

Glad Tidings

May

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

2020

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

It is commanded in scripture that we forsake not the assembling of ourselves together as a body of believers in Christ. (Heb. 10:25). However, the virus named COVID-19 that has devastated the country and the world has necessitated that the church not assemble together to avoid the spread of this overly deadly disease that seems to spread in proximity of close human contact. Some times we don't realize how precious something is until we no longer have access to it.

I am reminded of Israel who had been carried away into Babylonian captivity with no longer any access to Zion's blessings. The Bible tells us, "By the rivers of Babylon, there we sat down, yea, we wept, when we remembered Zion." (Psa.137:1) Their tears seemed to mirror the waters by which they sat as they mourned their lot. The Psalmist goes on to relate their situation, "We hanged our harps upon the willows in the midst thereof. For there they that carried us away captive required of us a song; and they that wasted us required of us mirth, saying, Sing us one of the songs of Zion. How shall we sing the LORD'S song in a strange land?" (Psa. 137:2-4)

The Israelites were in a strange land and it was difficult to sing the Lord's song in the strange land of Babylon. Zion's gates had been destroyed by the king that had taken them captive and here they were in captivity and unable to worship as they formerly did. We are not in as bad a situation as the Israelites because we aren't in physical captivity but are captive for concern of contracting or spreading the disease. Actually we are captive of restrictions that say "stay home". This is a strange land but we can still sing a song and worship in a manner today unavailable to those in that day via various media.

Perhaps there were some children of God who had neglected to assemble with the saints prior to COVID-19 but now restrictions are in place which prevents them from assembling. Do they now shed tears over their situation as did Israel? It would be good if they did and remedy the situation when the saints can once again assemble without concern of contacting or spreading disease. No wonder they remembered Zion because it is "Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth, is mount Zion, on the sides of the north, the city of the great King. God is known in her palaces for a refuge." (Psa. 48:2-3)

There is an old saying, "There's no place like home" and how true that is. It is good to visit friends and neighbors but it is always good to be back home, particularly if we have been away for awhile. The church is home to the people of God who have taken up their cross and followed the Lord; it is also home to those lingering on the outskirts of the city of Zion but do not know the full blessings while residing on the outside. The prodigal son found out there was no place like home but he didn't learn that until he had wasted his substance in riotous living. When he was in want, he remembered how it was at home with his father where there was bread enough to spare.

We have three homes I believe in the scriptures. We have our natural home with father, mother and children. This home required a forsaking to establish as Jesus said, "For this cause shall a man leave father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife: and they twain shall be one flesh?" (Matt. 19:5) We have also a church home that is analogous to our natural home as Paul writes, "For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh. This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church." (Eph. 5:31-32) We are not to neglect our natural home of family; neither are we to neglect our church family because to do so places us in peril.

In addition to our natural home and church home, we have a heavenly home where there will be no COVID-19 or any other disease that will invade and it is also referred to in scripture as an inheritance. Peter writes that he was begotten again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Christ "To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you," (I Pet. 1:4) That home by inheritance required the sacrifice of Jesus Christ and all will be assembled to praise the Lord without the absence of any member chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world.

That heavenly home will not be a strange land and it will be easy to sing the Lord's song, "And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation;" (Rev. 5:9) While we wait for that great eternal day to come, let us not forsake our assemblies when we have the opportunity to attend. Keep looking up and praying for God's mercy! (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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AMBASSADORS

Elder C. H. Cayce (Deceased)

And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.—2 Cor. v. 18-20.

What *all things are of God*? Does that expression mean that all things which exist are of God? We think not. The all things in this verse are the same all things which are mentioned in verse 17: "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." The same all things which are become new are of God; and then the apostle says, "who hath reconciled us to Himself." "Hath reconciled" is in the past tense; it is something which has already been done. No part of that work of reconciling us to Himself is accomplished in the future, either by what we do, or by what the church does, or by what the sinner does. It has already been accomplished; it has been finished; it has been completed. This work was fully accomplished—fully done—by Jesus Christ—not by Jesus Christ and the preacher; not by Jesus Christ and the sinner; not by Jesus Christ and the church; not by Jesus Christ and any society or set of men under heaven—but by Jesus Christ alone.

Then He "hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation." The ministry of reconciliation is the

work of a servant, in the sense of an ambassador, for he says we "are ambassadors". It is therefore, [pg137] necessarily true that the work of the minister, or of the ministry, has no part in the work of reconciling. That has already been done; God has already "reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ." Now, having already done this, He gives to men, of His own choosing and calling, the ministry of reconciliation. Their work is to tell what the Lord has already done, which is "that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto Himself." God was manifest in the flesh; Christ was God manifest in the flesh. God accomplished the work of reconciling His people unto Himself. He did that work in Christ. He did not impute their trespasses unto them. Their sins were not charged to them. Their trespasses were imputed to Christ. Their sins were charged to Him, for He was their surety. As He was their surety, He took their law place. He was responsible for all their transgressions, all their sins. They were all imputed to Him; they were charged to Him. As such, He met all the demands of the law for them and in their stead. When the demands of the law were thus met, the just and righteous law of God was satisfied; and thus He reconciled us to Himself by Jesus Christ. No wonder, then, this same apostle could, and did say: "For if when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of His Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by His life."—Rom. v. 10. In the original language the expression, being reconciled, is in the past tense; so in our present day English it strictly means "having been reconciled."

