

# Glad Tidings

April

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

2019

**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

Christianity hinges on the fundamental truth of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Without the resurrection of Christ, our hope is vain, preaching is vain, faith is vain and we are yet in our sins. However we find the word resurrection never appearing in the Old Testament scriptures. They, however, gave us much for our learning. “For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.” Rom. 15:4

**Promise of Christ’s resurrection:** God has never failed to fulfill His promise and we have the promise of Christ’s resurrection foretold by holy men of old who were moved by the Holy Ghost to pen the words inspired of God. David as a type of Christ wrote, “For thou wilt not leave my soul in hell; neither wilt thou suffer thine Holy One to see corruption.” (Psalm 16:10). The beloved physician Luke tells us this was a prophecy of Christ and His resurrection. “He seeing this before spake of the resurrection of Christ, that his soul was not left in hell, neither his flesh did see corruption.” (Acts 2:31). David served his generation according to the will of God and saw corruption, but He whom God raised from the dead saw no corruption as He was only there for three days and nights according to the scripture. Isaiah spoke of the resurrection of Christ in language that says “he shall prolong his days”. (Isa. 53:10) This prolonging of days was after He had made His soul an offering for sin and seeing His seed on the cross.

**Power of Christ’s resurrection:** Jesus was not taken to be crucified before the appointed time. Many times He slipped right past those who would have taken Him because His “hour” was not yet come. (John 7:30; John 8:20) Jesus begins His high priestly prayer in John chapter 17 by saying, “Father, the hour is come.” Men didn’t take His life from Him as Jesus said, “Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father.” (John 10:17-18). Paul affirms this same power in Rom. 1:4: “And declared to be the Son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead.” Jesus ascended on high and still has all power in heaven and in earth.

**Proof of Christ’s resurrection:** Jesus proved His great love for us by His death on the cross and He would not leave us without proof of His resurrection. Acts 1:3 tells us, “To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:” Jesus did not leave us without witnesses of His resurrection and we are told of many of those who had seen Him alive. Paul said He was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve, five hundred brethren at once, seen of James and all the apostles, and then seen of Paul as one born out of due time. (I Cor. 15:5-8) God raised up Jesus and showed Him openly, not to all people but unto witnesses chosen before of God, even unto those who ate and drank with Him after He rose from the dead. (Acts 10:40-41) Of course some people can stare at proof and still deny its existence but contrary to popular belief, truth is absolute and not relative. What was truth in Bible days is still truth!

**Prepared body of Christ:** Jesus was made flesh and blood as it was a body born of a virgin, a body that was crucified, and a body that was buried and rose again the third day. “Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:” The same body that was crucified was the same body (but glorified) that appeared to His disciples after His resurrection and will return some sweet day.

**Proclamation of Christ’s resurrection:** The true gospel is not a proposition whereby men and women can accept and have a home in heaven or reject and be cast into hell. The gospel is a proclamation of the finished work of Christ and His resurrection was a confirmation that His people had been justified by His shed blood. “Who was delivered for our offences, and was raised again for our justification.” (Rom. 4:25) Paul said the gospel he received and preached was not taught him by men but by revelation of Jesus Christ. Then he tells the church at Corinth that he preached to them the same things he had received by revelation: “For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:” (I Cor. 15:3-4) Jesus said that He was sent to bind up the broken-hearted, proclaim liberty to the captives and the opening of the prison to them that are bound. (Isa. 61:1)—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](mailto: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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**CRUCIFIED THROUGH WEAKNESS**

By Elder Rickey Taylor  
Booneville, Mississippi

"For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the power of God. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the power of God toward you." (2 Co. 13:4)

In the midst of our trials and tribulations, we have learned through experience the strength of our Lord's enduring grace and mercy. We read in the scriptures that while here on earth, he commanded the wind and sea to obey him. We have read of how he cast out devils in the afflicted, healed the sick, fed the multitudes, and even raised the dead. Lord of lords and King of kings, an unchangeable priesthood, which will never die. All of these things are related to the unswerving power of our Lord, who will never die, or grow weak. And to the child of God who sees these marvelous attributes of our Savior, he has just as soon place his hand over his mouth than to utter the word "weakness" in association with his master.

But yet our text here does use this word in speaking in context of our Lord, and while maybe a child of God has read this and had his heart to swoon with anxiety, not understanding the text. Dear one I ask for your to read further, give me just a moment, to explain to you this glorious text. For I had just as soon have my arm cut off than to take up the pen and write with it that, Jesus Christ has a weakness of any kind!

Now you and I have all kinds of weaknesses, sometimes we can do something about it, and sometimes we cannot. Weaknesses put limitations on us; they at times have hindered us even in service to the master. Some of us are crippled through weakness, that we require a crutch to walk or a cast upon our bodies. Weakness limits us in everyday life one way or another. But this is man's weakness; we didn't ask for them, we got them anyway. If we could do something about it we would, but we cannot. And that in itself reflects a weakness in us all.

