

Glad Tidings

June

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

2019

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

The church has always been persecuted and we can expect nothing else today. Satan is ramping up his attacks on Biblical principles and truth and even religious leaders in areas are succumbing to the pressure to compromise. Even former President, Jimmy Carter says that Jesus would have no problem with gay marriage. Carter says, “Jesus would approve of gay marriage.” “I think Jesus would encourage any love affair if it was honest and sincere and was not damaging to anyone else and I don’t see that gay marriage damages anyone else,” Carter fails to realize that people may be sincere and honest and be sincerely and honestly wrong and he is definitely wrong on this. This flies in the face of the biblical truth that marriage is between a biological man and woman. “Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.” (Gen. 2:24). Wife in this text means a woman, a female.

When the church preaches against the ungodliness of such a union, it is labeled as a bigot. If that were true, God would be called a bigot; Jesus would also be called a bigot as well as the Holy Spirit. The Bible is plain on the union of anyone other than a man or a woman. Evidently people have not taken heed to the example set forth in scripture of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. “And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrha into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an ensample unto those that after should live ungodly;” (II Pet. 2:6).

The church (people of God) desire to live a godly life to honor a heavenly Father who loved them and gave His Son to save them from their sins. What can the godly expect? We are told, “Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.” (II Tim. 3:12). Persecution can be expected and can come in many different forms. Paul goes on to tell Timothy that evil men shall wax worse and worse, deceived, and being deceived. (II Tim. 3:13). Timothy knew what to expect and we know what to expect; however, what are we to do as the church? Paul instructs Timothy, “But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them;” (II Tim. 3:14). Timothy is to maintain his course of following the scriptural teaching in spite of what other people might be doing.

Timothy has learned what God would have him do by the scriptures. He had known the scriptures from a child that makes him wise unto salvation. He had been taught from a child by his mother Eunice and possibly by his grandmother Lois who had faith just like Timothy. He had also learned from the apostle Paul himself. “Hold fast the form of sound words, which thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.” (II Tim. 1:13). Timothy had been taught “sound” words of truth that Timothy was to hold fast. In like fashion, Jude also admonishes the people of God, “...it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.” (Jude 3).

The church is commanded to present their bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Conformity to the world, even if it becomes the accepted norm, is not an option for the people of God. “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.” (Rom. 12:2). Gay marriage may be in fashion; abortion may be in fashion; LGBT may be in fashion, but they will NEVER be in fashion with God who has commanded us to abstain from all appearance of evil.

It was the time that the Jews Passover was at hand and Jesus went into the temple. What did he find? He found the temple occupied by those who were selling oxen, sheep and doves and money changers. Did Jesus smile and show His approval? Absolutely not as we read, “And when he had made a scourge of small cords, he drove them all out of the temple, and the sheep, and the oxen; and poured out the changers’ money, and overthrew the tables; And said unto them that sold doves, Take these things hence; make not my Father’s house an house of merchandise.” (John 2:15-16). In Matthew’s account of this Jesus uses “house of prayer” for the temple. I sometimes wonder how much Jesus would throw out of the modern church services.

Peter and the apostles were before the council because they continued to preach Jesus. Peter and the other apostles told the high priest, “...We ought to obey God rather than men.” (Acts 5:29). These apostles continued to teach and preach and counted it an honor to suffer shame for the cause of Christ. May the church continue in faith! (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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THE GREAT I AM

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

Moses was chosen by God to go unto Pharaoh and say "let my people go" and deliver them from Egyptian bondage. Moses asked God a question as to the name of the One that hath sent him. Then we read, "And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM**: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, **I AM** hath sent me unto you." (Ex. 3:14). This great I am is everything to the believing child of God. He is as Solomon said, "altogether lovely" and worthy to be adored because He did come down to deliver. "Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;" (II Cor. 1:10). Moses was no ready.

This great **I AM** came down in the person of Jesus Christ. Jesus told His kindred, "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see my day: and he saw it, and was glad. Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, **I am**." (John 8:56-58). Jesus was before Abraham's day and before any day. "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." (John 1:1). "I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord, which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty." (Rev. 1:8). Paul also says He is before all things, and by Him all things consist. (Col. 1:17).

This great I AM made His personal appearance in Jesus Christ who said, "**I AM the good shepherd**: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep." (John 10:11) The good shepherd came down from heaven to deliver His sheep from the penalty of sin; a penalty placed upon them by Adam's transgression in the Garden of Eden. He did His work to the utmost perfection as He proclaimed on the cross "it is finished." There isn't anything that can be added to or taken from this great work. His sheep are complete in Him who is the head of all principality and power.

Jesus begins to prepare His disciples for His going away by telling them in His Father's house are many mansions. Jesus responds to Thomas' question as to the way he and the others knew. "Jesus saith unto him, **I am the way, the truth, and the life**: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6). Jesus is the way to these mansions as mediator and the One who made reconciliation for the sins of His people. He was their forerunner, having entered into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for them. (Heb. 9:24). He was the ladder from earth to heaven that Jacob reaching from earth to heaven with angels ascending and descending upon it.