Now, God having done this, He has given to us the ministry of reconciliation—that is He "hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation." He has not committed unto us the *work* of reconciliation, but the [pg 138] *word* of it. He has placed upon somebody the duty and the obligation to tell the news of what the Lord has done. To do this is to proclaim glad tidings; it is to tell the good news. It is to tell the Lord's humble poor, those for whom Jesus laid down His life, that He has made perfect and full and complete satisfaction for all their sins; they have been reconciled to God by Jesus Christ. Having been reconciled to God by Jesus Christ, He having met all the demands of the law for them, and the law having been fully satisfied, they are sure to finally enjoy all the bliss and the glory of the heavenly world.

This all being true, now "we are ambassadors for Christ." It is not the business or work of an ambassador to persuade persons to cease to be citizens and subjects of one country and to become citizens or subjects of another or foreign country. If the United States should have an ambassador in Germany, or in any other foreign country, who should begin to endeavor to persuade the subjects of that government to renounce allegiance to that country and to become subjects of the United States, not only

would that foreign government send him out of that country immediately, but he would immediately be recalled by the United States government. That is not the work or business of an ambassador.

“Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us.” The Lord sent us to you; we are messengers whom He has sent, and He sent us to you. The work we are to do is to beseech you, plead with you, to persuade you—not to persuade you as aliens, to cease to be citizens and subjects of [pg139] Satan in his kingdom, and to become citizens and subjects of the Lord’s kingdom, or to become children of God. They were sent to the Corinthian brethren, not to the aliens in that country, or in any other country. In this letter the apostle wrote to the “church of God which is at Corinth, with all the saints which are in all Achaia.”—2 Cor. i. 1. The Lord sent them as ambassadors to His own people who are dwelling here below, in a foreign country. This country is not their home; their home is in heaven, and they are fellow-citizens with the saints and of the household of God. But some of them had been deluded, and, so, were divided. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul: and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas. They claimed that the preacher had something with their being saved, or being made children of God. They did not say, “I am for” the preacher, but “I am of” the preacher. To be of Paul is one thing, and to be for Paul is another thing. They are two different things entirely. One may be for England in the present conflict between this country and Germany, and yet be not of England. If the Corinthians were of Paul, then they should be baptized in the name of Paul. They were not baptized in the name of Paul, but in the name of the Lord—in the name of the Trinity. Hence, the apostle, as an ambassador sent of God, would beseech them to be reconciled to God—to give up the false notion or idea that the preacher or the church, or society, or any set of men, or their [pg140] own doings, had anything in the world to do with their eternal salvation, or had anything in the world to do with their birth from above, or to do with their sins being removed. “Be ye reconciled to God.” Be satisfied with what He has done for you. Do not be trying to do, or trying to get done, what the Lord has already accomplished for you in the finished work of the crucified and risen Redeemer.

If all the Lord’s children were reconciled to God, were satisfied with the Lord’s work, what He has done, and what He commands His children to do, they would stop the work many of them are trying to engage in, in “saving souls,” and trying to “take the world for Christ”, trying to help sinners to be born again, and would be coming home to the Old Baptist Church; and then they would be busy doing what the Lord has commanded to be done in His church by His children. . . .

(From “*Editorial Writings From The Primitive Baptist*”
By Elder C. H. Cayce, Vol. 7)

THANKFUL FOR WHAT WE KNOW

There are many things that we do not know in this life but it should not hinder our faith in the Lord. We do not know what a day may bring forth so we are to live our lives day by day with a trust in the Lord. We do not know what the future holds for us or our family in this life but we trust in the Lord to provide. However, there are things we can know and of which we can be completely assured.

Can we know that we are children of God? The Bible says that we can as we listen to John writing, “We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.” (I John 3:14) If we have passed from death (unborn again), to life (born again), we are children of God by birth in addition to being children of God by choice (chosen in Christ) and by purchase (by blood of Jesus). Nicodemus said that “we know that thou art a teacher come from God, for no man can do these miracles except God be with him.” (John 3:2). Nicodemus knew this much more than by a physical witness because the Lord hath revealed unto him the truth that Jesus came from God but there were many things Nicodemus did not know at this juncture in his life.

We often don’t know what to pray for as we ought. We know we should pray but exactly what to pray for sometimes is difficult to express to God in prayer. The Holy Spirit inspired Paul to eliminate this dilemma when he wrote, “...for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.” (Rom. 8:26) What a comfort!

We don’t know exactly what it will be like in heaven but we can know by faith what the final culmination of all things will be. The apostle John again states, “Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is.” (I John 3:2). We are thankful for the truth of salvation by grace that makes us free. Jesus said, “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.” (John 8:32).