The weakness that is used in our text is a "voluntary weakness"; one that was not forced upon the master, but one he took willingly. He could have refrained from it, if he so desired. But he did not; he willingly took this weakness upon himself. And that weakness was the human nature of those that he loved (yet without sin). He willingly took upon himself the flesh of a man. "Wherefore when he cometh into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me:" (Heb. 10:5)

Our Lord made himself lower than the angels, for those that he loves with an everlasting love. For it was necessary for him to come to earth this way. He came through the weakness of flesh, to redeem his loved ones. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man." (Heb. 2:9)

Now in doing so he made himself subject to our common frailties that often beset us like hunger, thirst, physical pain, and even death. You and I have these things forced upon us, and we are helpless to prevent them. We would never think of ever volunteering to take these things upon us; we avoid them as much as we can. But our Lord voluntarily took all this upon himself. He willingly took upon him flesh, for the purpose of those he loves. And if he can lay down his life willingly then he can also take it up again. "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." (John 10:18)

He lives by the power of God. "Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead." (Acts 4:10) He is called the firstborn of the dead because it was by his own power that he rose from the dead. "And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all [things] he might have the preeminence." (Col. 1:18) Jesus Christ is the perfect mediator between God and man, because he came as flesh like man, yet was God in the flesh! "And the word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of

the only begotten of the Father) full of grace and truth.” (John 1:14)

I want you to know that when you go in prayer to him, you are praying to a great high priest that relates to you, that has endured suffering as man, yet he is still God. “For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities, but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.” (Heb. 4:15)

Our Lord is ever strong, an unchanging priest with an unchangeable priesthood. There dear one, you will, find help in your great time of need. If you have suffered, so has he on the cross. Yet he overcame the trials and tribulations without sin. Worthy is his name.

Rick Taylor

(From “*The GOOD NEWS Newsletter*”, Dec. 2005)

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### BLOODSHED

There are many places in the scripture which talk about blood being shed, good and bad. The depraved heart is depicted as having feet that are swift to shed blood. (Rom. 3:15). Those who caused their children to pass through the fire of a heathen god shed innocent blood. (Palm 106:38). David shed blood and wasn't allowed by God to build the temple. (I Chr. 28:2). When murderous men shed blood then the scripture says by men shall their blood be shed. (Gen. 9:6). Punishment is given for righteous blood that was shed. (Matt. 23:35).

Jesus institutes the Lord's Supper with the wine and the unleavened bread. He gives the cup of wine to the disciples and declares, “For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.” (Matt. 26:28). The blood of bulls and goats could never atone for one sin but Jesus has forever obtained eternal redemption for His people. “Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.” (Heb. 9:12) Jesus shed His blood to purchase (Acts 20:28), redeem (I Pet.1:18), justify (Rom. 5:9), forgive, (Eph. 1:7), reconcile and save (Rom. 5:10), make peace (Col. 1:20), and sanctify (Heb. 13:12) His people and will present them faultless before God without the loss of a single one. (Jude: 24). He cannot fail or be discouraged in anything He does or has done.

“And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.” (Heb. 9:22). Some things were purified by water or fire but generally speaking it took shed blood for any pardon or forgiveness to occur. God's people are redeemed with the precious blood of Christ as a lamb without blemish and without spot.—*Editor*

### THE CHURCH

By Elder J. D. Holder (Deceased)

The church, [for] some, is just a place to go on a beautiful, warm day and see the people. From this point of view, it makes very little difference where to go, or what order of people we are with, or what form of service they render, because it is of the flesh and is no more then the general practice of the world.

But the house of God is a place of refuge, a place to be taught the will of God concerning His people, and then to take heed to the things taught out of a love to God and for His people and His divine truths and for the joy and thanksgiving for His countless blessings we have received.

In His service, we find peace to a troubled soul, hungry for the renewed evidences that He is our God, and His presence we need to lead us and give strength in the hour of troubles.

**Trust in the Lord for ever: for in the Lord JEHOVAH is everlasting strength...(Isa. 26:4)**

I have heard some Old Baptists say the old church is behind the times, and that we are sitting back while others are running things in an up-to-the-minute way. To this, I cannot agree. The wisdom of God in giving His kingdom the laws by which it is to be governed is so perfect and can be applied to the problems of every age through which we've come, and through which we shall be led in the future, that it needs not to erase one line, nor add one thereto.

The secret of Israel's strength under the law of the Old Testament, when she went against the enemy, was to go as God directed, and every time she went otherwise, her enemies gave her a “licking.” The same thing is true today. The fact that there are so many dark clouds over Zion is a clear demonstration that we should be still and know that He is God, and that He will give us strength to fight the good fight of faith. We fight our battles alone when we depart from the law of God.

(From “*The Primitive Baptist*” 1943, via “*Advocate and Messenger*” May, 1996—“*The Christian Baptist*” September/ October 2001)

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Many churches of all persuasions are hiring research agencies to poll neighborhoods, asking what kind of church they prefer. Then the local churches design themselves to fit the desires of the people. True faith in God that demands selflessness is being replaced by trendy religion that serves the selfish.—Billy Graham

We should mold our lives to the true teachings of scripture and the true church and not attempt to mold the church into some ill-conceived concept contrary to truth to appeal to the masses. Scripture is always relevant and up to date in every age!—*Editor*

### HIS INCREASE

By Elder Sammy Coleman (Deceased)

John the Baptist spoke of Christ in this wise, **he must increase, but I must decrease** (John 3:30).

Not only did John believe this and proclaim such, but he also lived in such a manner as to put his preaching into action. An examination of his life will bear this out. The world—be it this natural, carnal world, or the world of believers—looks for our faith and works—not mere words.

