

# Glad Tidings

April

2018

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

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

*Philippians 4:13*

*I Corinthians 15:19*

## FROM THE PASTORS DESK

It seems the devil and his angels are running rampant in our society deceiving the hearts and minds of the people of God. I say the people of God because the hearts and minds of those that aren't His are naturally deceived and they do that which their evil hearts conceive and have pleasure therein. The murder of unborn babies has been condoned for years with no end in sight and the gays and lesbians are gaining ground and anyone opposing these groups is classified as bigots. The Bible clearly defines what is right and wrong but today we need to be prayerful about the woe that the prophet pronounced on the acceptance of things wrong and condemnation of those things that are right. "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! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!" (Isa. 6:20-21)

Those babies that are allowed to be born by God-fearing parents grow up to be adults and what type instruction they receive will determine much about what kind of adults they will become. Parents cannot depend upon the educational system to teach their children what is acceptable and unacceptable; they must do as the scriptures instruct: "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Eph. 6:4). When children aren't taught as they should be, they enter the educational system and are exposed to textbooks that portray a society that tolerates abortion, homosexuals and gays under the guise that none has the right to criticize. The liberal says they have the right to freedom of speech but when someone speaks up against what they teach, they cry foul which is hypocrisy at its zenith.

It used to be safe for our children to watch cartoons on the television but today parents cannot trust that avenue of entertainment. Disney has just recently depicted a gay kissing scene in one of their children's cartoon shows and Christ is made a mockery by Hollywood or as Elder Sony Pyles says (Hollywood) with its false betrayal of Christ. Paul was surely right when he said, "But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived." (II Tim. 3:13). Timothy was taught, however, to continue in the things he had learned and been assured of.

It seems that the ungodly element commands more respect today than the Christian element that is increasingly being charged with hatred because they oppose the tolerance and acceptance of things the Bible forbids. Many years ago there was a country song that said, "Mammas, don't let your babies grow up to be cowboys" but let them be doctors and lawyers and such. This was after giving a somewhat less than flattering depiction of the life of a cowboy. While we have no control of our children's eternal destiny, it is all in the hands of a sovereign God, we do have some control over what our children are taught and exposed to that might mold or distort their view of what is acceptable and what they ultimately grow up to be. We need to be a positive influence and not a negative one.

Today it seems that people cannot even determine if they are a boy or girl and some parents I have heard give them space to determine their own identity. I cannot understand this because these are people that should know better because of their upbringing and this gives further credence to the scriptures that declare that in the last times some shall "depart" from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits and the doctrines of devils. (I Tim. 4:1). Folks, people may have any kind of operation they want to change their gender, but it will not alter what they are; they are a boy or a girl, a male or a female. It seems that people have never read about Sodom and Gomorrah and the reason it was destroyed with fire and brimstone. The Bible plainly says, "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is an abomination." (Lev. 18:22). See also Romans 1:26-27. The Bible is the ultimate authority of what is right.

Martin Luther King Jr. once said, "It is always right to do that which is right" and that has always been the case. In fact if we do anything that isn't right in the eyes of the Lord, we have failed ourselves and our God. When our children are taught they came from monkeys, is it any wonder they grow up to act like monkeys. Is it any wonder when we see men and women falling into bed with one another on a daytime soap opera (and yes men with men) that it sends the wrong message to viewers and people wind up doing the same with no regret. Shame! Shame! David said, "If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" (Psa. 11:3). The Lord is in His holy temple so the righteous should keep on doing what is right, depending on the Lord. (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:

Elder Larry Wise  
12932 Hwy 9 S.  
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**THE WORK OF CHRIST**

By Elder Ricky Harcrow  
Fort Payne, Alabama

History is full of men who have claimed that they came from God or had been given a message from God. Budda, Mohammed, Confucius and others we could name have all made claims in this realm. As a yard-stick is external and outside that which is to be measured so there are some tests that measure the claims of these kind of men to see if their claims are justified or are they just voices that are in this world that is no friend to Grace. **Reason dictates to me that if any of these men actually came from God the least God could do is to pre-announce their coming. Automobile dealers tell their customers when to expect new models. Fashion designers pre-announce the latest in the fashion world. It would seem reasonable to me if God sent anyone from himself with a vital message that he would first let men know of his coming, where he would be born, where he would live, the doctrine he would teach, the enemies he would make, the program he would adopt for the future and the manner of his death. To the extent that they conformed to these reasons and announcements it seems to me, one could judge the validity of their claims. John the Baptist for example. Reason also assures us that if God did not do this then there would be nothing to prevent any impostor from appearing in time and make the**

**claim saying, "I am come from God". We would only have his word and could not validate that even if we tried.** Budda had no one to foretell his birth. Neither did Mohammed, Socrates or Confucius. But with the Son of God it was different. Because of Old Testament prophecies the coming of Christ was not unexpected. Men like Mohammed, Budda and Socrates were men among men but Christ was the divine in fashion as a man. Christ alone stepped out of that line and said to those around him, you search the writings of the old testament for in them you think you have eternal life yet they are they that testify of me (St. John 5:39).