Paul knew about a treasure he had in his earthen vessel but he also knew there was something beyond this vale of tears. He said, “For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.” (II Cor. 5:1)

We can know more by reading and studying the scriptures but what we know now in this life doesn’t compare with what we will know in heaven and immortal glory. So brothers and sisters, we should be extremely thankful for what we know concerning ourselves and the Lord Jesus Christ but be willing to grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ—*Editor*

SPECIAL WORLD

For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through Him might be saved.—John iii. 17

I do not know just what good I may get from this Scripture, but take what I may say and compare it with “thus saith the Bible,” and see if it be found the truth. The main thought in this saying is the Son, and what God, His Father, sent Him into this low ground of sin and sorrow to do. The verse before this, as well as this one, is a pet text among most of the religious people. Because the world, “world.” Is used, it is taken to mean all the Adamic race. But we will find Scripture to prove that this world which Jesus, the Son of God, came to save is not the whole Adamic race, but a special world. Jesus used the word, “world,” again in John xvii. 9, when He said, “I pray for them; I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.” We find that Jesus prayed not for the world. So this word, “world,” must have a different meaning, or else the Scriptures fail to harmonize. Then since all Scripture is given by the inspiration of God, it must be the truth and in harmony.

When Jesus said that He prayed not for the world, He meant the world of alien sinners, the ones who are separated from God by the transgression of Adam. These know nothing of God, are not subject to the law of God. When Jesus said, “I pray for them,” I believe He had in mind the same ones whom our text speaks about where it says that through Him might be save. These are the ones the Father gave Him in the covenant. Jesus says, “For I came down from heaven, not to do mine own will, but the will of Him that sent me. And this is the Father’s will which has sent me, that of all which He hath given me I should lose nothing, but raise it up again at the last day.” We find this is a special world, which God the Father gave to the Son back in the annals of eternity, before the dust of the highest hills was laid. Yes, dear readers, here is where our salvation began. We, who feel the love of our Savior in our hearts, who hate the evil of this world, are the world which Jesus had in mind when He said that the world through Him might be saved. We find that God had this same world in mind when He instructed Moses to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. We find that God kept Pharaoh, and his people from following the Israelites, for these, of Pharaoh, represented the world which is against God.

John iii. 17 is considered as a possible salvation by most people. I believe that this is a sure salvation to the world under consideration. Jesus said that he came to do the Father’s will, and if He fails to save all the Father gave Him, then He has not carried out the Father’s will; therefore, the covenant is broken, and the whole plan of God has failed? God created the

natural sun and stars; have they failed? The Lord showed a promise to Abraham when the ram appeared in the thicket. This promise was fulfilled when Jesus hung his head on the cross and said, “It is finished.” What was finished? The work which His Father gave Him to do when the covenant was made. How far does His power extend? It embraces all the Father willed to be saved. The prophet said, “It shall be in that day, that living waters shall go out from Jerusalem; half of them toward the former sea, and half of them toward the hinder sea: in summer and in winter shall it be.” I believe this tells how far the Saviour’s life-giving blood, which is the living waters, extends. The former sea is the time from the cross back to Adam, and the hinder sea is the time from the cross to the last one who will ever be born. This does not mean all the Adamic race, but all the Father willed in the covenant. Look over my errors, and if there be any good, give the Lord the praise. Yours in bonds,

Thomas N. Morrisett
(From “*The Primitive Baptist*”, October 17, 1946)

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

By Elder Robert Payne
March 5, 2020

We can go back to the travesty of 1973 of Roe vs Wade to find where the Supreme Court ruled a woman could kill their babies without penalty. Many millions of babies have been murdered under the guise of women’s rights. Now we have many states allowing murdering your child even if they come from the womb in a living condition. Now you have a Senator threatening Supreme Court justices if they attempt to overthrow this act of murder. Even now there are those advocating withholding medical care from the elderly and maybe even ending their lives with medications.

Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil ; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!--Isaiah 5:20

OH that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I may weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!--Jeremiah 9:1

Bad things happen in earthly life,
Causing heartache, sorrow, strife.
Murder violates strict Bible command,
Wicked people shall never stand.

Never stand in heaven’s pure place,
They care nothing for Amazing Grace.
They may get their way in life below
God’s justice on them He will bestow.

--Larry Wise

OUR DAILY PRAYER

By Elder Rusty Wise
March 10, 2020

Ephesians 6:2-3 KJV: *Honour thy father and mother; (which is the first commandment with promise;) That it may be well with thee, and thou mayest live long on the earth.*

How many times do we read over this scripture and, pause and reflect upon its meaning. Considering of the ten laws given to Moses, and being number five, the next one after how we should reverence God himself. That he should make a special notation, that if we heed this one, then it may be well with us.

Why would God value the family so much?

It starts with the creation, the entire theme is that God would be honored with a family and that family unit would be headed up by the husband, that husband would have a helpmeet in a woman, chosen to be his bride, and those two would become one, and thus the children would be produced from their union. All as God planned and imposed it with a special significance.

In today's society Satan is running rampant to destroy the family unit, bc his intention is to destroy that which God holds dear. He does what he can to say that marriage is between two persons and not a man and a woman. He spreads the lie that a woman has dominion over her own body and that she has power over death and life. He influences the children to the point that they have little time for family and church. He entices husbands and wives that things may be better without the other. With all this pressure to destroy, even Satan knows the value of family.

Our prayer today is that we may hold to God's plan, that we may honour those that sacrifice so much for us, that we may enjoy the blessings that are ours while we live here in this present world. And that we may not suffer the sorrow for missed opportunities.

1 Lord, let me live from day to day,
In such a self-forgetful way,
That even when I kneel to pray,
My pray'r shall be for OTHERS.

Refrain:

Yes, others, Lord, yes, others,
Let this my motto be;
Help me to live for others,
Help me to live for others,
That I may live like Thee,
That I may live like Thee.

