

Glad Tidings

September

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

The scriptures are the inspired word of God and many people believe they can have eternal life only through them. It is very important to search the scriptures but not to obtain eternal life. Jesus told some Jews, "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." (John 5:39). Eternal life is a gift of God and is not to be gained through the scriptures. Even if that life could be gained by such activity, the dead in sin would not take that approach because they have no desire for spiritual things. Jesus especially told these particular Jews, "And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life." (John 5:40). He also told these Jews that He knew them and they had not the love of God in them. (John 5:42). Therefore they would not and could not come to Him for life.

Even though eternal life is not obtained in, through, or by the scriptures, it is still important to search the scriptures. Jesus tells us they testify of Him and we are to search that testimony. If we are to know what the truth is concerning eternal life or anything else, it is imperative that we search the scriptures. The Bible tells us much about the people in Berea and Thessalonica. The Bereans are described thusly: "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). Many of the men and women who were Greeks in Berea believed.

We learn several things about these Bereans. First: They received the word with all readiness of mind which is divine evidence of being already born again because "...the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." (I Cor. 2:14). These are spiritual men and women who received the word. Second: They believed which is another indication of the new birth: "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life." (John 5:24). Third: They searched the scriptures daily which is a Bible command and His commandments are only to those who love God. (John 14:15). Those who love God are born of God. (I John 4:7). Those Jesus addressed in John 5 had not the love of God.

Unlike the Jews that Jesus addressed in John 5:42, the Bereans had the love of God wrought in their hearts; consequently, they could hear the word, receive the word, believe the word, and search the word. What is to be gained in searching the scripture if it is not eternal life? The scriptures are profitable to the man of God for doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness. (II Tim. 3:17). These are vital in the spiritual growth of the child of God as Peter plainly tells us to not be led away with the error of the wicked and fall from steadfastness in the faith "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." (II Pet. 3:18)

If we are to grow in grace and knowledge, we must tap this spiritual gold mine by studying the scriptures on a daily basis as Timothy was instructed. Solomon tells us to receive God's words, hide commandments of God in heart, incline our hearts to wisdom, apply our hearts to understanding, and cry after knowledge. (Prov. 2:1-3). When this formula is followed to find the hidden treasures of God, the result is profound for the seeker of truth. "If thou seekest her as silver, and searchest for her as for hid treasures; Then shalt thou understand the fear of the LORD, and find the knowledge of God." (Prov. 2:4-5). Eternal life is one thing and the "knowledge" of eternal life and how it is bestowed is quite another. Life and immortality are not given in or through the scriptures (gospel) but are brought to light for the born again child of God. (II Tim. 1:10). Grow in knowledge as strong trees of righteousness for John had no greater joy than to find God's beloved walking in truth.

Paul tells Timothy that from a child he had known the scriptures which were able to make him wise unto salvation. (II Tim. 3:15). Paul told him to "lay hold on eternal life" whereunto he had also been called and had witnessed a good confession before many witnesses. (I Tim. 6:12). If I laid hold on some other person's Bible, I would be a thief. However, I could lay hold on my Bible and all would be well. The conclusion is that we cannot truly lay hold on anything that we aren't in possession of. Many children of God have eternal life but haven't laid hold on it; either because of a lack of access to the scriptures or as a result of disobedience. Yes, search the scriptures, not to obtain eternal life, but to reap all the blessings and benefits that can be enjoyed by complying with their instructions. (Elder Larry Wise)

**GLAD TIDINGS
EDITORIAL OFFICE**

Please send all articles, announcements, change of address, correspondence and contributions to the Editor of Glad Tidings at the address below or call 662-489-5017 for announcements. You may also e-mail to wisepb310@gmail.com; we reserve the right to reject or edit any material. **All published material must be received prior to the 8th of the month** to be included in the following month's issue and sent to the Editor at the following address:

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PHARISEES

By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)

The Pharisees were a religious sect of the Jews who were zealous in the keeping of the law of Moses and believed in the resurrection of the body in that great day.

As a result of their keeping the law better than many others, they were very self-righteous. This means they were confident of their own righteousness. There were some Pharisees who believed in Jesus but do so secretly for fear of their peers.

Jesus warned the disciples to beware of the leaven of the Pharisees. *"Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."* Matthew 16:6 After the disciples had trouble understanding he further explained. *"Then understood they how that he bade them not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees."* Matthew 16:12

The doctrine of the Pharisees is dangerous to believe and practice. We are to show humility not false religion. They perceived they were better and more righteous than others. Paul was a Pharisee before his experience with Jesus on the road to Damascus. Christ described their pedigree in Luke 11:39 *"And the Lord said unto him, Now do ye Pharisees make clean the outside of the cup and the*

platter; but your inward part is full of ravening and wickedness."

True religion does not allow us to feel superior to others, but as sinners saved by the grace of God. Even in the boldness in Christ of the Apostle Paul, he never did gloat in himself but rather remembered his poverty in the flesh. *"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into this world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."* 1st Tim. 1:15 How can you feel better than others when you feel to be chief of sinners?

A Pharisee desired that Jesus dine with him. When he entered into the house a woman who was identified as a sinner came in and began to wash Jesus's feet with tears. *"Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spake within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner."* Luke 7:39 Jesus taught him that those who are forgiven more, love more.