It goes without saying that John's statement goes against the nature and human philosophy of mortal man. We realize that the world of unbelievers will not hear, much less consider, John's statement. However, we who have, by God's grace, passed from death unto life will not automatically put Christ first. When our thoughts and ideas are left to the old man, or our carnal nature, we will turn John's statement completely around.

You would be hard pressed to find one Old Baptist in our churches who would not "Amen!" John's statement. We are generally speaking, Bible-believing Old Baptist. But when it comes to practicing what we "Amen," we so often come miserably short of the mark.

Christ came to this earth to do the will of the Father. He did not just **speak** these things commanded of the Father, but also **did** all things commanded of Him. He became a servant, and, as such, He gave the honor and glory to God, the Father. While we are in these mortal bodies, we can never come close to the absolute obedience and perfect work as Christ did unto the glory and honor of God. Yet, we are the servants of Christ, and, as such, we should daily seek to decrease as He increases. Christ left us the perfect pattern of a faithful servant, ever looking to do that which the Father sent Him to do.

Our prosperity and usefulness in Christ's kingdom hinges on what degree we see ourselves as truly servants, both to the Lord and our brothers and sisters in Christ. A true servant never seeks his own, but another's wealth and good.

Do divisions among us spring from Old Baptists seeking to decrease or increase? The answer, of course, is self-evident. Church troubles usually spring from self-centered [members] who will not live by, in actions, those things taught in the Bible.

Old Baptist ministers, in particular, should indelibly print upon their minds and hearts: **He must increase, but I must decrease.**

God forbid that we ever enter that work that God has called us to do with anything more or less as a motive for the commissioned work God has called us unto. The ministry must never be used to exalt one's self, or as a springboard to popularity. Many sorrows and scars have been the fruits of such carnality.

History, without fail, has shown us that God's people cannot live in self-exaltation. God will not permit or honor us if we seek self-glory and attempt to live therein. The kingdom of this world may, indeed, accept and encourage such, but the kingdom of God, which is not of this world, will be the less for such carnality and will suffer with many pitfalls and troubles.

All good things that we have are from God. Our hopes rest in His goodness and promises. What do we lack that God hasn't richly or freely provided? How can we be anything less than ungrateful servants if we misuse and abuse the church and our brethren by seeking to exalt and magnify our own selves?

Christ is deserving of all our praise and honor. Each day upon rising, not just when we are in a church capacity together, but each day, our motto should be:

**He must increase, but I must decrease.**  
(From "The Christian Baptist", Sept/Oct 2001)

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### A TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSELS

By Elder Jim Turner, Jr (Deceased)

*"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of power may be of God, and not of us."* 2 Corinthians 4:7

It appears here that Paul is referring to the gospel ministry, the minister being the earthen vessel and the gospel being the treasure. In verse five of this same chapter he says: "For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake."

Paul makes it clear that he is just a servant, and the power by which he preaches the gospel came from God and not from his own ability. The fact that he speaks of earthen vessels carries more than one lesson. We are all earthen vessels, descendants of Adam, and thus, when God calls a man to preach the gospel, He calls him from the walks of men and not angels of heaven.

God, in His all power and wisdom could have sent angels from heaven to preach the gospel, but then the angels would have gotten the glory for the preaching. However, when God calls a mortal man into the ministry, and enables him by His Holy Spirit to proclaim the unsearchable riches of Christ, then God gets the glory, and the preacher and those that hear him get the blessings.

In the second chapter of John, we have the account of the wedding at Cana of Galilee, where Jesus turned the water into wine. Please turn in your Bible and read the account of this miracle. We will not take up the space to quote all of it.

First, we would call your attention to the fact that there were six waterpots of stone (earthen vessels).

Six is man's number; seven is God's number, representing perfection or completeness. When Jesus commanded the servants to fill the waterpots with water, it was just that, "water".

Had Jesus not worked the miracle of turning water into wine, there would never have been anything in the vessels but water. When God calls a man into the ministry, that man is required to spend much time studying the scriptures in order to store up that treasure of the gospel in the earthen vessel.

Until the Lord blesses him with the anointing of His Holy Spirit, that knowledge of the scriptures he has stored up is as the water in the earthen vessels, but when it pleases the Lord to bless him to preach, he is able to bring forth that good wine of the gospel, as the servants brought forth the wine from the waterpots. The ruler of the wedding feast said to the bridegroom: "thou hast kept the good wine until now." There is a great lesson in this statement.

Israel had the worship service back under the law, but today we have the New Testament Church and the gospel ministry which teaches us and encourages us with the good news of the gospel, that Jesus has paid the sin debt for us and because of this, we go free.

In closing this article, let us look at one more fact concerning the treasure in earthen vessels. Regardless of how gifted and able your preacher may be, always remember that he is just one more earthen vessel to whom God has given the treasure of the gospel.

He is worthy of your love and encouragement but he is not to be worshipped. Preacher worship is one of the most certain ways to destroy a church.

(From *"The Banner of Love"*, December 2008)

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### **CAN YOU GUESS WHO I AM?**

I have no respect for justice and no mercy for defenseless humanity. I ruin without killing; I tear down homes; I break hearts and wreck lives. You will find me in the pews of the pious, as well as in the haunts of the unholy. I am wily, cunning, malicious, and I gather strength with age. I have made my way when greed, mistrust and dishonor are unknown, yet my victims are as numerous as the sands of the sea, and often as innocent! I feed on good and bad alike. I never forgive and seldom forget.