2 Help me in all the work I do
To ever be sincere and true,
And know that all I'd do for you
Must needs be done for OTHERS.

[Refrain] . . .

"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." (Phil. 2:4)

THE AMEN CORNER

By Elder Ricky Harcrow
From ShareTheWord: 5-27-13

"As it was Determined" Luke 22:22

Just after Jesus had blessed the bread and wine, as he and his closest followers were in that upper room, Jesus makes this statement, "But, behold the hand of him that betrayeth me is with me on the table. And truly the Son of Man goeth, AS IT WAS DETERMINED." Luke 22:21-22. The word DETERMINED simply means "marked out BY A BOUND OR LIMIT". The way of the Son of Man was marked by the PLAN of God, by the Hand of God, in God's time, in God's way and by the means which God had ordained; AS IT WAS DETERMINED. The same word is used in Acts 17:26 as Paul preached at Mars Hill. He says to those ignorant wise men that God "Hath made of one blood all nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath DETERMINED the times BEFORE APPOINTED, and the BOUNDS of their habitation;". In Acts 2:23-24 Peter, in that Great Pentecostal sermon says, "Him being delivered by the DETERMINATE counsel and foreknowledge of God; Ye (not me) have taken and by wicked hands have crucified and slain; whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death; BECAUSE IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE THAT HE SHOULD BE HOLDEN OF IT". In Acts 4:26-28 Peter and John were commanded not to SPEAK or TEACH in the name of Jesus after the healing of the 40 year old lame man in Acts chapter three. But they continued to speak of how rulers, kings, Herod, Pontius Pilate, Jews and Gentiles were gathered together "FOR TO DO WHATSOEVER THY HAND AND THY COUNSEL DETERMINED BEFORE TO BE DONE".

All that Christ accomplished was before-ordained or MARKED OUT with certain BOUNDS determined by the plan and counsel of a holy God. Like the HORIZON or a BOUNDARY LINE. The work of the redeemer was to do the WILL of the Father. This was HIS Meat (John 4:24). "AS it was determined"; Every step was ordered and assured that the scripture CANNOT be Broken. "And when THEY HAD FULFILLED ALL that was written of HIM they Took him down from the tree". He stood in the midst of the disciples in Luke 24:44 and said "These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, THAT ALL THINGS MUST BE FULFILLED WHICH WERE WRITTEN IN THE LAW OF MOSES AND IN THE PROPHETS AND IN THE PSALMS CONCERNING ME"; an hour or a time was to come that He could not pass.

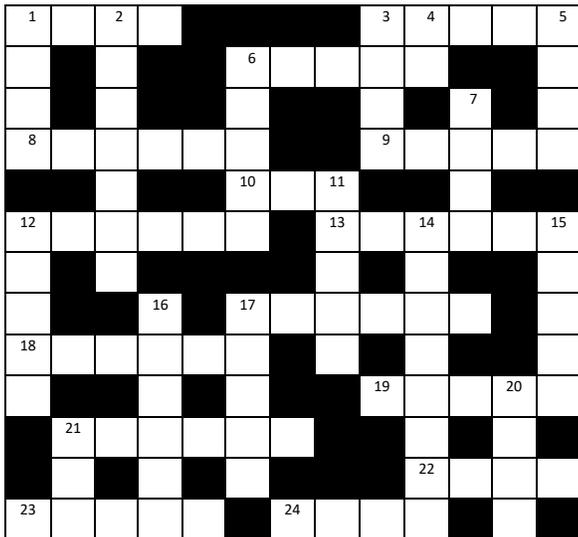
Nothing was altered in this plan or determination. What wicked men did could not change or alter the bounds that God had ordained. As it was written in

(Continued on Page 6)

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. They ___lots for the garments of Jesus.
3. Made a molten calf from gold ear rings.
6. Moses was told to make a serpent of ____.
8. Purge out the old ___that ye may be a new lump.
9. Is Israel a servant? Is he a homeborn ___? Why Is he spoiled? Captive.
10. Better is the ___ of a thing than the beginning.
12. Where the carcase is the ___ will be gathered.
13. God ___on the seventh day from all His work.
17. Abraham told Sarah to say she was his ____.
18. Name of one of the sons of Naomi and Elimelech.
19. The Lord's hand is not ___ that it cannot save.
21. ___ of the leaven of the Pharisees said Jesus.
22. ___ up my love, my fair one and come away.
23. God put a flaming ___at the east of Eden.
24. The ___of the Lord is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword.



(Answers on Page 9)

DOWN:

1. Woe unto them that ___ evil good and good evil.
2. Nadab and Abihu offered ___ fire before the Lord.
3. The poison of ___ is under their lips.
4. ___ many ___ I love I rebuke and chasten.
5. A good ___is to be chosen than great riches.
6. A buried man stood up after touching the ___ of Elisha.
7. I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the ____.
11. Adam was put in the garden to ___ it and keep it.
12. The ___ that sowed the tares was the devil. Foe.
14. The Lord is my ___ I shall not want said David.
15. Wherefore didst thou ___ oh thou of little faith.
16. All flesh is as grass and glory of man as the ___ of the grass.
17. They that will be rich fall into temptation and a ___.
20. I am the ___ of Sharon and the lily of the valleys.
21. As I live saith the Lord, every knee shall ___to me and every tongue shall confess to God.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

Teacher: Go to the map, Maria, and find North America.