The prophecies of the Old Testament can be best understood in light of their fulfillment. In Isaiah 53:12 the prophet pointed to the time when Christ would come and be numbered with the transgressors. In Mark 15:27-28 the writer reminds us of the words of Isaiah 53:12 when he said "And with him they crucify two thieves; one on his right hand and the other on the left and the scripture was fulfilled which Saith, **AND HE WAS NUMBERED WITH THE TRANSGRESSORS**".

The life of Christ differs from all other lives in so many respects. (1)The cross was at the end of his life in time but at the beginning of his life in the intent and purpose of his coming. He spoke to Pilate in St. John 18:37 just before his crucifixion and said, "Unto this end was I born and for this cause came I into the world". His intent was to do the Will of his Father. St. John 6:39 and death was the intent of his life. (2) Christ did not come wholly out of humanity. "The Word Became flesh" St. Jn. 1:14. The Divine Nature which was pure and holy entered as a sinless principle into the corrupted line of Adam's race without being affected by that corruption. Through the virgin birth Christ made a physical appearance in human history without being subject to sin. In the taking on of human flesh, the Father prepared it, the Spirit formed it and the Son assumed it. He who had an eternal Sonship with the father now had a temporal Sonship in time. We must not lose sight of the fact that "God was in Christ" 2nd Cor. 5:19. 1st Tim.3:16 says "God was manifest in the flesh" and Hebrews 1:1-3 makes plain that Christ was the "Express image of His person". Isaiah 7:14 gives us the prophecy that says, "Therefore the lord himself shall give you a sign, behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son and shall call his name Emanuel". In Matthew chapter one the angel appears to Joseph and makes plain to him that his wife would bring forth a son, his name would be called Jesus and that he would save his people from their sins. But notice now verse 22, "Now all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the LORD by the prophet saying, **BEHOLD A VIRGIN SHALL BE WITH CHILD, AND SHALL BRING FORTH A SON, AND THEY SHALL CALL HIS NAME EMANUEL,**

which being interpreted is, God with us." Remember again as I impress on you this thought that the prophecies of the Old Testament are best understood in light of their fulfillment and here they are in no uncertain terms.

I say here that as the cross of Christ came closer the glory became greater. On the mount of Transfiguration Jesus actually gave the disciples a vision beyond the cross of his suffering. As they saw his garments become white and glistening he was giving them a glimpse of the glory beyond the shouts of an angry mob. The inward part of the Godhead shown through his earthly humanity. His fashion, or outward appearance was changed, Philippians 2:8, Luke 9:29 and one of the most celebrated items of the holy bible is a time when three men, to wit; Peter, James and John saw two men, Moses and Elijah, who had been dead for generations talking with Christ on the Holy Mount. I say it was not a subject unknown to them that they spoke about. They spoke about his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem. That which had been ordained of God before the world began now, in time, was only a few hours away.

It is the opinion of this writer that the world of religion has patched together a Christ, that simply put, makes men happy. I say that a Christ, without being himself a sacrifice, can no more please God than the sinner himself. The bible says, "He hath appeared once in the end of the world (age) to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself". Hebrews 9:27. I affirm that no more sacrifice is required for sin for God demands no more. "But this MAN after he had offered ONE SACRIFICE for sin forever sat down on the right hand of God." Hebrews 10:12. If another sacrifice is required the New Testament is silent about it. The whole foundation of our eternal life is based and founded in the ONE sacrifice for sin. God could not and would not accept another. The best that men can offer is defiled but he HATH (Past Tense) perfected forever them that are (not will be) but at the present time are sanctified or set apart, Hebrews 10:14. The term "PERFECTED FOREVER" carries with it that implication that what has been done cannot be undone. It is an abiding principle that men nor angels cannot alter.."Alleluia..for the Lord God Omnipotent Reigneth". Revelation 19:6.

**What God does is that which was ordered before it was to be done. His plan is and was perfect as he saw the end from the beginning and said my counsel shall stand and I will do all my pleasure. The whole of our salvation in time and eternity is centered on Emanuel. The foundation of our hope is based in his Eternal Sonship and the final glory is altogether due to him who never explained our guilt away but stood in our stead the sacrifice for sin that a thrice holy God demanded.**

### A FISH OR A SERPENT

By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)

*"If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a serpent?" Luke 11:11-12*

The Lord was talking to the disciples. The next verse says, if ye then, being evil, refers to the fact that we are sinners and our heavenly father is righteous.

How many of you have a spiritual son or daughter between the ages of sixteen and twenty-four? They have a very tender soul and often, just want to be close to the Lord and close to those who they perceive are close to the Lord. They are longing for gospel food. Are you standing by while they receive a serpent? A serpent is poison and will destroy.

Just how much are you teaching your children about the finer points of doctrine? Do they know it takes more than believing in the person, Jesus, to be a Christian? Do you sit down in the quietness of your home and warn them of the dangers, not just of drugs and sex, but of false doctrines.

Serpents lurk in unexpected places. Many strike without warning. Once they strike the damage is done. The best way to treat a snake bite is to prevent it from happening. When I was a small child and not large enough to do the heavy work, Mama would fix me a pallet in the shade. I had a bulldog name Bobby. Old Bobby stayed right with me. When he gave a certain bark, Mama and Papa would come running. They knew there was a copperhead close. They did not want me to be snake bit.

