoken to him. And Abraham called the name of his son that was born unto him, whom Sarah bare to him, Isaac." In his forgiving love for Abraham and Sarah, God blessed them to have a Son. The child was named Isaac. Isaac means "to laugh", to rejoice. This laugh is different than the one where we read to laugh scornfully. For Sarah would say "God hath made me to laugh." This laughter of Sarah was the laughter of rejoicing in the fulfilled promise of God for her to have a Son. God wanted her to laugh as a mother who has just delivered a man child! In fact it was God who named the child Isaac. Genesis 17:19 "And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, and with his seed after him." Now Sarah could laugh, rejoice in her new born son. Sarah had endured the disrespectful looks of Hagar her maid, as she conceived with Abraham to have Ishmael. The shame, misery and worthless feeling she had felt before were now taken away as she laughed with joy. God had made her to laugh with joy! God in his kindness had caused her to bear a son.

This is a beautiful story of the power of God, and his loving kindness toward his children.

We too like Sarah cannot save ourselves through works. We are as filthy rags that cannot produce the fruits of righteousness, in our old sinful nature. The law required a perfect sacrifice. Jesus was that perfect sacrifice for us. God had promised he would send him at the appointed time. And he did. God also named him just as he did Isaac. Matthew 1:21 "And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." God has caused us to laugh with joy at the news of salvation by the grace of God!

Elder Rickey Taylor

MOTHER

A four-year-old and a six-year-old presented their Mom with a house plant. They had used their own money and she was thrilled. The older of them said with a sad face, "There was a bouquet that we wanted to give you at the flower shop. It was real pretty, but it was too expensive. It had a ribbon on it that said, 'Rest In Peace,' and we thought it would be just perfect since you are always asking for a little peace so that you can rest."--Source Unknown

A teacher gave her class of second graders a lesson on the magnet and what it does. The next day in a written test, she included this question: "My full name has six letters. The first one is M. I pick up things. What am I?" When the test papers were turned in, the teacher was astonished to find that almost 50 percent of the students answered the question with the word Mother.—Source Unknown

MEMORIAL

By Elder Larry Wise

This Memorial Day we, as a nation, remember those who have fought in all the wars so that we could have the freedom we enjoy today. Many gave the supreme sacrifice of their lives to have the freedom we relish today. We have a Memorial as a reminder of what has been done on our behalf as citizens of the United States of America.

The Lord of glory gave Israel a feast of unleavened bread to observe and keep that is also more widely known as the Passover. They were told to take a lamb without blemish on the 10th day of the first month and keep it up until the 14th day of the month and the whole assembly was to kill it in the evening. They would take the blood of the Lamb and sprinkle it on the two side posts and upper door post of their houses. When the Lord passed through that night to execute the firstborn of every family and beast, he would see the blood on the houses and pass over that house so the first born was spared. There was a great cry in Egypt as all the firstborn was slain except the children of Israel which had the blood applied. Concerning this feast, the Lord told Israel, "And this day shall be unto you for a **memorial**; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever." (Ex. 12:14). This was instituted as a memorial to Israel of the Lord's deliverance from the curse of the first born and from Egyptian bondage.

Jesus Christ is the spotless Lamb of God that the Passover portrayed who shed His blood to spare the spiritual Israel family of God. God sees the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed for specific sinners and those sinners are spared (passed over) and do not stand condemned but justified in the eyes of God. The Lord's Supper of the bread and wine is a **memorial** to remind us of the tremendous sacrifice that Jesus made for our freedom from the curse of the law. This nation enjoys freedom because of the sacrifice of those who fought in all the great wars. The children of God enjoy freedom because Jesus Christ has fought and won the battle against sin that would have kept His children out of heaven. Isaiah cries out to, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins." (Isa. 40:2). Jesus is the only One who could win this war, and He was victorious. This is tremendous comfort indeed.

The children of Israel came to the Jordan River at flood stage and the priest's feet entered into the water, and the Lord raised the waters in a heap to make a passage for the people. Once they had gotten across, the Lord told Joshua to gather twelve stones from the river and place them on this side Jordan where they would lodge that night. When their

children would ask them in time to come "What mean ye these stones" they would say, "Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a **memorial** unto the children of Israel for ever." (Josh. 4:7). Notice these stones (twelve stones) were to be a **memorial** or reminder of how the Lord made a seemingly impossible way for them.

Jesus was in the house of Simon, the leper, and there came a woman with an alabaster box of ointment most precious and poured it on the head of Jesus. Some disciples had indignation and surmised that this might have been sold and given to the poor, but Jesus said "to let her alone" for she had wrought a good work on Him. She had come to anoint His body to the burying that would soon come. This that she had done was of such importance that Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you, Wheresoever this gospel shall be preached in the whole world, there shall also this, that this woman hath done, be told for a **memorial** of her." (Matt. 26:13). This is a reminder that we need to be down at the feet of Jesus, but Jesus isn't here in person, but His brethren are and Jesus says, "And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me." (Matt. 25:40).

The good things, in service to God, that we do also come up before our God as a **memorial** as we have the example of Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian band. He was a devout man who prayed to God always and gave alms. The Bible says concerning this endeavor, "And when he looked on him, he was afraid, and said, What is it, Lord? And he said unto him, Thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a **memorial** before God." (Acts 10:4). Cornelius' prayers and alms had come up as a **memorial** before God. God remembers all our good deeds no matter how small as Paul reminds us in Heb. 6:10: "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister."

There are some things worth remembering and there are some things worth forgetting, but the Lord is always worth remembering and thinking about. What a blessing to know what happens when those that fear the Lord and think upon His name speak often one to another. "Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a **book of remembrance** was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name." (Mal. 3:16). What memorials we have!

God be with you until, by God's grace, we meet again in the next Glad Tidings.