We should not pray as a Pharisee. The Pharisee's prayer is shown in the book of Luke. *"The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, God, I thank thee, that I am not as other men are, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this publican."* Luke 18:11 The Pharisee judged himself by other men, not by Jesus Christ. When we see how far we come from perfection we pray as the publican. *"...God be merciful to me a sinner."* Luke 18:13

The doctrine of the preserved in Christ is a beautiful Bible truth, *"Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father; and preserved in Jesus Christ, and called:"* Jude 1 This leaves no place for self righteousness, no place to compare ourselves to others.

On the other hand the false and perverted doctrine of perseverance is a Pharisee doctrine. This doctrine claims that by the grace of God we live such a holy life that we are more holy than others. It allows people to compare themselves to others, rather than to the Lord. This is especially true toward sinners, or to the disobedient. It allows people to feel like a Pharisee.

Thank God, the true Church has always rejected the leaven of the Pharisees. --Guy Hunt

(From "Pathway of Truth", June, 2004)

Use your eyes as if tomorrow you would be struck blind: Hear the music of voices, the song of a bird, as if you would be struck deaf. Touch each object as if tomorrow your sense of touch would fail—smell perfume of flowers, taste with relish each morsel as if tomorrow you would never smell or taste again.—Helen Keller

**FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS
WHOM DO I ADMIRE?**

Anna Marie Usery
Greenfield, Tennessee

Whom do I admire the most? I could say my parents because they both set good examples for me. I admire my daddy because he provides for my mother and me, and I admire my mother because she takes such good care of me. I also admire my teachers because I have learned so much from them, and right up there at the top of my list with my mother and daddy is my pastor for he has taught me the lessons of the Bible. But there is One I admire above all the rest—Jesus is the best of all to me.

First of all, Jesus set the example of love. Jesus so loved His people that He came to earth to save them. His love was so great that He died upon the cross. In John 13, we are given the commandment to love one another as Jesus has loved us.

Jesus was kind and compassionate. In John 11, it was recorded that Jesus wept. He was saddened by the news of Lazarus's death. It was recorded in the 9th chapter of John that as Jesus was about to die on the cross, He asked that John take Mary to his home so that His earthly mother would not have to view His agony. Let us be kind one to another.

Jesus is forgiving. He interceded with God because of our sins. Jesus cried unto the Father,

....forgive them, for they know not what they do. (Luke 23:34)

Jesus continues to forgive us for our daily sins.

Jesus is faithful. He is with us in our times of gladness and rejoicing and in our times of trouble. Jesus will never leave or forsake us. It is only when we forget Him that we feel alone, but Jesus will never leave us alone. No earthly friend or relative will ever be as true as Jesus Christ.

There is no one greater than Jesus Christ, the Lord. He has set the example. Let us follow the **Leader**.

* * *

Sister Anne Marie, age 10, is a 5th grader at Greenfield Elementary School in Greenfield, TN. She won the 4-H Speech Contest for her grade level on November 2000. Her parents are Greg and Lee Ann Usery, and she and her mother are members at New Hope Primitive Baptist Church in Milan, TN where Elder T. L. Webb, Jr. is pastor.

(This sister would be about 28 years old now and I trust she still has that admiration—Editor)

(From "The Christian Baptist", Sept./Oct. 2000)

"Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not..." (Eccl. 12:1)

**A CONDEMNING STATEMENT
FROM THE BIBLE**

How much should we, as church members of the kingdom of Christ, give to help others with their burdens and daily needs to more fully serve Christ? Most people do not give much to anyone except to their own families and best friends, and even that could be selfishly done. No matter what we think we have done, or could do, the Scriptures present every child of grace with this statement which should cause true heart searching:

But whoso hath this world's good, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him? (I John 3: 17, 18)

Christ Jesus, our Lord and Savior, gave His all for the express purpose of saving His people from their sins, and He did so when we neither deserved it, nor were worthy of it. In fact, we did not even know about it! Nonetheless, He did it because He loved us. He took away our sins and redeemed us unto God. **He paid our sins debts in full! There is nothing left for us to do but serve, praise and honor Him with all glory and thanksgiving.**

Be assured that Christ has and will continue to save each and every one of His chosen ones without the loss of a single one. Glory to His great name! He has done it ALL! And all to Him we owe.

Remember the following verses and may they comfort your hearts forever:

What shall we say then to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us? He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall He not with him also freely give us all things? Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. (Rom. 8: 31-34).

Thank God for His marvelous truth and light.

--S. T. Tolley (Deceased)

(From "The Christian Baptist", Sept./Oct. 2000)

BLESSED

"I have shewed you all things, how that so labouring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

CLAY BALLS

A man was exploring caves by the seashore. In one of the caves he found a canvas bag with a bunch of hardened clay balls. In was like someone had rolled clay balls and left them out in the sun to bake.

They didn't look like much, but they intrigued the man, so he took the bag out of the cave with him. As he strolled along the beach, he would throw the clay balls, one at a time out into the ocean as far as he could.

He thought little about it, until he dropped one of the clay balls and it cracked open on a rock. Inside was a beautiful, precious stone!

Excited, the man started breaking open the remaining clay balls. Each contained a similar treasure. He found thousands of dollars worth of jewels in the 20 or so clay balls he had left. Then it struck him.