Mary and Martha's brother, Lazarus, died and Jesus came and told them he would rise again. Martha tells Jesus she knows he will rise again in the resurrection and "Jesus said unto her, **I am the resurrection**, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." Martha was right that Lazarus would rise again in the resurrection but he was about to be resurrected back into the physical life He formerly possessed. Martha was looking upon the power of the resurrection in the person of Jesus Christ. This is something that all the children of God should long for; to know the power of the resurrection along with the apostle Paul. "That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;" (Phil. 3:10).

Jesus would not send a multitude of people away from him hungry so He fed 5,000 with five barley loaves and two fishes. He had fed the Israelites in the wilderness with bread from heaven called Manna and they knew not what it was. Jesus tells the people who witnessed this miracle, "**I am the living bread** which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world." Jesus is the bread of life and whereas the bread in the wilderness could not preserve their life whether natural or spiritual. Jesus is the living bread from heaven and gave His life for the world of His elect and those that eat of this bread (Manna) live forever. The body dies for sure but the Spirit lives on in the presence of the Lord. That living bread lived then and He still lives today seated at the right hand of God, ruling and reigning.

In the same chapter of John that Jesus said He is the good shepherd He also says something else profound: **"I am the door:** by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture." (John 10:9). The child of God that presses into and enters into the kingdom of God must come trusting in the Lord Jesus as the only ground of his righteousness. If he comes in any other way, he is coming as a thief and a robber who only kills and destroys. Jesus has come that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Let us labor to enter into that rest and glean in the verdant pastures of the gospel kingdom.

As part of His going away message to His disciples, Jesus instructs them in fruit bearing and says, **"I am the vine,** ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." (John 15:5). The branch cannot bring forth fruit unless it is attached to the vine. We will always remain attached eternally but in our daily lives there may be a breach of fellowship when His commandments aren't kept. Jesus is always the perfect example as He abode in His Father's love in keeping His commandments and the disciples could do the same.

Jesus had put the accusers of a woman taken in adultery to flight who were trying to trap him into violating the Law of Moses in John chapter 8. These words follow that encounter: "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, **I am the light of the world:** he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12). Some people like to be in the spotlight and the center of attention. What God's people need to do is to be in the Lamb's light enjoying communion and fellowship with their Lord. Remember two cannot walk together except they be agreed. Stumbling and falling will be avoided by following the Lord and walking in the light and be able to say with the song "It is well with my soul!"

This is the great I am manifest in seven statements of Christ who is always True and Faithful.

FATHER

He teaches kindness by being thoughtful and gracious even at home.

He teaches patience by being gentle and understanding over and over.

He teaches honesty by keeping his promises to his family even when it costs.

He teaches courage by living unafraid with faith, in all circumstances.

He teaches justice by being fair and dealing equally with everyone.

He teaches obedience to God's Word by precept and example as he reads and prays daily with his family.

He teaches love for God and His Church as he takes his family regularly to all the services.

His steps are important because others follow. (Unknown)

JEWELS FROM SISTER TIBBETTS JUST THINKING

By Jewell Tibbetts (Deceased)

A few years back I was talking to my son, and I said, "I have been thinking (I was fixing to tell him something that I thought was important) and he interrupted me and said, "Mama, don't be "thinking", you are dangerous when you think!" Well, he's probably right. I don't always think good thoughts, and sometimes do stupid things (without thinking it out), as much as I hate to admit that fact! Anyway, I had overheard a conversation where someone had told another person to "mind their own business", and I was curious as to what they were talking about. It really wasn't my business, so my mind began to wander further to the meaning of the word "mind".

In the Bible we read that God doesn't change his mind, but we have a "wishy-washy" mind—always changing it from one direction to another. In the church, we should all be of one mind, being in accord for the benefit of each other, and the edifying of God's word. The word "mind" is mentioned many times in the Bible—probably more than 95 times—I desire to have a good mind—good thoughts—and be mindful of others. I like the account in Mark 5 when Jesus demanded the unclean spirit to come out of Legion and put him in his right mind. None of us have a mind to serve the Lord until the Lord gives us the gift of the Spirit. Rom. 8:7 "Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither can be."

The word "mind" is used in many ways. It can be a recollection, as a thought came to my mind, a mental event, an opinion, a view, or pay attention to. We know of individuals whose minds did not develop properly when they were born, and are called "mentally handicapped". I have a mentally handicapped adopted daughter, and she is precious to the Lord and a blessing to me. I pray the Lord will bless me to be in my "right mind" the rest of my life upon the earth, and not be a burden to my children.

As an "afterthought", I need to mind my own business, and stay out of trouble, quit "thinking" and keep my son Happy!

(From "The GOOD NEWS Newsletter, Sept. 2011)

MIND QUOTES

Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you did your best to become the best you are capable of becoming.—John Wooden

There are no constraints on the human mind, no walls around the human spirit, no barriers to our progress except those we ourselves erect.—Ronald Reagan

GOD'S CHILDREN ARE SAINTS

By Elder Roland U Green (Deceased)

"Paul, called by the will of God to be an apostle of Jesus Christ, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God which is at Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 1:1-3)

Let us look at two words in the above passage: sanctified, and saint. To sanctify is to dedicate or set aside for holy uses; to make holy.

