

Glad Tidings

November

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

2022

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

We don't deserve to be remembered by God or His Holy Son, Jesus Christ. However, our prayer is that He will remember us as recipients of His saving grace. One of the thieves on the cross desired to be remembered as the grace of God had dealt with him in his last hours of life. He was railing on Christ at one time but now he knows the fear of God and that he is justly condemned but Christ is innocent. This changed thief said to Jesus, "...Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." (Luke 23:42)

Sinners like us are prone to forget but the Lord remembers everything except the sins of His people which have been cast behind His back and never to be remembered any more. (Isa. 38:17; Heb. 8:12). This thief on the cross was one of God's beloved which He foreknew before the foundation of the world. Many things may befall us as children of God here in this life. We may have our faith overthrown in basic truth as happened to those who were led astray by Hymenaeus and Philetus on the resurrection. In spite of this tragedy, "Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his..." (II Tim. 2:19).

Every time we offer a prayer to God we are asking the Lord to remember us as one of His redeemed family. Hannah was a barren woman. This caused her great distress but she took her plight to the Lord in prayer. She didn't utter an audible word but spoke in her heart but the Lord knows the desires of the heart. Her petition to the Lord was, "...remember me, and not forget thine handmaid, but wilt give unto thine handmaid a man child, then I will give him unto the LORD all the days of his life, and there shall no razor come upon his head." (I Sam. 1:11). The Lord remembered her and opened her womb and she was given a man child who was named Samuel.

Samson was given great strength by the Lord but made many mistakes and squandered his strength, lost his eyesight, made sport of by the Philistines, made to grind at the mill like an ox. However, he is among those of faith in Hebrews 11 so we know he will be remembered by God. Samson was bound between two pillars that upheld a house with thousands of people in it. He prayed, "...remember me, I pray thee, and strengthen me, I pray thee, only this once, O God, that I may be at once avenged of the Philistines for my two eyes." (Judges 16:28)

The Lord remembered Samson and gave him such strength that he pulled the pillars down upholding the house and destroyed all the occupants. He slew more in his death than he did in his life. (Judg. 16:30) In spite of the mistakes Samson made, he still had God-given faith that is evidence of a child of God that will be remembered in the resurrection. He failed to persevere in faith and holiness as some claim must be done or they are not a child of God.

Nehemiah was instrumental in rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem and the house of God in the midst of great opposition. There were times it seemed the task would be fruitless but he was blessed to perform the work. Nehemiah prays to be remembered. "Remember me, O my God, concerning this, and wipe not out my good deeds that I have done for the house of my God, and for the offices thereof." (Neh. 13:14) It is not that Nehemiah feels the Lord owes him for his good deeds but it is only by His grace that any good deed is performed. Nehemiah had a strong love to be involved in his labor. If no one on earth remembers your labor of love in His kingdom, don't worry because the Lord does. "For God is not unrighteous to forget your work and labour of love, which ye have shewed toward his name, in that ye have ministered to the saints, and do minister." (Hebrews 6:10).

Women who bear children can sometimes forget them. They abort them or leave them in hospitals or on door steps which is a horrible practice. What about the Lord in comparison? Isaiah writes, "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me." (Isa. 49:15-16). It is not that God needs to look in the palms of His hands to be able to remember, but this gives His children the assurance that He will always remember them.

When the Lord comes in all His glory he will separate His sheep from the goats. His sheep will be on His right hand and the goats on His left. He will say to those on His right hand, "...Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world." (Matt. 25:34) The thief on the cross, Hannah, Nehemiah, Samson and every elect child will be there on His right hand as sheep to inherit the kingdom because the Lord knows and remembers His own. (Elder Larry Wise)

**GLAD TIDINGS
EDITORIAL OFFICE**

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BIBLE TERMS



By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)

A few years ago I was at an ordination service for a deacon when the questioner asked the subject if he believed that God was sovereign. His answer was, "I don't know what you mean." This was probably a good answer and has led me to remember to use Biblical terms.

I do not know why in all the Holy Word that the word "sovereign" is not used unless there was a divine purpose in it. Although the word "sovereign" does not in itself imply that nothing can happen unless the sovereign agrees for it to happen, a person might assert that such is the case.

A better term is to remember that God has all power. *"And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and earth."* Matt. 28:18 Where did He get the power? The Father gave it to the Son. This leads us to the truth that God is not limited. Whether we view this power in connection with His saving power that Christ spoke of in the 17th chapter of John, or whether we see it as the power that God used to deliver the Hebrew children from the burning fiery furnace, it is

unlimited. The Hebrew children did not know whether God would use his power to deliver them or not, but they knew he was able.

But the exercise of the two powers have different applications. God is the author and finisher of our faith. He is not the author and finisher of sin, wickedness and evil. The Apostle Paul wrote the church at Philippi about the saving power of God, which teaches us he began the work and will finish the work. *"Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ."* Phil. 1:6 The things necessary to bring this about are spoken of in Romans, and are listed as working together for the good of those who love God. They are foreknowledge, predestination, calling, justification and glorification. This is a power manifested by grace treasured in Christ for us before the world began as Paul wrote Timothy. It certainly shows that God has the power to fulfill his eternal purpose in the saving of his sheep.