We should be just as attentive to protect our wonderful children from spiritual serpents. A few months ago, a young lady raised in the preaching of sound doctrine told one of our ministers that it would be wonderful to believe everything that happened was from the Lord. She had been around some very well behaved young people reputed to be Primitive Baptist who believed that for God to be sovereign, everything that happened was from the Lord and would work for our good. This is the most poison of serpents. Like the cobra as compared to other serpents, it can cause death to sound beliefs faster than those who teach there is no hell, or that believe in the works system to get to heaven.

If you think your child is too wise to be influenced by such tactics, remember the Jim Jones episode in Central America. Around six hundred highly intelligent people took poison and committed suicide because Jim Jones told them to do it. A minister of my acquaintance had a like group of highly intelligent, religious and zealous young people, and was building his congregation fast. Many of them pledged their homes and property and when they finally realized

what was happening, lost everything. It finally fell apart but many lives had their peace destroyed.

There are cases of young people attending religious colleges and falling into a cult. A cult is where you do exactly what the leader tells you without any other guidance, as the Bible. They usually start out by telling the young people that if they really want to serve Jesus, they have to disregard everything their parents or their minister has taught them. The serpent has been deceptive from the beginning. For this to work a person has to quit thinking for themselves. They have to let the cult leader do the thinking for them.

Before your child goes to any kind of religious gathering, or even a singing school, you need to make sure it is serpent proof. Where do the other young people come from and what do their ministers believe and teach? The subtle know how to drop a nugget here and there in the most innocent of circumstances.

I just returned from preaching in Georgia, and was told of a couple who just lost their lives at the hands of a drunk driver in a terrible automobile accident. If someone claiming to be a Primitive Baptist tells your young son or daughter that this is an example of God working things for good to them that love God, you are not feeding them a fish, but a serpent. Even if someone else has fed them, you are allowing it by not being as diligent to protect them from spiritual serpents as you do natural serpents. The young child is not aware of the danger of serpents.

Is it better for your young man or woman to have a fish or a serpent? Are you asleep or awake to the dangers and destruction of a serpent?

For the Cause—Guy Hunt

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

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### **The Way, The Truth, and the Life**

(Joh 14:6)

"Without the Way, there is no Going.  
 Without the Truth, there is no Knowing.  
 Without the Life, there is no Living.  
 Without the Gift, there is no Giving.  
 Without the Hope, there is no Hoping.  
 Without the Faith, there is but Groping.  
 Without the Love, all love Defying.  
 Without the Death, all dead, all dying.  
 Without the Christ, how dark my way would be.  
 Without Jesus, how could His Truth make free?  
 Without a Saviour, no Life redeemed could be,  
 Without God's Gift, The Christ of Calvary!"

Remarks: From Earth to Heaven there are not many ways, but just one way, and Jesus is that way. He did not say I am a way, but "I am the way ... No man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (R.H.P.)

(From "*Questions and Answers*" By Elder R.H. Pittman)

### **TAKE A DAY OFF**

By Elder Larry Wise  
 Randolph, Mississippi

People who are employed in a secular profession are able to take a "day off" every now and then if they have built up time based upon the benefits of their employment other than maybe a normal day off such as Saturday and Sunday. The business goes on uninterrupted even on their day off. A "day off" is one in which someone doesn't have to work; someone else takes their place. What if the Lord took a day off, a half day off, an hour off or even a second off? No one works or can work in His place. We are told about God and His Son in Heb. 3:1 that He is, "...upholding all things by the word of his power..." If He takes time off, there is no automatic pilot to keep the universe running as He upholds all things by the word of His power. Everything would fall apart worldwide and universe wide if God and His Son were to take time off.

People work continuously on their job, perhaps seven days a week at times, and they get tired and exhausted and need a day off. The Lord never gets tired or weary and never needs a day off. Isaiah said, "Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the LORD, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding." (Isa. 40:28). Notice Isaiah says that He "fainteth not, neither is weary" to which all people are subject but not God. Then how great is our God? The truth is we will never know until we arrive in heaven's pure world. However, His greatness is to be praised in a particular place and way as Psalm 48:1 declares: "Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised in the city of our God, in the mountain of his holiness." Praised in the church Jesus established upon the Rock of Ages cleft for us. Beautiful for situation, the joy of the whole earth is Mount Zion.

The Pastor of the church where God is praised never takes a day off as he is always on call twenty four hours a day. Firemen and policeman are also on call but not always; they do get a day off from work but not so the ministry. And by the way, it is a work and labour as Paul calls their calling to be the "work of the ministry" in Eph. 4:12. Many also need to work in a secular job to make a living for their families as the church may not be able to fully support them and their families in a financial way. Paul describes all the things he endured for the cause of Christ in preaching the gospel such as shipwreck, beatings, stoning and all kinds of perils. Then besides all this that came upon him daily, Paul says there was bestowed upon him "the care of all the churches." (II Cor. 11:28). Pastors that are true to their calling, however, seldom complain about being on call and never taking a day off as they are ready to minister to

the Lord's people when called upon. They are to be instant in season and out of season as Paul admonishes Timothy. Oh, they may go on vacation now and then, but even then there is no true vacation as they are cognizant of their flock continually and praying for their welfare and cut short any so-called vacation many times to minister to those in need.