The first time something was sanctified in the Bible, God did it. After he had spent six days creating and setting in order the creations, God "rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. And God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it." (Gen. 2:2-3) In sanctifying this day he dedicated or set it apart for a holy use unto the Lord. (See Ex.16:23)

In his letter to the church of God at Corinth, Paul is addressing not things, but people, who had been made holy, set apart for holy uses. This was done by God in, or through Christ Jesus. Paul said (Heb. 10:10) we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for "all" which points my mind to the definition, "make holy". Under the law worship, the priest would offer sacrifices daily, which could never take away sin. But Jesus, through one sacrifice—himself, has achieved eternal perfection for all whom he is sanctifying or making holy.

Once God has accomplished the sanctifying of his elect or heirs (those chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blame...Eph. 1:4), they are qualified to be called saints. Saints are those who have seen sanctified. So Paul addressed the church at Rome as "called of Jesus Christ", "beloved of God", "called to be saints", (Rom. 1:6-7) He wrote letters to the "saints which are at Ephesus", (Eph. 1:1); "to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Phillipi." (Phil. 1:1) and "to the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse". (Col. 1:2)

To be called a saint by men is one thing, but to be "called to be saints" or "called saints" by our Lord is a high, heavenly privilege. This is cause for humility and thanksgiving to God on our part when we come to realize that it is he that made us, and not we ourselves." (Psalm 100:2) Paul recognized this and confessed, "But by the grace of God I am what I am." (1 Cor. 15:10)

God's children, then, are saints. They have been made holy or clean from the guilt of sin by their Saviour. They have been called with a holy calling to a holy vocation, to follow their Lord and shepherd. They have been given the mind and ability to worship

and serve, presenting their bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God; which is their reasonable spiritual service or worship. (Rom. 12:1)

(From "Glad Tidings", July 1984)

IS YOUR NEED KNOWN?

If your Pastor never stops at your house, you probably should thank God. It means:

- Death has not struck
- No serious illness has laid you low
- The surgeon's knife has not been necessary
- You have had no serious family problem
- You are not a delinquent member, spiritually

As a rule, no pastor has time for social calls. It's not that he would not enjoy doing so. It would probably be a lot easier and pleasanter than much of what he IS doing. It is simply a matter of priorities...putting first things first (as best he can decide that). No pastor has time to do everything he would like to do. However, you may be SURE of this: Your pastor is willing to come to the hospital and your home, the jail, the street corner, or anywhere at any time of the day or night, when he is NEEDED and KNOWS it.

CALL HIM IF YOU NEED HIM: Otherwise, he won't know of your need until it is too late. In the meantime, pause to thank God that you didn't need him today. One day you will need him, and he'll respond to your call. Right now, he's responding to someone else's need. Also, make an effort to get to know him, so when you do need him, you will not need a stranger.

--Contributed by Eleanor White from church bulletin.

(From "Glad Tidings", November, 1984)

PASTORING IS NOT THAT EASY

The pastor teaches, though he must solicit his own classes. He heals, though without pills or knife. He is sometimes a lawyer, often a social worker, something of an editor, a bit of a philosopher and entertainer, a salesman, a decorative piece for public functions, and he is supposed to be a scholar. He visits the sick, marries people, buries the dead, labors to console those who sorrow and to admonish those who sin, and tries to stay sweet when chided for not doing his duty. He plans programs, appoints committees when he can get them, spends considerable time in keeping people out of each other's hair. Between times he prepares a sermon and preaches it on Sunday to those who don't happen to have any other engagement. Then on Monday he smiles when some jovial chap roars, "What a job--one day a week!"

Something To Think About:

By Elder Bobby Willis (Deceased) ... 11-3-16

Closer Than A Brother

There are times in our lives when we need a friend. You know, that one person we can share our feelings with and feel we will not be overly judged in return. One who will listen and not try to tell us all the answers before they even have all the facts. Perhaps you have such a person in your life. They can be your life long companion, your son or daughter, an aunt or uncle, a grandparent, or a classmate from times past.

Proverbs 18:24 talks about a special friend; a friend like no other - **“A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother...”** We find that we need this special friend in our darkest hour, when our life seems to be at the lowest, and we don't know where to turn. King David had a number of times like this in his life, but one in particular. The effects of David's sin with Bathsheba has devastated his family and hurt so many by his actions. David did not need a lecture on how to govern his kingdom, or one of those fancy seminars on how to be a better father and/or moral person. The guilt he felt brought home his sin in a mighty way. What he needed was a friend. Had he not been remorseful would have been one thing, but when confronted face to face with what his sinful actions had caused, his own rightful judgment was rendered against himself.

While God forgave him of his sin, it did not mean that the consequences would not be met. We find this truth in Numbers 32:23, **“...behold, ye have sinned against the LORD: and be sure your sin will find you out.”** We know that our sin debt has been paid in full by Jesus Christ our Lord on the Cross of Calvary. However, there are consequences for our actions while we remain on this earth in the form of chastisement rendered justly by God. It is while we may be going through these times that the need of a friend is more evident. Note: Not all of our suffering is due to chastisement. Satan is still going about seeking to steal away the joys of God's children by his actions of casting doubt, discord, heartache, pain and misery for those he knows he cannot affect eternally.

Let's look at just one friend that came to the aid of David when he needed him. One such friend that came to support David (he didn't support the sin of David but rather David himself). Ittai the Gittite was a commander of 600 men who came to Israel from Gath (from the land of the Philistines). This is the same place where Goliath had called home and where David himself had spent time when he was avoiding King Saul. Evidently, David had impressed Ittai in some manner to secure his devoted friendship.