The power with which the Hebrew children were delivered is providential power. He is able to deliver in any case, but he does not always deliver everyone. He teaches that in the 4th chapter of Luke. We are taught there were many widows in the land in the time of great drought but the Lord sent Elias to but one. Of the lepers only Naaman the Syrian was healed. Does this mean that all the rest of the widows and lepers were children of the devil, because such power was not working together for their good? No, it just shows us the fallacy of the doctrine that everything that happens to us in our earthly journey is for our good and allowed by God for our benefit. The fact that God does not always providentially intervene in the affairs of men does not show a lack of power, or as some men would say, sovereign power. But, to allege that God is ultimately responsible for everything that happens in our life, is in my opinion an insult to God and the Righteousness of God. If we were but puppets, God would have had no need to write his laws in our minds and hearts, and certainly would have had no need to give us intellect that we might use to make our life better by our own decisions, decisions which do not affect the success of the eternal purpose of God. Our obedience, or lack of it, certainly does not in any way effect the obedience of Jesus Christ on the cross and the fact that by that obedience, many were made righteous.

God is all wise and gives us sufficient grace to do his commandments, but we can receive the grace of God in vain, as Paul teaches us, along our earthly journey. The eternal saving grace of God on the other hand is irresistible. It cannot be in vain.

My father was in many accidents in his life that forever changed his quality of life. Yet, he never blamed God for his carelessness or thought that God was the cause of those accidents. When his hand

was mangled in a cotton gin, it forever hindered his ability to make a living for his family as he very much wanted, even with the high intelligence he had. It did not work together for his good nor his family. When I was in the army he made a mistake with the tractor that almost cost him his leg and his life. The Lord could have delivered, but did not. I know he had the power.

Yet, I saw the Lord deliver him many times in his providential care of him. Several times in automobile accidents, I saw him delivered. I was with him one day picking cotton when I saw a poisonous snake about to strike him and moved him away.

If, in an act of stupidity, we were to jump off a cliff to a rock floor below, I would be the last to suggest that God is not able to deliver, but I would doubt he would intervene. Such stupidity is covered in the writings of Jeremiah. *“And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.”* Jer. 32:35 Nothing in the scriptures gives us the right to say that God is cooperative with the devil, with wickedness, evil and sin. God did not orchestrate this terrible sin Judah committed.

I have always thought that the incident where the Apostle Peter denied the Lord, showed not only the weakness of man but also showed he was not worthy to be on a pedestal so it could be claimed he helped the Lord. Perhaps sovereign is not used in the Bible to prevent men who claim God causes everything that happens to happen, to not have any proof of their claim.

--Guy Hunt

(From *“The Pathway of Truth”*, October, 2005)

PUTTING THE WORLD TOGETHER

A father, charged with entertaining his son, was at a loss for something to give the boy to do. After a few minutes, he saw a map of the world in a newspaper and tore it into several pieces and challenged the young man to put it back together right. In what the father thought might have been a record time, he had completed the task—had all the map taped together in proper place. When the father inquired how he had done the job in so short a time, the lad replied, “Daddy, I found a picture of a boy on the backside and, although, I didn’t know much about the world, I knew that if I put the boy together right, the world would come out right.”--Copied via “Baptist Herald”

The sweetest bird builds near the ground,
The loveliest flower springs low,
And we must stoop for happiness

If we its worth would know.

--Swain

(The above from *“The Christian Baptist”*, Nov. 1978)

“RELIGION”, VAIN OR PURE

By Elder E. D. Bryant (Deceased)

“If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world.” (James 1:26-27)

We have two kinds of religion set forth in these verses: vain religion which is empty, worthless, or pure religion which is useful and meaningful.

The word “religious” means the outward practice of religion. What we do or don’t do and speak tells what we have in our heart. It matters not how religious we may appear to be with our works; James says all of it is vain unless we bridle our tongue

The lack of bridling our tongues has and is causing much trouble in churches, families, and many other areas of our lives. Solomon said, *“There is a time to speak and a time to keep silent.”* Not only is there a time to speak and not to speak; but a way to speak and not to speak; a place to speak and not to speak. Let us put our brains in gear before putting our tongue in motion. How many times have we said things and regretted it even before we finished speaking.

David prayed, *“Set a watch, O Lord, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.”* (Psalms 141:3) I’ve heard people say, “It isn’t any worse to say it than to think it.” I don’t agree, because we think a lot of things that we ought not even think and when we speak those things, we have sinned twice. *“The thought of foolishness is sin...”* says Proverbs 24:9, and I’m amazed at the foolish talking in the house of God and sometimes from the pulpit. Paul warned the Ephesians about foolish talking.

“A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.” (Proverbs 25:11) I read somewhere that it is better to be silent and thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove any doubt. This might be hard to swallow, but it is good medicine for tongue trouble. *“A soft answer turneth away wrath: but grievous words stir up anger. The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.”* (Proverbs 15:1-2) We read that a whisperer separateth chief friends and, how sad to say, this is happening too often. It is not easy to win back someone you have offended. *“A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city:...”* (Proverbs 18:19)

No wonder James said our religion is vain unless we bridle our tongue. Pure religion has to be worked at continually and then I fall so short. Some have said that we have a do-nothing religion, but James teaches a do-something religion.

