

Glad Tidings

April

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

We are so caught up sometimes in the affairs of this life that we lose perspective of where our real hope lies. It doesn't reside in the perishable and transitory things of the world. Our hope (expectation with confidence) lies only in Christ. Paul writes, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable." (I Cor. 15:19) The key to any hope beyond this life is to be "in Christ." We don't decide to be in Christ as this is impossible when we are dead in sins. God chose His people "in Christ" before the foundation of the world to be holy and without blame before Him in love. (Eph. 1:4)

We were without God, without Christ, and without any hope prior to being born of the Spirit. Then the new spiritual creation took place sometime between conception and death for His chosen. Paul again writes, "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them." (Eph. 2:10) This creation is solely the work of God and it is "in Christ Jesus." In this sovereign act of God, there is hope instilled in the chosen child of God. What is this hope and where does it reside? The scriptures do not leave us in the dark. "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the commandment of God our Saviour, and Lord Jesus Christ, which is our hope;" (I Tim. 1:1) The Lord Jesus Christ is our hope and without the resurrection of Christ from the grave it would be meaningless because we would have nothing to hope or expect beyond this life.

God's people in the Old Testament had a hope within but they didn't understand who or what it was; it had been hidden. Now in the New Testament God is making it known to the saints what and who that hope is. Paul said regarding this which seemed good in the sight of God, "Even the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:" (Col. 1:26-27) Notice that it is Christ "in you" and you are also "in Christ." What a blessed thought that is! Perishable things will do just that, perish, but that which is imperishable remains forever. We do not have to be miserable in this life because our hope lies beyond the grave and is anchored, not down, but up, in the Lord Jesus Christ.

This glorious hope is all made possible by the shed blood of Jesus for the redemption of the sins of His people and declared them righteous and just before God. Rom. 3:24 says, "Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:" Once again it is "in Christ" that this justification takes place. God was "in Christ" reconciling the world of His elect unto Him, and not imputing their trespasses unto them. (II Cor. 5:19) He was delivered for our offences and raised again for our justification. (Rom. 4:25) Sin terminates at death but the grace that gave us sweet hope lives on just as Paul declares in Rom. 5:21, "That as sin hath reigned unto death, even so might grace reign through righteousness unto eternal life by Jesus Christ our Lord."

We have a sweet hope of being like Christ as John writes that we know not what we shall be, but we know that when He shall appear, we shall be like Him and see Him as He is. (I John 3:2) This hope and expectation leads to a desire to live a righteous life and utilize faith to the glory of God because John connects this with that glorious expectation of being like Christ. "And every man that hath this hope in him purifieth himself, even as he is pure." (I John 3:3) Of course this is all because of the love the Father hath bestowed upon us to be called the sons of God. Our faith and hope will come to an end when we arrive in heaven but love lives on. This is why Paul writes in I Cor. 13:13, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity." (I Cor. 13:13) Without charity (love in action), we would have neither faith nor hope.

Our hope doesn't perish at death but is fulfilled as the soul and Spirit return to God and reside in His presence until the resurrection of the dead which is possible because Christ rose victorious from the grave. The wicked have a hope as well but it is **not** "in Christ" but rather resides in the world to continue their sinful ways. Solomon affirmed this truth when he wrote, "When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perisheth." (Prov. 11:7) This is the lot of the wicked and unjust but not so with the righteous.

Just as sure as the truth that Christ rose from the grave, so it is true that He will come again and receive us unto Himself and be with Him forever more. Yes indeed, we aren't miserable as long as we don't pin our hope on the perishable things of this world but have it focused in Christ. (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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KEYS OF THE KINGDOM

Elder T.S. Dalton (Deceased)

"And I will give unto you *the keys of the kingdom of heaven*, and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven," Matt. 16:19.

Keys signify authority as you will see by reference to Isaiah 22:22, "Eliakim who had the key of the house of David, was over the household, etc." God's ministers are called stewards in Tit. 1:7, also 1 Cor. 4:1. Jesus had made known unto the apostles in this same chapter that he was going to build his church, and found it upon the grand truth as expressed by Peter. "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," for Jesus said to him, "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona, for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father, which is in heaven. Upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

The church is not founded, then, on the idea that none but the literal seed of Abraham or national Israelites shall have its benefits, but it shall be founded upon the truth that God reveals to men, whether they be Jew or Gentile. And Peter being one of the stewards of his church, and God having chosen, that the Gentiles by his mouth should hear the word of the gospel.

He now gives him the authority to open the door of truth to the Gentiles, which he did when he visited Cornelius.

