

Glad Tidings

March

2020

"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

In the church kingdom, we have heard ministers say (myself included) that we are all here on common ground where there aren't any big you's or little I's. However, the apostles whom Jesus had chosen were having an argument among themselves about who was greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Jesus knew their thoughts and called a little child unto Him and said to that squabbling group, "Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Matt. 18:4) Little children generally do not attempt to promote or elevate themselves above other children and seldom, if ever, hold grudges. This is why Paul told the church at Corinth, "Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men." (I Cor. 14:20)

Jealousy can invade the ranks of the best of people if not held in check. James and John, the two sons of Zebedee, came to Jesus via their mother and desired that Jesus would grant that they might sit, one on the right hand and the other on the left, when He came in His kingdom. When the other ten apostles heard of this, they were much displeased. We might wonder if they desired the same thing or did not want these two, James and John, to get ahead of them. In either case, they failed to humble themselves as a child.

Perhaps these apostles wanted to be called by some distinguished religious name that designated the religious elite. Jesus taught otherwise about what they and others are to be called. They were not to be called Rabbi for one was their Master, Jesus Christ. They were to call no man their father on earth because one was their Father in heaven. They were not to be called masters for one was their Master, Christ. Jesus sums up this teaching by stating, "But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant." (Matt. 23:11)

The way to honour is through service but before any honour a vital ingredient must be present. Solomon said, "Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honour is humility." (Prov. 18:12) Jesus humbled Himself under the mighty hand of God and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross wherefore God exalted Him. Jesus said, "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour." John 12:26

Jesus was a true servant of God; however, He never attempted to exalt Himself in the eyes of the people. After some great miracle He had done, He would even tell those affected to go and tell no man. Isaiah prophesied of this servant and how God would bless His service and humility. "Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles." (Isa. 42:1) Jesus came not to be ministered unto but to minister and give His life a ransom for many. (Matt. 20:28) He taught the disciples the value of service. "For whether is greater, he that sitteth at meat, or he that serveth? is not he that sitteth at meat? but I am among you as he that serveth." (Luke 22:27)

The Pharisees were the ones desiring to be the greatest and to be seen of men and Jesus constantly pronounced woe unto them who had this as their goal. Saul of Tarsus felt at one time to be the greatest of the Hebrews but after he was arrested by God's grace his attitude was far different. He is now able to say, "This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." (I Tim. 1:15) It is important to note that he felt to be the chief of sinners but the least of the apostles and less than the least of all saints. (Eph. 3:8) He was still addressed as Saul after the Damascus road encounter with Jesus; Ananias addressed him as Brother Saul but he was primarily known as Paul the apostle. He was willing to spend and be spent for Christ and not attempting to make himself superior to any other minister.

Paul condemned the Corinthians for being more followers of ministers than of the Lord. Some were following Paul, some Cephas, and some Apollos but listen to Paul who directs them to the proper object of their praise. "I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase." (I Cor. 3:6-7)

The kingdom of God can flourish when it has great people in the midst. Let us remember, however, that the way to greatness is to humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God and submit ourselves one to another, doing as Paul said, "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." (Phil. 2:3) When this sentiment prevails, there will be no wrangle about who is greatest. (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 LADY AND THE ROBBER

In the early part of this century there lived, in a large, lonely house in the south of England, a lady whose only companions were two maid-servants. Though far away from all human habitations, they dwelt in peace and safety, for they trusted in God, and feared no evil under His protecting care. It was the lady's custom to pass around the house with her maid-servants every night, and assure that all the doors and windows were properly secured, and then lie down and sleep in peace under the shadow of the Almighty, who was her trust and her shield. One night she was accompanied by her maids about the house as usual, and having ascertained that all was safe, they left her in the passage close to her room, and then went to their own apartment, which was quite distant, at the other end of the house. As the lady, thus left alone, opened the door into her room, she distinctly saw the feet of a man under her bed. Her feelings may be imagined. Her servants were far away, and could not hear her if she called for help; she might be murdered before they could arrive, even if they did hear her; and if they were there, three weak and defenseless women would have been no match for an armed and desperate burglar. Danger was all around her; flight was impractical; all earthly refuge seemed to fail. What then could she do? She did what it is always safe to do—she trusted in the Lord. She knew that she had a God to go to, who never leaves or forsakes His people who confide in Him; and she possessed her soul in patience and in peace. Making no outcry, and giving no intimation that she had observed anything wrong, she quietly closed the door, locked it on the inside as she had

been in the habit of doing, leisurely brushed her hair, seeking meanwhile the help and guidance of the Word who she served; and putting on her dressing gown, she took her Bible, and calmly sat down to read the word of God. (Para.-Editor)

Selecting under His guidance some such passage as the ninety-first Psalm, which recites the watchful care of the Lord over His people by night and day, she read the words aloud. Never was a chapter so read before. In that lonely house, with a desperate robber hidden in the room, that helpless woman read out the mighty promises of Him whose word can never fail, and stayed her soul upon those assurances of divine protection which can not disappoint the hopes of the trusting children of the Most High. Her heart gained strength as she read the words of truth, and closing the book, she kneeled and prayed to God, and prayed as she had never prayed before. She told the Lord of her helplessness and need; she commended herself and her servants in their defenselessness and loneliness to the care of protecting God; she dwelt upon their utter lack of all human defense, and clung to the sacred promises which were given for comfort in the hours of trouble and distress. She lingered long in supplication, for it was her hour of need, and she came boldly to the throne of grace, for every other refuge was in vain. At last she rose from her knees, put out the candle and laid down upon her bed—but not to sleep. He was bold, he was bad, he had companions near, and in his desperation was prepared for any struggle or for any crime; but how must he have felt to hear the promises of Almighty God read forth, and to listen to the pleading voice of that helpless woman, as she poured out her heart to the God of her life! (Para.-Editor)