My name? My name is Gossip!

(From *"Angel Express Newsletter"*, January 1999 via *"The Christian Baptist"*, Sept/Oct. 2001)

"Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth." (Prov. 26:20)

### **WHAT MANNER OF MAN IS THIS!**

By Elder Rickey Taylor  
Booneville, Mississippi

Matthew 8:27: "But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!"

The disciples had just been an eyewitness to the Lord Jesus Christ calming the storm and the waves, simply by commanding them to be still. They marveled at this and ask the question among themselves, what manner of man is this? Never had any man commanded the wind and the sea before. Only God has the power to do that. Manner means kind or sort. So the question the disciples were asking was what kind of man is this?

What manner of man is this? This is the man that God told Satan that would bruise his head (Genesis 3:15). He would come of the seed of the woman, and reinstate them back to the good standing they had before the fall in the Garden of Eden.

What manner of man is this? Though he is God, yet it behoved him to be made like unto his brethren, and be formed in the likeness of man. (Hebrews 2:17) Willingly taking upon himself the shame, suffering, and pain that was required for his perfect sacrifice to redeem every last one of his children. They placed a crown of thorns upon his precious head (Matthew 27:29). They mockingly put a purple robe upon him, though he was worthy of the title of a king (John 19:2,5). He took upon him the pain when his body was pierced with the nails on the cross. Yet he submitted to this willingly.

What manner of man is this? When he said it was finished, and bowed his head and died, He was truly dead. He, who knew no sin, yet bore the penalty of sin, for the purpose that all of his children will be with him in glory someday. His body was placed in a grave like anyone else that had died. Yet on the third day he rose again from the dead!

Death could not hold him there! The grave could not score a victory. Jesus was alive! He went through death to conquer death. Death couldn't hold him because he was stronger than death. This is why as the old song says "when this life is over I will live on somewhere." Because he lives, we will live. Because of what he has done for us, we will someday look upon his smiling face, and say thank you Lord, without you I wouldn't be here now. These examples are just a few of the many that show us what Christ is.

He is our Lord and Savior. He is both man and God. And that my friend is what manner of man Jesus Christ is!

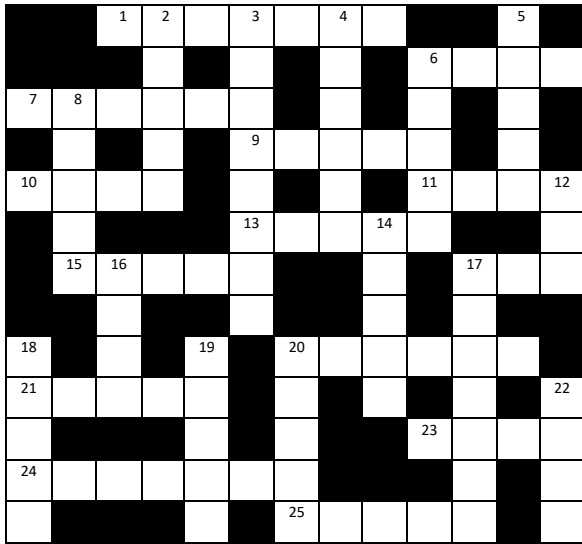
Rickey Taylor

"...he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?"—John 14:9

**BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS:**

1. Jesus was stripped and put on him a \_\_\_ robe.
6. King who wanted the vineyard of Naboth.
7. Many bodies of the \_\_\_ which slept arose and came out of the graves after His resurrection.
9. Buy the \_\_\_ and sell it not. Makes you free.
10. Eutychus fell from the 3<sup>rd</sup> \_\_\_ and was dead.
11. Two cherubims were at the two \_\_\_ of the mercy seat.
13. Children \_\_\_ your parents in the Lord. Plural.
15. Who shall lay anything to the charge of God's \_\_\_.
17. He brought me up out of an horrible \_\_\_ and out of the miry clay.
20. Consider the \_\_\_ of the field who toil not nor spin.
21. We have a house of God not made with \_\_\_ and eternal in the heavens.
23. The instrument David played to soothe King Saul.
24. Words of the wise are as goads and as nails that are fastened by the \_\_\_ of assemblies.
25. Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery \_\_\_ which is to try you.



(Answers on Page 8)

**DOWN:**

2. Wind bloweth where it listeth but \_\_\_ not tell whither it cometh or whether it goeth.
3. Lay up treasures in heaven where neither moth nor \_\_\_ corrupt nor thieves steal. 2 words.
4. If ye \_\_\_ chastening God dealeth with you as with sons for what father doesn't chasten his son.
5. This king could not build temple as he shed blood.
6. Saints of old repented in sackcloth and \_\_\_.
8. Up from the grave he \_\_\_ with a mighty triumph over His foes.
12. Jesus \_\_\_ down on the right hand of God.
14. Neither yield your members as instruments of unrighteousness but \_\_\_ yourselves unto God.
16. Jesus was the \_\_\_ of the tribe of Judah. Beast.

**BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**DOWN:**

17. I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not \_\_\_ against it.
18. Jesus endured the cross despising the \_\_\_ and is set down on the right hand of God.
19. Saints of old repented in sackcloth and \_\_\_.
20. Paul said that he was less than the \_\_\_ of all saints.
22. I have set before thee an \_\_\_ door and no man can shut it.