He had been on the beach a long time. He had thrown maybe 50 or 60 of the clay balls with their hidden treasure into the ocean waves. Instead of thousands of dollars in treasure, he could have taken home tens of thousands, but he had just thrown it away!

It's like that with people. We look at someone, maybe even ourselves, and we see the external clay vessel. It doesn't look like much from the outside. It isn't always beautiful or sparkling, so we discount it.

We see that person as less important than someone more beautiful or stylish or well known or wealthy. But we have not taken the time to find the treasure hidden inside that person.

There is a treasure in each and every one of us. If we take the time to get to know that person, and if we ask God to show us that person the way he sees them, then the clay begins to peel away and the brilliant gem begins to shine forth.

May we not come to the end of our lives and find out that we have thrown away a fortune in friendships because the gems were hidden in bits of clay.

May we see the people in our world as God sees them.

I am so blessed by the gems of friendship I have with each of you. Thank you for looking beyond my clay vessel.

--Author Unknown

(From "ITMS", September 2012)

The body of David Livingstone was buried in England where he was born, but his heart was buried in the Africa he loved. At the foot of a tall tree in a small African village the natives dug a hole and placed in it the heart of this man who they loved and respected. If your heart were to be buried in the place you loved most during life, where would it be? In your pocketbook? In an appropriate space down at the office? Where is your heart?—Author Unknown

HOPE

By Elder S.J.B. Dallas (Deceased)

I have been meditating on the hope of God's dear people for the last few days. I must say that it is sweet to meditate upon the word of the Lord and be blessed to communicate with Him. I came across a little card that had these words printed. "Hope is the sugar that sweetens life." These words fit my experience as I began to think about them seriously. Hope is an expectation of something desired. Those that only have natural life are in possession of a natural hope. They hope for things and success that the natural life desires. Even in a natural hope, it is the sugar that sweetens life. We only have a natural hope until we are born again. We must be born of the Spirit to have spiritual hope. Born of God you can hope in God. "Now our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God, even our Father, which hath loved us, and hath given us everlasting consolation and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish you in every good word and work." This good hope through grace is most precious and as we hope in God this sweetens our lives. "For in Thee, O Lord, do I hope; thou wilt hear, O Lord my God." There is nothing sweeter than to hope for that we feel to stand in need. We know that "the natural man cannot receive the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned." The man in nature can hope for a good companion and family. He can look for their well being and hope for the best things in life for them. This will carry us back to the precious words "hope is the sugar that sweetens life."

This being true naturally, much more spiritually. The hope that I have in my precious Lord and Master certainly sweetens my life.

"Happy is he that hath the God of Jacob for his help, whose hope is in the Lord his God." Dear children of the heavenly King, We should thank Him every day of our lives for His many blessings He has bestowed upon us poor, undeserving creatures, and in a spiritual way for enabling us to see the light and giving us a new life so we can hope in Him.

"Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior, and Lord Jesus Christ which is our hope." I am made to rejoice when I read such precious truths in God's word. "Jesus Christ which is our hope, He is become my salvation, the Lord is our strength and song."

David was a man after God's own heart. He made mistakes in life and suffered for his disobedience. He was a man of prayer and had great trust in God. He prayed many times, but as he became an old man, he cried unto God and said, "Cast me not off in the time of old age; forsake me not when my strength faileth, O God, be not far from me: O my God make haste for my help. But I will hope continually, and will

yet praise thee more and more. My mouth shall shew forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day; for I know not the numbers thereof; I will go in the strength of the Lord God: I will make mention of thy righteousness, even of thine only." This precious hope was the sugar that sweetened David's life, even in his old age. If we remain in this world for a period of time we will become old, and how sweet it is to be reminded that the Lord is my hope and strength. I will go in the strength of the Lord God. Not in our own strength for we have nothing to offer but our sins for Christ to forgive. Christ Jesus is the hope of His people. May we ever praise and adore Him.

"Thou art my hiding place and my shield: I hope in thy word." My experience is that in the troubles and sorrows of life, "I wait for the Lord, my soul doth wait, and in His word do I hope." Let us as the family of God hope in the Lord: for with the Lord there is mercy, and with him is plenteous redemption. I will close saying there is nothing that sweetens the lives of God's little ones more than this precious hope.

In Christian love and fellowship,

S.J.B. Dallas

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

PIECE OF MIND

If I could only break the chains
That lock my heart so tight
If I could only find a way
To make the wrong things right.

If I were fighting something real
And not an inner voice
Then I could fight with hands and might
But now I have no choice.

It's like the ever rolling sea
That beats against the shore
It breaks and swells and breaks again
Goes on forever more.

If there is peace and rest somewhere
That place I'll try to find
And hope, O God, it's not too late
To find a peace of mind!!!

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

PRAY

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (Phil. 4:6-7)

NOT WEAK AND FEEBLE

Elder S.N. Redford

From the book "As A Man Thinketh"

He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribe."—
Psalm 105:37.