Soon after the woman had laid down, she became conscious that the man was standing at her bedside. He spoke to her in a different voice, we may be sure, from his usual tone; begging her not to be alarmed, and said, "I came here to rob the house, and, if necessary, to kill you, and I have companions out in the garden ready to obey my call for help. But after hearing the words you read and the prayers you have uttered, no power on earth could induce me to hurt you or touch a thing in your house. You must still remain perfectly quiet, and not attempt to interfere with me. I shall now give a signal to my companions which they will understand, and then we will go away, and you may sleep in peace, for I give you my solemn word that no one shall harm you, and not the smallest thing belonging to you shall be disturbed. He then went to the window and opened it, and whistled softly, as a signal to his comrades to disperse to a distance, and returning to the bedside of the lady, who had neither spoken nor moved throughout the whole said, he said, "Now am I going. Your prayer has been heard, and no disaster will befall you. But I never heard such words before: I must have the book

you read out of.” And taking her Bible, willingly enough given, you may be sure, he bade her good night, and disappeared through the open window.

Soon all became quiet and the lady composed herself to sleep, upheld by that faith and grace which had so signally sustained her in her hour of trial, and awoke in the morning, to give thanks to Him who had preserved her from “the terror by night,” and been to her a rock of refuge and a fortress of deliverance in her hour of need.

Several years afterward at a religious meeting in Yorkshire, England, a man arose and told the story of that midnight scene, as a testimony to the effective, saving energy of the word of God, the robber was led to Christ for mercy and for salvation: and he said in conclusion, “I was that man”. And immediately an elderly lady rose from her seat in the midst of the congregation, and quietly said, “It is all quite true; I was the lady,” and sat down again. Many years had passed since the lady and the robber parted, and she had never heard anything further from him before that day. But the Lord had watched and guided, led and saved that sinful man, and he stood forth a monument of the wonderful providence and the saving grace of God. Thus, through the amazing mercy and grace of God, that helpless and trusting woman experienced a great natural deliverance in her hour of distress; and the wicked man realized a still greater spiritual salvation.

(From “*Remarkable Providences*”, Edited by Elder R. H. Pittman)

SHALL THEY LIVE AGAIN

And shall they live again—our friends who lived and died,---
 Who joined us in our gospel feasts, and walked at Jesus' side?
 Their leaving makes us sad and fills our heart with pain;
 But sweet it is for us to feel that they shall live again.
 Their death is only sleep, they have not ceased to be:
 Annihilationists are wrong,--they live eternally.
 From sleep they shall arise, death shall not always reign,
 And all the ransomed of the Lord shall rise and live again.
 At the last trumpet's sound the saints shall all ascend,---
 A mighty throng, all bearing palms and Christ their King attend.
 What is the proof, you ask? Please answer or explain.
 I answer back the Bible truth, **Christ Died and rose again.**

R. H. P (Pittman)

(From “*Advocate and Messenger*”, December, 1938)

LIFE—ACTION

Earl Dailey

Life precedes action, and every human endeavor, whether natural or spiritual, is the result of life. Natural life enables one to perform normal activities according to the nature of that life; spiritual life enables one to perform spiritual activities in harmony with spiritual life. A tree must have life to bear fruit, and a vine must have life to produce grapes.

Billy Graham, commenting on this subject said, “Not until you repent, that means to have a complete change of mind with respect to your sins, and flee from them, will God deliver you from them, and make you a new person. You must be born again. This is an act of the Holy Spirit in the lives of those who are willing to turn from sin and receive Christ by faith.”

Was Saul of Tarsus repenting of his sins before he heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?” or was John willing to accept Christ by faith before he leaped in his mother's womb? If the sinner, who is dead in trespasses and sins, and by so doing influence the Lord to bless him in the new birth, would not that act be pleasing and acceptable in the sight of God?

“Without faith it is impossible to please God.” (Heb. 11:6). We are taught that all men have not faith and that faith is the gift of God. (Eph. 2:8). “Whatsoever is not of faith is sin.” (Rom. 14:22). “The carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.” (Rom. 8:7). So we see it is not possible for the natural, unregenerated person to do that that is pleasing to God. “The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.” (1 Cor. 2:14).

One must first be under conviction and realize how great a sinner he is in the sight of God before he can feel the need to repent. “For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death.” (2 Cor. 7:10). Not until one has felt a godly sorrow for sin will he feel the need of repentance.

“Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Savior, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sin.” (Acts 5:31).

A friend of mine said the sinner had to do good works in order to be saved, and I asked him what good works the thief on the cross had done when the Savior said unto him, “Today shalt thou be with me in paradise.” (Luke 23:43). He replied that he was saved because he repented. I asked him if he believed repentance removed guilt, if so, no doubt many prisoners have repented their unlawful conduct that brought about their conviction, and if repenting removed guilt they have not been freed.