Ittai appears to be one of those friends who is not forefront all the time, but when you really need them, there they are to help in your time of need. II Samuel 15:21 shows how close this friendship means to Ittai. David told him it was not necessary for him to **“go up and down with us...”** but bid him to return and take his brethren with him. David then showed his appreciation for Ittai's actions of friendship as he said, **“...mercy and truth be with thee.”** Notice now the next verse, (21), **“And Ittai answered the king, and said, As the Lord liveth, and as my lord the king liveth, surely in what place my lord the king shall be, whether in death or life, even there also will thy servant be.”** Even if it meant death to Ittai, he was willing to be there for his friend, David.

John 15:13 speaks of our Lord and the ultimate friend that He is when John said, **“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”** John follows up on this profound statement of love in I John 3:16, **“Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren.”** Just how do we accomplish this in our lives with our friends (brothers and sisters in Christ)? By not being self-righteous, nor filled with pride, nor seeking our own benefit over others. But rather by walking together, of the same mind as we seek to serve our Lord together. We lay down our lives for our friends when we seek their welfare above our own. May God bless us to do so.

“Think About It”

Elder Bobby Willis

Editor, ShareTheWord

FRIEND DEFINITION

A British publication once offered a prize for the best definition of a friend. Among the thousands of answers received were the following:

"One who multiplies joys, divides grief, and whose honesty is inviolable."

"One who understands our silence."

"A volume of sympathy bound in cloth."

"A watch that beats true for all time and never runs down."

The winning definition read: "A friend is the one who comes in when the whole world has gone out."

Bits & Pieces, July, 1991.

"A friend loveth at all times, and a brother is born for adversity." (Prov. 17:17)

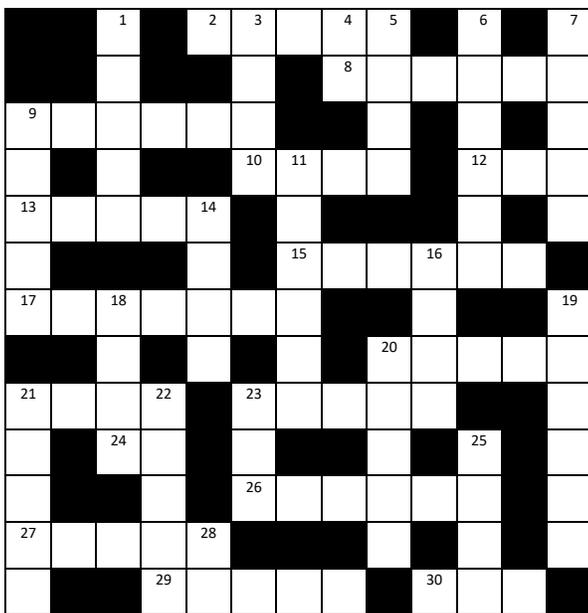
"Faithful are the wounds of a friend; but the kisses of an enemy are deceitful." (Prov. 27:6)

Concerning Abraham: "...and he was called the Friend of God." (James 2:23)

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

2. Peter denied Jesus and began to curse and ____.
8. Eve is considered the _____ of all living.
9. A Nazarite with long hair who committed suicide.
10. If a beast touched Mount Sinai it could be thrust through with a _____ or stoned.
12. ____ to yourselves in righteousness; reap in mercy.
13. David's son who violated his sister Tamar.
15. Paul was a ____ vessel to bear the name of Jesus.
17. Father of Samuel who loved his wife Hannah.
20. Fathers provoke not your children to _____.
21. Marvel not that ye ____ be born again said Jesus.
23. Adam was put in the garden to _____ and keep it.
24. Sapphira and Ananias initials.
26. Abraham said he and Isaac would go _____ and worship and return to his servants.
27. A voice was heard in _____ lamentation and bitter weeping; Rahel weeping for her children.
28. Paul said it was unlawful to scourge him because he was a _____ and uncondemned.
30. _____ no man any thing but to love one another.



(Answers on Page 8)

DOWN:

1. God took a rib from Adam and made a _____.
3. The _____ bloweth whither it listeth. North ____.
4. But by the grace of God I ____ what I am.
5. Jesus came as a _____ out of a dry ground.
6. Paul wanted to present the church at Corinth as a _____ virgin to Christ and thus had godly jealousy.
7. Soldiers put a _____ of thorns on Jesus' head.
9. Jesus endured the cross despising the _____.
11. Hope is an _____ of the soul, sure and steadfast.
14. There is _____ righteous, no not one.
16. Jacob had twelve _____ who became 12 tribes.
18. Judas betrayed Jesus with a _____ on the cheek.
19. The publican smote upon his _____ being a sinner.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

20. Lay _____ every weight and the sin that doth so easily beset us and run with patience.
21. Blessed are they that ____ they will be comforted.
22. Sister of Amnon who was violated by him.
23. Israel went across the Red Sea _____ shod.
25. _____ in grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ.
28. _____ ye that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

It is my grandson Isaac's time again. My wife had gone to Tupelo with her sister, Isaac and his mother, Paige Wise, to do some shopping. They had eaten lunch and went to several places. The trip was winding down and my wife asked everyone, "Anybody want to go anywhere else before we leave?" Nobody said anything but Isaac who piped up, "**I do. I want to go to the Masters.**" His father and uncle had gone to Augusta to see a practice round of the Masters Golf tournament the week before. I guess he felt left out. Maybe he'll get to go some day.—*Editor*

A MESSAGE WRITTEN BY SISTER DORA BAKER SHORTLY BEFORE HER DEATH

Dear Readers and Friends,—I sometimes feel an urge to write and tell some of my feelings, but don't feel I am capable of writing in a way fit to be published. I guess that's why so many of us don't write, and keep silent. It appears to me.