By reading this chapter it will be seen that David is rehearsing God's providence in delivering national Israel from bondage, and His faithfulness to fulfill His promise to Abraham and his seed. When we consider God in His going forth to His people in providence, it constrains us to adore Him for His goodness and mercy. How destitute were these poor bondmen as they labored under their hard taskmasters—no money in their purses, no bread in their barns for themselves and little ones. But their God owned all the silver and gold, and could so work in providence that a large portion of it should be shared by these destitute and oppressed slaves. No matter how it came, God sent it to them.

I heard once of a poor destitute widow whose good supply became exhausted and she bowed in her humble home in prayer to God of providence and asked Him to provide for her. A wicked boy passing by heard her and thought to have some fun. He bought a box of provisions and set them on the doorstep of the poor widow's home. Later he came back, and she was telling him how good the Lord had been to her in answering her prayer. The boy then told her it was not the Lord, but he had bought the box himself. "No matter," says she, "the devil may have brought it, but the Lord sent it."

Now when we dig down in this text for the spiritual lesson, how sweet are our thoughts concerning God's providence toward His people redeemed by the blood of Christ. Is He not the same God of providence that provided for Israel? Many of God's people are hard pressed financially—often don't see where their supplies will come from. But as He turned gold and silver into the hands of the destitute anciently, so He can and does not. He will do to trust.

But now we come to the remarkable expression, "There was not one feeble person among them." How can we appreciate this expression? In the work of regeneration, when God gives a poor sinner faith to lay hold on Christ as his own personal Savior, how strong he is in love to Jesus. No feebleness here. The same could be said about devotion to His service. His mouth is filled with praises. It is later on that he becomes feeble in praise and devotion. Could it not be said, too, that his zeal toward God was strong? He can now walk and not faint; run and not be weary. He can mount up on eagles' wings above the storm clouds. The child of God is then in his first love.

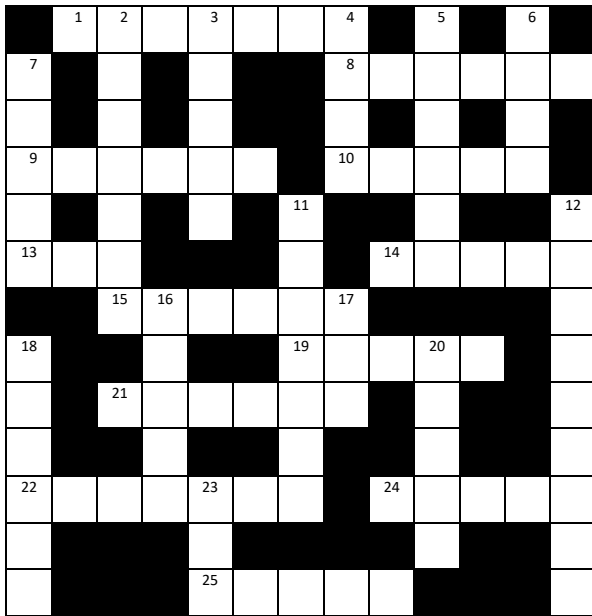
But sad to say, we often leave our first love, we

(Continued on Page 6)

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

1. Let not your heart be troubled, ye _____ in God believe also in me.
8. Abraham told his young men to abide while he & Isaac would go _____ and worship and return.
9. Jesus is the rose of Sharon and the lily of the _____
10. Jesus spoke many things in parables saying a _____ went forth to sow.
13. Daniel was cast into the _____ of lions.
14. He knoweth our _____; he remembereth that we are dust.
15. The angel laid hold on the _____, that old serpent.
19. Man born of _____ is of few days and full of trouble.
21. The law was a _____ of good things to come.
22. Blind, broken, maimed, scurvy or _____ sacrifices were not to be offered to God. Healing sore.
24. The love of _____ is the root of all evil.
25. The days of our _____ are threescore _____ and ten.



DOWN:

2. An _____ adulterous generation seeketh after a sign. Two words.
3. He shall not fail or be discouraged and the _____ shall wait for his law. British _____.
4. The _____ of your understanding being enlightened.
5. Baptism is the _____ of a good conscience toward God.
6. Perfect love casteth out all _____.
7. Who hath _____ us and called us with a holy calling.
11. O fools and _____ heart to believe all the prophets have spoken. 2 words. Letter after C.
12. My people are _____ for lack of knowledge.
16. By faith _____ the harlot was spared in Jericho.
17. Beloved _____ are we the sons of God. At present.
18. Noah was told to take of _____ that are not clean by two, the male and his female.

DOWN:

20. The brother of Absalom who forced himself on his sister Tamar.
23. He that hath no money come _____ wine and milk, without money and without price.
(Answers on Page 9)

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

A relative of mine carried her twin girls to the doctor awhile back. While she was filling out some paper work, one of the girls asked, "Mommy, is that a zombie?" Her mommy was so shocked she had to ask her again what she said. She repeated, "Mommy, is that a zombie?" and pointed to the front desk where a girl with green hair was checking out.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Elder Robert Payne—7-25-2018

Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge. Proverbs 19:27

Many put forth ideas that sound good when you first hear it but turn out to contain error. Sometimes a falsehood may sound better than the truth. Sometimes people are just willingly ignorant.

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

Many today are promoting ungodly lifestyles and falsehoods to justify sin and condemn righteousness. Many are like Pilate, What is truth?

Jesus said, I am the way, the truth and the life.

Help us to cease to hear instruction that causes us to err!