When I was a very small child I heard Elder J. Harvey Oliphant say in a sermon, that it would be as

easy to lift oneself over the fence with his bootstraps as for a sinner to save himself by good works. I had a new pair of red top boots at home and I put them on and stood beside the fence and pulled as hard as I could, but did not lift myself off the ground. This lesson taught me that it was impossible for anyone to work his way to heaven, and it left an indelible impression on my mind that I never forgot. I had heard some mothers tell their boys that if they would be good boys, they would go to heaven when they died, but if not, the bad man would get them. I knew this was not true. The Savior said, "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." (Matt. 19:24). His teaching here meant those who were rich in their own righteousness. The apostles said, "Who then can be saved?" The word can indicates who has the ability to save themselves. The Savior said, "With men this impossible, but with God all things are possible." (19:26).

"We are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works." (Eph. 2:10) In this language the good works follow the new creation and not before. Life precedes action.

The alien sinner is not a subject of gospel address, but to the child of God, and the exhortations and commandments of the gospel can only be obeyed by the spiritually born sinner. All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable to the man of God. Among all the Jews out of every nation gathered together on the day of Pentecost, only those who were pricked in heart were commanded to repent.

Earl Daily

(From "Advocate and Messenger", April, 1968)

TEARS

Tears resulting from sadness, anger, fear or joy vary chemically from those caused by smelling onions and may be nature's method of removing chemicals built up by stress from the body. Dr. William Frey II, of the Psychiatry Research Laboratories at the St. Paul-Ramsey Medical Center, St. Paul, Minn., believes this to be the case. Studies he has done indicate that women cry five times as often as men and that 85% of the women and 73% of the men thought that crying made them feel better. Most common reason for crying is sadness, followed in rank by happiness, anger, sympathy, anxiety and fear.

--Source Unknown.

Jesus wept at the death of Lazarus in the presence of Mary and Martha. He wept over Jerusalem as sheep having no shepherd. He wept in prayer in the days of His flesh. Don't be ashamed of tears. "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy. He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him." (Psalm 126:5-6)—*Editor*

BAPTISM: The Purpose: J. J. Oliphant

In olden times the true gospel was set forth in types and shadows. Abel's sacrifice set forth in a figure our Savior, every animal that was slain under the direction of God, in its way, pointed the mind to the Lord Jesus on the cross. The Paschal lamb pointed to the Redeemer as the great deliverer from sin. I have no doubt but that Bunyan was right when he makes the temple, with all its services, a type of something better.

From the shadow to the substance

Heb. 9:1-11. In this place we learn from the apostle that all things connected with the temple were "a figure for the time then present in which were offered both gifts and sacrifices that could not make him that did the service perfect as pertaining to the conscience." "Which stood only in meats and drinks and divers washing and carnal rites," etc. "But Christ being come...but a greater and more perfect tabernacle," etc.

In this place he calls our minds away from the shadow to the true Savior. The Jews were prone to look to and depend on the shadow. These shadows were very useful, if used aright by the Jews, for they carried the mind to the Lord Jesus; but when they were used unlawfully there were a curse to Israel, and instead of carrying the mind of the people to the only Savior of sinners, they served rather as a blind to hide the only hope of a sinner. "But even unto this day when Moses is read the veil is upon their hearts," and they "could not look steadfastly to the end of that which is abolished."—2 Cor. 3:13 to last.

The service of the law was not given as a part of the *remedial system* by which sinners are justified before God, but as a shadow of it. In their bleeding victims they had a picture of Christ on the cross. Their incense, ark, mercy seat, and every part of their service was significant, but their own blindness, and proneness to legalize everything, led them to "rest in the law." "And David saith, let their table be made a snare and a trap, and a stumbling block, and a recompense unto them,"—Rom. 11:9, 10.

Their table of service which was instituted to point the mind to the Savior, had served them as a stumbling block; it had become a snare, a trap to their feet, so that their service became a curse to them. Their natural tendency was to legalize the whole service and make a Savior of it, and thus shut their eyes to the only Savior.

They turned the symbol into a stumbling stone

The natural, unregenerate man will turn the very gospel of grace into one of works. The ceremonial law was to the Jews a real gospel, but they made a legal trap and stumbling stone out of it, that denied the real need of that inward change which alone fits

us for heaven. And they contended for the law in such a way as to reject him to whom it was intended to direct them.

Circumcision was a type of the circumcision made without hands, and it distinguished them as the peculiar people of God as a nation, and in all this it tended to lead the mind to look for that inward circumcision which was performed without hands, and by which we are in heart separated from this world, and have the “body of our sins cut off.” But the Jews were prone to regard this circumcision made by hands as sufficient, and this trust in the shadow or pattern instead of the substance. In Rom. 3:1-11, the apostle labors to deliver the brethren from this snare or trap, and reminds them that Abraham’s justification before God was *not secured* by it.

They put circumcision in the place of Christ

This *legal taint* was found among the early Christians—Acts 15:1. There were certain persons who taught that “except ye be circumcision, ye cannot be saved.” Thus seeking to bring the saints into bondage, and assigning a place for circumcision in the remedial system equal to that of Christ.

