

Glad Tidings

January

2020

"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

As we begin our journey through the year, it would be refreshing to acquaint ourselves again with the great love of God. We once again are able to see whom God loved, when He loved them and to what duration was that love. If God loved them Jesus did also because Jesus said "I and my Father are one."

God loved the world: Jesus talks with Nicodemus who came to Him by night and teaches him about being born again and the means by which He brings that miracle about. This birth must happen because of the great love of God which Jesus describes to this first century ruler of the Jews. Jesus said, "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." (John 3:16) God loved not every man and woman in the world but teaches Nicodemus that He loved people out of the world of the Gentiles as well as the Jews. This verse is not a proposition for eternal life but rather a dramatic declaration of life to the believer.

God loved the Church: The church is people who are called out. They have been called out of nature's darkness into the light of the Lord and translated into the kingdom of God's dear Son. These all constitute the general assembly and church of the firstborn which are written in heaven. (Heb. 12:23) Paul writes how husband are to love their wives by saying "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;" (Eph. 5:25) This church will finally be presented a glorious church before God without spot or wrinkle. (Eph. 5:27) There is the gospel church which is a called out body of believers but not everyone who are members of the church of the firstborn will be members of a local assembly of believers.

God loved His own: Jesus left a great example of love and humility when He washed the disciple's feet. This is what John tells us precipitated that occasion. "Now before the feast of the passover, when Jesus knew that his hour was come that he should depart out of this world unto the Father, having loved his own which were in the world, he loved them unto the end." Those He loved were in the world but not of the world and they belonged to Him; they were His own. Paul tells us we aren't our own but belong to God because we are bought with a price which is the precious blood of Jesus. (I Cor. 6:19-20)

God loved Israel: God chose Israel to give his law and blessings out of all the other nations. He did this because of His love. Moses writes, "The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you..." (Deut. 7:8) God would keep His promise He had made to their fathers. Remember that not every Israelite was a spiritual Israelite (child of God) and God blessed forever because Paul said, "...For they are not all Israel, which are of Israel;" (Rom. 9:6)

God loved Jacob: Jacob and Esau were twins born to Rebecca but before they were born or had done any good or evil, it was established that the purpose of election according to election might stand, not of works but of Him the calleth. (Rom. 9:11) It had been written before that the elder would serve the younger and in addition "As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated." (Rom. 9:13) Can we question God in loving and choosing Jacob and bypassing Esau? No, we can't because Paul goes on to write as he anticipates that mind set, "What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid." (Rom. 9:14) Remember also that Jacob's name was changed to Israel.

When did God love the world, the church, His own, Israel and Jacob?: He loved them before the world began or ever the highest hill was laid. Jesus prayed for His elect in His high priestly prayer in John chapter 17 that the world may know thou had sent Him and had loved them as God had loved Him. (John 17:23) If we find out how He loved Jesus, we find out how He loved His people. Jesus prays, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world." (John 17:24)

Duration of God's love: God's love has been from everlasting unto everlasting because that is the essence of God; therefore, Jeremiah tells us concerning his situation and every other heir of promise, "The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee." (Jer. 31:3) Paul tells us there isn't anything that can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 8:39) Security of God's love for His people is irrefutable. How refreshing this is in the combative culture in which we live. (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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MEEKNESS

By Elder Daily Hite (Deceased)

Dear children of the heavenly Kingdom; in the spirit of meekness I desire to come unto you with a few lines in regard to the kingdom of God not being in word but in power of the Spirit. Paul desired not to come to the Corinthian brethren with the speech of them that are puffed up, but in power and in love and in the spirit of meekness. So meekness denotes humbleness of mind that is not easily provoked, and suffers injuries without any thought of revenge, quietly being submissive to the will of God. Such is the admonition in the word of God by Paul to, "Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;" (Col. 3:12). So we are to put on these things in the spirit of meekness considering ourselves lest we also be tempted. And above all, put on charity which is the bond of perfectness.

Now the term and condition of meekness is to have a humble submissive frame of spirit, ready to receive and entertain truths of God's word as described in James 1:21. We are to be slow to speak, especially slow to wrath and lay apart or abstain from all filthiness and naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word of God which is able to save our souls. This is a great saving here in this kingdom as we be doers of the word and not hearers only. As we receive with meekness the engrafted word and become doers and not hearers only, this man shall be blessed in his deed and his religion is not in vain. So meekness plays a very important part

in our lives, that we live to the honor and glory of our Saviour while we live here below.

David declared, "For the Lord taketh pleasure in his people; he will beautify the meek with salvation." So we behold the beauty the Lord has blessed the meek with, a salvation here in time and evidence of an eternal beauty beyond this life. It is a wonderful day to behold. The deaf shall hear the words of the book, and the eyes of the blind shall see out of obscurity, and out of darkness. The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel. These are evidences of the gracious state of the child of God and not conditions to obtain salvation. So the meek shall increase their joy in the Lord in this world by walking in His humble ways, in meekness and humbleness.