We are taught to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction and if the preachers are the only ones

who are supposed to visit, then they would be the only ones with pure religion. Preachers are not required to do this any more than the members are. This doesn't include all widows either, only those in affliction. I've wondered if the fatherless here are not only orphans, but the children of the widow who have been left fatherless. The word "visit" includes caring for them in any way they might need our help. A poor widow with children certainly has afflictions in trying to bring them up without a father.

I'm afraid we have become too spotted with the world as Primitive Baptists. Paul said, *"And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."* (Romans 12:2) John said, *"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him."* (1 John 2:15) There is nothing wrong with being different for good reasons. There is nothing right with being different for the sake of just being different.

It is so hard to keep unspotted from the world in which we live, but Christ never said it would be easy. Father help us to have pure religion and undefiled before thee.

(From *"The Christian Baptist"*, October 1979)

SELECTED

"If any man will be my disciple, let him take up his cross and follow me." It is God that worketh in us both to will, and He gives us the ability to perform. If the Lord has thus wrought in the hearts of His children, they should lovingly and faithfully follow Him. Nothing should be so important to us as serving Him who has done so much for us. He is such a precious loving friend that never leaves or forsakes us. L. H. (Elder Lee Hanks)

It is good to trust the Lord. He is merciful, good, powerful, and no good thing will He withhold from those that love and obey Him. He is mighty to save, and His little ones are kept in the hollow of His hand. And it makes no difference how weak, or poor they are, there are none that can pluck them out of the Father's hand. By the power of God they are kept, sustained, upheld, and His Spirit strengthening them. This being true, how could we put our trust in any other? Yes, it is good to trust in the Lord.

J. L. C. (Elder J. L. Collins)

Our preachers preach the Gospel freely and cheerfully wherever God directs and they make no demands. They take the oversight of the flock not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind. L. H. (Elder Lee Hanks)

(The above from *"Gospel Messenger"*, Aug. 1920)

THE HOPE OF GLORY

By Elder J.L. Hopper (Recently deceased)

Do you want to go to heaven? Why do you want to go to heaven? Doesn't the world provide everything you can possibly desire? What does your heart desire that is not available for you right here on earth? Since everything of a material nature that you are able to want or wish for is here, why do you want to go to Heaven? Isn't it evident that the reason you want to go to heaven is because your heart longs for something the world cannot provide?

Do you wonder sometimes what heaven is like? What do you imagine Heaven to be like? Do you compare Heaven to the things of the earth, such as diamonds, or gold, or beautiful flowers, or good times with friends and relatives? All these things we have here on earth. Why, then, do you want to go to Heaven? Why not just stay here on the earth? You would if you could, wouldn't you? There are so many precious things of superb beauty, and pleasures, and joyous occasions that surely you would stay here if you could.

The experiences and observations of life teach you that you cannot stay here. At best life here on earth is short. You cannot stay here long, but there is something within you that causes you to know that life here on the earth is not all there is for you. That something is Christ in you the hope of glory. Isn't it because Christ is there that you want to go to heaven? Isn't it because you want to be in His presence eternally?

In Heaven there will be no sports events, no birthday parties, no holiday celebrations, no family reunions, no graveyard decorations, no gold, no diamonds, no anything you have ever known here on the earth. You have seen, and heard of, and had all these things here. Heaven is no part of earth; not even the memories. Heaven is totally new for you. Isaiah 64:4 *"For since the beginning of the world men have not heard, nor perceived by the ear, neither hath the eye seen, O God, beside thee, what he hath prepared for him that waiteth for him."*

God in love and mercy and grace has given us, here on Earth, a foretaste of Heaven—the church Hebrews 9:11-12 *"But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us."*

The question has been asked, "Why do you want to go to Heaven? The answer has been found and stated. Now ponder this question. Why do you want to go to church? The answer is the same isn't it?

Many people do not want to go to church much, and some do not want to go at all. How is it with you? You

THE HOPE OF GLORY-cont'd

want to go to Heaven to be with Christ. You want to go to church for the same reason. If you are one who does not want to go to church much, or not at all, then you might, honestly and sincerely, ask yourself this question. "Is Christ, the hope of glory, in me or not?" You have no reason for wanting to go to Heaven if you do not want to go to church.

--J. L. Hopper

(From "*The Pathway of Truth*", November, 2005)

BELT OF A SOLDIER

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Ephesians 6:13-14: Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

The songs in church hymnals such as "**Am I a Soldier of the Cross**" and "**Onward Christian Soldier**" tells us that we are soldiers; Soldiers of the Lord. We fight battles, and the better equipped that we are, the better we will do in those battles. Here in these ten verses (10-20) of Ephesians chapter six there is an illustration of Paul using the uniform of a Roman Soldier in battle to teach us how we are to prepare ourselves to fight the battles with Satan. Paul would see Roman Soldiers daily as he went about preaching the gospel, and eventually being imprisoned for it by the Romans. He knew what a soldier in battle wore.