We must confess that there has been considerable speculation on this subject, but we have come to the conclusion that the heaven referred in the text has

reference to the Jewish church, and means that whatsoever Peter shall bind or loose among the Gentiles shall be ratified by the saints among the Jews, and if you will call to mind, my brother, that Peter had visited the Gentiles, and preached to them that the church at Jerusalem took him under dealings, and while they were consulting about this matter, James arose and said, "Men and brethren, hearken unto me, for I remember that Simon hath said that God shall visit the Gentiles to take out of them a people for his name," and when this truth was called to mind, they all forgave Peter, or rather ratified his work, and said, "Now hath God granted repentance unto the Gentiles." T.S. Dalton *Zion's Advocate* Jan. 1893.

C.H. Cayce: We think the keys of the kingdom (or church) were delivered to Peter, and he used them to unlock the door and open the kingdom to the Gentiles when he went to the house of Cornelius and preached the gospel there. We do not think the door of the church is ever closed, or has been since it was opened to the Gentiles. It is always open to God's little children who give a reason of their hope in Jesus and ask for a home there. (CAYCE *Vol. 1, ppg 378*)
(From "*Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature*",
Volume 7—Elder Harold Hunt—Editor)

NEW WINE: NEW BOTTLES

Elder T.S. Dalton (Deceased)

In the days of the Savior's advent here on earth, history informs us they used bottles made of leather, which after they had been used awhile and became old and worn, would not admit of being filled with any strong substance, and we think the Savior used this to illustrate the idea that he intended to convey, and if you will read the two preceding verses, you will see that Jesus was talking to John's disciples on the subject of fasting. The 14th verse says, "Then came to him John's disciples, saying, Why do we and the Pharisees fast oft, but thy disciples fast not?" Verse 15, "And Jesus said unto them, can the children of the bride-chamber mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? But the days will come, when the bridegroom shall be taken away from them, and then shall they fast."

This, we think, the Savior introduced to show that they (the Pharisees) were fasting, because it was in keeping with the tradition of their fathers, or in other words, because the Jewish law and the Jewish form of worship required it, simply showing them that they were still keeping up the forms of the old covenant. But now the bridegroom (Christ) is come and introduced the new covenant, in which his people are to worship (not in ceremonies, or formal fastings), but in spirit and in truth, for Jesus says, "he seeketh such

to worship him, as do worship him in spirit and in truth.”

“Therefore,” says the Savior, “we put new wine into new bottles.” The idea is whatever belongs to the new covenant should not be put in the old, which necessarily cuts off every Arminian Creed from Dan to Beersheba, for they all take the stipulations of the old covenant, and try to bring them into the new, and every time they try to blend the new and old together, they make the rent worse.

Therefore we would suggest, that we all cease trying to mend the old garment with a new piece, but accept the new bottle (covenant) in which is found the rich treasure of God’s grace, which is freely and graciously bestowed upon the subjects of promise, and we are made the happy beneficiaries of it, without the performance of stipulated conditions on our part. The stipulations of the old covenant were, “if you will, I will.” “If you are willing and obedient, ye shall eat the good of the land,” etc., etc. In the new covenant God says, “I will and you shall.”

Oh! how different, and yet there are multiplied millions of people who have never yet discovered the difference and are still trying to mend the old garment with the new piece of goods, or to put the new wine into the old bottle; and I have been made to wonder why they could not see it. Oh! that God in his infinite goodness and mercy may open their eyes to the truth, and lead them out of Babylon into the green pastures of his grace, that they may feast their souls on the rich promises found in the “new and everlasting covenant, which is ordered in all things and sure.” (*T.S. Dalton Zion’s Advocate Sept 1893*)

(From “*Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature*”, Volume 7—Elder Harold Hunt—Editor)

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Elder Robert Payne

January 18, 2020

Most all churches have articles of faith that express the doctrine they believe.

One of those is that we believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testament of the King James Bible are the inspired word of God and our only rule of faith and practice.

While many are sincere in their claim to this principle, their beliefs fall short of the standard of Bible truth.

Many have been taught false doctrine either intentionally or through lack of knowledge. That is the reason we compare what we are taught to what the Bible teaches.

John 4:24 tells us, God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.

There is only one truth, so all the things taught today are not truth. We all possibly could be wrong, but there is no way we are all right. While that thought may offend some, it is true nonetheless. Consider these thoughts and rightly divide the word of truth.