Jesus has said, "Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Our Saviour is the perfect example of meekness, and a wonderful goal to strive toward, yet man will never attain to the meekness of the Saviour. Jesus was meek and lowly in heart in everything He did or said, so we realize to some degree the lowliness in heart of being meek as we take Jesus' yoke upon us and learn of Him. He being meek and lowly in heart shows very definitely that being yoked with Him it is with meekness and a contrite, lowly heart that we take up our cross and follow Him. That is the very reason the Lord's children feel unworthy of His mercies and describe a meek and lowly heart because they are yoked with Him.

May we ever feel the presence of the meek and lowly lamb of God as we journey in His kingdom here in this world. Then may it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which in the sight of God is of great price. So this meekness is of a great price in the sight of God and like unto an ornament of an exceeding value, for it is the quiet spirit and a meek and lowly heart of submission to the Lord's will in serving Him. Man puts a value or price upon different objects here in this world, but the Lord put a great price upon this spirit of meekness that it excels man's price.

What a wonderful blessing you have to be numbered with those of the meek for the Lord has declared, "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me; because the Lord hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek," and in the gospel according to Luke it is described as preaching the gospel to the poor. So we see the meek and the poor are the same class of people and Jesus has included them both in the beginning of the sermon on the mount.

Now meekness is one of the fruits of the Spirit of which we are told that against such there is no law. Therefore we are to walk worthy of the vocation

wherewith we are called, with all lowliness and meekness, and with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love, and endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. And this we can do in meekness and by the help of God. Meekness is one of the qualities we are to follow after, as Paul admonished Timothy to so do in fighting the good fight of faith. The love of money is the root of all evil and some coveted after it and erred from the faith. But Timothy was to flee these things and follow after meekness, love, patience, and godliness. He was told to seek out and live in the sweet gospel truths that would be a comfort to his soul and of great value indeed.

The man of God is to be gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men; and is to be patient and apt to teach, in meekness instructing those that oppose themselves, if God will peradventure give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth. May we be blessed in our instructing that it be done in meekness and lowliness of heart and soul that it might not be a shadow cast over others but that it will show out of a good conscience or works with meekness of wisdom that is from above.

May we have a meek and contrite heart that we may sanctify the Lord God in our hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh us a reason of the hope that is in us with meekness and fear. We are to be ready always and this is to be done with meekness and fear. Surely we are to be ready, by the help of God, to give an answer of the reason of our hope for it is the greatest blessing we have while here in the world. May we give this reason in all meekness and fear trusting in the power of the Lord to give strength and mercy for the steps of the way. The hope you have is the anchor to your soul and is sure and stedfast and is un-moveable, for it is anchored to that within the veil whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus. Surely we can speak of this hope in meekness and fear for it is a blessed hope of eternal life, which God that cannot lie promised before the world began. Submitted in the spirit of meekness according to God's grace.

Elder Daily Hite

(From "Advocate and Messenger", February, 1977)

DIFFERENT KIND OF HOPE

Source Unknown

A man approached a little league baseball game one afternoon. He asked a boy in the dugout what the score was. The boy responded, "Eighteen to nothing--we're behind."

"Boy," said the spectator, "I'll bet you're discouraged."

"Why should I be discouraged?" replied the little boy. "We haven't even gotten up to bat yet!"

LAND OF HILLS AND VALLEYS

By Elder Jerry McMinn
Linden, Tennessee

"For the land thou goest in to possess...is a land of hills and valleys." (Deut. 11:10-11) Some have made a brief journey into the spiritual kingdom of serving God, but quit soon after they started. The pathway upward set by the Lord Jesus was steeper than they expected. The valleys through which our Saviour traveled were darker than they desired. After a few troubles and trials, some have quickly given up their profession of religion.

Where do people get the notion that the Christian way will guarantee them a trouble-free life? Such an idea is contrary to the teachings of the Bible. Jesus said, "In the world ye shall have tribulation." (John 16:33) The apostle Paul taught, "For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake." (Phil. 1:29) He also stated "all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." (II Tim. 3:12) The question comes to mind, then, "Why bother?" If serving God is going to cause me to have troubles, what benefit is it to me?

The scriptures show that suffering is common to the human experience. However, there are two kinds of suffering. On the negative side, we suffer for the wrong that we do; and we should expect to do so. On the positive side, the apostle Peter said, "when ye do well, and suffer for it...this is acceptable unto God." (I Pet. 2:19-21)

As we make our journey through life, we will find that anything which is really worthwhile does not come to us the easy way. Things that don't cost us much time or effort are not worth anything. It is the hard-won victories, the dark valleys travelled, the high mountains climbed that build strong character.

Although the Lord's way requires much effort and work, it is the best of all possible ways. For awhile, he may lead us "through the valley of the shadow of death," but we are able to say, "I will fear no evil: for thou art with me." (Psa. 23:4) At other times, we travel upward with him as "he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills," where he speaks to us, "Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away. For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone; the flowers appear on the earth; the time of singing of birds is come." (Song of Sol. 1:8, 10-12)

Let us follow, therefore, the way of the Lord, though it be through a land of hills and valleys, for he will be the Rose of Sharon on the hillsides to us and will be the Lily of our valleys.