Stand therefore. This means keep the ground that you have. Take a stand for the Lord. Which is a teaching that says you have made a commitment to join the church, keep Satan and the flesh outside the doors of the church. Keep his evil and wicked ways out of your life and don't indulge in them. The church is as an army **Fort** that God has given you for protection in time of need. Keep your attendance regularly and pray for the minister and congregation of your church, in doing so you are successfully fighting the battle. **Having your loins girt about with truth** means the gospel of truth. The truth of the gospel is that Christ died for everyone of his children and not a one of them will be eternally lost. Christ

entered into covenant with the Father before the foundation of the world that he would come and save everyone of God's children, and that he has finished that work. John 6:38-40; Romans 8:28-30; John 19:30. **Girt** means a belt or band. Something that will hold the girdle around close to the body. Without the belt holding it weakens the armor of the soldier. The gospel is our belt that holds everything together as a soldier. Faith, commitment, perseverance for our timely salvation is all found in the word of the gospel. The gospel informs us on using our belief in our Savior to see that it is a worthy effort to fight on behalf of our Lord and his cause. As I look back over my life and reflect on those dear saints who have now departed this world for a better place, I remember those that regularly read the word of God and kept it in their heart. That was like a belt that held their spiritual lives together. This country was in better shape than it is now. So many have failed to take their place in holding it together.

Having on the breastplate of righteousness.

This is not our righteousness, for the scripture says that our righteousness is as filthy rags Isaiah 64:6. It is the righteousness of Christ that God has imputed to everyone of his children. When God looks at us, he sees nothing but the righteousness of Christ, not our sinful ways. His Son came and paid the price for us. When we by faith see what he did for us, then we are putting on the breastplate of his righteousness, knowing that we will never be plucked out of his hand. We wear the breastplate close to our heart. For Christ is in our hearts. Through Faith God reveals to us these great and precious truths that otherwise we would not have known, until we were received into glory. That gives us a great advantage over most of the other children of God that will not see these truths on this side of heaven. Nevertheless they will be with us in glory. Knowing these great truths that was revealed to us, we must understand that much is expected of us. We have been called to be a soldier; Soldiers to fight for the Lord and his gospel kingdom. Do we want to be a good soldier or a weak one? Let's choose to be a good soldier and take upon us the whole armor of God, and show the Lord how appreciative that we are to know his wonderful truths he has shown us.

R.L. Taylor

THE SOLDIER

Every soldier must know, before he goes into battle, how the little battle he is to fight fits into the larger picture, and how the success of his fighting will influence the battle as a whole.

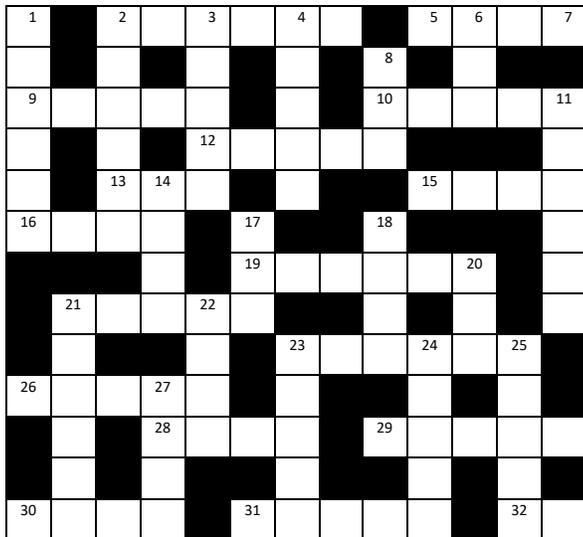
--Bernard Law Montgomery

When we assumed the Soldier, we did not lay aside the Citizen.--George Washington

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

- 2. The last plague on Egypt was ____ of the firstborn.
- 5. Elijah was called a ____ head by some children.
- 9. The Gadarene spirits were cast into a herd of ____.
- 10. Abraham's former name before it was changed.
- 12. The virtuous woman reaches out hands to the ____
- 13. Noah was 600 years ____ when the flood came.
- 15. Number of days Martha said Lazarus was dead.
- 16. Jesus had fish prepared and said come and ____.
- 19. The ____ which are among you I exhort which also am an elder.
- 21. Let not sin ____ in your mortal body to obey its lust.
- 23. Many are ____ but few are chosen.
- 26. God spoke to Elijah in a ____ small voice.
- 28. These are the sons of Esau who is ____.
- 29. Man hanged on gallows meant for Mordecai.
- 30. 2 cherubims of gold were made in the 2 ____ of the mercy seat. Odds and ____.
- 31. Chosen to be holy & without ____ before him in love.
- 32. ____ ye that thirsteth, come ye to the waters.



(Answers on Page 8)

DOWN:

- 1. Unto him that loved us and ____ us in his own blood.
- 2. The tongue is an unruly evil, full of deadly ____.
- 3. ____ your ways and your doings and I will cause you to dwell in this place. Correct.
- 4. When thou wast ____ the fig tree I saw thee.
- 6. Satan is the prince of the power of the ____.
- 8. I am the ____ the truth and the life said Jesus.
- 11. Barabbas committed ____ in the insurrection. Kill.
- 14. The tribe that Moses gave no inheritance for the Lord was their inheritance.
- 17. The sin of Judah is written with a ____ of iron. Ink.
- 18. The ____ of thine house hath eaten me up. Vigor.
- 20. They have eyes but ____ not and ears but hear not.
- 21. Dust thou art and unto dust shalt thou ____.
- 22. Silver and ____ have I none, such as I have give I thee, rise up and walk.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

- 23. The animal Rebekah was riding when she first saw Isaac. It has a hump.
- 24. For this cause shall a man ____ father and mother and shall cleave to his wife.
- 25. When sin is finished it bringeth forth ____ . Not life.
- 27. Paul felt to be ____ than the least of all saints.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

Big trucks carrying logs are continually driving past our house to be processed somewhere. Our 3 year old grandson, Eli, when he is outside with his Nana and sees one of those trucks pass by our house, He says, "There's a big truck carrying a bunch of sticks."