We Primitive Baptists are quite different from the conditional churches, who believe it's up to us to be happy or miserable, be good or bad, to start getting religion. How can anyone start when they feel to be outcast from God; and a heart full of tears that won't flow,—no relief day or night. We can't ever begin praying until God starts us off. What comes from Him goes back to Him. My hope of eternal life is worth more to me than all the riches of this world. While we live in this low ground of sin and sorrow, sickness, pain and death, we have no power over the enemy who deceived Eve in the garden of Eden. Satan is our very worst enemy while we live in this world, to deceive the very elect if possible. I know all the good I've ever known or felt came from the Lord. I cannot see anything good I ever did. This causes me to sorrow and my spirit mourns for days or weeks. When the Comforter comes it's then I am made to praise the blessed Lord and Savior with a joyful heart. Then the hope He gives us shines in our souls in the morning sunlight. We are so completely dependent

(Continued on Page 7)

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting with Yalobusha Primitive Baptist Church, Water Valley, MS the 4th weekend in June, 2019 (June 21-23). Services Friday night, June 21, at 7:00 p.m. Services Saturday, June 22, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Regular services on Sunday with Communion. Elder Jeremy Wise, Pontotoc, MS 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, 2019 (May 31-June 2). Services Friday night, May 31 at 7:00 p.m. Saturday night, June 1, supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Elder Joe Nettles, Caledonia, MS is invited minister. Elder Grady Camp is Pastor of New Prospect.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Raleigh Primitive Baptist Church, 3625 Austin Peay Highway, Memphis, TN 38128, June 14 & 15, 2019. Services are as follows: Friday night, June 14, at 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, June 15, at 10:30 a.m., followed by lunch and afternoon services at 1:30 p.m. Invited minister is Elder Tim Montgomery, Pastor of New Hope Primitive Baptist Church, Jacksonville, AR. Elder Chase Harrison is Pastor at Raleigh.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Beulah Primitive Baptist Church in Saltillo, Mississippi on Saturday, June 29, 2019. Services will begin at 10:30 am followed by lunch and afternoon service. Elder Ronald Lawrence, Goodlettsville, TN is the invited minister. Regular services on Sunday. Elder Tony Lester is Pastor at Beulah.

Elder Jonathan Wise, New Albany, MS will be with Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS the 5th Sunday in June, 2019 (June 30) with services starting at 10:30 a.m. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Elder Larry Wise will be with Little Flock Primitive Church, Burnsville, MS the 5th Sunday in June, 2019 (June 30) with services beginning at 10:30 a.m. Elder Jonathan Wise is Pastor of Little Flock.

The 5th Sunday night in June 2019 (June 30) Fellowship meeting will be hosted by Laodicea Primitive Baptist Church, Lafayette Springs, MS with supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m. Elder Steve Weaver is Pastor of Laodicea. This meeting rotates between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany and Hopewell Primitive Baptist churches. Everyone is invited to come and worship the Lord with us to close out the month of June and one half of 2019.

CHURCH NEWS

Elder Jerry Wise, Pontotoc, MS will be with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Randolph, MS the 5th Sunday in June, 2019 (June 30) with services beginning at 10:30 a.m. Elder Tom Bouchillon is Pastor of Hopewell.

Elder Calvin Warren, Tupelo, MS will be with New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS 5th Sun. in June 2019 (June 30). Services at 10:30 a.m. Elder Grady Camp is Pastor of New Prospect.

Elder Grady Camp, Germantown, TN and wife, Marge extend thanks to all who prayed, called and sent cards for Bro. Camp during his recent 3 high risk heart procedures. God was gracious in answered prayer and he is doing fairly well as well as Sister Marge who had surgery before Bro. Camp on her hip.

EXCERPTS GLAD TIDINGS READER LETTERS

Dear Bro. Larry,

Enjoy your newsletter Glad Tidings. I have started passing them along to my sister.

Pray you and your family are doing well.

In Christina Love,
Sister Carol James
Winona, MS

Dear Elder Wise,

I do so much enjoy your paper. Thank you for forwarding it to me.

I remember you coming to Sharon Primitive Baptist Church in Missouri many years ago. I remember seeing your wife and three boys who were with you.

I will celebrate my 89th birthday in 4 days. I have had many blessings in those years. Being a member of a Primitive Baptist Church has been one of those blessings. I joined and was baptized in a creek in Benton County Arkansas in 1944.

May God continue to bless you to preach and publish.

In Christian Love,
Eloyce Noel
St. Charles, MO

SISTER DORA BAKER

(Continued from Page 6)

on God for everything, spiritual or natural things. I cannot see how anyone can boast, for unless we become as little children, we can in no wise enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

May we be led in the Father's righteousness by He who doeth all things well, is the prayer of a little sister in hope.