(From "Southern Sentinel", April 18, 1991)

The Syrians said the LORD was God of the hills but not the God of the valleys and God delivered them into the hands of Israel and 100,000 Syrian footmen were slain in one day. (I Kings 20:28-29)

BE YE SEPARATE

By Elder William T. Daily (Deceased)

“Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.” II Cor. 6:17, 18.

In many ways the Lord has warned us against following after the examples of the world or worldly ways. The word “Wherefore” indicates the reason has already been stated as to why this is important. This does not mean that we have to change our ways when the world begins to adopt our ways, but that we should not follow their pattern; worshipping certain days and new moons according to customs of men. We are often requested to make special announcements and hold special services for man-made reasons—reasons that have no place in our services, but rather when we meet let us meet in the name of the Lord and keep other things out.

Following these instructions does not make us to be His sons and daughters, but for the same reasons that we avoid using man-made musical instruments that do not belong in our spiritual service but try to confine ours to “true worship in spirit and truth.”

There is so much false doctrine being advocated these days, yet this is nothing new for it has been known since the time of the first denial of the truth in the garden when Satan convinced Eve that what the Lord had told them was not true—That they would *not* die, but would approach the ability of God Himself in knowing all of the facts and be as kings. It would appear that this was the wish of Satan, motivated by envy and jealousy. We can be sure that wherever we find any of this contamination in our lives it is the work of Satan. There is no room in our hearts for both good and evil. We need to cast out that which is not of love and concentrate our lives on that which is only good. Remember, “godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of; but the sorrow of the world worketh death.”

Dearly Beloved; Since we have been blessed to hate the things we once loved, and to love the things we once hated, let us keep the two of them widely separated and love only that which is good; the gifts of God. Just sweep out the filth and keep that which will generate a feeling of love and fellowship. This will cause us to be recognized as being a separate people, not conforming to the world and the ways of the world, but following the promptings of the Spirit. If this was not possible, it would not have been written that way. We have no need to harbor, or give room in our hearts for hatred. Even those whom we disagree with, we can do it with charity and grant them the same rights that we cherish to ourselves. When the Spirit of God makes a change in us, it is for the better.

It is our privilege to live in a country that permits even the disagreements with our own government. Since we are subjects of error, we should recognize that the same is true with others. We need to petition our heavenly Father to guide our minds and hearts in the ways of righteousness and grant us the spirit of charity to and for others.

Even this little message is written with the understanding that it may not be concurred with by all. Please keep me in your love and fellowship.

Elder W. T. Daily

(From “*Advocate and Messenger*” February, 1977)

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

Teacher: Donald, what am I going to do with you, you do talk an awful lot in class?

Donald: Well, I can't help it. It's a family tradition, Mrs. Hammersley.

Teacher: Eh? What? Just what do you mean by 'family tradition'?

Donald: Well, my granddad Archie was a street trader and my father is a teacher.

Teacher: OK. What about your mother, though, Donald?

Donald: Oh, she's a woman.

Women get a bad rap for talking. I once heard a preacher say there might not be any women in heaven as the scripture says there was silence in heaven about the space of half an hour. (Rev. 8:1) It might have been me quoting someone else. Love you sisters.—*Editor*

DRAWING THE LINE

It is often argued that we should stay in the midst of churches and bodies whose sins and follies we deplore, in the hope of saving them for God and mankind. Such reasoning has a good deal of force in the first stages of decline. A strong protest may arrest error and stop the gangrene. But as time advances, and the whole body becomes diseased; when the protests have been disregarded, and the arguments trampled underfoot; when the majority have clearly taken up their position against the truth—we have no alternative but to come out and be separate. The place from which we can exert the strongest influence for good is not from within, but from without. Lot lost all influence of his life in Sodom; but Abraham, from the heights of Mamre, was able to exert a mighty influence on its history.

F.B. Meyer.

“Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.” (I Cor. 15:33)

INSIGHT INTO WATER BAPTISM

By Elder Steve Weaver
Shannon, Mississippi

The question has been asked many times, more than one can count, "Why must I be baptized again in order to join the Old (Primitive, Old School, Regular) Baptist Church?"

Having listened to many discussions, very few sermons, by several Elders and members of the Old Baptist over the years I have found a remarkable division in beliefs on this subject, and even those who hold (held) on to the belief and practice of re-baptizing could offer very little if any substance of truth and scriptural evidence that this doctrine is "sure and ordered" by the Word of God.

I myself am a staunch believer that when we truly understand the scriptures and the true meaning of the words use in the Word of God relating to water baptism that we all would agree in "re-baptizing".

Let us together go into God's precious and Holy written word with prayer, waiting on the Lord to give understanding, not only in word but in deed. We must enter in with an open mind, void of any predisposition, preconceived ideas or beliefs, looking only to the Word of God and the Holy Spirit to guide us into all understanding. Joh 16:13 **Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak and he will shew you things to come.**

Let us begin with the question, What is baptism, and what is the purpose of baptism?