Elder Matt Jordan's shares this bit of wisdom from his then 13 year old daughter back in 2012. She wrote in her semi-private journal, "Always wear a smile. It's the most beautiful curve on a woman."

SOME WILL PITY, OTHERS WILL REJOICE

The world today is overrun with men who have been educated to preach, have graduated from some theological seminary, but are void of the Spirit. Their preaching is in word only. They may outshine the true servant in the eyes of the world, but he who knows the Bible and preaches it with power and in demonstration of the Spirit, even though he may not be able to use enticing words, will be preferred by those who are hungering and thirsting for the food and wine of the kingdom.

The poorest and weakest of all God's ministers, if he but knows the truth and is blessed of the Lord, need not fear to preach to the flocks of the greatest D.D.'s, for while some will feel humiliated by your ignorance of speech and rudeness in manner and others will look upon you in pity, there will here and there be found one who, like Ruth gleaning in the fields of Boaz, will gather the golden grain and find it more delicious and sustaining than all the excellency of speech or man's wisdom, and as you go you will leave behind you many who will fervently thank God for your coming and pray upon you His richest blessings, which will be to you as a guardian angel and as a healing balm as you press onward o'er the rugged road bearing the cross and enduring the shame.—**Elder William H. Crouse**, *From "What is Truth?" 1918*

(From "Advocate and Messenger", 1996)

"And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:" (I Cor. 2:4)

CHURCH NEWS

Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, Ackerman, MS will have its annual meeting November 12-13, 2022. Services Saturday, Nov. 12, at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch and afternoon services at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 13, at 10:00 a.m. with communion and lunch. Elder Silas Ford, Atlanta, GA and Elder Jeremy Wise, Pontotoc, MS are invited ministers. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Macedonia. Everyone is invited to come and worship.

New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS will have a Thanksgiving Eve service on November 23, 2022 beginning at 7:00 pm with Elder Jerry Wise, Pontotoc, MS bringing the message. Elder Rusty Wise is Pastor of New Prospect.

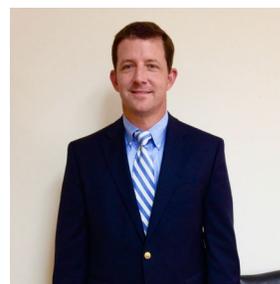
The special annual meetings are winding down for the year so church news is somewhat limited. However, the Lord is still blessing the church with good Sunday worship meetings attended by the faithful soldiers in Christ and ministers to deliver the message; whether the congregation is large, small or in between. "I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the LORD. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem." (Psalm 122:1-2)

Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, 5 miles West of Ecu, MS on Hwy 346 will have its annual Christmas singing on 2nd Sunday night in December, 2022 (Dec. 11) beginning at 5:30 pm followed by refreshments. Elder Larry wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Ripley, MS will have Fall Meeting 1st weekend in Nov. 2022 (Nov. 4-6). Services Fri. night, Nov. 4 at 7:00 pm and supper at 6:00 pm. Sat., Nov. 5, at 10:00 am with lunch and afternoon service. Sunday at 10:30 am. Elder Ben Winslett, Huntsville, AL is invited minister. Elder Darren Owens is Pastor of Pine Hill.:

Pride slays thanksgiving, but a humble mind is the soil out of which thanks naturally grow. A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves.—Henry Ward Beecher

Thanks to all those who contribute monetarily to the publishing of Glad Tidings. We receive a few larger contributions (usually churches) that help replenish the funds and a few individuals who send regular contributions. As of this time, we have enough funds for about 5 months of continued publications. Pray the Lord will supply the means and this minister with health enough to continue to publish truth and church news to edify the church of the living God. "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)

Old Mr. Rinso Abrams

June 15, 2016

By Elder Tim McCool
Practical Christianity
Pastor Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Church

Some of you in west Alabama may remember Mr. Rinso Abrams. He was a stalwart in the Zion community and a great sawmiller and timber man his whole life. He was blessed to build a life from the natural creation of God. Mr. Rinso loved the truth of salvation by grace alone. As a child attending church, I will never forget every time he was called on to pray. He had a high-pitched, unique voice that once you heard it – you would never forget it.

In every prayer I heard him pray, he always referred to "Lord forgive such a worm as I..." His reference to "worm" still stands out with me today. I have noticed that some of the rewriting of old hymns have taken out the words "worm" or "wretch" (Amazing Grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a "wretch" like me). I have also noticed that some of the rewrites remove reference to the "blood". That is astonishing. Those words were used by the writers because they carried impact and because they were Biblical terms.

I wonder if there would have been any impact at all in my little 7 year old mind if Mr. Rinso had said, "Lord forgive such a person as I..." I doubt it. The best I can count, there are 20 references to "worm" in the Bible. Job refers to mankind as worms (Job 25:6). Jesus on the cross referred to Himself as a worm! (Ps. 22:6). God referred to Jacob as a worm (Isa. 41:14).