(Continued from Page 5)

become feeble and weak, and hobble along and stumble in darkness—sins of commission, sins of omission, looking back to the fleshpots of Egypt. Or else we take up carnal weapons to do our fighting with. We neglect to search the word of God, or else we cease to deny ourselves and walk after the flesh. These all have a tendency to enfeeble God's dear children. Lord, help us to return to our first love, and former strength. *July 10, 1930*

(From "ITMS", June, 2012)

CHURCH NEWS

Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Mantachie, MS will have a meeting Sat. Sept. 15, 2018 with service at 10:30 a.m. lunch and afternoon service. Elder Tim McCool, Gordo, AL is invited minister. Elder Neal Honea is Pastor of Pleasant Hill.

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, 4905 Hwy 346, Pontotoc, MS (5 miles west of Ecu, MS) the 2nd weekend in September, 2018 (Sept. 7-9). Services Friday night, September 7, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, September 8, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Saturday night supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Elder Josh Winslett, Moody, AL is invited minister, Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

The Tombigbee Association of Primitive Baptists will be hosted by Hamilton Primitive Baptist Church, 3201 Bexar, Ave. Hamilton, AL the 3rd weekend in September, 2018 (Sept. 14-15). Services Friday, Sept. 14, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Same schedule for Saturday, Sept. 15. No night services. Elder Bobby Payne is Pastor of Hamilton 205-242-6678 for more information.

Friendship Primitive Baptist Church, Winona, MS invites everyone to their annual meeting the 4th weekend in September, 2018 (Sept. 22-23). Services on Saturday, Sept. 22, beginning at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch and afternoon services. Regular services on Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Elder B. T. Strum is Pastor of Friendship.

Elder Larry Wise, Randolph, MS will be with Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, Ackerman, MS the 5th Sunday in September, 2018 (Sept. 30) with service beginning at 10:30 a.m. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Macedonia.

Elder Rickey Taylor, Booneville, MS will be with Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS the 5th Sunday in September, 2018 (Sept. 30) with service at 10:30 a.m. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

The 5th Sunday night in September Fellowship Meeting will be hosted by Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS with supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 6:30 p.m. This meeting rotates between New Prospect, Laodicea, Bethany and Hopewell Churches. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Elder Bob Ward, Columbus, MS will be with Hopewell Primitive Baptist Church, Randolph, MS the 5th Sunday in September, 2018 (Sept. 30) with service at 10:30 a.m. Elder Tom Bouchillon is Pastor of Hopewell.

Elder Grady Camp, Germantown, TN will be with New Hope PBC Hatley, MS the 5th Sunday in September, 2018 (Sept. 30) with service at 10:30 a.m. Elder Tim Cunningham is Pastor of New Hope.

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to the annual fall meeting at Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, Ackerman, MS the 1st weekend in October, 2018 (Oct. 6-7). Meeting begins with services Saturday, October 6, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch and afternoon services. Sunday, October 7, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Elder Luke Addison, Smithdale, MS is invited minister. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Macedonia.

Everyone is invited to the fall meeting at New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, Fairground Rd, New Albany, MS the 2nd weekend in October, 2018 (Oct. 12-14). Services Friday night, October 12, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday night, October 13, Supper at 5:30 p.m. and worship at 7:00 p.m.. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. Elder Tim Cunningham, Ethridge, TN is invited minister. Elder Grady Camp is Pastor of New Prospect.

Elder Mark Quarles, Madison, MS will be with New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS the 5th Sunday in September, 2018 (Sept. 30) with service at 10:30 a.m. Elder Grady Camp is Pastor of New Prospect.

FROM EVERY STORMY WIND THAT BLOWS

From every stormy wind that blows,
From every swelling tide of woes,
There is a calm, a sure retreat:
'Tis found beneath the mercy seat.

There is a place where Jesus sheds
The oil of gladness on our heads;
A place than all besides more sweet:
It is the blood-bought mercy seat.

There is a scene where spirits blend,
Where friend holds fellowship with friend;
Though sundered far, by faith they meet
Around one common mercy seat.

There, there, on eagles' wings we soar,
And time and sense seem all no more;
And heav'n comes down, our souls to greet,
And glory crowns the mercy seat.

Hugh Stowell

"And thou shalt put the mercy seat above upon the ark; and in the ark thou shalt put the testimony that I shall give thee. And there I will meet with thee, and I will commune with thee from above the mercy seat, from between the two cherubims which are upon the ark of the testimony, of all things which I will give thee in commandment unto the children of Israel." (Exodus 25:21-22)

"I have Laid Help upon One that is Mighty"

Ps. 89:19

By Elder Rickey Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

Psalms 89:33 says, "Nevertheless my loving kindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips". Here is recorded the words of David referring to God's people and denominating them as "His Seed" and "His Children". It speaks of God's pledge and His Oath to his promise through ONE THAT IS MIGHTY. In verse 37 it is said that these particulars are as a "faithful witness in Heaven". It is and has been argued by our loyal opposition that "God owes to all men a chance to be saved". First of all let me say that sinners are not saved by CHANCE. Every sinner that has ever been saved was saved and is saved on purpose or by Gods predetermined intent. Second is the fact that God is not under obligation to any in the sense of the offer of eternal salvation to them. The natural man is DEAD in trespasses and in sin and not only will not come to Christ but CANNOT come to Christ to make the so-called CHANCE effective. God cannot operate on a CHANCE system else he has no PURPOSE or intent. The very nature and character of God will not permit such. If we are to be comforted and instructed by the word of God in this day or any other day we must let it say what it says and not what we want it to say or think it should say. It is my opinion, and I think a sound one, that the Spirit of God does not communicate to the mind of the child of God any doctrine that is NOT ALREADY CONTAINED IN THE SCRIPTURES. He makes men wise to what is written NOT BEYOND it.