1 Pe 3:21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:

IT IS:

- A. It is figurative..... B. It is a salvation.....
C. It is an answer (example) of a good conscience towards God.....D. The like figure of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.....

IT IS NOT:

- A. It is not the actual cleansing of regeneration, nor the washing of the filth of sin.....
B. It is not a doubtful and questionable conscience, unsure of the conditions of ones self...

THE PURPOSE:

- A. Repentance for the remission of sins (living in error).....B. (proof of or) an answer of a good conscience towards God, (a good clear conscience only comes with true repentance, turning from the error of our ways and turning to the righteousness of Christ.)

Let us look now to the official beginning of this practice:

Mark 1:1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God: This verse simply states the

beginning of the gospel of Christ Jesus, affirming the beginning of his preaching, and affirming who he was (was, is and shall ever be).

Mar 1:2 As it is written in the prophets, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. Affirming not only themselves as witnesses but that prophets of old had written and spoken of this day long before it came to pass (or was fulfilled).

Mar. 1:3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Enlightens us on the duties of John the Baptist and his purpose to "make ready a people prepared for the Lord".

Luke 1:17 And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. Making his paths straight. Let's not forget that "Christ's" paths are straight and narrow that leads to righteousness, there are no curves or short cuts;

Mar. 1:4 John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. Mat. 3:13 Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. Mat. 3:14 But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? Mat. 3:15 And Jesus answering said unto him, **Suffer it to be so now: for this it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness.** Then he suffered him.

If baptism is "ONLY" for repentance and remission of sins, then why was there a need that Christ be baptized? Christ was sinless, and had nothing to repent for or turn "from"! However there was something that Christ (as an example) was to do, "to be baptized" that would be "the will and righteousness of the Father in Heaven" and his desire to fulfil all righteousness. (Matthew 3:15)

Fulfilling all righteousness gives us a clear (good) conscience.

1. Repentance; reformation, reversal, to turn from
2. Remission; freedom, pardon, deliverance, forgiveness, liberty.

Now if you will allow me to put forth a hypothetical scenario of one of God's born again children having been baptized and became a member of a denominational church, then at some point later in life was exposed to teachings (doctrine) of election, predestination, sovereign grace, and through this process came to a place by the Spirit of God to love that doctrine and now seeks a home in the church with like believers, and desires to become a member, but does not want to be baptized again.

What must we understand?

How do we move from one position to another?

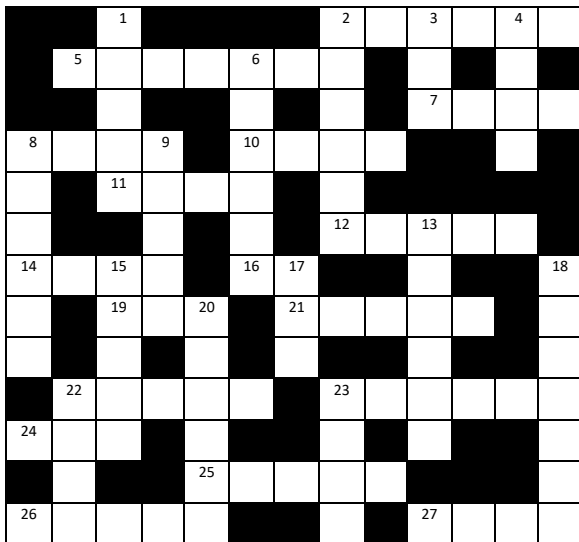
What is required of God to enter into his kingdom (the True visible church)?

(To be concluded next month)

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS;

2. Let us come ____ unto the throne of grace.
5. Man who slew 600 Philistines with an ox goad.
7. Sheba said the half wasn't ____ her of Solomon.
8. David had the ark of God set on a new ____.
10. Jesus came to seek and save that which was ____
11. Jonah ____his own fare down to Tarshish.
12. Concerning Jesus, ____ man spake like Him.
14. Even as ____obeyed Abraham calling him lord.
16. ____ man hath seen God at any time save Jesus.
19. Thou hast a mighty ____ strong as thy hand.
21. Gideon said he was the ____in his father's house.
22. Salvation is not of works lest any man should ____
23. Moses told the Lord he was slow of ____ and of a slow tongue.
24. After this manner will I ____ the pride of Judah.
25. If thine ____be hungry give him bread to eat.
26. The house was filled with the ____of the ointment with which Mary anointed the feet of Jesus.
27. How shall we sing Lord's ____in a strange land?



(Answers on Page 8)

DOWN:

1. Zipporah took a ____stone and cut off the foreskin of her son.
2. Hezekiah broke in pieces the ____ altar Moses had made.
3. His wife was turned into a pillar of salt.
4. Jesus is the Rose of Sharon and ____of the valley.
6. Jesus walks in the midst of 7 ____ candlesticks.
8. Young women be discreet, ____,keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands.
9. Sister of Absalom raped by Amnon.
13. Husbands honor their wives as the weaker ____.
15. No ____was ever to come on the head of Samson.
17. Don't put a piece of new cloth on an ____garment.
18. By the ____of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Ghost.
20. Good ____what can I do to inherit eternal life?