Maria: Here it is.

Teacher: Correct. Now class, who discovered America?

Class: Maria.

Teacher: Why are you late Frank?

Frank: Because of the sign.

Teacher: What sign?

Frank: The one that says, 'School Ahead, Go Slow'.

AS IT WAS DETERMINED

(Continued from Page 5)

the volume of the book "Lo, I come to do thy will Oh God". Wicked men did what they intended to do and that is the reason Peter said "YE" by wicked hands have crucified and slain. They did it because their souls were black with sin and they brought forth the fruit thereof. God was not a part of the wickedness but rather He over-ruled all their intentions. He rules, super-rules and over-rules. If he does not, he is something less than what the bible describes. We have example after example of such events. When a man opened his mouth to curse Israel God over-ruled and intervned and instead of a curse out came a blessing. (Numbers 23). What a blessing to know the authority of God over all things. Our Hope in God today is more than this world knows about. Today's HOPE in the things of time hold NO certainty. "I sure HOPE I get that raise". Such is a wish or a want. A man in the long ago named Seneca called Hope the definition of an UNCERTAIN GOOD. Why is there much despair in the world today?..... because without the proper knowledge of God and Christ there is NO HOPE. What God does is absolutely certain. His determinations stand without question. His counsels are sure today and everyday. The old hymn writer expressed it in beautiful terms when he said, "His steady counsels ripen fast unfolding every hour, the bud may have a bitter taste but sweet will be the flower". The bounds were set and the path marked out. As it was determined Christ made his appearance. As it was determined his life projected the very character of God. As it was determined He died, rose and revived that he might be God of the living and of the dead. The actual construction of the doctrine gives us this teaching which describes an action that took place in the past with results of the action continuing to the present. So while the actual work took place over 2,000 years ago the results of the action have not diminished one iota through the ages. WHY? Because the Son of Man went "as it was determined". AMEN.

Elder Ricky Harcrow--Fort Payne, Alabama

CHURCH NEWS

Harmony Primitive Baptist Church, Tupelo, MS invites everyone to come worship our Lord and Saviour during our annual meeting the 1st weekend in May, 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.—**NOTE: This meeting is postponed!**

Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS invites everyone to their annual communion meeting the 3rd weekend in May, 2020 (May 15-17). Services Friday night, May 15, at 7:00 p.m. Services Saturday night, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. preceded by supper at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at 10:00 a.m. with Communion followed by lunch. Elder Mark Quarles, Madison, MS is invited minister. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Beulah Primitive Baptist Church at Saltillo, MS would like to invite everyone to our annual meeting. It will be the weekend of the 5th Sunday in May 2020. Friday night, May 29th, supper at 6:00 and worship services start at 7:00, then Saturday morning May 30th starting at 10:00 with lunch and an afternoon service starting at 1:30. Then Sunday May 31st service starting at 10:30 with lunch following worship services. Elder James Conley, Meadville, MS and Elder Ronald Lawrence, Goodlettsville, TN are invited ministers. We would love to have everyone come and worship with us and we desire your prayers if you cannot make it for the services.—Elder Tony Lester, Pastor.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Heber Springs, AR the 5th weekend in May, 2020 (May 29-30). Services Friday, May 29, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Saturday, May 30, schedule of services is the same. Sandwich supper, singing and fellowship at Hopewell church on Thursday night prior to services on Friday. Several visiting ministers are expected. Elder Danny Adcock is Pastor of Hopewell.

Elder Rickey Taylor, Booneville, MS will be with Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS the 5th Sunday in May, 2020 (May 31) with services at 10:30 a.m. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

These meetings subject to change due to COVID-19 virus. Check with Pastors for more information.

CHURCH NEWS

Elder Larry Wise, Randolph, MS will be with Friendship Primitive Baptist Church, Winona, MS the 5th Sunday in May, 2020 (May 31) with services at 10:30 a.m. Elder B. T. Strum is Pastor of Friendship.

Elder David Wise, Starkville, MS will be with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Randolph, MS the 5th Sunday in May, 2020 (May 31) with services at 10:30 a.m. Elder Tom Bouchillon is Pastor of Hopewell.

The 5th Sunday night Fellowship Meeting in May, 2020 will be held with New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS (May 31) with supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m. This meeting rotates between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany and Hopewell churches. Everyone is invited. New Prospect was unable to host 5th Sunday meeting in March due to COVID-19 virus and was moved up to next 5th Sunday in May. Pray all is somewhat back to normal by then. Elder Rusty Wise is Pastor of New Prospect.