The Galatian brethren were troubled with the same thing. Paul tells them, “Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years,—Gal. 4:10. He then adds, “I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain.” This same legal bias was plainly observable among them, in which they were legalizing the gospel, and betraying a disposition to trust in part to the performance of ordinances.

This is the natural tendency of men in all ages of the world. The gospel is often explained as a bundle of contradictions, upon which life and immortality is suspended, thus making “a snare and a trap, and a stumbling block” out of the pure gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

In Rom. 1:16, we read, “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power (authority) of God unto salvation,” etc.; “for therein is the righteousness of God revealed from faith to faith.” The gospel, then *reveals* a righteousness which is suited to our need. The tendency of man is to “go about to establish his own righteousness,” and in order to do it he generally legalizes gospel services, such as observing days, and years, baptism, the Lord’s Supper, etc., and when I see this tendency in men, I become afraid of them, as Paul was of the Galatians.

(From “*An Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature*”, Volume Two—Elder Harold Hunt—Editor)

“For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.” (1 Thess. 1:5)

ADAM’S TRANSGRESSION

Guilty of Every Sin

By Elder Harold Hunt

(“*An Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature*” Vol.1)

We have already pointed out that, no sooner than Adam sinned, he went from being the most brilliant man who ever lived to being as dumb as a post. Anybody who thinks he can run into the woods, and stand behind a tree, and hide from God is as dumb as a post.

But, also, no sooner than he sinned, he went from being a good upright, natural man to being as mean as a snake.

When Adam sinned, he started this entire business of sin, and it has been going on ever since. He stood as our federal head. In the sense that he introduced sin to mankind, he stands guilty of every sin mankind has ever committed.

Let us illustrate it this way. If you set a fire in one apartment of a huge apartment building, do you think that, maybe, the fire you started in one room might spread to the next room, and the next, and the next. Do you think the fire you started might burn the entire building?

Suppose they brought you to trial and your attorney explained, “Now listen, my client did not burn those other apartments; he only burned one apartment.” Do you think that would cut any ice with a jury? I don’t think they would not pay any attention to that. They would say, “When your client burned that one apartment, he started the fire that burned the whole building.”

Suppose you set that fire in the middle of the night, and you knew there were people sleeping in the other apartments. Do you suppose you might be held accountable for the death of those people, or do you think your lawyer might get you off by explaining that you only burned one apartment?

When Adam partook of the fruit of the tree, he started the fire that burned the whole building. Every sin that has ever been committed started and spread from that one sin. He corrupted the fountain at its source, and that source—that nature—has been handed down to every person descended from him.

As Mean as a Snake

Listen to Adam’s explanation. “And I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself, because I was naked. And he said, who told thee that thou wast naked; hast thou eaten of the tree whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat? And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat” (vss 10-12). (Gen. 3)

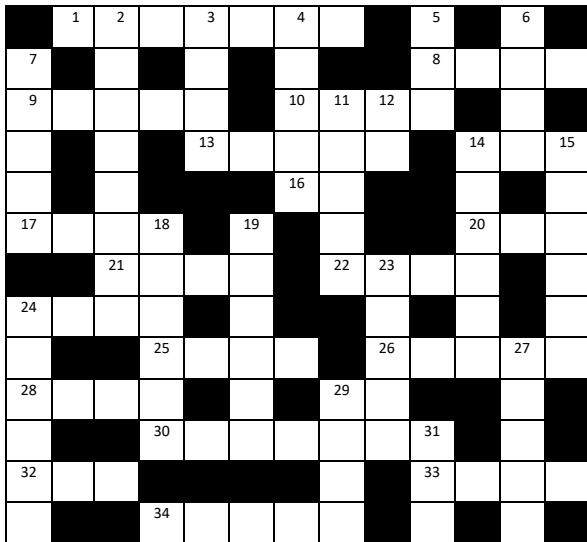
Did you ever hear anybody say, “It’s not my fault; it’s that woman.” “It’s not my fault: I would never have been the way I am, if it was not for that woman.”

(Continued on Page 6)

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. What is man that thou art ____ of Him?
8. This my son was ____ and is now found.
9. The earth did quake and the ____ rent. Stones.
10. The ____ of thine house hath eaten me up.
13. They that sow in ____ shall reap in joy. Weeping.
14. Animal on which Balaam rode whom he smote.
16. Abbreviation of hour. ____ cometh and now is.
17. The ears of the ____ shall be unstopped.
20. Send Lazarus that he may ____ the tip of his finger in water, and cool my tongue.
21. ____ is good but if the ____ has lost its saltness.
22. Will a lion ____ in the forest when he hath no prey.
24. At birth Jacob took hold of the ____ of Esau.
25. Second dove sent out by Noah returned with an olive ____ in her mouth.



(Answers on Page 10)

26. The ____ of Siloam fell on 18 people killing them.
28. The soldiers put on Jesus a purple ____.
29. Let his mind ____ in you which was in Christ Jesus.
30. If this man were not of God he could do ____.
32. Female sheep used as example of sin to David.
33. Disciples plucked ____ of corn to eat on Sabbath.
34. The Israelites marched ____ about Jericho 7 days.