The main thought of the religious minded people of our day is that SALVATION is a simple transaction that can be attended to by letting God know what your intentions are and as soon as the sinner has done that the Lord then proceeds to start the process in the work of salvation. Now I realize there are variations in that thinking but I think I have fairly presented the foundation of and the beginning point of most religious minded individuals. My position is that Christ has redeemed all that shall be saved and that the redemption under consideration is ETERNAL REDEMPTION. It is ETERNAL in its duration. The objects of that redemption stand JUST and JUSTIFIED. These are special terms that refer to legal procedure. This signifies the act of pronouncing one clear from charges that may have been pronounced against him. This principle is distinctly used in scripture. It is a judicial pronouncing of those whom Christ has redeemed from under the law as legally perfect and that forever Christ by His one offering "hath perfected forever" them that are sanctified by that ONE offering (Heb.10:12-14). HE

hath "Obtained eternal redemption for us". HE obtained that for us that is ETERNAL in its duration. HE obtained that by and through the avenue of HIS WORK. I would say that I believe in the pre-existent purpose of God. In his own purpose He determined beforehand and made full provision for the salvation of HIS people through Christ the surety. In that surety and because of that surety, who is Christ, the demands of the law could not and cannot stand nor be held against even one of the elect of God. If the scripture sustains such a proposition, and I am convinced it does, then CHANCE does NOT and cannot enter the picture. I say that if what is said by modern religion is true, if salvation is by Chance, if it comes by opportunity, if it begins with the sinner signing up so to speak for the transaction, if the work is based on conditions met by those who are dead in sin, etc. then I say heaven has a poor CHANCE of being inhabited.

In the great light of truth the work of salvation by Grace becomes more than a theoretical speculation but rather the living manifestation that God himself has and does bring us into a living relationship with him by an act of HIS OWN volition (2nd Cor. 3:3) and those embraced in that work are ALL drawn to God according to St. John 6:44 and are "all taught of God". (St. Jn.6:45). THEY ARE TAUGHT OF GOD! They are taught with a teaching of GOD and that teaching under consideration is only by HIM. The teaching that is referred to is above and beyond the ability of men to teach or to perform. 1st Jn. 2:27 in no uncertain terms gives us the order, "The anointing which ye have received of HIM abideth in YOU and ye need not that ANY MAN TEACH YOU". So here is a teaching that comes without the need of men doing the teaching. The same text tells me that this "is the TRUTH and is no LIE". We believe that Christ's death was one of appointment or ordination; NOT CHANCE. God's particular character could not allow him to purpose his only begotten Son as the appointed and ordained sacrifice for sin, which none will deny, with no assurance of a successful outcome. I read that the bible says that "HE gave himself for OUR SINS that HE might deliver us from this present evil world according to the will of God and our Father" Gal. 1:4. The question has been asked before; "Can men or angels make any person a redeemed one whom Christ has not redeemed?" I am not aware of who asked that question but it is one that is paramount yet simple and needs careful consideration by all.

None of this process is by CHANCE. A young man told me awhile back (who is not a Primitive Baptist), "Brother Ricky, I was told if I would get saved, put my faith in him and come to Christ I would have no doubts as far as my salvation was concerned, I would be delivered from my sinful thoughts, my depraved desires, the love of sin and find a blessed assurance

that I had never known before and yet I find often times I still fall back and find myself in bad way.” Of course the young was a child of God; I believe he was and is a child of God and none could convince me otherwise but he had been given the wrong information. May I say that being born again does not make us dead to the propensity of sin. Paul had the same experience read Romans chapter seven. We, like HE, have a natural affection or nature that afflicts us even after our experience of Grace. The natural man rises up and often times over takes us in ways that bring particular sadness, disappointment, difficulty and depression. The list is too vast to enumerate and the examples are abundant. Grace has no delight in sin but delights in the law of God after the inward man and promotes conformity to His will and word yet the struggle between those two natures is REAL, and the warfare it produces, so often brings us to into captivity. In my own experience I can thank the Lord that Isaiah 63:1 says that in righteousness God declared that He that was glorious in His apparel was also “Mighty to Save”. Amen.