As a true follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Christian never gets a day off. It is a continuous work of faith and labour of love. If a day is taken off from serving the Lord, the devil is ever ready to pounce upon this opportunity to rob the Christian of the joys of their salvation. Paul describes this as forgetting those things that are behind and reaching forth unto those things which are before, pressing toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God. (Phil. 3:13-14). This is a daily service that isn't to be taken lightly and Jesus said, "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow me." (Luke 9:23). Notice how Jesus says that our cross is to be taken up "daily" and not just on Sunday. In my estimation, Christians are taking a day off when they absence themselves from the worship service of God on Sunday without a valid reason.

The next time we complain about never having a day off, just think what would happen if the Lord ever took a day off or even a second off. Then we would really have something to complain about. Count it a blessing and privilege to be worthy of serving the risen Lord through His blood shed at Calvary.

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#### SEEING GOOD DAYS:

We all like to enjoy good days as we travel on life's journey and the scriptures give us a good recipe to enjoy or have those good days. Peter writes, "For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile:" (I Peter 3:10). Our tongues can be an instrument of good or evil but as the scriptures give us the analogy that a fountain cannot bring forth both sweet water and bitter water; even so our tongues are not to spew forth that which is evil to go along with the good that might come forth. The God of heaven will bless us with good days of fellowship and peace with Him as we bridle our tongues and keep them in subjection. Paul said that he kept his body in subjection lest after he had preached to others he might become a castaway. The tongue is a part of the body so we need to keep it in subjection. Just because it is a beautiful sun-shiny day doesn't necessarily make it a good day if we haven't bridled our tongue. Speak words of love and kindness and enjoy some good days in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation.—God bless—October 16, 2017—Elder Larry Wise

(bethanybecrums.com)

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

By Elder R.H. Pittman (Deceased)

**Q.** Have we any certain knowledge as to the color of Adam?

**A.** We have not. It is thought that the Hebrew word Adam is derived from the Hebrew words meaning "formed of red earth;" and that, therefore, Adam was a white man with the ruddy complexion of health. As the Jews are traced back, in the Scriptures, through Abraham and Shem and Noah to Adam, the latter must have been a white man. The word Ham, the name of Noah's younger son, is thought to mean "black" or "hot;" he was the ancestor of the people in the southern warm countries of Asia and Africa, Arabia, Egypt, and Ethiopia. The word Ethiopia means sunburnt. In accordance with Ac 17:26; Ro 5:12; 1Co 15:22, and Re 5:9, nearly all scientists agree that the whole human race descended from one pair, and that the races have been, in the overruling providence of God, brought about by differences, of thousands of years, in climate, temperature, moisture, exposure, and environment. We know from the Scriptures (Ps 68:31; Ac 8:26-40), and are assured, from experience and observation, that Ethiopians are subjects of Divine grace. No human reasoning can exempt any variety of mankind from accountability to God, and from condemnation by His justice or salvation by His mercy.

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#### THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Elder Robert Payne—February 19, 2018  
Coker, AL

Thought of the day:

"And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat. And the LORD God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat." Genesis 3:12-13. Mankind from the beginning has used the blame game to try to explain their failure to follow God's instruction. Many would even blame God for putting the tree of knowledge of good and evil in the Garden of Eden. Many today blame all sorts of people and objects for evil events going on. The blame lies on man who failed to take heed to God's warning and cast him and all posterity under the penalty of sin and death. And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. Genesis 6:5. Guns, knives, bombs, sticks, stones, cars, alcohol, drugs are not to blame, but the people who use them to commit evil. Consider these thoughts.

**BIBLE FILL IN THE BLANK**

1. That no man should be moved by these afflictions; for yourselves know that we are \_\_\_\_\_ thereunto. (I Thess. 3:3)
2. Therefore, brethren, we were \_\_\_\_\_ over you in all our affliction and distress by your \_\_\_\_\_. (I Thess. 3:7)
3. For now we \_\_\_\_\_, if ye stand fast in the Lord. (I Thess. 3:8)
4. Night and day praying exceedingly that we might see your face, and might \_\_\_\_\_ that which is lacking in your \_\_\_\_\_. (I Thess. 3:10)
5. And the Lord make you to \_\_\_\_\_ and abound in \_\_\_\_\_ one toward another, and toward all man, even as we do toward you. (I Thess.3:12)
6. For this is the \_\_\_\_\_ of God, even your sanctification, that ye should \_\_\_\_\_ from fornication. (I Thess. 4:3)
7. That every one of you should know how to possess his \_\_\_\_\_ in sanctification and honour. (I Thess. 4:4)
8. But as touching brotherly \_\_\_\_\_ ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to \_\_\_\_\_ one another. (I Thess. 4:9)
9. And that ye \_\_\_\_\_ to be quiet, and to do your own business, and to work with your own hands, as we commanded you. (I Thess. 4:11)
10. For I would not have ye to be \_\_\_\_\_ brethren concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no \_\_\_\_\_. (I Thess. 4:13)

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

1. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.
2. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him.
3. And I will wait upon the LORD, that hideth his face from the house of Jacob, and I will look for him.
4. Let all your things be done with charity.  
(Answers on Page 8)

**OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES**

Sometimes we miss the obvious and we remember what we have last seen concerning certain things. A member of the church I pastor was evidently looking for her shoes and asked her daughters, "Has anyone seen my shoes?" The youngest replied, "I saw them on your feet last night mommy!" "Thanks", said her mommy. "You're welcome!" her daughter responded. Of course a lot can happen between last night and today. My wife has asked me in the past, "Where are my glasses?" She seems to misplace them quiet frequently. After a search, I see that they are on her head. She just has them up in her hair.—*Editor*

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**EXCERPTS  
GLAD TIDINGS READER LETTERS**

Dear Elder Wise and family,

I greatly appreciate your publishing Glad Tidings. I pray for your health.