DOWN:

2. Paul watered, Apollos planted but God gave ____.
3. He knows our frame; remembereth that we are ____.
4. Name of man who God slew for steadying the cart carrying the ark of the covenant.
5. ____ the Father giveth me shall come to me.
6. ____ and it shall be given unto you. Plural.
7. God resists the ____ but gives grace to the humble.
11. He which converteth a sinner from the ____ of his way shall save a soul from death.
12. ____ many ____ I love I rebuke and chasten.
14. Jesus called Peter and ____ his brother to preach.
15. Jesus rose from ____ laid aside his garments and began to wash the disciples feet.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

18. Lord asked Cain why is thy countenance ____?
19. ____ is the gate and narrow the way leading to life.
23. As ____ as ye eat this bread and drink this cup you show forth the Lord's dead till He come.
24. God said He would ____ Pharaoh's heart.
27. Let God be true and ____ man a liar.
29. Jesus was sent to ____ up the brokenhearted.
31. God told Abram to ____ thee out of thy country.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

Back last year toward Thanksgiving our grandson Isaac evidently was asked to name all the things he was thankful for at pre-school. His daddy couldn't remember all the things he listed. These were some of the things he was thankful for: "I am thankful for stuffed animals, games, Daddy, recess, etc." His Daddy was glad he at least made the list.—*Editor*

(Continued from Page 5)

That is nothing new. When there were just one man and one woman in the world, the first man tried to blame his sin on his wife.

First off, Eve was deceived; she was truly confused in the matter. Paul said, "Adam was not deceived; but the woman being deceived was in the transgression." Adam knew that, in some sense, Eve was walking around in a fog; she did not entirely understand what was going on. But Adam knew exactly what was happening, and he allowed it to go on.

More than that, the commandment was given to Adam; it was not given to Eve. "And the Lord God commanded the man saying, of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat..." (2:16). Eve did not stand as our federal head; she did not represent her offspring; Adam did.

He knew exactly what he was doing, and what the consequences would be. He knew that if he did what he was about to do, those would be the consequences, and he willfully, deliberately, rebelliously, did it anyway. He willfully brought on the world all the wickedness that has resulted from his sin—and when God asked him about it, he tried to blame it all on his wife.

Anybody who would try to blame that on anybody—especially on the one, who up until that time had been the dearest and most precious thing in all the world to him—has to be as mean as a snake. Human language cannot express the wickedness, and the guilt of what Adam did to himself, and to all his posterity. **And he tried to blame it all on his wife; that is, he tried to blame her with every wicked act that has ever been committed.**

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Mt. Hebron Primitive Baptist Church, Hamilton, MS which will be held this year on the 2nd Sunday in March, 2020 and the Saturday before. Services begin on Saturday, March 7, at 10:00 a.m. and followed by lunch and afternoon services. No Friday services this year. Concludes Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Contact Bro. Leroy Blair for more details 205-495-5310.

The Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting will be held with Piney Grove Primitive Baptist Church, Headland, AL March, 19-22, 2020. For more information contact Elder Clayton Nowell, Pastor at 334-693-5700.

Elder Bob Ward will be with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Randolph, MS the 5th Sunday in March, 2020 with services beginning at 10:30 a.m. Elder Tom Bouchillon is Pastor of Hopewell.

The 5th Sunday night Fellowship Meeting will be held with New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS March 29, 2020 with supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m. New Prospect is currently without a Pastor. This meeting rotates between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany and Hopewell churches. Everyone is invited.

Everyone is invited to Enon Primitive Baptist Church, Houston, MS for their annual meeting the 1st weekend in March, 2020 (Feb. 28--Mar. 1, 2020) Services Friday night, Feb. 28, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 29, at 10:30 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services at 1:30 p.m. Concludes on Sunday, Mar. 1. Elder Ronald Lawrence, Goodlettsville, TN is invited minister. Elder Calvin Warren is Pastor of Enon.

Elder Jonathan Wise, New Albany, MS will be with Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecrú, MS the 5th Sunday in March, 2020 (Mar. 29) with services at 10:30 a.m. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Elder Larry Wise, Randolph, MS will be with Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church, Burnsville, MS the 5th Sunday in March, 2020 (Mar. 29) with services at 10:30 a.m. Elder Jonathan Wise is Pastor of Little Flock.

Harmony Primitive Baptist Church, Tupelo, MS invites everyone to come worship our Lord and Saviour during our annual meeting the 1st weekend in May, 2020. The invited preachers are Elder James Isaacs and Elder Mark Quarles. Services will begin Friday night, May 1st, with supper at 6:00 and service at 7:00. Saturday, May 2nd, morning service will be at 10:00, followed by lunch and afternoon service. Sunday, May 3rd, 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.

CHURCH NEWS

Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Maben, MS will have their meeting on 4th weekend in April, 2020 (Apr. 25-26). Services Saturday, Apr. 25, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Sun. at 10:30 a.m. This is an open meeting. Everyone is invited. Clear Springs is currently without a Pastor.

GLAD TIDINGS READER LETTERS

Dear Ones,

Our Dear Lord made me able to write the following on 01-05-2020:

Time on earth is rolling on
 Though we don't know when we'll all be gone
 God's Word we need to know
 While we journey here below.

It's comfort on a gloomy day
 And joy and hope along the way
 Having flowers cheers us on
 Which reminds us we're not alone.