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**OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES**

We were going to keep our four year old grandson, Isaac, awhile back while his parents went to a basketball game. My wife picked him up at a junction of a neighboring community and headed home. The side roads are less than smooth and after a few minutes of riding in the SUV he told his Nana, "Nana, this is a bumpy road and you're going way too fast." I would fathom a guess that she slowed down somewhat.—*Editor*

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**EXCERPTS  
GLAD TIDINGS READER LETTERS**

Bro. Larry,

Thanks Bro. Larry for the Glad Tidings. God bless!  
Charles & Juanita Dillard  
Saltillo, MS

Dear Ones,

In thinking of the weather, it's very interesting to look up the following:

Gen. 8:22, Ps. 18:4-18, Dt. 28:12, Job 37:5-6  
Ps. 48:1-3, Jer. 14:22, Job 37:9-24, Ps. 147:12-20  
Job 38:22-41, Lk 12:54-55, Prov. 25:23-28

Sure hope you all are enjoying our Dear Lord's blessings along all the way. So good He always makes us able to overcome.

In Dear Hope, Sister Loreta Lilly  
Akron, OH

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"And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all." (Acts 4:33)

"But when Paul perceived that the one part were Sadducees, and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee: of the hope and resurrection of the dead I am called in question." (Acts 23:6)

**CHURCH NEWS**

Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Maben, MS will have its annual meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in April, 2019 (Apr. 27-28). Services begin on Saturday, Apr. 27, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Concludes Sunday at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. This is an open meeting. Clear Springs is currently without a Pastor.

Pine Hill PBC, Ripley, MS invites all to its annual spring meeting beginning Friday April 5, 2019 at 7:00 pm with refreshments to follow. Services on Saturday morning, April 6, at 10:30 am followed by lunch. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm with worship at 7:00 pm. Sunday service at 10:30 with lunch at noon. Elder Tim McCool from Gordo, AL is the invited minister. Come and hear the gospel of grace. For more information contact the Pastor, Elder Darren Owens at 662-587-1193.

Everyone is invited to Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS for their meeting the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in April, 2019 (Apr. 12-14). Services Friday night, Apr. 12, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Apr. 13, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. No afternoon service. Sunday, Apr. 14, at 10:30 a.m. followed by communion and lunch. Elder Mark Quarles, Madison, MS is invited minister. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

Harmony Primitive Baptist Church, Tupelo MS, invites everyone to come worship our Lord and Saviour during our annual meeting the 1st weekend in May, 2019. The invited preachers are Elder Luke Laird, Tuscaloosa, AL and Elder Tom Griffin, Meadville, MS. Services will begin Friday night, May 3rd, with supper at 6:00 pm and service at 7:00 pm. Saturday, May 4th, morning service will be at 10:00 am followed by lunch and afternoon service. Sunday, May 5th, morning service will be at 10:30 am 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.

Everyone is invited to New Hope Primitive Baptist Church, 60627 Hatley Rd, Amory, MS for their 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Meeting May 10-12, 2019. Services Friday, May 10, at 10:30 am followed by lunch and afternoon services at 1:30 pm and supper at 6:00 pm and worship at 7:00 pm. Saturday service, at 10:00 am followed by lunch and afternoon service at 1:30 pm. No night service. Sunday, May 12, at 10:30 am followed by lunch. Contact Elder Tim Cunningham, Pastor of New Hope, at 931-201-7881 for more information.

**CHURCH NEWS**

Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS invites everyone to their annual communion meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May, 2019 (May 17-19). Services Friday night, May 17, at 7:00 pm. Services Saturday night, May 18, at 6:30 pm preceded by upper at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, May 19, at 10:00 a.m. with Communion followed by lunch. Elder Michael Gowens, Calabash, NC is invited minister. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

Laodicea Primitive Baptist Church, Lafayette Springs, MS has had some baptisms over the last several months. Sister Bobbi Weaver was baptized on Nov. 1, 2018; Brother Jerry Weaver on Dec. 23, 2018 and Sister Stephanie Easterling on Feb. 3, 2019 after professing their faith in Christ and immersed by their Pastor Elder Steve Weaver.

“Walk about Zion, and go round about her: tell the towers thereof. Mark ye well her bulwarks, consider her palaces; that ye may tell it to the generation following.” (Psalm 48:12-13)

“And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch.” (Acts 11:26)

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**IN MEMORIAM**

Elder Houston Patrick, Martin, TN passed away Feb. 16, 2019 at the age of 84. He was pastor of Macedonia PBC in Martin, TN for 44 years and served 24 years as Weakley County Register of Deeds and eight years as Weakley County Mayor. He leaves behind his wife of 57 years, Maxine, a son and two sisters. Funeral was Sat. Feb. 23, 2019 at First Baptist Church in Martin, TN with Elder Ricky Harcrow officiating. He will be greatly missed.

Elder Jesse Phillips, Hernando, MS passed away Feb. 18, 2019 at the age of 82. Funeral was Sun. Feb. 24, 2019 in Winona, MS with Elder Dwayne DuBard officiating. The last church he pastored was Hamilton Primitive Baptist Church, Hamilton, MS. He was retired from St. Joe Paper Box Co. Memphis, TN (35 years) and H & R Block, Memphis, TN (30 years). He will be greatly missed.