ANNOUNCEMENT

<http://gracealoneradio.net/connect>

You can now listen to GraceAlone Radio streaming the message of God's sovereign grace 24 hours a day, around the clock and around the world. The daily content of Grace Alone Radio consists of Bible teaching and preaching from Primitive Baptist ministers, Acapella hymn singing and Daily Bible readings from the King James Version of the Bible, and more. Grace Alone Radio is an affiliate of Sovereign Grace Publications and is produced by Elder Michael Gowens of Calabash, NC. You can also download an APP to listen on a smart phone. Listen online at: <http://gracealoneradio.net/connect>
(Announcement by request)

Everyone is invited to the summer meeting at New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, Fairground Rd, New Albany, MS the 1st weekend in June, 2020 (June 5-7). Services Friday night, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday night, June 6, supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Elder Jeremy Wise, Pontotoc, MS is invited minister. Elder Rusty Wise is Pastor of New Prospect.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting with Yalobusha Primitive Baptist Church, Water Valley, MS the 4th weekend in June, 2020 (June 26-28). Services Friday night, June 26, at 7:00 p.m. Services Saturday, June 27, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Regular services on Sunday with Communion. Elder Steve Weaver, Shannon, MS is invited minister. Elder James Hall is Pastor of Yalobusha.

DON'T WORRY ABOUT TOMORROW

William Harrison
 Carriere Mississippi

We should not worry about tomorrow. It takes away from our time to praise, honor, and glorify God. God gives every bird its food, but He does not throw it into [its] nest,

Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? (Mat. 6:26).

We don't have power over all flesh as God does, so why should we spend time trying to change things that are beyond our control? As Jesus asked in Mat. 6:27,

Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

Of course we know the answer.

We go about our eventful lives and are consumed by all that is around us, rarely taking time out to thank God for His mercy, His grace, His blessings, and His love. Does this mean that we are not to plan? Does this mean that we are not to prepare? I think not.

God gives us the ability to survive. We must plan, but we are not to be consumed by it. Our depraved nature causes us to concentrate on fleshly things (money, wealth, power, notoriety, etc.), but the Holy Spirit causes us to seek godly things (God's Word, church, worship, prayer, welfare of others, etc.). **The battle is fierce and constant.** We must realign our priorities so that we can enjoy God's many blessings.

Do we slow down, or do we continue down our individual paths that we make? I think we need to stop being selfish and consider our roles here on earth. **Our existence is for the good pleasure of God and is not of ourselves.** Without God, there is nothing; without His gift of grace, there is no future; without the Lord Jesus Christ, there is no hope. Our first priority is God, and everything else will fall into place, just as Jesus instructed in Mat. 6:33, 34:

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.

Trust in God, **not man.** Be not consumed by the things of this world; seek God and enjoy His many wonderful blessings.

I am nothing but a sinner, and I continually fall short. I try to be a humble servant who has hope one day to be with our wonderful Savior.

(From "Advocate and Messenger", August, 2002 via "The Christian Baptist", March/April/May 2002)

Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition—Abraham Lincoln

GARBAGE IN OUR SALAD

Mennonite Devotion

Did you ever find yourself trying to justify the places you go, the books you read, or perhaps the music you listen to?

One day as a mother was scraping and peeling vegetables for a salad, her daughter came to ask her permission to go to a worldly place of amusement. On the defensive, the daughter admitted it was a questionable place, but all the girls were going. They did not actually think it would hurt them. As the girl talked, she suddenly saw her mother pick up a handful of discarded vegetable scraps and throw them into the salad. In a startled voice she cried, "Mother, you're putting the garbage into the salad!" "Yes," said her mother, "I know, but I thought that if you did not mind garbage in your mind and in your heart, you certainly would not mind a little in your stomach."

Thoughtfully, the girl removed the offending material from the salad, and with a brief "Thank you" to her mother went to tell her friends that she would not be going with them.

If you have spiritual indigestion and a sick testimony, maybe it is because you have allowed too much "garbage in the salad."

(From "In The Master's Service", July 1999)

ANSWERS

**BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
 READ RIGHT TO LEFT**

ACROSS

- 1. tsac
- 3. noraa
- 6. ssarb
- 8. nevael
- 9. evals
- 10. dne
- 12. selgae
- 13. detser
- 17. retsis
- 18. nolham
- 19. trohs
- 21. eraweb
- 22. esir
- 23. drows
- 24. drow

DOWN:

- 1. llac
- 2. egnarts
- 3. spsa
- 4. sa
- 5. eman
- 6. senob
- 7. tsal
- 11. sserd
- 12. ymene
- 14. drehpehs
- 15. tbuod
- 16. rewolf
- 17. erans
- 20. esor
- 21. wob

In California, they don't throw their garbage away, they make it into TV shows—Woody Allen.

Humility is to make a right estimate of one's self—Charles Spurgeon

NO CONTRADICTION

By Elder Jim Turner Jr.

Many who would try to discredit the Bible, and especially the writings of Paul, think they have found a conflict in Romans 9:27 and Romans 11:26.

I find these two scriptures to be really good proof texts for the doctrine of conditional time salvation, and also the doctrine of eternal salvation by grace and grace alone. Let us look at these two scriptures. Romans 9:27: "Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, a remnant shall be saved."

Then in the very next chapter, Paul has this to say: "Brethren, my hearts desire and prayer to God for Israel is, that they might be saved." Paul was one of the most prolific teachers of the doctrine of salvation by grace, and yet, he is here praying for his brethren, the Israelites that they might be saved. If we read just a little further we discover what salvation Paul is having reference to; salvation from trying to establish their own righteousness, and not submitting themselves to the righteousness of God.