MERCY

The small word, “Mercy,” I consider one among the few words, that mean so much. It is like faith; it comes from above, and is given by the Holy Spirit. All men have not faith. Mercy is not given enough thought or consideration. It is used sometime in a thoughtless way, as when one gets suddenly ill, he or she, without thinking, will say, “Oh, Mercy.” The King of kings had mercy upon many before time was; made choice of people who were given eternal life to dwell with Him in glory. The Father gave His only Son to suffer and die on the cross for them, and just before giving up the ghost to leave the earth He said, “It is finished.” Precious words, He paid it all; He had borne our sins; paid with mercy and the shedding of His blood. I am made to think, am I a soldier of the cross, and am I worthy to retreat to the Mercy seat. Some may not be familiar with the song,

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

The scripture says, “I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy,” and “Whom He will, He hardeneth.” “It is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that showeth mercy.” “Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you.” “He speaks and it is done.”

We who have God’s love and mercy in our hearts are joyful and want to love and serve Him better. Some say, “I can believe and praise Him out of the Church.” I don’t dispute this, but much joy is lost; that of serving Him and having the sweet fellowship of the church, which is better felt than told. Old Baptists believe in heart felt religion. I am ashamed to say it, but in this civilized America the courts have no mercy, no matter what the crime may be. I am sure that men in the late war were made to plead for mercy, having lost all faith in himself and in all mankind. In the Acts of the Apostles, we read of many miracles performed by Jesus. Also where He gave this miraculous power to some of the apostles, especially to Paul and Peter, both were very bold and outspoken. One night when Peter was imprisoned and chained between two soldiers, an angel of the Lord appeared to him and his chains were loosed and he was made free. Later someone tried to buy this wonderful power given to him from God. “Thy money perish with thee.” So, you see power and mercy cannot be bought with silver or gold.

Oh, let thy hand forget thy skill,
My tongue be silent, cold, and still;
This bounding heart forget to beat,
If I forget the mercy seat.

Artelia Morrisett

(From “*The Primitive Baptist*”, April 17, 1947)

THE INDESTRUCTIBLE WORD

Unknown—Copied

Many have tried to destroy the Bible. In A.D. 303, Roman emperor Diocletian issued an edict to destroy Christians and their Bibles. Over a burned Bible, he built a monument on which he wrote this, *Extinctio nimomene Christianorum* (the name Christian is extinguished). Twenty years later, Diocletian was dead. The new Emperor Constantine commissioned 50 copies of the Bible to be prepared at government expense.

In 1776 Voltaire, the French philosopher, stated, “one hundred years from my day, there will not be a Bible in the earth except one that is looked upon by an antique seeker.” One hundred years later, Voltaire was dead and his own house and press were used to print and store Bibles by Geneva Bible Society. One hundred years from the day of Voltaire’s prediction, the first edition of his works sold for 11c in Paris, but the British government paid the Czar of Russia half a million dollars for an ancient Bible manuscript.

God’s Word shall stand forever, “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away” (Matthew 24:35).

(From “*In The Master’s Service*”, June 2007)

HERE AND THERE

Elder Louis Culver
Deatsville Alabama

Many times the congregation, either in whole or in part, become dissatisfied with the pastor and desires to remove him in favor of someone else. “For the good of the church,” says the congregation. Frequently, however, the ‘good of the church’ is of the least concern.

It has been said that if you desire a better preacher, then pray for the one you have. If a church is looking for a better preacher, praying for the current one could very well bring about a great change—in both the pastor and in the congregation. If a congregation prays, things happen. Prayer changes things. God both hears and answers prayers. We must be ‘tuned in’ to Him when He answers or we may mistake our wants for His answers. Remember: sometimes God says “Yes,” sometimes He says “No,” and sometimes He says “Wait awhile.”

If you want better preaching from the pulpit, exercise and practice more and better prayer from the pew. Here is the problem and there is the answer.

(From “*In The Master’s Service*”, June 2007)

“And I will give you pastors according to mine heart, which shall feed you with knowledge and understanding.” (Jer. 3:15)

HALF HINGES

By Elder Leon Clevenger (Deceased)

In looking through my tool box the other day I came across a half hinge, all in good shape but useless without the other half. I failed to find the other half. Then I thought how like our lives that was. In our hands many things are useless because we cannot find the other half for which it was made.

Not so with God. He never makes a half hinge without it’s other half. He made the wings of the bird. The air on which it flies is the other half. He made the fins of the fish and the water for their use. The seed for the soil, and the soil for the seed. Christ for the Christian and the Christian for Christ. The hope of the resurrection is a half hinge, but its fulfillment is sure, for only God can give a real hope of the resurrection, and God never makes a useless half hinge.

I saw a flight of wild geese winging southward. So foolish and yet so wise, knowing by instinct when and how to fly and where to go. God gave the instinct to go south from the cold north winter and he gave the sunny southland as the other half of the hinge. They needed no road map or tourist prospectus to make them believe the southland desirable. God put the desire there, even as in spiritual life God puts the desire for Christ in the hearts of his children.