We must reap the seeds we sow
 It's always good God's Word to know
 Flowers here soon fade away
 In heaven flowers are there to stay.

Let's read God's Word to grow
 And resist the deceit of the foe
 In Ephesians 6 we're told about our race
 Each day on earth that we must face.

Wishing our Dear Lord's blessings to you all each day. He never fails to see us through.

In Precious Hope & Love,
 Sister Loreta Lilly
 Akron, OH

DELIGHT IN GOD'S LAW

The people of God experience many trials in their earthly pilgrimage and God's word is of great value in surviving these difficult times. "Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction." (Psalm 119:92) There is no danger of perishing eternally but we can perish from the very manifest presence of the Lord and feel to be forsaken but the law of the Lord is the delight of the soul and helps the people of God to not succumb to the feeling of despair. Paul delighted in the law of the Lord after the inward man touched by God's grace. The blessed man is one who delights in the law of the Lord and meditates on it day and night. Spend more time in the law of the Lord and avoid a timely perishing.—*Editor*

VEXED

By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)

When I see the exhilaration of those who believe in abortion, and in homosexual couples having the right to marry, and who election night had won many races and believed they had captured control of the legislative branch of government, I thought of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah.

These cities thought they were going unnoticed in their evil deeds. They even were willing to take angels by force from the house of Lot. These were large cities in which not ten righteous men could be found.

Lot lived there but he was not happy, but vexed. *“And turning the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah into ashes condemned them with an overthrow, making them an example unto those that after should live ungodly; And delivered just Lot, vexed with the filthy conversation of the wicked.”* II Peter 2:6-7

Have we become so accustomed to ungodliness that we can now excuse it, or are we vexed in soul? It is said that what one generation tolerates, the next will accept. Just where is America in this. Are we vexed or tolerant, all because we have been bullied into thinking that those who do not accept such are just not enlightened? That we are bigoted and opposed to freedom of expression?

What must we do? First, we must remember that the God of mercy would have spared those wicked cities if but ten righteous could be found. It is not whether we are outnumbered as much as how close we are to the Lord and to the following of his teaching.

We must begin with dedicated teaching to our own families. Many college courses are designed to try to get young people to forget all they have been taught is right and wrong by their parents and follow the lead of those who want to redirect America into a dying civilization by calling evil, good.

Have you noticed how that today we are being directed by the news media and the secular community to think of a child in the mother's womb as being an embryo or fetus, all to deny that life begins at conception. *“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with **child** of the Holy Ghost.”* Mat. 1:18 Notice, Mary had a child within her, not an embryo or fetus.

Shall we excuse homosexuality, or be quietly tolerant of it, so the next generation will accept it? We may not have a great effect on the world but we can have an effect in our own family unless we become so busy with the deceitfulness of riches that we let others do all the teaching of our children. A nation is no stronger than are its families. *“And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men **working that which is unseemly, and***

receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.” Rom. 1:27 *“Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.”* Rom. 1:32

The men and women who casually socially drink when they are having dinner at a restaurant, did not intend to become alcoholics. The little drinking they did in the privacy of their home was no one's business. In twelve years as Probate Judge working with alcoholics convinced me that most were wonderful decent people who had no intention to become what they were. They not only ruin their own lives but the lives of their children who learn to believe at an early age that whatever mom and dad do is fine to follow.

As I walked through the drug units of Alabama's prisons, I never found one who intended to become an addict. They only intended to try a little to fit in with the crowd. Almost two thirds of our inmates in prison were there as a result of drugs and alcohol.

You may say you will never become addicted to drugs, but what do you have in your medicine cabinet that the doctor may have prescribed, or you may have bought? How many mind altering drugs are you taking? Look at your eyes in the mirror. Are they clear, or dull appearing. We were told that the worst addiction problem we have is the women in the home who are addicted to prescription drugs. Yet, most would get fighting mad if you told them they were drug addicts!

Or, the Internet. Most people you read about who have done bad and dumb things on the Internet did not intend to become addicted to pornography. They only intended to browse just a little.

In a sermon one day I referred to the many who detested the immoral actions being shown in movies, short skirts, revealing bathing suits. Then I reminded them that the worst thing on TV at the time was the daytime soap operas to which many elderly were addicted. One sister told me afterward that I had begun to meddle.

As a famous line from a comic strip once said, “we have met the enemy and it is us.” We might well remember the inspired word that the Apostle Paul penned. *“Be sober, be vigilant; because our adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour.”* 1st Peter 5:8

If what I have written is depressing, remember, so was Lot's life, even after his deliverance. Are we tolerant of evil, accepting evil, or are we vexed?

Should the Lord be willing to deliver America, it will be because of the small number of his children, who fervently follow the King of Kings.

Guy Hunt

(From “*The Pathway of Truth*”, November, 2006)

A little leaven leaveth the whole lump

EFFECTUAL FERVENT PRAYER

By Elder Charles W. Alderton

“Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” James 5:16

Brethren, it is a fearful thing when we find a brother in gossip or hearsay, speaking things unbecoming about another brother. Much hurt has been done by false accusation; by not going to that brother in love and fervent prayer and learning the truth of the matter.