I am 87 and in good health except for very poor balance caused by spinal stenosis.

God has really blessed me in so many ways. I am so thankful for growing up in a family with the Primitive Baptist faith.

In Christian Love,  
Sister Eloyce Noel  
St. Charles, MO

Bro. Larry,

I appreciate you sending me your newsletter, "Glad Tidings". Pray you and your family are doing well. Hope to see you at Macedonia 4<sup>th</sup> weekend.

Sister Carol James  
Winona, MS

Elder Wise,

Thank you for all your labors in the gospel of our Lord!

God bless,  
Leta Dunn  
Windermere, FL

Bro. Larry,

A small contribution to help you continue the good work with Glad Tidings. Notice our new address. We are attending Friendship PB Church, Ringold, GA (Pastor: Elder Wayne Peters). We miss Little Flock and all our brothers and sisters there. There is another PB church here in Cleveland, but they don't meet every Sunday,

In Christian Love,  
Mack & Janice Holder  
Cleveland, TN

Come to church and in from the storm  
In the presence of God—no cause for alarm  
The Holy Spirit is the Heavenly Charm!

**CHURCH NEWS**

Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Ripley, MS will host its Spring meeting March 30th-April 1st. We will have services Friday night, Mar. 30, at 7:00 p.m. with snacks to follow, Saturday morning, Mar. 31, at 10:30 a.m. with lunch to follow, good Christian fellowship Saturday afternoon. Saturday night we will have dinner at 6:00 with services to follow at 7:00, and we will conclude our meeting Sunday morning with services at 10:30 and lunch to follow. We have invited Elder Chris McCool, Gordo, AL as the guest minister. We invite everyone to come worship God with us in truth and Spirit! Elder Darren Owens is Pastor of Pine Hill.

Everyone is invited to Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in April, 2018 (Apr. 6-8). Services Friday night, April 6, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday services at 10:30 a.m followed by lunch. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Elder Gary Rhodes from Texas is guest minister. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

Everyone is invited to Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Caledonia, MS for their annual meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in April, 2018 (April 6-8). Friday night, April 6, supper at 6:00 p.m. followed by singing at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, April 7, at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch and afternoon services. Elder Michael Gowens, Calabash, NC and Elder Buddy Abernathy, Gordo, AL are invited ministers. Elder Joe Nettles is Pastor of Sulphur Springs.

Elder Jeremy Wise, Pontotoc, MS will be with Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in April, 2018 (Apr. 29) with services at 10:30 a.m. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday night (April 29) Fellowship Meeting will be hosted by New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS with supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m. New Prospect had to cancel their regular time to host in December due to bad weather and being New Years Eve. The schedule now resumes as usual with rotation between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany and Hopewell Primitive Baptist churches. Elder Grady Camp is Pastor of New Prospect.

“Look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities: thine eyes shall see Jerusalem a quiet habitation, a tabernacle that shall not be taken down; not one of the stakes thereof shall ever be removed, neither shall any of the cords thereof be broken.” (Isa. 33:20)

“The name of the LORD is a strong tower: the righteous runneth into it, and is safe.” (Prov. 18:10)

**CHURCH NEWS**

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

Elder Bob Ward, Columbus, MS will be with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in April, 2018 (April 29) with service at 10:30 a.m. Elder Tom Bouchillon is Pastor of Hopewell.

Harmony Primitive Baptist Church, Tupelo, MS has called Elder Tony Lester, Starkville, MS as Pastor and he has accepted the call. Harmony has been without a Pastor since the death of long time Pastor Elder Marshall Boyd.

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

Raleigh Primitive Baptist Church, Memphis, TN was recently blessed with three new members. Sister Jennifer Thornton came forward on New Year's Eve professing her faith and asking for a home in the church. On January 14th, 2018, immediately after she was baptized, Brother Blake Williams came forward asking for a home in the church and was baptized that day. Then on February 11th another young sister, Lonna Rook, took up her cross to follow the Lord, asked for a home in the church, and was baptized the same day. We are ever so grateful for God's blessings to our church and ask prayers for these young people as they go forward in the strength and grace of our Lord. We give all praise and honor to God our Father for these blessings. Elder Chase Harrison is pastor at Raleigh Church.—submitted by Sister Carol Rushing.

“But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him.” (John 4:23)

**POWER OVER THE GRAVE**

Elder Larry Wise  
Randolph, Mississippi

Jesus' body was laid in Joseph's new tomb,  
Destined to be here from mother's womb.  
In the tomb's confines He wouldn't remain,  
As that would thwart the reason He came.