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

22. She bears tore 42 children who called Elisha a ____ head.
23. Jesus is the ____ yesterday, today and forever.

OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES

Our grandson Isaac cut a little of his hair at preschool with small scissors. When questioned why he would do such a thing, he had a ready answer, "Well, Mama said I needed a haircut."

A teacher my wife works with has twins which had this conversation with their mama:

First twin: I need a bath. I smell just like a man.

Second twin: Mama have you got water in your tummy?

Mama: No, I haven't had anything to drink.

Second twin: Why is it so squishy? Can you make it smaller? right now!—*Editor*

THE YEAR AHEAD

By Elder Larry Wise

Well, another year is here once more,
We know not what lies before.
We know however, God is in control,
We can serve God and ever be bold.

Bold to hold the truth ever so high,
And our Lord to never deny.
Never deny Him in our daily walk,
May our walk match our talk!

Look to the Lord as our only source,
And He will direct our godly course.
We can't live a day or week in advance,
Look to Him; leave nothing to chance.

We trust in the Lord with all our heart.
All the year; not just at the start.
If we acknowledge Him in all our ways,
Our paths are directed all the days.

At the end of the year, we look back,
Been protected from Satan's attack.
Couldn't have made it without His grace,
Doing as we should in our Christian race.

"Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us," (Heb. 12:1)

CHURCH NEWS

Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church Ackerman, MS will have their annual open meeting the 4th weekend in February, 2020. More details to follow in February issue of Glad Tidings. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Macedonia.

Our prayers are with those churches that are without pastors at present. May God direct each church with guidance and direction and may He work with both the minister and the church to supply the void that has occurred. "And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding." (Jer. 3:15) Jesus spent all night in prayer before He chose the twelve apostles. We also should spend much time in prayer and ask direction to proceed according to His Divine will.—*Editor*

2020 Annual Meeting PBC, Stringer, MS January 24-26, 2020: Providence Primitive Baptist Church, Stringer, MS would like to invite our brethren and sisters to worship with us, Lord willing, the 4th weekend of January, 2020 (Jan. 24-26). Services will begin on Friday, January 24, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch to follow, afternoon service, supper at 6:00 p.m. and night service at 7:00 p.m.

Services on Saturday, Jan. 25, will follow similar schedule with the meeting ending with service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday with lunch to follow. If you are unable to come, please pray for the meeting.

In addition to brethren and sisters hosting guests in our homes, there are numerous hotels in Laurel which is about 18 miles away from the meeting house. It appears these two hotels have the best ratings: Hampton Inn & Suites Laurel, MS—1509 Jefferson St. Laurel, MS 39440—601-399-0659 and Best Western Laurel Inn, 309 S. 16th Ave. Laurel, MS 39440—601-425-4455. Please contact Pastor, Elder Mark Quarles at mdqprimitive7@att.net for more information or if you need a place to stay.

"How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace, and bring glad tidings of good things!" Rom.10:14-15

"The elders which are among you I exhort, who am also an elder, and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and also a partaker of the glory that shall be revealed: Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;" (I Peter 5:1-2)

CHURCH NEWS

"If I'm too mean about this, pray for me. I need the prayers and you need the practice." From Elder Sonny Pyles sermon.

"Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving; Withal praying also for us, that God would open unto us a door of utterance, to speak the mystery of Christ, for which I am also in bonds: That I may make it manifest, as I ought to speak." (Col, 4:2-4) Pray for the minister and every church service you will attend this year.—*Editor*

Many annual church meetings will be coming up in the months ahead and do your best to attend as many as you can. Many of our PBC congregations are relatively small and would be greatly encouraged by any physical support they receive by your loyal attendance. Keep looking up; the Lord Jesus will be coming back sooner or later. We pray it will be sooner rather than later.—*Editor*

THE NEW YEAR

I extend thanks for all the contributions sent to Glad Tidings to keep this publication going throughout the past year and hopefully through this year. These donations come from individuals and Primitive Baptist Churches. Just when the funds seem to be getting short, some individual or church will send in their donation to replenish the funds for additional months of publication. May the God of glory bless each and every one of the readers of Glad Tidings and their families with health and strength throughout this New Year of 2020. God is worthy of our praise each of the 365 days and not just on Sunday morning. I encourage sound articles to be submitted for consideration for publication in Glad Tidings. Some reader may have access to writings of the past of sound Primitive Baptist ministers. If so, then send copies if you feel led to do so.—*Editor*

Three pastors got together for coffee one day and found all their churches had bat-infestation problems. "I got so mad," said one, "I took a shotgun and fired at them. It made holes in the ceiling, but did nothing to the bats." "I tried trapping them alive," said the second. "Then I drove 50 miles before releasing them, but they beat me back to the church." "I haven't had any more problems," said the third. "What did you do?" asked the others, amazed. "I simply baptized and confirmed them," he replied. "I haven't seen them since."

Reader's Digest, July, 1994, p. 64.