I submit to you that this is a continuation of the lesson in Romans 9:27. How often do we see this happening even to this present day? Many of the Lord's people think they have to, by their good works, establish their own righteousness, when in reality, the only righteousness any of us can plead, is the imputed righteousness of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Paul was praying that they realize that they are "not all Israel which are of Israel" Romans 9:6, simply stated, that not all Israelites are the chosen of God in the covenant of grace. I believe here, however, that Paul is dealing with Spiritual Israel. Common reasoning would tell us that he would not be praying for those we would term the "non-elect." The remnant that shall be saved, we believe to be referring to that small number of the Lord's people who will sometime during this lifetime, embrace the truth of the imputed righteousness of our Lord Jesus Christ. In so doing, there is a great salvation here in time, from the false doctrines of this world, and from the pitfalls of Satan.

In Romans 11:26; "And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob." Jesus and Paul both frequently used the phrase: "as it is written." When we see this phrase, it is in our best interest, and that of the people we serve, to find where it is written. In this reference, we need to look at Isaiah 45:17: "But Israel shall be saved in the Lord with an everlasting salvation: ye shall not be ashamed nor confounded world without end." The apostle Paul or the prophet Isaiah do not leave us to guess which salvation is under consideration.

The conclusion we draw here is that Paul is dealing with the elect of God in both Romans 9:27, and Romans 11:26. As my dear mother used to tell me, "until we can see that there are two salvations taught in the scriptures, they appear to be one contradiction after another." The scriptures do not contradict themselves. They are written in perfect harmony. I am confident that is why Paul told the young minister, Timothy to: "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly divided the world of truth." 2 Timothy 2:15. All of the inspired word of God is truth. Paul said nothing about dividing truth from error. It is our duty as ministers of the gospel, to spend time every day in study and in prayer, that we may properly present these lessons to the Lord's people. These are just some of my thoughts on these scriptures. As always, I would have you put these thoughts to the test of the Bible. If they stand, then accept them, if not then lay them aside. May the Lord's blessing be yours to enjoy.

-- Elder Jim Turner Jr. (Now Deceased)
Little Rock, Arkansas

(From "*The Banner of Love*", June, 2012)

BE STILL

Here in Psalms 46:10 is a scripture that I learned at a very early age that I didn't even know was in the Bible. You say Brother Lawrence how did you learn a verse of scripture and never know it was in the Bible? Cause my mother and daddy were always saying, "Be still!" They didn't always put the rest of it there which says, "Be still, and know that I am God." We got that over our fireplace, our mantle, on a pretty big sign there, painting that says, "Be still and know that I am God" from Psalm 46:10 and I have to see that every day. So I learned that verse of scripture, not knowing that it was in the Bible. "Be still, Ronald!" I don't suppose any one of you had to have someone ever tell you that?... (From a sermon by Elder Ronald Lawrence)

KNOW

Giving up smoking is the easiest thing in the world. I know because I've done it thousands of times.—
Mark Twain

The most interesting information comes from children, for they tell all they know and then stop—
Mark Twain

"...for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day." (II Tim. 1:12)

A TRIBUTE TO MAMA AND PAPA**Going Home**

By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)

Our national day set aside to honor mothers has always brought to my mind the thought of going home. It was always a comforting thought to be able to go home, when the day was done and the body was torn and worn. It was a place to sit down at a prepared table and feel the love from Mama and a place to rest from the weary journey of the day.

When I grew older and married, I remember the pleasure of going home to Mama and Papa's house. There was always such excitement in the heart and anticipation of seeing my loved ones again and feel the embrace of love and tenderness. On one such occasion we surprised Mama. I had been in the army, and she thought I was a thousand miles away, when I drove up into the yard. I will never forget the look on her face and the tender arms around my neck. All the way home from Kansas, all I could think of was going home. Living next door to Mama and Papa was such a pleasure and I entered that house many times. It was never a chore or something I dreaded. It was always easy to go home to Mama's.

When Christ told the man who had been found with fetters and chains to go home to his friends, he was to go to the house of those who loved him, tell them what the Lord had done and confess he had compassion upon him.

The percentage of those who return to give God the glory, or go home to a house like Mama's is low. When Christ cleansed the ten, there was only one, who turned to give God the glory. In the days of Nehemiah, there was one in ten who lived in Jerusalem, the holy city, and nine in other cities.

Neh. 11:2, "And the people blessed all the men, that willingly offered themselves to dwell at Jerusalem."

Many pastors used the scripture in Isaiah, Sunday. Isa. 66:13, "As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you, and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem." My question has always been to those who are reluctant to come home to the church, since the comfort is what you find with your mother, why do you find it difficult to come home to the church? What could encourage you to forgo this comfort?

Having a home to go back to, and a mother with loving arms, is still a stability in my life today, even though Mama has been gone 36 years. Time and time again in the experiences of God's people, the house of worship has always been the stability that holds their lives together. Yet, the biggest percentage of God's children are living in the wilderness and enjoying the pleasures of prosperity in the world to the exclusion of the simple comfort like unto sitting on Mama's knee while she consoles us.

Mama and her love are still a comfort today. Christ and his love are everlasting. I always had great joy in

being near Mama. The only stability I have today is being near my Lord and Savior. Lord, may I never be hesitant to come to your house. (May, 2006)
(From "The Best of Elder Guy Hunt")

WHICH WILL YOU CHOOSE?