Elder R.D. Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

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

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| ACROSS: | DOWN: |
| 1. eveileb | 2. dnalive |
| 8. rednoy | 3. selsi |
| 9. yellav | 4. seye |
| 10. rewos | 5. rewsna |
| 13. ned | 6. raef |
| 14. emarf | 7. devas |
| 15. nogard | 11. dfowols |
| 19. namow | 12. deyortsed |
| 21. wodahs | 16. bahar |
| 22. debbacs | 17. won |
| 24. yenom | 18. stsaeb |
| 25. sraey | 20. nonma |
| | 23. yub |

THE LORD RULES AND REIGNS

“And speak unto him, saying, Thus speaketh the LORD of hosts, saying, Behold the man whose name is The BRANCH; and he shall grow up out of his place, and he shall build the temple of the LORD: Even he shall build the temple of the LORD; and he shall bear the glory, and shall sit and rule upon his throne; and he shall be a priest upon his throne: and the counsel of peace shall be between them both.” (Zechariah 6:12-13)

EXCERPTS GLAD TIDINGS READER LETTERS

Elder Wise,

While I'm sitting here in my private room at the 'Assisted Living', here comes my mail, 'Glad Tidings'. And it is very glad tidings for me. And as I start reading, I find a special article by my dear daddy (Eld. T. L. Webb, Sr.). What a blessing for me! Thanks and am sending you a small contribution.

And I have been told that my writings have been enjoyed so here is another one if you care to use it.

Much love and appreciation,

Doris W. Smith
Milan, TN

OUR CHURCH HOME

By Doris W. Smith
Milan, Tennessee

How wonderful it is to have a little gathering place where we can come in from the cold, busy world! This home is a shelter where we can band together and belong, where there is warmth, understanding, caring and sharing. It is similar to arriving home to our warm hearth and caring family after a long and cold work day. Likewise, this “family gathering” of church fellowship and worshiping our God gives us so much strength and inspiration to carry us through the days ahead. Isn't it miraculous to think of all these “fringe benefits” we get from meeting and worshiping as He has instructed us?

Each Sunday morning and Sunday night our little flock sits side by side as our shepherd leads us into the Divine truths of comfort and strength. We breathe prayers of praise to our God, begging for forgiveness, pleading for help for our problems, and giving thanks to be able to meet again. When we consider what has transpired in the lives of our flock in one week's time, we realize that: some have experienced pleasant surprises and joys; some have gone through sorrow and heartache, some have born pain and sickness; some may have even been under anesthesia and the surgeon's knife; some have encountered unbelievable problems on the job or at school; some have traveled many miles and even flown above the clouds and back; and most of us have met temptations that have put our faith to test. In addition, we may not even consider the many unseen dangers from which we have been spared.

So, we should not only greet each new morning with a song of praise and thanksgiving, but should never let the Sabbath Day pass us by without gathering with our church family to worship such a powerful and merciful God. What better way to thank Him for sparing our lives and sustaining us through joys and sorrows to meet one more time??

--Doris W. Smith

WHAT HAS AGE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

By Elder Herman Clark
Iuka, Mississippi

Many professionals such as those in the sports fields, certain jobs, and even in daily activity find themselves in situations where retirement, and sometimes as a requirement by others, one must quit one's profession.

I have often been asked pertaining to preaching the gospel, "When are you going to retire?" I just try to smile and say, "God calls men to preach the gospel as long as he is physically and mentally able." Most Primitive Baptist elders would tell you the same. We may reach a point in life that we cannot recall scriptures and it may also become difficult for one to continue preaching.

I recently witnessed at the James Creek Primitive Baptist Church meeting something that truly touched my heart. I am acquainted with many elderly elders. I witnessed an elder and his dear companion of many years, both in "scooter" wheel chairs, come up the ramp and come into the church building. The dear elder has suffered a stroke and is at present not physically able to preach. We pray that we will hear him preach again. However, there is something that he and his wife, and many other elderly and physically disabled elders still contribute to the Kingdom of Heaven, the church. Just to see their faces and their smiles made the younger generations attending the meeting want to march on in the army of the Lord. One that sits under the sound of the preaching of these dear brothers will learn if one is willing to hear the words of wisdom that flows from these fountains of wisdom and knowledge.

So what's age got to do with it? Have you reached the point in life that you feel you are not of much service in the Kingdom of our Lord? Do you feel as though you are an outcast, not useful for anything except to complain about aches and pains, and sit upon the pews? I think I have, or am nearing that point in life. However I find in the scriptures some Beautiful words of encouragement for each member of the church. Psalm 92:14 "The righteous shall flourish like the palm tree: he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon." The cedars of Lebanon were known for their qualities of wood. The trees lived to be of old age and contained much resin. This made them a much more valuable tree than others which were only good to be cut down and burned. The wood, when made into timber, had a beautiful shine that did outshine many of the other trees of the forest.

Psalm 92:13, "Those that he planted in the house of the LORD shall flourish in the courts of our God." These trees did not plant themselves. A greater power removed them from one place to another and they are planted in the house of the LORD.

Psalm 92:14-15 "They shall still BRING FORTH fruit in OLD AGE; they shall be fat and flourishing; To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him." My Brothers and Sisters, if you feel like there is nothing else left for you to do, then cast away that thought. The Lord is teaching us that we shall still bring forth fruit in old age.

I have several older oak trees and several younger oak trees in my yard. The older oaks bring forth many more acorns than the younger ones. In fact I have one oak at the side of the drive that is two years of age. It brings forth no acorn. However with proper care of this little oak it will one day bring a bountiful crop of acorns.

Some have fruit and place it under a tub, or a basket. Someone might think, "Well why would I want to bring forth fruit at my age?" He tells plainly the answer. It is "To shew that the LORD is upright: he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him." Can one think of a better reason for living? So let us, as we grow older remember that we still bring forth fruit and it is to be to the honor and glory of God, to witness that he is our rock and there is no unrighteousness in him. I will one day pass from this earth and hopeful I will leave behind some fruit that those behind may benefit from my fruit bearing. So please forget about age! Huh? Who is age?