Dora Massey Baker
(From "Advocate and Messenger", October, 1966)

WHO IS INCREASING?

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

As we view the United States and the world today, we see that many things are increasing that are not in favor with God. We see increasing violence against the Christian element and ungodly practices in our society that are gaining increasing credibility, even among the So-called religious leaders. The Pope wants a one world religion. Well, that's nothing new. The Catholics have always wanted to rule everyone else. A study done recently revealed that honesty is at a premium as people admitted to lying, stealing from work and cheating on tests. Some people think more of themselves more than they do of God. What did John the Baptist say? "He must increase, but I must decrease." (John 3:20)

John was a great man as the Bible declares: "Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he." (Matt. 11:11) However, John declared Jesus must increase but he must decrease. If we are going to get a majestic view of Jesus, we must decrease as that is the only way He will increase in our eyes. If we are increasing, then it is the flesh that is gaining strength and the flesh profiteth nothing. When we have a lofty view of ourselves, we run contrary to the scriptures which tell us, "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." (Rom. 12:3). We get in serious trouble when we go contrary to Biblical principles. Nebuchadnezzar had a lofty view of himself as he gloated over the kingdom that he thought he alone had built but was driven to eat grass like an ox.

We need to see more of Christ and less of ourselves. We see ourselves in the gospel mirror as polluted sinners saved by the grace of God. This view of what we were in times past and the knowledge of what we will be like in heaven should motivate us to add to our faith such as virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness and charity. (II Peter 1:5-8). Then we won't be barren and unfruitful in the knowledge of God as they "abound" in our lives. The word "abound" means to grow or increase. When these are added, we are decreasing and Jesus is increasing.

We see a lot of self esteem being taught and that we are to love ourselves more. I believe we have enough self love and we need to be taught to love others more. Selfish love doesn't consider the plight of anyone else but the individual; consequently, Jesus has decreased to the point of banishment. Jesus hasn't increased in the U.S.A. but attempts are

being made to banish His name from all aspects of society. The reality is that He actually hasn't decreased as He is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Jesus is often relegated to shelf status. He is put on a shelf and not taken down until a time of crisis arises. What a shame. The One who lived and died to save us from our sins deserves better!

Paul commended the church at Thessalonica for their love toward one another and others. However, he prays that this practicing love might increase more and more to an abounding status. Who increases more in the Christian holiday seasons of Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas? More attention is paid to the fleshly activities associated with those seasons than what they actually are and represent. Israel increased in self importance and forgot God and we see what happened to them. I am thankful that God is a merciful God because without His bountiful mercy and granting of repentance things are just going to get worse. Israel flattered God with their lips but their hearts were not right with God and were not steadfast in His covenant, As bad as this treatment of God deserved, yet we read, "But he, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he his anger away, and did not stir up all his wrath. For he remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again." (Psalm 78:38-39). When we think we are standing in our own strength, take heed lest we fall. Jesus must increase and we must decrease but is He doing that in each believer?

**ANSWERS
BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
READ RIGHT TO LEFT**

ACROSS:	DOWN:
2. raews	1. namow
8. rehtom	3. dniw
9. nosmas	4. ma
10. trad	5. toor
12. wos	6. etsahc
13. nonma	7. nworc
15. nesohc	9. emahs
17. hanakle	11. rohcna
20. regna	14. enon
21. tsum	16. snos
23. sserd	18. ssik
24. as	19. tsaerb
26. rednoy	20. edisa
27. hamar	21. nruom
29. namor	22. ramat
30. ewo	23. yrd
	25. worg
	28. oh

A ONE TIME VISIT

By Elder Herman Clark
Iuka, Mississippi

I suppose we all in time past had visitors to “drop in” and for one reason or another smile as they are driving away. Good company is a blessing, however bad company is just that—bad company. I can truly say that I have experienced such. In fact, not too long ago a man I knew when in high school came by and told me all about his collection of cars, and after about a two hour visit of his continuing talking, telling me of his great accomplishments in life, which I knew 99% was all an untruth, I was glad when he left. Shame on me.

In the book of Acts, 14th chapter we find that Paul and Barnabas was at Lystra. While there Paul healed a man that was crippled from his mother’s womb, who never walked. Here Paul stedfastly beholding him, and perceiving that he had faith to be healed, “Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.” (Acts 14:10) When this man was healed, the people rushed to the scene and were willing to bow down to Paul and Barnabas, and even gave them names. One priest would have done sacrifice with the people unto Paul and Barnabas. Paul explained to them that they were just men like unto them. But because of this man being healed there were some that stoned Paul, supposing he was dead, carried him out of the city, and when the disciples came to Paul he raised up and came into the city. I suppose if this would have been me, this would have been my last visit. But the Apostle returned to Lystra, confirming the souls of the disciples, and exhorting them to continue in the faith, and that we must through much tribulation enter the kingdom of God. Paul did not let this stop his preaching the gospel to those in Lystra. If you are suffering for righteousness, just be happy and remember the words of the Apostle Peter as recorded in 1st Peter 3:14 “But and if ye suffer for righteousness sake, happy ARE YE: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled.”

(From “*The GOOD NEWS Newsletter*”,
January, 2009)

FATHERS

Elder Larry Wise

Fathers indeed do their very best,
That their families might be blessed.
Thank God when results are good,
Father has done what he should.