AN ABSENT MINDED PROFESSOR

By Elder Herman Clark
Iuka, Mississippi

Most have heard the words "Absent Minded Professor." I am sure some often refer to another person as being absent minded. I find the older I become the more absent minded I become. The word professor always reminds me of a teacher of much learning such as a college professor. Webster's Dictionary gives us the following meanings:

- 1:** one that **professes**, avows or declares
- 2a:** a faculty member of the highest academic rank at an institution of **higher education** **b:** a teacher at a university, college, or sometimes secondary school
- c:** one that teaches or **professes** special knowledge of an art, **sport**, or occupational skill.

Notice the first definition of the word professor. It is one that professes, avows, or declares. Another definition: To say the same thing as another.

In the Book of Titus 1:7-16 we read some of the qualifications for one to be ordained as an elder. Read these verses to get the context of the writing of Paul. I will begin with verse 9. "Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and convince the gainsayers." Notice that Paul did not say that one ordained as an elder was to give up the faithful word but to hold fast to that word which is sound doctrine. The purpose was that he may be able by sound doctrine to exhort and to convince the gainsayers. A gainsayer is one that opposes one's self to one, decline to obey him, or to refuse to have anything to do with him.

Paul said that by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince those that oppose him. When we preach sound doctrine, to some it will invoke, to some it will convince them of the truth or convert them to truth.

If we as the Gospel Church ever needed to exercise the keeping of sound doctrine it is the hour in which we live. Many hearts are waxing cold to the truth. There are many that have itching ears. They want to hear things that will tickle their ears or those things that entertain the flesh. We see that on every hand. Paul warned of those that are unruly and vain talkers and deceivers, especially they of the circumcision: Whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole houses, teaching things which they ought not, for filthy lucre's sake. Along with the tickling of people's ears comes the filthy lucre. They walk hand in hand.

We read in verse 12 "One of themselves, even a prophet of THEIR OWN, said, The Cretians are always liars, evil beasts, slow bellies." This was one of their own prophets that called these Cretians evil beasts, slow bellies. Evil beasts are those that will tear down, break down one's faith in the Word of God if one is not well rooted and grounded in the truth.

How many have you seen leave the church for the things of the world? It happened then, it happens today and it shall continue until time is no more.

What is the remedy for this absent minded in the faith? Many have tasted that the Lord, He is gracious. But some vain talker can come along and lead us astray if we are not careful. Paul said that we should not give heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, and turn from the truth. Look at the following verse 15 "Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure: but even their MIND AND CONSCIENCE is defiled. When my mind becomes defiled with unsound doctrine, rest assured of this one thing that I am in a position of being an ABSENT MINDED PROFESSOR.

Paul said in Titus 1:16 "They PROFESS THAT THEY KNOW GOD; but in works they deny him, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate." When one forgets, or becomes ABSENT MINDED and forgets the foundations of the Apostles and our Lord Jesus Christ; when one forgets the foundations of our belief as the Church that was set up by Jesus and His doctrine, be assured that that person has become AN ABSENT MINDED PROFESSOR. That which was once declared to be truth has been sold for the desires of the flesh. Buy the truth and sell it not or you too will become AN ABSENT MINDED PROFESSOR.

(From 'The GOOD NEWS Newsletter', July, 2010)

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

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| ACROSS: | DOWN: |
| 2. yldlob | 1. prahs |
| 5. ragmahs | 2. nesarb |
| 7. dlot | 3. tol |
| 8. trac | 4. ylil |
| 10. tsol | 6. nedlog |
| 11. diap | 8. etsahc |
| 12. reven | 9. ramat |
| 14. aras | 13. lessev |
| 16. on | 15. rozar |
| 19. mra | 17. dlo |
| 21. tsael | 18. gnihsaw |
| 22. tsaob | 20. retsam |
| 23. cheeps | 22. dlab |
| 24. ram | 23. emas |
| 25. ymene | |
| 26. ruodo | |
| 27. gnos | |

BE WISE

"A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards." (Prov. 29:11)

CURSED OR BLESSED?

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

The word "blessed" in the scriptures means that the children of God are blessed when they are pronounced "happy and in favour with God." Conversely, the word "cursed" means that these same children are "vexed, tormented, execrated, and detestable." The cause of this cursed condition was the disobedience of Adam in the garden "...so the curse causeless shall not come." (Prov. 26:2) Therefore Paul writes in Rom. 5: 18: "Therefore as by the offence of one judgment came upon all men to condemnation; even so by the righteousness of one the free gift came upon all men unto justification of life." The entire human race is under the curse of sin and condemned by God's righteous law but only the chosen of God (elect) are blessed with spiritual blessings in Christ and escape eternal death and condemnation. (Eph. 1:3)

The only way for the elect to escape the eternal sentence of death was for them to have someone intervene on their behalf and fulfill the law of God. The full penalty of sin and the curse of sin must be paid; otherwise, all are still guilty before the bar of justice. Jesus is the Lamb provided by God as mediator between Him and men for the purpose of redemption of His elect. "But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law. To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons." (Gal. 4:4-5)

Notice that Jesus was "made" under the law and thus He was made a curse that elect sinners would be blessed. Paul writes concerning this, "Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:" (Gal. 3:13) Paul alludes to that which was written in Deut 21:23 in which someone was hanged on a tree for committing a sin worthy of death. However, the body was not to remain on the tree all night but was to be buried the same day. Moses said that "he that is hanged is accursed of God." Disobedience brought about the curse and only perfect obedience could free anyone from its all consuming penalty.