He came from heaven—His people to save,  
He had power to conquer—even the grave.  
His work was done—He ascended on high,  
His people justified—we can surely rely.

All this sprang from God's covenant of grace,  
For His people destined to see His face.  
We rejoice to be among the teeming number,  
Kept safe by the One who doesn't slumber.

Jesus came from the tomb for those He chose,  
By His own power—from the grave He arose!  
Showed Himself alive—so we could believe,  
In His power and grace—should not grieve.

Some sweet day—we'll see Him in glory,  
Finally will understand the grand old story  
Of His saving grace and wonderful love,  
Bestowed on sinful man from heaven above!

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**NOTHING TO SEE**

A few years ago I heard Elder Jonathan Cook relate a story of a sister of his acquaintance from the church he serves who was privileged to go on a tour of the so-called Holy Land. They were shown the place where supposedly the body of Christ had lain. A lady from the tour looked inside and said passively, "There's nothing to see." Whereupon the sister from Brother Cook's church shouted, "Praise the Lord!" That is something to shout about. There's nothing to see; the tomb is empty and Jesus is seated on high making intercession for the saints according to His will.—*Editor*

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

1. I Thessalonians (I Thess. 4:7)
2. Lamentations (Lam. 3:24)
3. Isaiah (Isa. 8:17)
4. I Corinthians (I Cor. 16:14)

"Saying, The Son of man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again." (Luke 24:7)

**CHURCH A WIDOW**

June 1, 1939  
By Elder C.H. Cayce (Deceased)

A brother writes us that it is being advocated that the church was a widow for three days and nights that Jesus lay in the tomb, and asks our views of the matter. A widow is a woman whose husband is dead. The church is represented in the Bible as being the bride of Christ. "Come hither, I will shew thee the bride, the Lamb's wife."-Re 21:9. "For thy Maker is thine husband; the Lord of hosts is His name; and thy Redeemer the Holy One of Israel."-Isa 54:5. We remember being in debate with a Campbellite years ago on the question of the identity of the church. We took the position that the church was established by the Master during His personal ministry on earth. He said that if that be true, then the church was a widow for three days and nights, while Jesus was dead. We replied that he was correct, and that she was a widow for three days and nights, for her husband was dead just three days and nights; but the Lord's promise and assurance to her was, "Fear not; for thou shalt not be ashamed; for thou shalt not be put to shame: for thou shalt forget the shame of thy youth, and shalt not remember the reproach of thy widowhood any more."- Isa 54:4. We told him that his so-called church was not the Lord's church, for she had never been a widow, for the simple reason she had never been married or had a husband. The church was a widow for awhile-three days and nights; but she is not a widow now, and never will be again, for her Husband is alive forevermore. May the Lord bless these thoughts to your good. C. H. C.

(*Editorial Writings of Elder C. H. Cayce*)

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**Eph 2:1-5 May 4, 1915**

By Elder C. H. Cayce (Deceased)

May 4, 1915

Brother D. M. Raulston, of East Chattanooga, Tenn., asks, "What do you believe Eph 2:1 teaches-especially the word quickened?" The words hath he quickened in Eph 2:1 are not in the original, but are in Eph 2:5. The word quickened, as here used, means to make alive; to vivify; to revive; to resuscitate, as from death or an inanimate state. The language simply means that the Lord made them alive from the dead. They had been dead in trespasses and sins before this work was done; but when this was done they were raised up out of a state of death into a state of life. They possessed natural life before this work was done; but they now possess a higher order of life-the divine life. They have been made partakers of the divine nature, and have been given eternal life. C. H. C.

(*Editorial Writings of Elder C. H. Cayce*)



**BAPTISM**

By Elder Rickey Taylor  
Booneville, Mississippi

Matthew 28:19: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Jesus commands his disciples to go and teach all nations and upon a confession of belief in the Savior, they were to baptize in the names of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. In a short time the day of Pentecost would come, establishing the church at Jerusalem, and then to the Gentiles. Whether a Jew or Gentile a believer was to take up their cross and follow the Lord Jesus Christ in water baptism. This is the command of the one they were to follow in taking up their cross Matthew 16:24. One should know about baptism as much as they possibly can for it is important in the life of a disciple. So let's look at the fundamentals of baptism.

Baptism is the act of being immersed in water upon a confession that the person believes that Jesus is the Christ. The baptism is performed by a God called minister. No one besides the God called ministry has the authority to baptize anyone. Confession and baptism does not make one a child of God. God chose his children before the foundation of the world and gave them into the hand of his Son to secure their salvation upon the cross. They are already one of his children before they ever hear the name Jesus Christ. To be a good disciple one should be baptized. Water baptism represents the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Picture a person standing in front of the minister and in the water. Now watch as the minister takes that person and begins to lay them down in the water. This represents the death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Our Lord was crucified and died upon the cross Matthew 27. As we hear the rush of the sound of body and water coming into contact with one another. the person for just a moment disappears down into the water. This represents the burial of our Lord after his death on the cross Matthew 27:60. Now the minister raises the candidate out of the water. As he is coming up, this represents the resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ; His triumph over death and the grave. The grave could not hold him!