God used a worm to teach Jonah a lesson (Jonah 4:7). Also, we need get comfortable with the fact that worms will be the only companions to our dead bodies after we die – while our spirits are in heaven! (Job 24:20). It sounds like Mr. Rinso was in good company in referring to himself as a worm. Job did the same thing. Jesus did too. I wish I had thanked Mr. Rinso while he was alive for using that biblical terminology and making such an impact on me personally. He was not ashamed to use Biblical language. We should not be either. We don't need to rewrite songs and water them down. We need to see what we are – sinners saved by grace and nothing more than worms of the dust!

It takes a dose of humility to see ourselves for what we are. Only by His Spirit can we do that. And yet, when we see what we are, coupled with the gospel message of salvation in Christ alone, we also see that frail worms of the dust have been elevated to mansions on high and glory to come by the work of our Savior! Thank you Mr. Rinso for teaching me – at a very young age – about the status of man. He being dead, yet speaketh (Heb.11:4)

ANSWERS BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE READ RIGHT TO LEFT

ACROSS:	DOWN:
2. eugalp	1. dehsaw
5. dlab	2. nosiop
9. eniws	3. dnema
10. marba	4. rednu
12. ydeen	6. ria
13. dlo	8. yaw
15. ruof	11. redrum
16. enid	14. ivel
19. sredle	17. nep
21. ngier	18. laez
23. dellac	20. ees
26. llits	21. nruter
28. mode	22. dlog
29. namah	23. lemac
30. sdne	24. evael
31. emalb	25. htaed
32. oh	27. ssel

ONLY TO THE LIVING

Some will ask what we think of the scripture which says, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28). They wish to know if that invitation is not to every individual of the human race? We answer no, it is to *the weary and heavy laden* only. No one can be weary and heavy laden, but the living. The dead are not weary and heavy laden.

Suppose some rich man who has plenty of money were to come to Greenfield, or any other city, and offer a million dollars to every man or woman, girl or boy, who is weary and heavy laden. There evidently would be some that could not receive the money, from the simple fact that they are not laborers, nor weary and heavy laden.

It is the same in a spiritual sense. Christ was only inviting those to whom he had imparted life. He was calling unto those to whom he had given the ability to come to Him, those who had the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. **M.D. Rice**, (Colored) *Primitive Monitor*, 1918
(From "Advocate and Messenger", 1996)

PROVERBS 14:34

By Elder Sylvester Hassell (Deceased)

"Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people."

This declaration of the Inspired Volume is an eternal, unchangeable, and all embracing truth; it always has been, is now, and always will be true of every moral creature of God, and every combination of such creatures, of every human being, every community, and every nation, every church-member, and every church.

Righteousness is doing right from a right principle, reverencing and loving God and obeying His commandments from the heart, loving others as we love ourselves and doing to them as we would have them do to us. Sin is doing wrong, disregarding and hating God and disobeying His commandments, and hating others and doing to them as we would not have them do to us.

God, the Sovereign of the Universe, is infinitely holy and unchangeable, and eternal, omnipresent, omniscient, and omnipotent; therefore, every person, community, or nation, and every member and church that practices and persists in unrighteousness—irreverence, immorality, dishonesty, injustice, unkindness, oppression, and covetousness will most certainly bring upon themselves reproach, degradation, and ruin; while it is equally certain that those who, by Divine grace, walk in the ways of righteousness, in the holy commandments of God and the heavenly precepts of His gospel, will receive from Him honor, elevation, and salvation.

He declares that he will visit dreadful judgments even upon His people who disobey Him, while He will make His obedient people high above all nations in praise and name and honor that they may be a holy people unto Him, and that He will multiply blessings upon them (Deut. 26, 27, 28, & 32; Psalm 89, Isaiah 1, Heb. 10, 12, etc.).

The Scriptures teach us that God spares sinful nations for the sake of even a few righteous people in them (Gen. 18:23-32; Jer. 5:1, & Ezek. 22:30-31), His obedient people being the salt of the earth (Matt. 5:13); and that the people of God should not only be subject to the authorities that are over them, but should also pray for them that they may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty (Rom. 13:1-10; Jer. 29:7; 1st Tim. 2:1-4; 1st Pet. 2:13-17). The hearts of rulers are in the hands of the Lord to turn whithersoever He will, as the rivers of water. (Prov. 21:1).

Our individual denominational and national salvation is of the Lord. May He graciously enable us to avoid every kind of sin and to walk in the way of all His holy commandments, to love and serve Him, and to love and benefit our fellow creatures, especially our own brethren and sisters in Christ, and to Him alone shall be given all the glory. *The Gospel Messenger*, 1901
(From "Advocate and Messenger", 1996)

THANKSGIVING AND WICKEDNESS



By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

Amid all the riots, violence and disruption we see all too often in this nation, I wonder if there is any thanksgiving among those involved in such activity. I would say they only care about themselves and their own agenda and not the country. We always learn something about people by their behavior. I also wonder as do many other people how someone could do this in a methodical way to disrupt and cause mayhem to those going about their own business. I do not need to wonder long, however, as I consider what the scriptures say and the history of wicked men and women. This is not to say that every one involved in these activities are wicked to the extent they have not received any grace but it is behavior consistently demonstrated by wicked men and women. The Bible says in Daniel 12:10: "Many shall be purified, and made white, and tried; but the wicked shall do wickedly: and none of the wicked shall understand; but the wise shall understand." □ Notice the wicked shall do wickedly. It is not that they do not know the difference between right or wrong; they certainly do; however, they willingly choose to do wicked acts. It is not so with those who are purified and made white in the blood of the Lamb. These demonstrate thanksgiving but one of the signs of the "last times" is that men and women will be unholy and "unthankful".