Fathers mess up every now and then,
They’re sinners and therefore sin.
Father above is perfect in every way,
Serve Him at once without delay.

PROCRASTINATION

A farm boy accidentally overturned his wagonload of corn in the road. The farmer who lived nearby came to investigate. "Hey, Willis," he called out, "forget your troubles for a spell and come on in and have dinner with us. Then I'll help you get the wagon up."

"That's mighty nice of you," Willis answered, "But I don't think Pa would like me to."

"Aw, come on, son!" the farmer insisted. "Well, okay," the boy finally agreed. "But Pa won't like it."

After a hearty dinner, Willis thanked his host. "I feel a lot better now, but I just know Pa is going to be real upset."

"Don't be foolish!" exclaimed the neighbor. "By the way, where is he?"

"Under the wagon."

Source Unknown.

An incident from the American Revolution illustrates what tragedy can result from procrastination. It is reported that Colonel Rahl, commander of the British troops in Trenton, New Jersey, was playing cards when a courier brought an urgent message stating that General George Washington was crossing the Delaware River. Rahl put the letter in his pocket and didn't bother to read it until the game was finished. Then, realizing the seriousness of the situation, he hurriedly tried to rally his men to meet the coming attack, but his procrastination was his undoing. He and many of his men were killed and the rest of the regiment was captured.

Nolbert Quayle said, "Only a few minutes' delay cost him his life, his honor, and the liberty of his soldiers. Earth's history is strewn with the wrecks of half-finished plans and unexecuted resolutions. 'Tomorrow' is the excuse of the lazy and refuge of the incompetent."

Our Daily Bread.

We all procrastinate at times and put off doing something that could be pleasant or unpleasant. We might intend to visit a brother or sister in Christ who may not have been able to come to church in awhile. That would be a pleasant task and a blessing but some thing got in the way and we may have said, "I'll get round to it tomorrow or the next." First thing you know that brother or sister may have passed away and the opportunity is forever lost.

On the other hand we might “get round to it” when weed eating the yard or cleaning the garage which most likely would prove unpleasant. The longer it is put off, the more difficult it will become. However, when it comes to serving the Lord, we need not worry about it being unpleasant; it will prove to be the greatest blessing of all time. Don't say “I'll get round to it some day.” Ready, set, go; be blessed.—*Editor*

IN SPIRIT AND IN TRUTH

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

John 4:24: "God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth."

The Lord Jesus Christ came to declare the Father unto mankind, and here he is doing so to the Samaritan woman at the well. Samaritans were in conflict with the orthodox Jews. One reason for that was they were only half Jewish because their forefathers had intermarried with the Syrians. Another was that they declared the place to worship God was not at Jerusalem, but in the mountains of Samaria. Jesus was telling her that very soon under the gospel dispensation it would not matter where to worship the Father, but rather how to worship him (v 21). The true way to worship him was in spirit and truth. How does one worship the Lord in spirit and in truth?

God is a Spirit. He is eternal, ethereal, formless, all knowing, intelligent, invisible and incorruptible. Because he is a spirit the best way to worship him is in our spirit. Jesus tells us what our spirit is in Matthew 15:8 "This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me." They honored the Lord with their mouth the outward part, but Christ knowing the inward heart knew that this was not a true worship. For their hearts was far from him. The heart is that inward spirit that we should worship God with. Many times we read in the word of God that the Jews of that period put all their religious passions into outward worship with the body. Doing such things as long prayers in the marketplace, and when should hands be washed etc.... Outward show is good in the right way, but they were relying on it for all their worship. Unfortunately sometime an individual can show one thing outwardly with the body, and another with their heart. Jesus is telling her that is not proper worship to God. The heart or spirit is the main thing when it comes to worshipping God. First that heart must be regenerated from power from on high. A dead alien sinner cannot worship the Father in their heart. There's nothing in their heart that loves God. Second it is possible for a regenerated heart to put too much emphasis on outward show, not completely serving God with their heart. This can happen through ignorance and laziness to name a few. We should all ask God to examine our hearts and let us know if we are worshipping him in the spirit.

In truth means that there has to be a sincere belief in one that Jesus is the Christ; the Son of the living God. One thing that both the Jews and the Samaritans lack at that time was a belief in the Son. It wouldn't matter what temple, or what mountain they worship at. They were both in error for not believing in the Son of God that the Father had sent, and revealed himself in his Son (2 Cor 4:5). It was a

stumbling block for them. If you wanted to serve God in truth, then it has to be through the belief that Jesus is the Son of God. Would salvation by grace be possible without Christ? No! For it was his atonement that legally gave us salvation by grace. The scripture tells us that without Christ then we are still in our sins. (1 Cor 15:17) So Christ is everything in our eternal salvation, then he should be everything in our beliefs as well.

We should worship the Father with our spirits and in truth we should worship him through the belief of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Rickey Taylor

ONLY RULE OF FAITH

ARTICLE TWO

By Elder A. D. Wood (Deceased)

Is unconditional election taught in our rule of faith, the Bible? As the Bible teaches that the election of God's people was made before the foundation of the world, that proves that it is unconditional (See Eph. i. 4) "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercy, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering." This text proves that there is such a thing as being the elect of God, and also proves that the elect are the ones who are told to do the things of the text. The next text tells us that these people are forgiven of their sins.