Jesus Christ died for us and insured us a home in heaven. That is a precious gift that he has given us. A gift is something that is given to someone with no strings attached. Jesus gave us the gift of eternal life because he loves us. It was his good pleasure to do so.

Baptism without saying a word is a public confession that Jesus is the Christ, and the baptized person believes in the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. What an honor it is to follow

our Lord in baptism. Look what all he has done for us.

Baptism also is representative of the baptized person, putting away the old man, the fleshly nature, and walking in newness of life. Not to have eternal life, but understanding that Christ has already obtained that for us. It is a part of our discipleship. When I understood this, and that salvation was by his grace. When the doors of the church were open to me, I was more than happy to publicly show that I believed in my Lord. He is a precious savior that has saved every last one of his children. This is the Lord that we believe in. He is worthy of our following him in baptism.

If you have not done so yet, then I urge you to go forward and ask for a home in the church. Go down into the water as your Lord did, and come up out of it with a desire to serve him.

In doing so, you will be blessed.

Elder Rickey Taylor

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**Riches and Pearls of J. C. Philpot**  
**A mystery to yourself**

"I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me." Ro 7:21

Are you not often a mystery to yourself? Warm one moment—cold the next! Abasing yourself one hour—exalting yourself the following! Loving the world, full of it, steeped up to your head in it today—crying, groaning, and sighing for a sweet manifestation of the love of God tomorrow! Brought down to nothingness, covered with shame and confusion, on your knees before you leave your room—filled with pride and self-importance before you have got down stairs! Despising the world, and willing to give it all up for one taste of the love of Jesus when in solitude—trying to grasp it with both hands when in business!

What a mystery are you! Touched by love—and stung with hatred! Possessing a little wisdom—and a great deal of folly! Earthly-minded—and yet having the affections in heaven! Pressing forward—and lagging behind! Full of sloth—and yet taking the kingdom with violence! And thus the Spirit, by a process which we may feel but cannot adequately describe—leads us into the mystery of the two natures perpetually struggling and striving against each other in the same bosom—so that one man cannot more differ from another, than the same man differs from himself.

But the mystery of the kingdom of heaven is this—that our carnal mind undergoes no alteration, but maintains a perpetual war with grace. And thus, the deeper we sink in self-abasement under a sense of our vileness, the higher we rise in a knowledge of Christ, and the blacker we are in our own view—the more lovely does Jesus appear.

## THE PROPER GUIDANCE

### CHAPTER 17

By Elder E.D. McCutcheon (Deceased)

Apparently, many of God's children blunder along on life's pathway with not much for a compass and with almost no charts as to the proper direction, blindly being led along by their own notions or by the instructions of a man in whom they have confidence, but who could very well be very deficient in the knowledge of the proper way to an abundant life which is the primary aim of discipleship.

When one understands that God's marvelous plan for the population of heaven, that his name may be glorified, such a person can turn his attention to the fulfillment of his spiritual desires here in this world and have a life of peace and delight in the midst of the trials and temptations. In this world, we are going to have tribulations; the storms of life are going to come, but we must not make the mistake of forsaking the proper guidelines for the journey of life.

The most important lesson that we must learn is the power of prayer. Although Jesus was God in a fleshly body, he spent many hours in prayer. He had all power given unto him (see Joh 17:2 and Mt 28:18); yet prayed to the Father that he might have the strength in his earthly body to do what he came to do. In the Gethsemane experience, after he had prayed, an angel came and ministered unto him (Lu 22:43) strengthening him. He was made with the same qualities in his manhood as we are. That is the reason for his praying. He knew that his Father always heard his prayers (see Joh 11:42) and understood that his Father knew every need; yet he failed not in asking. We would do well to learn this great fact as we endeavor to travel the highway of life. Paul instructed the church at Thessalonica to pray without ceasing (1Th 5:17.) This does not mean to walk about praying audibly every minute of every day, but to be continually in the attitude of prayer, to make our requests, as well as our thanks, known to God. I truly believe that if we would storm the very gates of heaven with our prayers that America would soon turn away from much of its sinning.

So many seem to not know how to pray. Jesus gave us the example to follow in what is commonly known as "The Lord's Prayer," first recorded in Mt 6:9-13. We would do well to study it closely, then begin to practice praying ourselves. A good place to begin is at the dining table, thanking the Lord for our food and all the natural blessings that we enjoy, then gradually presenting our petitions to him as we receive the grace he has promised when we begin to call upon him. He knows the desires of our heart, but we have been told to ask, to knock, to seek. We may feel so unworthy, so insignificant and have such awe that we fear to approach the throne, but the apostle urges us to have: "...boldness to enter into the holiest

by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way, which he hath consecrated for us, through the veil, that is to say, his flesh; And having an high priest over the house of God; Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water." (Heb 10:19-22.)

God never sleeps; his ear is never heavy; he is always alert to our every cry. "And it shall come to pass, that before they call, I will answer, and while they are yet speaking, I will hear." (Isa 65:24.)