Wicked men have committed wicked acts from the beginning of time as the very first murder was committed by Cain against his brother Abel, the righteous one. Cain was of that wicked one the scripture declares and his own works were evil whereas his brother's were righteous. (1 John 3:12) Volumes could be written about the wicked acts of men and women such as King Ahab and his wife Jezebel and Herod who had thousands of male children upwards of two years old slain in a vain attempt to kill the young child Jesus. Men sacrificed their children in the fire to the god, Molech, Baal, and Ashdod etc. which is an abomination in the sight of God. Saul of Tarsus was responsible for putting believers to death, although there is no record that he personally slew any specific one. However, he acts in a completely opposite manner after he is dealt with

by the grace of God and was born again. He had no desire to do wickedly any more.

Christians have been the target of wicked man throughout history and have been burned at the stake and fed to the wild beasts. Christians are once again in the headlights of those that oppose God and godliness. The Roman emperor Nero took his spite out on the Christians when the city of Rome burned in the first century and fed them to the beasts and made sport of them in the Roman arena. Christians burned at the stake were the lights that lightened some of his orgies. How do we understand why this happens or any other wicked acts? It is because "the wicked shall do wickedly." The depravity of man is such that it can break out at any time in heinous acts against human beings. There is a heart problem in man and what comes out of man indicates what kind of heart possesses him. "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies:" (Matt. 15:18-19).

Although the acts committed in the cities, streets and homes and in government, are not directly focused on Christians, we have to assume that is part of their focus because it is the Christians that deplore such conduct. We are told to not resist the higher powers as long as that power does not oppose God's laws. This is an affront to God and they will be held accountable. In my opinion, they will be held accountable in the endless punishment of the wicked in everlasting fire if they are not held accountable in this life which the children of God experience. Of course God is the final judge and He makes no mistakes. Wicked acts are committed by wicked men who have a zeal for sure, but this zeal is certainly not of God; it is of that wicked one. These acts are intended to inflict panic and fear in the hearts of people with the ultimate goal to subordinate people to their beliefs. The natural tendency is to say that things like this can't happen to me; but reality tells a completely different story. It can happen and has happened in this country but on a smaller scale.

The Bible declares that evil men shall wax worse and worse, deceived and being deceived so what are the people of God to do? There is nothing they can do to prevent these acts from happening. Laws will not prevent wicked men from doing their wickedness. If it were not for the restraining providence of God, it would be much worse. David says, "Surely the wrath of man shall praise thee: the remainder of wrath shalt thou restrain." □ (Psalm 76:10). The world is not going to get any better but God's people are in the world but not of the world. They are to do as other Christians have done in the past and that is to be steadfast and unmovable, abounding in the work of the Lord and continue to be thankful for all the mercies of God.

IF ANY MAN LACK WISDOM

The Bible says, "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not." I have said time and time again that I might go to God and I might pray for one million dollars. I doubt very much that He would give it. But you can go to Him and ask for wisdom and understanding and He has promised in His word that He will give it to you. And if you ask for wisdom, the rest of the things we stand in need of are going to fall into place.

Remember Solomon. When Solomon went to pray to the Lord, when he had been made ruler and judge over Israel, he did not ask for his enemies' life. He did not ask for wealth. He did not ask for riches. But, he asked for wisdom, because he did not know how to go in and out before so great a people, much less to judge them.

And because it pleased the Lord so much that he did not ask for wealth, and because he did not ask for the life of his enemies, He gave him all those things. He became the wisest man that ever lived.

That points us to the fact that if we will put first things first, everything else will fall into place. The problem with us is that we put first things last and last things first. But if we will do what's right in the sight of God, and put first things first and last things last, everything else will fall into place. If we will do what the writer said, "Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."

R. W. Collins
Sermon Excerpt

THE STRENGTH OF THE CHURCH

In this day and time we don't know what the church will face. I know that the Lord has blessed her with peace from the outside. I know that she does not have the outside persecution that she once did. But, we don't know, in the days to come even in this land, the things the church might have to face. To think that someone would say that we must renounce our beliefs or we would be put to death.

I can't say like the Apostle Peter did one time, "Lord, I will never deny thee." I hope I would not. But, I don't know. I know that this old flesh is weak. But, I hope I could be like the three Hebrew children. They could say, "I know that my God is able to deliver us. I don't know if he will."

But, I will tell you, I know where our strength is. It is in following the Lord and in doing His commandments. He told Israel, "I will go before you and fight your battles for you." And that is where their strength was. And it is still where the strength of the church is today. Ralph Smith—Sermon Excerpt
(Excerpts from "The Christian Pathway", Feb. 1986

SPARE NOT THE ROD

By Elder E. B. Watts (Deceased)
(With No Apologizes to Doctor Spock)

It is a shame that parents have to write to "Dear Abby" for guide lines on how to cope with their problem children. As a high school instructor, one of my most painful duties was to sit down with a student and his parents and the school counselor to resolve the problem of why Johnny was coming to class under the influence of drink or drugs. The painful part was, in so many cases, that the parents plainly resented the counselor's advice and either blamed the school and faculty or accused us of lying about their son, who, of course, denied any guilt.