“And we beseech you, brethren, to know them which labour among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you; And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.” (I Thess. 5:12-13)

**SCATTERETH vs. GATHERETH**

By Elder Herman Clark  
luka, Mississippi

One of the worst whippings (country folks called it a whooping) I ever received as a little boy was by an uncle of mine. His two girls and I were playing in the cotton wagon. We had been warned several times about scattering cotton onto the ground from the wagon. There was about as much cotton on the ground around the wagon as in the wagon. I can still see my uncle as he broke the top of a cotton stalk and approached the wagon. We immediately climbed down from the wagon and started picking up every lock of cotton and throwing it back into the wagon. After several whacks on our backsides the ground was clean of cotton. However, we had gained some stripes on our legs. We were enjoying our little escapade until someone greater interrupted. Crying didn't help the pain one bit.

How easy it is to scatter. Scattering seed shows no pattern where they are falling. From the beginning of mankind man has been extremely good at scattering. We read in Genesis, chapter 11, that men began to build themselves a city and a tower whose top might reach unto heaven, which was and still is an impossibility. However, God of heaven had an answer for such actions of men. God stopped their work of building, and also destroyed the tower. Genesis 11:9, "Therefore is the name of it called Babel; because the LORD did there confound the language of all the earth: and from thence did the LORD scatter them abroad upon the face of all the earth." Although men may be scattered by the great God of heaven and earth because of their disobedience, what a merciful God we have when in His mercy He gathers the remnants together.

How terrible a thing when God looks upon a nation as He did the nation of Israel and because of their disobedience He scatters them abroad. I find in Ezekiel 12:15, "And they shall know that I am the LORD, when I shall scatter them among the nations, and disperse them in the countries." This is exactly what happened to Israel.

I like to read Genesis 32:26 of Moses when he said to the children of Israel, who had begun to worship the golden calf, "Then Moses stood in the gate of the camp, and said, Who is on the LORD'S side? Let him come unto me. And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together unto him." Moses further instructed some to take their sword by their sides and go in and out from gate to gate throughout the camp, and slay every man his brother, and every man his companion, and every man his neighbour. There fell of the people that day about three thousand men. It may be that we need to ask ourselves the question, "Am I really on the Lord's side?"

Jeremiah 23:1, "Woe unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture saith the LORD." I dare say that the "woe's" of God are much more hurtful than the cotton stalk my uncle used on me. Jeremiah spoke plainly about the pastors. They were the ones scattering the sheep of his pasture. It is no wonder that Jesus said in Matthew 12:30, "He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad." This is plain language. Jesus said in John 10:2, "But he that is an hireling, and not the shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, seeth the wolf coming, and leaveth the sheep, and fleeth: and the wolf catcheth them, and scattereth the sheep." Are we as pastors scattering the sheep?

There is a vast difference in scattering and gathering. Oh, what a merciful God that we have! Isaiah records in 40:11, "He shall feed his flock like a shepherd: he shall gather the lambs with his arm, and carry them in his bosom, and shall gently lead those that are with young." Should we as pastors follow after our own ambitions or should we follow after the example of our great chief and good shepherd? God help us to gather the lambs with our arms and carry them in our bosoms (hearts), and gently lead those that are with young.

Friends, there is coming a day when there will be no more scattering of God's sheep by men. There is coming a day when time will be no more and He that knows where every human being is located, both the dead and those that are alive, will be gathered together and the sheep will be separated from the goats and the righteous (sheep) will enter into that glory city to be with the Lord for ever and ever. Oh, the joy thereof!! The goats (wicked) shall go into everlasting punishment. Let us ask ourselves "Are we scattering or gathering?"

Elder Herman Clark  
(From "ITMS", November 2005)

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**ANSWERS  
BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| ACROSS;     | DOWN:       |
| 1. telracs  | 2. tsnac    |
| 6. baha     | 3. htodtsur |
| 7. stnias   | 4. erudne   |
| 9. hturt    | 5. divad    |
| 10. tfol    | 6. sehsa    |
| 11. sdne    | 8. esora    |
| 13. syebo   | 12. tas     |
| 15. tcele   | 14. dleiy   |
| 17. tip     | 16. noil    |
| 20. seilil  | 17. liaverp |
| 21. sdnah   | 18. emahs   |
| 23. prah    | 19. sehsa   |
| 24. sretsam | 20. tsacl   |
| 25. lairt   | 22. nepo    |



### THE ROSE OF SHARON

I am the Rose of Sharon and the Lily of the Valley. As the Lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. I sat down under his shadow with great delight, and his fruit was sweet to my taste. He brought me to the banqueting house, and his banner over me was love. (Song of Sol. 2:1-4)

Wisdom speaks out to testify of the Knowledge, Power and purpose of God; that in Him we shall find the "Great I AM" as the Rose of Sharon. Jesus Christ is the Rose in spiritual reality; our precious Redeemer, Elder Brother, our Husband and Spouse. This Rose is ONLY beautiful to His own through regeneration and the new birth. It is then that we want to never lose sight of His beauty. To the unregenerate there is NO beauty in Him. He is despised and rejected of men. (Read Isaiah 53) The carnal or natural mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. (Rom. 8:7) But to the precious children of God who are in the Spirit and live of the Spirit, He is a precious, beautiful Rose which never shall fade nor lose the fragrance of eternal purpose and love and almighty Power of the Father.