“Fervent” means a warm, deep, ardent and loving feeling, such as the Publican in his humble expression, “God be merciful to me a sinner.” We first must realize that we all are sinners and have many faults before we accuse others or look at their faults. “And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?” Matt. 7:3 Jesus says this man is a hypocrite. We must first cast out the beam of our own eye and then shall we see clearly to cast out the mote in our brother’s eye. See Matt. 7:5. How sad it is when brethren have nothing more to do than to find fault when we all have so many faults of our own.

The inward intended humble desire of a warm spirit to help and confess one toward another in prayer can remove and clear up many misunderstandings when it comes from the righteous heart of a God-fearing person. I thank God for the many prayers of my dear Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; His prayer to the Father; “I thank thee, O Father, Lord of Heaven and earth, because thou hast hid these things from the wise and prudent, and hast revealed them unto babes.” Matt. 11:25.

Jesus says, “I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine. And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them. And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.” Read John, 17th Chapter. He also commanded, “That ye love one another, as I have loved you.” John 15:12.

All Jesus’ teaching is against such as railing, telling false tales, or any such unrighteous acts against our brethren, but to pray for them and confess our faults one to another.

“Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.” James 5:19-20. This is a death to the joys of the spiritual kingdom here in the world.

Please pray for me, as I feel to be the chief of sinners, that I may not be overcome with false

teaching or err from the truth so as to hurt one of my brethren, but that I may be full of the spirit of humbleness to face my brother with the truth. Humbly yours in hope.

Elder Charles W. Alderton
(From “*Advocate and Messenger*”, April, 1977)

WHEN YE PRAY

Elder Rusty Wise

01-16-2020

Matthew 6:7 KJV: “But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking.”

What an interesting revelation about our God. He is not deaf, nor feeble minded, nor impressed with repetitiveness, nor with vain messages that tend to linger on.

Very appropriate for the times in which we live. People tend to rattle on about any and everything. Talking for what seems like an eternity, and afterwards they have said nothing. This they think is a very impressive feat.

When we approach the throne of God, to make our supplications and thanksgivings known, our prayers do not have to be long and great oratory’s. But simple and to the point sincere messages from the heart.

Our God is not hard to find, he is easy to approach, always awake, never too weary to listen, and has a never ending supply of grace, his arms are always open to receive you. May we remember to be humble before him, submissive to his will, sincere in our heart, and always honoring him.

Remember there is no time like the present to start our prayers to him. May we start the day by sending him some knee-mail.

I stand amazed in the presence
of Jesus, the Nazarene,
and wonder how he could love me,
a sinner, condemned, unclean.

Refrain:
How marvelous, how wonderful!
And my song shall ever be:
How marvelous, how wonderful
is my Savior’s love for me!

He took my sins and my sorrows;
he made them his very own;
he bore the burden to Calvary
and suffered and died alone. [Refrain]

When with the ransomed in glory
his face I at last shall see,
'twill be my joy through the ages
to sing of his love for me. [Refrain]

SPEAKING THE TRUTH

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

The truth is paramount in the proclamation of the gospel for the benefit of the saints. When Jesus ascended on high He gave gifts to the church; included in those gifts were, apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers. (Eph. 4:11) These gifts were for the perfecting (complete furnishing) of the saints and the edifying of the body of Christ. These gifts, speaking the truth, would alleviate saints being tossed to and fro and carried about by every wind of doctrine. However, this truth was to be taught in a certain way as Paul explains, "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:" (Eph. 4:15)

The truth is to be proclaimed, even though it might not fall on receptive ears. The church at Galatia had joyfully received the truth taught by Paul that Christ had set them free from the bondage of the law. Some false teachers had bewitched them to not obey the truth received and regress back under the law. Paul wanted to know who had bewitched them that they should not obey the truth. (Gal. 3:1) These saints were so enamored with Paul and the truth he taught that, if it had been possible, they would have plucked out their eyes and given them to him. Paul confronts their error and asks the question, "Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?" (Gal. 4:16) The same Paul that wrote to the saints in Ephesus writes this so the conclusion is he spoke the truth in love: love for Christ, these saints and the cause. Remember that Paul was willing to endure all things for the elect's sakes. (II Tim. 2:10)

Ministers sometimes may speak the truth but speak it in a way that doesn't edify the hearer. This not only applies to ministers but to Christians in general who speak the truth of the Bible. If a minister speaks in a tone of voice and manner that is harsh, it appears that love is not manifest. He may have spoken the letter of the law with great oratory but what did Paul say about this? "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." (I Cor. 13:1) This type of speaking the truth renders the message ineffective in feeding lambs and sheep.

The object of speaking the truth is for the saints to "grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." Love is the first fruit of the Spirit for a reason because anything done without love is empty and vain. Charity is the bond of perfectness that cements the truth in the mind of the believer and helps them not be carried about with every wind of doctrine. Peter writes, "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." (II Pet. 3:18) Growing prevents falling from steadfastness.