Parents, there are limits to which a teacher or pastor—or "Dear Abby" can go in guiding your children in the right way. When we go so far as to have to sit down in formal counsel with your children, the situation may be already out of hand. Do you know that parental influence and discipline can do more good for a child than any "outside counseling"? Do you know that the Bible guidelines are far better than any counselor can give?

Before you assume that the scriptures advocate brutality in punishing children, please understand that the term *beat* simply means "to chastise" and the term *rod* could mean a switch, a withe, or, perhaps, a paddle. Ephesians 6:4 would forbid a father being overbearing in correcting his children. The faithful father will know (or should study to know) the margin between sufficient discipline and over-discipline. Over or inordinate discipline will provoke a child to rebellion.

Another point in scriptural child discipline is that it is the prime duty of a father to punish disobedient children. However, too often, the father shirks this unpleasant duty and leaves it to mother. And mother's tender heart can easily be swayed by her child's tears and pleas and usually, substitutes a scolding for a more severe punishment.

Until they are taught, children are generally uninhibited in their mischief. Patient discipline is the only way to develop inhibition against wrong doing.

"Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child, but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him." (Proverbs 22: 15)

Now, this is just as much the inspired word of truth as "by grace ye are saved" or "husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church..." Rearing children in the proper way is not only a moral duty; it is your Christian duty. "...bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Ephesians 6:4)

I am not opposed to professional counselors. The more broke homes due to broken marriages, the more necessary the need for such. In such cases the mother is left to the terrible task of bringing up children. Somehow, I see a mother's hands made to

caress and quieten a little child and, occasionally, wield a small switch or paddle. There is, however, no substitute for the firm hand of a father in helping a boy hold a ball bat properly; or showing him how to operate a lawn mower; or repairing a little girl's dollhouse or skateboard. That same firm hand is the mold that shapes the hearts and lives of your children at the most difficult period of their lives—the early “teen” years. How much better is parental correction than penal correction by a prison guard or matron? The world outside the family has no mold. It is a jungle filled with uninhibited human beings whose objective is permissiveness and liberation from parental authority.

Again I say the early “teen” years are the years when children's lives begin to be shaped. Remember, your failure to counsel and correct them, by whatever means or necessary, may send them to a state house of correction, or worse even to an untimely death.

“Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die. Thou shalt beat him with the rod, and shalt deliver his soul from hell.” (Proverbs 23:13-14) The term *hell*, in this instance, could, in our day, mean a prison or a penal institution.

“Train (chastise; margin) up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” (Proverbs 22:6)

My final admonition is that we be not overbearing or over-severe in punishing our children. We go back to Ephesians 6:4: *“And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath...”* Unwarranted or brutal punishment of a child—son or daughter—can drive him to desperate rebellion.

Parents! Do you dare?

(From *“The Christian Baptist”*, November, 1979)

THIS PRECIOUS HOPE

This hope is much more precious to the child of God than anybody's perfect knowledge, because it is based on the finished work of the Lord Jesus Christ rather than on what they have done. I heard a man say one time, “I would not give a dime for hope.” Well he is saying that he would not give you a dime for the Saviour, because Paul said he was a servant of the Lord Jesus Christ “who is our hope.” The Lord Jesus Christ is the very embodiment of hope/

Lonnie Mazingo Jr.

(From *“The Christian Pathway”*, February, 1986)

“That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;” (Heb. 6:18-19)

FRUIT BEARING

“Ye shall know them by their fruits.” Matt. 7:16. I care very little for what a man says he believes—if his life does not reflect the sincerity of his profession. Religion that does not change lives is not worth anything. I almost said it is not worth much. But that is not right. It is not worth anything. Religion that does not change lives is worse than no religion at all.

Religion that leaves a man cruel and mean and abusive toward those around him is no benefit to the saints. But it is more than that. It is a dishonor to the name of the Lord. It is shameful to think that a man would profess faith in Christ Jesus and wear the name of our precious Lord as his badge of honor and still have no interest in the welfare and feelings of others.

That was what Moses meant when he said, “Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.” Ex. 20:7. He was not talking about profanity. There are plenty of other passages that talk about profanity. But that verse was talking about those who honor the Lord with their lips and dishonor him with their lives.

Harold Hunt

(From *“The Christian Pathway”*, February, 1986)

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST AND ALSO BURIED WITH HIM

“Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”—Romans 6:3, 4.

As the first mentioned in this passage was a baptism *into* Christ, and the second was a burial *with* Christ, there are evidently two baptisms mentioned. There could not be a baptism *into* Christ and a burial *with* Christ in the same act, for the two prepositions do not express the same relation. The baptism *into* Christ is explained by the apostle in 1st Cor. 12:13; “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body.” The baptism into Christ is, therefore, by the Spirit. The saints are first baptized, by the Spirit *into* Christ and into His death, therefore (for that reason) they are buried with him, by water baptism, into death (formal separation from the world) after which their walk should be a new walk.

Elder John R. Daily

Zion's Advocate—1905

(From *“Advocate and Messenger”*,--1988)

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