To us in the valley of doubts and fears, trembling and downcast, the Almighty, sovereign power and love of the never-failing LILY, continues to bring cheer and fresh courage to our fainting hearts; whence cometh all help.

As the Lily continues to shine forth even more brilliant among the thorns, (our troubles, fleshly desires and enemies of the truth and righteousness), the love of Jesus Christ is experienced among many daughters. Although the doctrines of men are preached among many daughters (every kindred, tongue and nation), nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are His. (2 Tim. 2:19)

As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons. Many travels in our early days and today among the wood, we were made happy to be led by the providence of God unto an apple tree full of fruit.

The providence and mercy of God is our portion and shield, a very present help in time of need. Handfuls of purpose are left for His little wandering sheep to glean in pastures and harvest fields of His grace and mercy.

Oh, precious thought as we meditate upon the past memories where God overshadowed us by His everlasting and eternal Arm of purpose, love and care.

We can witness a part of what John saw: And, Lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people and tongues,

stood before the throne, and before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the Throne and unto the Lamb. (Rev. 7:9-10)

When our eyes can behold and see the beauties of the dear old Church we can sit down under the shadow of Jesus with great delight and rejoice in the fruit of His divine spirit which is sweet as the honey from the honeycomb and pleasant to our digestive capacity.

Through His Spirit of New Birth we are made to see ourselves as we truly are by nature, poor sinners, wretched, undone, without strength and worms of the dust, and beggars at mercy's door. Then we see Jesus and hear His still small voice; Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: And we shall find rest unto our souls. For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light. (Matt: 11:28-30)

By His Spirit we are led to the banqueting house, and His banner over us is love. A rest that is unknown by the world and its wisdom.

Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ. (Phil. 1:6)

In hope of His mercy,

Charles W. Alderton

(From "Advocate and Messenger". October, 1966)

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### EXCUSES

A radio news series about honesty in America talked about excuses. The commentator said that people use three types of excuses when guilty of wrongdoing. The first is outright denial a rejection of any involvement. Sometimes this is done even though the person is obviously guilty. The second is the "It's not my fault" excuse. The person looks around for someone he can blame. (Often it is a loved one - a husband or wife or parent. Sometimes it's the boss.) A third form of excuse is the "I did it, but...." approach. In this instance the person blames circumstances for his shortcoming. Either he's been struggling with some illness or the assignment wasn't clear or the car's been giving him trouble.

--Source Unknown

### COME TO SUPPER

"And they all with one consent began to make excuse. The first said unto him, I have bought a piece of ground, and I must needs go and see it: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to prove them: I pray thee have me excused. And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come." (Luke 14:18-20)

**JUDAS AND THE SACRAMENTAL SUPPER**

February 15, 1926

By Elder C. H. Cayce (Deceased)

A sister asks us if Judas was in the sacramental supper, and she says, "I do not think the Lord set up His church here on earth with a devil in it. I may be wrong; if I am, I sure do want someone to enlighten me on this." To this sister we would say, that Judas was in the church, and was sent out by the Saviour with the other eleven to preach. Thus have we an example and the lesson that some bad folks get in the church, and even occupy the pulpit. But Judas was not in the sacramental supper. The Saviour instituted the sacramental supper at the time He ate the last passover supper with His disciples. Now get your Bible and turn to Mt 26:17-25 read verses 17 to 25 inclusive. Then turn to Mr 14:12-21 and read verses 12 to 21 inclusive. These records show very clearly that while they were eating the passover supper the conversation was engaged in as to who should betray the Saviour. Now turn to Joh 13:18-32. In these verses John tells of the same conversation recorded by Matthew and Mark as to who should betray the Saviour, and remember that this conversation was engaged in while they were eating the passover supper. John has it recorded that Jesus told who it was that should betray Him by saying, "He it is, to whom I shall give a sop, when I have dipped it. And when He had dipped the sop, He gave it to Judas Iscariot, the son of Simon."- Joh 13:26. There is no sop in the sacramental supper, but there was sop in the passover supper. Then in verse 30 John says, "He then having received the sop went immediately out: and it was night." This makes the matter very clear that Judas left or went out while they were eating the passover supper. Then Jesus took the bread and wine, the substance of the Jewish pass-over supper, and instituted the sacramental supper. Read now Mt 26:26-29; Mr 14:22-25. Now go again to Joh 13:1-17 and you will find the account of what the Saviour did, which account was omitted by the other writers. After giving the account of what the Saviour did, John goes back and relates the conversation which took place, corroborating what the other writers had said concerning that conversation, which took place while they were eating the passover. C. H. C.

(From "Editorial Writings of Elder C. H. Cayce")

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**GRACE MAKES THE DIFFERENCE**

"But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me." (I Corinthians. 15:10)

**The Amen Corner:**

by Elder Ricky Harcrow ... 4-12-16

**"My Beloved is Mine"**

The Song of Songs called in the Holy bible, the Song of Solomon, is a beautiful Love story. He refers time and again to MY BELOVED. He identifies her as the "**One whom my soul loveth**". One whom he calls the "**fairest among women**". "**Thou art beautiful Oh my Love as TIRZAH, comely as Jerusalem, terrible as an army with banners**" (SS.6:4). When he says "**thou art beautiful oh my love as Tirzah**" the name TIRZAH means "she is my delight". To all of us there is one in our lives that is literally Tirzah (our delight). Nothing can change it nor can time or circumstances wash it away. It is very evident from reading this short beautiful love story that His mind constantly was toward his beloved. Night and day; morning and evening. The first thing in the morning the last thing at night. "**How fair and how pleasant art thou, O love for delights**". (SS. 7:6).