Because of our humanistic nature, we have a tendency to try to "make it by ourselves"; we do not want to call upon the Lord to help, except in a case of last resort. This is not the way of discipleship. When we do not acknowledge him in all of our ways, he leaves us to our own devices and due to the fact that: "... it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps" (Jer 10:23), we usually end up in the way that seems right unto man -- the ways of death. (See Pr 16:25.) Here again, the parable of the prodigal son comes into view. The son said: "I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee,..." (Lu 15:18.) This is the approach we must make when we have strayed from his presence and wasted our substance; however, it is a painful experience to have to go confessing our sins, but it is the only way of true discipleship. The alternative is the better way: Approach God every day with thanksgiving in prayer, and we will be continually reminded every time we pray that he is our King. He is able to keep us from falling (see Jude 24), and will do so if we petition him properly. Prayer is a continuing necessity if one is to be a successful disciple. It will need to continue until we are set free from the body of this death; until the glory morning breaks and the shadows flee away for those that remain unto his coming.

*("From Sonship To Discipleship" by Elder E. D. McCutcheon)*

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Some time ago I came across a fictitious story about a group of men who set out to find an answer to the question, "Where did the earth come from?" They compiled much data covering many areas of investigation and then fed it into a mammoth computer. When they had completed their work and had given the machine all the information, they pushed the "answer" button and waited patiently for the results. Lights flashed! Bells rang! Buzzers sounded! When the great moment arrived, this printed message emerged: "*See Genesis 1:1.*"

*(From "The Advocate and Messenger", April, 1985)*

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"Thou shalt guide me with thy counsel, and afterward receive me to glory." (Psalm 73:24)

## WHAT WILL WE DO WITH THE TRUTH?

By Elder Larry Wise  
Randolph, Mississippi

There are many facets to the truth revealed in the scriptures but what will we do with any facet? Jesus Himself is truth and Pilate was looking at truth when he asked Jesus the question "what is truth?" Jesus told Thomas before His crucifixion as He prepared the disciples for His departure into heaven, "...I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (John 14:6) Once Jesus has been revealed unto us, **what will we do with Him?** Will we rejoice in Him temporarily and then relegate Him to a shelf, as we would any book, and just take Him down in a moment of crisis or will we be constantly looking unto Him in our Christian race as the author and finisher of our faith?

All scripture is given by the inspiration of the Spirit of God and is the truth given by the Father to His children. "Thou art near, O LORD; and all thy commandments are truth." (Psa. 119:151). "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." (John 17:7). **What will we do with the truth of salvation by grace recorded in scripture?** Will we receive it with joy unspeakable and full of glory or treat it as we might Jesus as a spare tire only to be used in case of emergency? The Thessalonian brethren received the word with joy of the Holy Ghost and became followers of the Lord. Notice how Paul thanks God for their response: "For this cause also thank we God without ceasing, because, when ye received the word of God which ye heard of us, ye received it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which effectually worketh also in you that believe." (1 Thess. 2:13).

**Will we obey the truth and reap a blessing or will we shun it and receive the chastening hand of God?** The truth is precious and is to be obeyed in all its precepts because it is our duty and our great privilege. Isaiah paints a contrast between obedience and refusal to obey: "If ye be willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land: But if ye refuse and rebel, ye shall be devoured with the sword: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it." (Isa. 1:19-20). Paul preached the truth to the Galatian brethren and they believed and obeyed for a time but then some came and distorted truth and thus Paul asks the question: "Ye did run well; who did hinder you that ye should not obey the truth?" (Gal. 5:7) These brethren drifted back into bondage of the law.

**Will we embrace the truth in a superficial way or will we diligently search the truth?** We have confidence in our pastors to preach the truth but how will we know for certain unless we have read and studied God's word? How will we know if the gospel trumpet gives an uncertain sound unless we know what should be the customary sound? Paul preached

in Thessalonica and in Berea but there was a reason he said the Bereans were more noble: "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so." (Acts 17:11).

**Will we speak and spread the truth or keep it to ourselves?** Of course we should always speak the truth regardless if it offends but it is always to be spoken in love that God's people may grow up into their head which is Christ. We should never need to apologize for the word of truth but we might need to apologize for the manner in which it might have been spoken. We aren't to boast about knowing the truth to the exclusion of others because others need to know the truth because of the freedom it brings. Jesus said, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:32). Ministers spread the truth in preaching the gospel but members of the church, the pillar and ground of the truth, are to declare the truth to their peers. The word of truth was sounded out from the Thessalonians who had so rejoiced in receiving the word of truth. (1 Thess. 1:8).

**Will we live the truth?** The truth gives us ample instruction how to live our lives to the honor and glory of God. The reason most people fail to have respect for the truth of God is because it will restrict the manner in which they desire to live if they adhere to its precepts. Paul admonishes, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God." (Rom. 12:2). When Paul was born again and knew the truth, he said, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." (Gal. 2:20).

**Will we defend the truth?** I have heard it said that the truth doesn't need to be defended; that it will defend itself. I disagree with this statement as Paul said that he was "set for the defence of the gospel." (Phil. 1:17). Faith sometime is described as the body of truth as contained within the scriptures and the apostle Jude tells us, "...it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints." (Jude 3).

**Finally, will we continue in the truth?** There are disciples who know and follow the truth and then there are "disciples indeed" which Jesus describes as "...If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;" (John 8:31). Pray that none of us will have our ears turned from the truth or be among those that will fall away in the Last of the last days.

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