Jesus was made a curse and provided the perfect obedience necessary by being made in the likeness of men but without the sinful nature of men. Paul states, "And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross." (Phil. 2:8) Jesus was hung or crucified on a cross which was obviously made from a tree, fulfilling that which was written. The curse and penalty of sin was transferred from His elect and placed upon Christ which is why He died because there is no death in the absence of sin.

God's elect were cursed (enemies, detestable, vexed, tormented) before God; however, Jesus agreed to be made a curse that they might be pronounced "happy and in favour of God" legally and positionally and thus blessed. God was in Christ reconciling the world of His elect unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them. For this to happen, Paul writes, "For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him." (II Cor. 5:21)

The elect were condemned to eternal death but the death of Jesus and His shed blood has delivered them from that condemnation. "For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:" (Rom. 8:3) Elect sinners aren't condemned because Jesus was condemned in their room and stead. He was the innocent and His chosen were the guilty but now "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth." (Rom. 8:33)

Jesus redeemed (bought, ransomed) His elect from the curse of the law. By His shed blood, Jesus obtained that which His elect could never have obtained, being under the curse of sin. Jesus offered Himself without spot to God and God accepted His offering which was something that the gallons of blood of animals under the Law of Moses could never do. "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) This ransom price was not for a "few" elect but for "many" that cannot be numbered for multitude by any man. "Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." (Matt. 20:28)

In the dispensation of the fullness of times, the elect will all be gathered together in Christ. God's sheep will be separated from the goats with His sheep on His right hand and the goats on His left. "Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye **blessed** of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:" (Matt. 25:34) It is not left to speculation what the King will say to those goats on His left hand for scripture says, "Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye **cursed**, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:" (Matt. 25:41) The power and majesty of God will be on display as never before and if it were not for the grace and mercy of God the sheep would still be cursed as the goats.

The sheep on the right hand did not do those good works for which they were commended in order to be sheep but because they were sheep. Likewise, the goats did what they did because they were goats and still under the curse. God be praised that anyone is blessed to be freed from the curse of sin.

The Amen Corner

by Elder Ricky Harcrow

Fort Payne, Alabama

January 15, 2013

From *ShareTheWord*: 1-14-13

Poverty and Wealth

In our nation today poverty is a great concern and truly it ought to be. Those living below the poverty level are increasing by leaps and bounds in every geographical area in the nation. In the southern mountains, commonly called Appalachia, there are many who live in poverty with no hope of having anything much better. Many have lived in the circumstances so long they do not know anything else so therefore it is accepted as a way of life in the region. Many elderly today struggle every day to have some sort of dignified lifestyle in the so-called "golden years."

In the bible however, the term poverty or "the poor" does not always mean penniless. But there is a certain principle that is woven through the term. There are terms in the bible that refer to one called a PAUPER, another term means BEGGER, or someone who is completely destitute. Our Lord used the term to describe the "poor widow" who gave to the lord all she had (Mark 12). Paul also used the term to describe the "poor saints which were at Jerusalem" for whom he was taking an offering as he traveled (Rom.15:26). A dramatic occurrence is seen in Rev. 2:9 where the Lord speaks of the believers in Smyrna. Materially those believers were destitute; no job, no money and few possessions. I would just ask us to examine ourselves and think how many of us would be such stalwarts if we were in such circumstances.

Further however, what do true riches consist of? For the child of God that question demands an answer. I affirm now that I have gotten a good bit older and hopefully a little wiser that true wealth is not based in material things that we can lay our hand on but rather in many things that we cannot see with the natural eye. I prove this by the words of the Lord to the church at Smyrna; "I know thy works and tribulation and POVERTY but THOU ART RICH". What a statement to consider. They were poverty stricken but yet they were rich by the Lord's standards. Paul referred to his own hardships in the same way: "As poor yet making many rich; as having nothing and yet possessing all things" (2ndCor.6:10).

The reverse is also true. In dramatic contrast to the church at Smyrna who were materially poor but spiritually rich, the Laodicean believers were materially "Rich and increased with goods and had need of NOTHING" but spiritually were "wretched, blind, poor and naked" (Rev. 3:17). In my long experience of preaching in many places I have stayed with those who have been blessed in a

financial way and many other material ways and I am thankful for that blessing toward them. But I tell you the truth, most (not all) of them let what they had take the forefront when it came to the church. On the other hand I have stayed among the poor who had little but they were more than happy to GIVE me (sinner as I am) the best that they had. I could relate an experience that a great man did for me in conveying me to an appointment to preach and letting his own responsibilities take second place; it was such a sacrifice for him but he was a willing character to help such as me. I can never forget such kindness and the spirit of self-sacrifice that the old brother manifested even though he was not blessed much in a material way.