The poet, Ericka Denmark, wrote these words; "*Love is a word with many meanings, so when I say I love I want you to know exactly what I mean. I don't say I love you expecting anything in return or just to make you feel better. I say it because no matter what else happens in your life or mine you can count on me loving you. When in your pride you will not ask for me to tell you I love you, I tell you anyway that I love you always. My love is unconditional and when everything else seems lost and no hope is in sight just remember one thing I LOVE YOU and my love is genuine. I love you today, tomorrow and forever*".

I do not know why Ericka Denmark wrote these beautiful words but they align themselves with Paul's Preaching and bible teaching. Whoever she wrote the words for must have been very precious to her. Down deep in her soul there was an affection that never failed or drew back toward whoever it was. You and I have people in our lives that are such a part of us that whether we see them face to face or not, just the thought of them thrills us in a most sublime way. I thank God for that experience. It has power to give in a moment what many toil a lifetime for and never experience. It is sad we miss sometimes the opportunity what God blesses us with but while there is life there is still blessings to be enjoyed. I have come to the conclusion that life is to be enjoyed regardless of age because what little life I have left God has blessed me with such a wonderful experience that time and space would not be sufficient to describe it.

So is the case with Christ and his people; his bride; his church. "**Many daughters have done virtuously, but thou excellest them all**" (Proverbs 31:29). She needs no NEW adorning for she is

clothed with the righteousness of Christ and bound to him by the love of God. A love that is genuine, unconditional, today, tomorrow and forever. To me the bible is a love story from beginning to end. Love before the world began and love after all is gone; from everlasting to everlasting, it is just as eternal as God himself. God's people, redeemed by the precious blood of the lamb, are "His delight". God's eternal and unconditional love toward us as helpless sinners is our only hope of union with him. It is not just to make us feel better, but it is unconditional, genuine and it is real whether we understand it or not and rest assured we do not understand it in its fullness nor will we ever do so because we only see through a glass darkly therefore we do not have perfect or complete vision. It is clouded to say the least.

God's dealings are mysterious; his own word affirms it. **"My thoughts are not your thoughts; my ways are not your ways saith the lord"** (Isa.55:8). Thank God, if God does love me, He loves me in an everlasting way as unlovable as I stand before him. It is my constant sorrow, I am so much the subject of sin. I know, I feel and carry about with me a body of sin and death. In thoughts, words and actions how often are the actions of sin seen in me and by me and righteousness so far away. At the end of the day I realize how little I have lived to His glory. However, in the face of that I read **"My beloved is mine and I am His"**. What a blessing for me! Like the Poet Erica Denmark said in her verse; It is UNCONDITIONAL! When all else pales to the background pray for me to be able to recall and remember that fact. A few thoughts tonight of blessings without number. Please pray for me. AMEN!

Elder R. D. Harcrow  
Fort Payne, AL.

(From "Share The Word" by the late  
Elder Bobby Willis)

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### MY BELOVED

"Now will I sing to my wellbeloved a song of my beloved touching his vineyard. My wellbeloved hath a vineyard in a very fruitful hill." (Isa. 5:1)

"Behold my servant, whom I have chosen; my beloved, in whom my soul is well pleased: I will put my spirit upon him, and he shall shew judgment to the Gentiles." (Matt. 12:18)

"While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him." (Matt. 17:5)

### THE FIERY TRIAL

Elder Larry Wise

The theme of Peter's writings seems to be centered on sufferings with the greatest example being the suffering of Christ for His beloved bride to justify her in the sight of God. Peter writes to the elect of God and informs them of trials they can expect to occur because of their faith in Christ. "Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:" (I Peter 4:12). It is not **if** the fiery trial will come; it is just **when** will it come? What are the elect to do in such circumstances of trial? Should they give up the battle and join the crowd that is against Christ and everything He says is worthwhile? No! No! Peter says, "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy." (I Peter 4:13). In spite of the trials and persecutions that God's beloved go through yet God leaves in the midst some special people. "I will also leave in the midst of thee an afflicted and poor people, and they shall trust in the name of the LORD." (Zeph. 3:12)

To have a fiery trial, there must be something to try (put to proof) and that something is faith and only God's beloved, born of the Spirit, have that in their possession. Peter tells the saints that this trial is not to be distained but is most precious and the ultimate purpose of such trial. "That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:" (I Peter 1:7)

God's grace is sufficient and we can always count on the faithful promise of God concerning trials which are increasing in our society as Christians are now continually being put to the test concerning Biblical principles. The faithfulness of God rings out loud and clear: "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (I Cor. 10:13)

As the song says,  
God hath not promised skies always blue,  
Flower-strewn pathways all our lives thru;  
God hath not promised sun without rain,  
Peace without sorrows, joy without pain.

But God has promised strength as our day,  
Rest when we labor, Light on the way,  
Grace for our trials, help from above,  
Unfading kindness, undying love.

(Old School Hymnal—12<sup>th</sup> Edition)

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