(From "*The GOOD NEWS Newsletter*", Dec. 2006)

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Elder Sylvester Hassell (Deceased)

Q. What duties does the New Testament lay upon churches as a body?

A. To meet together for the public worship of God; to contend earnestly for the faith once delivered unto the saints; to practice the ordinances, and obey the commandments of God; to maintain gospel discipline, withdrawing from every member who walks disorderly; to be dutiful in all the relations of life; to visit and minister to the afflicted and destitute; to aid with their worldly substance those who minister to them in spiritual things; to help visiting ministers on their way after a godly sort; to be reverent towards God, and kind and forgiving toward their fellow-men, even their enemies; to be obedient citizens of their country; to live in peace with each other and, as far as possible, with the world; to be sober, righteous, and godly; to thank the Lord for His mercies, and to pray to Him for their continuance; to be mindful of the shortness and uncertainty of life, and the certainty of death, and eternal judgment after it; and to watch and be ready for the second coming of Christ, which may occur any moment. Of course, without Christ we can do nothing; but we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us (John 15:5; Philip. 4:13).

Behold the Man!

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man! John 19:5

The presentation of Christ by Pilate as he stood before the Jews that had delivered him into the hands of Rome for him to be crucified. Pilate had hoped to release Jesus, realizing that the Jews had delivered him for envy. Now Jesus comes before the judge and his accusers with a plaited crown of thorns and purple robe that the soldiers had placed upon him in mockery. Pilate thought he would present to them Jesus in his humiliation. However we know that wouldn't be enough for his accusers. He was later crucified.

Behold the Man! Is a term that goes all through the Bible. Telling us to look and see the man Christ Jesus. Behold means to observe, see, or bring attention to. As Pilate told his accuser to observe, give attention, and look upon this man. When the serpent beguiled Adam and Eve, and caused them to bring sin and death into this world. The Lord told the serpent that the woman that he deceived would bring forth children, and from her seed would come the redeemer to bring them back to the good standing that they had originally with God. Satan had bruised the heel, but Christ would bruise the Devil's head. (Genesis 3:15) Behold the Man!

This prophecy is fulfilled in John 1:14. When the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us! The shepherd's near Bethlehem were told by the angel to go see the babe in the manger. Go and see, Behold the Man!

We read of a man named Simeon that was waiting for the coming of the Son of God, was moved by the Spirit to go see the baby Jesus in the Temple. He took the babe in his arms, and said now Lord let thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation. (Luke 2:25-30) Behold the Man.

Through the four gospels we read of the woman at the well, (John 7:6-28) the centurion's faith, (Matthew 8:5-12) the woman who touched the hem of his garment, (Matthew 9:20) the woman who gladly would take the crumbs from her masters table! (Mark 7:26) These and more looked upon Jesus and saw that he is the Son of God. Behold the Man from Nazareth!

Now let's go to a sad place known as Calvary. The smell of death is all around. Many malefactors had died on this hill. Now Jesus was here hanging between heaven and earth, on the cruel cross. The breath of life slowing being cut off from his lungs as his body was slowly collapsing upon them. He said few words, but what he said was profound. One small sentence he said as he gave up the ghost. "It is

finished". Behold the Man hanging upon the cross! The work of redemption was finished right there on Calvary. The serpent head bruised! Now the children of God have once again, a good standing in the eyes of God. Behold the Man!

On the third day Christ arose! Death had no dominion on him. Jesus first appeared to Mary Magdalene. (John 20:14-17) Afterward the disciples saw him. Then around five hundred people saw his resurrected and glorified body. (1 Corinthian 15:6) The disciple Thomas who was not among the disciples who first saw Jesus. When the disciples said they had seen him, and talked with him. Thomas in his old Adam nature, said I don't believe you, and I won't unless I see and feel the prints in his hands. There was a day when the disciples were all together, and Thomas was among them. Jesus suddenly and quietly appears in the midst of them. Straight to Thomas he goes, and says to him. Feel the prints in my hands. Reach and feel my pierced side? Stop this unbelieving, for now you see me risen from the grave! (John 20:25-29) Behold the Man .A man like no other, who defeated death, and delivered his children!

All through the word of God we see the face of God through the Lord Jesus Christ.

For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

We who know that we have been saved by the grace of God. We know that our salvation lies not in our works, but in the Lord Jesus Christ. Behold the Man!

Rickey Taylor

JESUS AS SAVIOR

D.M. Stearns was preaching in Philadelphia. At the close of the service a stranger came up to him and said, "I don't like the way you spoke about the cross. I think that instead of emphasizing the death of Christ, it would be far better to preach Jesus, the teacher and example." Stearns replied, "If I presented Christ in that way, would you be willing to follow Him?" "I certainly would," said the stranger without hesitation. "All right then," said the preacher, "let's take the first step. He did no sin. Can you claim that for yourself?" The man looked confused and somewhat surprised. "Why, no," he said. "I acknowledge that I do sin." Stearns replied, "Then your greatest need is to have a Savior, not an example!"

--Source Unknown

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