The question now for us is, which type of riches do we desire? Are we willing to give up something or anything for the cause of Christ? So many talk as if they would give up anything for the cause but in reality everything comes ahead of the cause of truth. I don't have very much. I have not accumulated a lot that one can see but I have laid up a few treasures that a thief cannot steal nor can rust or moth corrupt nor destroy. The love and affection that many among God's people have shown me is a REAL TREASURE and the love I have for them is an affection that will never die as long as I live. As long as I have a somewhat clear mind those treasures and riches keep bearing interest for me personally and as I draw nearer to close, that precious faith that was once and for all time delivered to the saints makes me rich in a world that does not know the meaning of such wealth. "Blessed are the POOR in Spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Amen.

Elder Ricky Harcrow
Fort Payne, Alabama

CAN YOU IMAGINE?

John G. Wendel and his sisters were some of the most miserly people of all time. Although they had received a huge inheritance from their parents, they spent very little of it and did all they could to keep their wealth for themselves.

John was able to influence five of his six sisters never to marry, and they lived in the same house in New York City for 50 years. When the last sister died in 1931, her estate was valued at more than \$100 million. Her only dress was one that she had made herself, and she had worn it for 25 years.

The Wendels had such a compulsion to hold on to their possessions that they lived like paupers. Even worse, they were like the kind of person Jesus referred to "who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God" (Luke 12:21). Daily Walk, June 2, 1993

The opposite of the above is one who spends way beyond their means and ends up destitute.—*Editor*

FAITH IN HIS BLOOD

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Romans 3:25: "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;"

In the image of God the Lord made man. Faith is a part of that image. (*In the new birth-Editor*) It is something that we and the Lord have in common.

Faith is an attribute that our heavenly Father has. Our above verse teaches us that very point where it reads having faith in his blood. God had faith in his only begotten Son to redeem his children. He had confidence that his Son would finish the work of redemption. God appointed him because he was absolutely the only one who could save his children from their sins Matthew 1:21. Our Heavenly Father had faith in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ would accomplish saving his children.

Remission of sins of the past through the forbearance of God means God having faith in Christ's blood is how people went to heaven that died before Christ came to earth and offered himself upon the cross. How did Adam get to heaven? By the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. How did Jeremiah get to heaven? By the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. Now these people died before Christ came in the flesh. Even so they went to heaven just like you will because the Father had faith in the shed blood of his Son. He believed and knew His Son would come at the appointed time. Until his Son came he went in the faith that he would come and fulfill all the legal work that would need to be done.

No one went to heaven because they obeyed the law of Moses, in the Old Testament days. No one will or has gone to glory because they were obedient to the New Testament. Every child of God will go to heaven because of the shed blood of the LORD Jesus Christ.

If God had faith in the blood of his Son, shouldn't we as well? Shouldn't we rest on what the blood of Christ accomplished for us? Yes we should. Rest means To lay; to rest, as the mind, in confidence or trust; as, to put trust or confidence in something or someone. Those who believe that they have to make a altar call in order to live with God in glory; are they resting upon the blood of Christ? If they believe that they have to do some kind of work in order to walk the streets of heaven, then what did Christ accomplish for them upon the cross? If they would just stop and ask that question, then just maybe they would find relief, and start seeing the truth. Jesus Christ did not die on the cross so we would have a way open to us to work our way to heaven through some work. He died to take away our sins so we would live in glory. God did not just leave it up to us

to get ourselves in heaven; if he had, then none of us would be going to heaven.

I am so thankful that we as Primitive Baptist do not honor a system of works that denies what Christ accomplished upon the cross. Let us now rest in what Jesus has done for us. In doing so, we have a peace that others do not have, by having faith in what his blood did for us in giving us an assured home in heaven.

R.L. Taylor

THE BEST OF SINNERS

By Elder Guy Hunt Deceased)

Many seem to think Christ died for the best of sinners. That he will save those who do the best and the cutoff may be just one sin different. In other words, those who are good just fifty per cent of the time. This theory places those in hell who are just a littler bit worse than the ones in heaven.

What a sad thought. Those who are saved in heaven will be perfect. Those made perfect by Jesus Christ our Lord. The Apostle Paul referred to himself as the chiefest of sinners. That to me means the worst of sinners. Each of us, if honest with ourselves feel likewise, to be the worst. Yet God has loved us and saved us by his grace. He has taken us, the worst of sinners and made us perfect by his offering on the cross. He then, loved us with an everlasting love, washed us from our sins and will carry us home to glory, not because we are the best of sinners, but sinners made perfect by the blood of Christ. We are all the worst of sinners.

Only Christ was able to make us perfect, fit to be saints.

May God bless us to rejoice in his wondrous grace. There is no such thing as the best of sinners! All sin and sinners are bad.

Guy Hunt

(From "*Pathway of Truth*", December, 2001)

Thought of the day: 11-29-2019—Elder Robert Payne
Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God; Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, 2 Timothy 1:8-9

The gospel is the good news to God's children which have been saved by his grace and called out of darkness unto light by the holy calling of God and not man. In all things, Jesus Christ has the preeminence (first in rule or authority).

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