I do not believe that all of the elect of God are doing what this verse says for them to do. If all of the elect of God are doing what they are told to do in this text, then none are saved but those who do it. All are lost but those who obey. If only those who obey the gospel are elected and saved, those who do not obey are lost. Do infants, idiots, the insane, and those who do not hear the gospel have any part in the election of God? If not, then they are not saved, unless they are saved on the outside of God's election. If they are saved outside God's election, then election was not necessary for their salvation. As all who live with God in heaven must be holy, and those who shall live with God in heaven were chosen in Him (Eph. i.4), that proves that if infants live with Him, they were chosen in Him. Therefore, they are the elect of God (those who die in infancy), and they are that, unconditional on their part. Inasmuch as the infants are a portion of the elect, and are saved unconditionally on their part, I will say all of the elect are saved unconditionally on their part, otherwise God has more than one way of saving folks. Does God have more than one way of saving folks?
A. D. Wood

(From "The Primitive Baptist", September 5, 1946)

"Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth." (Rom. 8:33)

SOMETHING EVERY CHRISTIAN SHOULD CONSIDER

"If a man is rendering obedience to any of the commands of God because he expects to gain Heaven or escape hell by it, he is in no wise any better than he that makes no pretense at serving anything but his own lusts."

"Christian obedience rests not upon the slavish idea of rewards and punishments, but is the large, noble freedom of a heart which loves God, and spontaneously follows Him."

Elder F.A. Chick (1845-1915)
Copied from "History of the Church of God"
by Elders C.B. and Sylvester Hassell

In the first two chapters of the book of Job, we read about a conversation between God and Satan. God asked Satan, "Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? Satan replied, "Doth Job fear God for nought?" He then proceeded to challenge God, "But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face." After losing all his possessions and his whole family, Job "worshipped" and said, "the Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Furthermore, "In all this Job sinned not, nor charged God foolishly." Satan then presented a second challenge to God, "But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face." Job was then infected with grotesque and painful boils over his entire body, "from the sole of his foot unto his crown". For the next 29 chapters Job engaged in a total of eight "back and forth" conversations with his "three friends", Eliphaz, Bildad, and Zophar; followed by the verbal "wrath of Elihu" poured out in the next six chapters. Lastly, there are four chapters which record the account of God rebuking Job. After all the suffering this righteous man endured, he was exposed to the sovereign omnipotence, holiness, and infinite knowledge and wisdom of the one, true, eternal God. He reacts to this encounter with six sentences and concludes by saying, "I have heard of thee by the hearing of the ear: but now mine eye seeth thee. Wherefore I abhor myself, and repent in dust and ashes." (Job 42:5-6)

How is it with you, my Christian friends? When you are faced with the trials of life, do you say as Job, "though he slay me, yet will I trust him..."? (Job 13:15) Do you "serve God for nought" or do you serve Him for profit? In other words, do you serve him out of loving gratitude for "the grace of God that bringeth salvation." (Titus 2:11) or do you serve him hoping he will reward you with salvation? I occasionally hear people expose their true motive

when they say, "if I believed that I had nothing to do with my salvation, then I wouldn't care how I lived". Personally, I believe the Lord chose me in Christ before the world began. I believe that, in spite of the sin I inherited from Adam, He sent Jesus into the world to save me from my sin. He didn't offer or make salvation available to me (if I meet the conditions), he actually saved me by his death, burial, and resurrection! Because he saved me on the cross 2,000 years ago, he has sent the Spirit of his Son into my heart, which moved me to cry, "Abba, Father." (Gal. 4:6). When we realize what the Lord has done for us, may we "serve God for nought", i.e. let us serve him because he has given us eternal life, not because we are trying to earn it.

Elder Buddy Abernathy
Gordo, AL

A FEW THOUGHTS ON EVE'S TRANSGRESSION

(*Advocate and Messenger*, March 1985)

In the third chapter of Genesis the tempter appears on the scene for the first time and enters into conversation with Eve. In these first recorded words of Eve we have the first instances of God's word being both misquoted and added to. With regard to the tree of the knowledge of good and evil God did not say, "Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch thou it, lest ye die," but He said, "Thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." By examining Eve's statement and comparing it to God's statement it will be readily seen that she both misquoted and added to what He had said. All down through time people who have wanted to interpret God's word to suit themselves have used this same procedure.

In this conversation between Eve and Satan we have also the first *denial* of God's word. God had said that if Adam and Eve violated the rule concerning the tree they would *surely die*, but Satan speaking through the serpent, said, "Ye shall *not surely die*." This is also the first *lie* we read of in the Scriptures,—and notice,—the first time a lie is *told* it is *believed*—and acted upon. And O how awful were the consequences! Adam was then drawn into the transgression, and from this *one sin* stems all the other evils we read of from thenceforward throughout the Scriptures.

Involved in Eve's acceptance of Satan's lie is,—(1) The first *transgression of God's law*,—(2) The first *distrust of God and His word*,—(3) The first *questioning of God's goodness*, by believing that He was withholding something which was of great value and which would contribute much to hers and Adam's happiness, and (4) The first *disdain for the approbation of God*; as though having His loving approval was of no significant importance.—*Editor* (Elder Ralph Harris)

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