Paul wrote two epistles to the church at Corinth that was plagued with many problems but what was his attitude when speaking (writing) the truths that needed to be addressed? Paul said, "What will ye? shall I come unto you with a rod, or in love, and in the spirit of meekness?" (I Cor. 4:21) It is imperative for sheep to be led and not driven; cattle are driven but sheep are led. It is terrible that the scriptures speak of the sleight of men who are cunning and crafty, lying in wait to deceive the saints and toss them to and fro by the false teaching they speak. (Eph. 4:14)

Ministers and people of God use words to convey the truth to their hearers. Words can either tear down or build up so may we all put our mind into gear before we speak. Solomon said, "The preacher sought to find out acceptable words: and that which was written was upright, even words of truth." (Eccl. 12:10) This was for the purpose of teaching truth and knowledge. Words that are spoken without any conveying of love, even though the truth, fail the scriptural test. Solomon again gives the value and importance of appropriately spoken words. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." (Prov. 25:11) The gospel is profitable for doctrine, reproof, correction and instruction in righteousness but each one is to be surrounded by love. As the song says, "Without love preaching is vain; religion just a show". May we all speak the truth but try our best to speak in a tone that conveys love, not anger.

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

- | | |
|-------------|-------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN: |
| 1. lufdnim | 2. esaercni |
| 8. tsol | 3. tsud |
| 10. laez | 4. hazzu |
| 13. sraet | 5. lla |
| 14. ssa | 6. sksa |
| 16. rh | 7. duorp |
| 17. faed | 11. rorre |
| 20. pid | 12. sa |
| 21. tlas | 14. werdna |
| 22. raor | 15. reppus |
| 24. leeh | 18. nellaf |
| 25. fael | 19. tiarts |
| 26. rewot | 23. netfo |
| 28. ebor | 24. nedrah |
| 29. eb | 27. yreve |
| 30. gnihton | 29. dnib |
| 32. ewe | 31. teg |
| 33. srae | |
| 34. dnuor | |

"A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards." (Prov. 29:11)

WE ALL HAVE A STORY TO TELL

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Mark 5:19-20: "Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all men did marvel."

Our story begins in verses 2-5 telling us that there came unto Jesus a man possessed with a legion of devils. He lived among the tombs because it was not possible for him to reside with his love ones in their home and village. They attempted to hold him with chains and fetters, but he broke them and ran into the place of tombs and there he lived with his affliction. He would cry out and cut himself with stones. Imagine a person coming out of their home at night and hear this poor man crying out in the still of the night. It had to be frightening! Nothing could cure him of this terrible possession. There was no physician, or medicine that could help. Now he runs to Jesus, as the song says where could I go but to the Lord! Here he finds help that he could not get from anyone else. Jesus ordered the devils out of him, and now he can go back and live with his love ones and get back to living a normal life. Then in verses 19-20 we read that the man was so grateful for what the Lord had done for him that he was willing to sacrifice the remainder of his life, to go wherever his Lord went. But Jesus told him to stay and at every opportunity tell others what great things that the Lord had done for him.

Have you ever told anyone how good the Lord has been to you? Our verse tells us that we should do so. We shouldn't attempt to hide it under a bushel, but let others know what a great caring, and loving God that we worship.

I'm sure that this man probably told many who he came in contact with that he once was possessed with devils, made to live among the tombs. Now he lived among the citizens of his village and in his right mind. He would then tell how he got delivered from such a horrible life. A man named Jesus of Nazareth who is the Son of God came into his life and lifted his burden away from him. I'm sure he told the story many times throughout his lifetime. The Bible tells us that when he finished telling his story, the people would marvel. Marvel means to be astonished, and in admiration, of the man and the Lord.

But what about those that already knew his story? Those people that saw him everyday? We human beings need to be reminded of things, from time to time. His mere presence would tell them the story every time that he was in their presence. It is hard to deny a notable miracle.

We read in Acts 4:16. The lame man at the temple, who begs for alms, was made whole through the

Apostles; it was impossible to deny that such a thing had happened when many people there knew this man and knew of his illness. Sometimes we can tell a story without saying a word. They can see the change in us, and the look in our eyes shows the effects of a loving God upon our hearts. How many times do you suppose there were people that pointed to the possessed man and would say "you would never believe that this guy was insane and lived among the tombs at one time. Now look at him! That's the same guy!"

Sometimes our faith will waver and we just need something to remind us of the greatness of God. This is what this man was doing everyday. People observe us everyday, that's why we need to behave in such a way that it glorifies our Lord. After all we have a story to tell too. Do we not?—R. L. Taylor

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

By Elder Robert Payne
January 20, 2020

If you have studied your Bible, you can find that the Lord gave the children of Israel by promise, the land of Canaan.

When he gave them the land he commanded that they drive out and destroy the 'ites' of the land and if not they would become snares unto them.

The Lord has blessed this nation, USA, with untold benefits, mercies and a land flowing with milk and honey.

This nation was a God fearing nation that sought the direction and guidance of God in its inception and many years since. Many from other countries came to this nation seeking religious liberty and opportunities to better themselves. They became citizens and loved their new country.

Over time we have invited and allied [sic] the "ites" to come into the land that hate our God and nation and seek to destroy it. They have brought their gods with them and insist we recognize theirs and forsake ours. At every turn they insist we recognize their lifestyle and forsake ours to accommodate theirs.

We are now overrun with ungodliness and intolerance for our Constitution, our God and good moral principles.

Time and high time to take a stand and close our doors to the ungrateful, heathens, illegal aliens and deport those that don't like our country.

Bring back an express lane to prosecute and exterminate the wicked. Quit killing babies, allowing the sodomites to glorify their lifestyle, and bring God back to seek his direction and instruction.

Consider these things and pray, pray and pray.

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