By Elder Ralph Harris (Deceased)

I have often known of church members missing services because some of their children were coming home and they wanted to visit with them. A number of things always come to my mind when this happens. The first is the words of our Lord, "He that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me" (Matthew 10:37). I do not see how we could say that this is "seeking first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). It also occurs to me that if we allow our children to interfere with our duty to God and His people, He could very easily remove them from us. And, if our children would require us to miss our church services in order to be with them, what does that say for their love and respect for us? Also, if we allow them to thus dictate the terms upon which they will have our company, what kind of example of dedication to the cause we claim to love are we setting before them and our fellow church members?

I have long felt that if children do not care enough for their parents to go to their church meetings with them when they are at home, then their relationship is very much a one-sided affair anyway, and the wrong parties are making the sacrifice.

I think in most cases if children are made aware ahead of time that Mother and Daddy are not going to stay at home from church with them when they come home, they will either not come home very much or they will come prepared to either go to meeting or stay at home by themselves. Is it really an act of love on our part to teach our children by example that our Lord should take second place in our lives?

The case we are considering here is clear-cut. You either put *God* first, or you put the *children* first. Which will you choose?

Elder Ralph Harris

(From "In The Master's Service", March 2001)

DECISIONS

A husband and wife, prior to marriage, decided that he'd make all the major decisions and she the minor ones. After 20 years of marriage, he was asked how this arrangement had worked. "Great! In all these years I've never had to make a major decision."—
Source Unknown

"Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision."
(Joel 3:14) Judgment is coming.

AQUILA AND PRISCILLA

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Romans 16:3-4: "Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus: Who have for my life laid down their own necks: unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles."

We write here of two people who loved the Lord and his Church. Their names are Aquila and Priscilla, whom the Apostle Paul refers to as his helpers. Their help was invaluable to him and the cause of Christ. So often good disciples who are in the background are unsung heroes that so few ever hear about. I feel that is worth our time to read about them and see the good examples they set for disciples today.

Paul first met them at Corinth on his journey to preach the gospel. The couple was exiled from Rome because of a decree of Claudius that all Jews should depart from Rome. Being forced to leave, the couple came to Corinth and set up a tent making business to sustain them. Paul also being a tent maker and being led to this couple by the providential hand of God, worked with them for an extended period. I can just picture the three of them talking about the Lord and his church as they labored at their craft. It was from this time on that the couple matured in the knowledge of the Savior, that Jesus was the very Christ Acts 18:1-3. In our opening verse Paul tells us that they have laid down their own necks for him and the church. It was at their house that the church at Corinth met I Corinthians 16:19. This was a dangerous thing that they took upon themselves; it could possibly have meant a death sentence, for Christianity being a new faith that challenged the Greek gods that the Corinthians worshipped. This couple showed forth a meek and gentle attitude as they served the Lord they loved. It was Aquila and Priscilla that further taught Apollos the way of the Lord more completely Acts 18:23-28.

This couple who were man and wife are always mentioned together because they worked together as a single unit for the Lord Jesus Christ. If something needed to be done, then they stepped up and did what was needed. They volunteered their very home for a church so the people would have a regular place to meet. Imagine the blessings they would get out of seeing their fellow members present in their home sitting under the gospel preaching, coming to a greater understanding of the Lord. Anytime your church needs a volunteer for something, don't just be a member, volunteer your time and hands to help anyway you can. Of course there are other ways that one can volunteer to help the church, besides maintenance of the church property. For example; when this couple heard a minister who had a gift to preach, yet they perceived he was lacking in a complete knowledge of Jesus Christ, they took him

aside and taught him the way of the Lord more perfectly.

This happened outside the church but was a very valuable and uplifting thing to do. The cause of Christ meant so much to them that they saw with Apollos that his joy would be much greater with a complete knowledge about who Jesus was, and what he had accomplished on the cross. Apollos would become a minister at Corinth and would be a huge influence on others about the Lord Jesus Christ. All because a man and his wife were willing to take the time to show Apollos a greater knowledge about Jesus. It is good to look around at the church and see others filling the pew; it exhorts and encourages one another. But don't let it stop there. Live the life that Christ would expect out of you. Be prepared to tell others of the hope that is within you of Jesus Christ and him crucified 1 Peter 3:15. We have a wonderful doctrine of grace to share with others. Read about this wonderful man and wife team and use them as an example to live your life in service to Jesus Christ, who gave us a home in glory.

Rickey Taylor

A NEW DAY TO SERVE THE LORD

We aren't promised tomorrow so we should make the most of every day to serve the Lord while we have life and breath to do so. This is difficult at times because of the hustle and bustle of making a living and raising children and the like; however, the Lord has not commanded us to do anything we are incapable of doing. Time is precious and we should use it wisely. Paul writes concerning this principle: "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, Redeeming the time, because the days are evil." (Eph. 5:15-16). Each day is a day the Lord hath made and after all we are the children of the day and not the night. The obvious conclusion is that our light should shine forth so that others might see our good works and glorify our Father which is in heaven. Jeremiah said that the compassion and mercies of the Lord are new every morning which declare the great faithfulness of God so we need to view each day as a NEW opportunity to praise Him for His wonderful works toward the children of men. As the song says, "Help me today, show me the way, one day at a time." Yesterday is gone and tomorrow may never be ours so we need help each day and God furnishes that help by His grace of a daily basis to serve acceptably with reverence and godly fear. (Heb. 12:28)—*Editor*

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