These things should be of much encouragement to the Christian. We so often fear that we will never find that place and love in Christ which we so much desire. God has given that desire. He makes no half hinges. Somewhere unseen by mortal eye is the other half. We shall receive it some sweet day and it will fit perfectly.

The worldly mind, unable to see spiritually, denies the Christian’s hope and tells him to throw it away as useless. But those who have faith in God are comforted by the thought that every thing that God has made is for a purpose and some day will surely serve that purpose.

God made the Christians for Christ. His God given hope points to Christ, and in God’s own good time he shall be brought to Christ. Then the two halves will hinge perfectly and all will be love, peace and joy forever.

May God give us each grace to trust in His perfect work, and may we learn to labor and to patiently wait the coming of our Savior, for He not only will come to us from time to time while on our earthly journey, but by and by He will come and take us home to live with Him forever.

Leon H. Clevenger

(From “*Advocate and Messenger*”, December 1942)

“As for me, I will behold thy face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with thy likeness.” (Psalm 17:15)

SUFFERINGS NOW—GLORY HEREAFTER

By Elder Larry Wise
Randolph, Mississippi

We read in the newspaper and see on the TV the reports of incidents of tragedies and the cruelty of men and women, and it is sometimes difficult to make sense of it all. We must remember that we live in a broken world and it manifests itself in the incidents we hear about from time to time such as crazed gunmen who shoot and kill innocent men, women, and children. Good people sometimes have to suffer because of the evil deeds of others.

Many trials and tribulations are the lot of God's people in this life but they have the Lord to see them through. So we must trust the Lord no matter what the circumstances remembering that we have this promise in the word of God: "There hath no temptation 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 of escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (I Cor. 10:13). The Lord knows what we are able to bear and provides the way of escape through His grace. The trouble may not be removed but grace is provided to bear the burden.

Things happened to Job and he was a just and upright man who feared God and eschewed evil. His miserable comforters just knew that the trouble Job was experiencing must be because of some sin he had committed but such was not the case. Job didn't understand all that was happening to him but he made this statement that we all need to pattern our lives by: "Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him: I will maintain my own ways before him." (Job 13:15). Job continued to trust the Lord.

Good people who trust the Lord and live upright lives like Job still undergo various sufferings and in our natural thinking it doesn't seem quite fair. We must remember that Jesus lived a perfect and upright life yet He suffered as man has never suffered for guilty sinners. "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit." (I Pet. 3:18) We were the guilty, unjust ones but He was innocent yet He suffered on the cross that we would not suffer the eternal wrath of God. Suffering has been the lot of the saints of God but it doesn't last forever. David said, "...weeping may endure for a night but joy cometh in the morning." (Psalm 30:5).

David wondered why he was plagued and chastened of the Lord while the wicked seemed to prosper with firm strength and were not in trouble as other men. This contemplation was too painful for David to bear to think about this, but then we read how and where he found solace. "When I thought to know this, it was too painful for me; Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end."

(Psalm 73:16-17). In the sanctuary of God he understood that the end of the wicked was to be cast away from the Lord forever while the lot of all the righteous was to be forever with the Lord in heaven and immortal glory.

In the midst of a crooked and perverse generation that seemingly cares little for the Lord or His word, there are those who still trust the Lord in spite of it all. "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). The truth is that sufferings usually cause the people of God to draw closer to Him while prosperity tends to cause them to become complacent and take blessings for granted. When the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York were destroyed by terrorists flying hijacked airplanes into them on September 11, 2001, the aftermath produced a religious awakening. People began to attend worship services in mass fashion. After the initial shock, people began to return to their old ways and houses of God suffered. This tragedy unified and brought people together; however, it didn't last.

Solomon was the wisest man in the earth with the exception of Jesus Christ and he warned the people of God about priorities and what to expect in a world that brings both prosperity and adversity. "In the day of prosperity be joyful, but in the day of adversity consider: God also hath set the one over against the other, to the end that man should find nothing after him." (Eccl. 7:14) God has not left us in the dark about what to expect as the people of God. There will be days of darkness no matter how prolonged our years are upon the earth. Thus Solomon also said, "But if a man live many years, and rejoice in them all; yet let him remember the days of darkness; for they shall be many. All that cometh is vanity." (Eccl. 11:8)

We are told to not be ashamed if we suffer as a Christian but rather rejoice and glorify God on this behalf. Paul even told the church at Philippi, "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) Paul suffered and endured all things for the elect's sake and counted it an honor that he was worthy to suffer shame after having been beaten for preaching Jesus and him crucified. Paul paints the contrast between present sufferings and what to expect to come. "For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us." (Rom. 8:18)

Sufferings here but glory hereafter!

LITTLE HUMOR

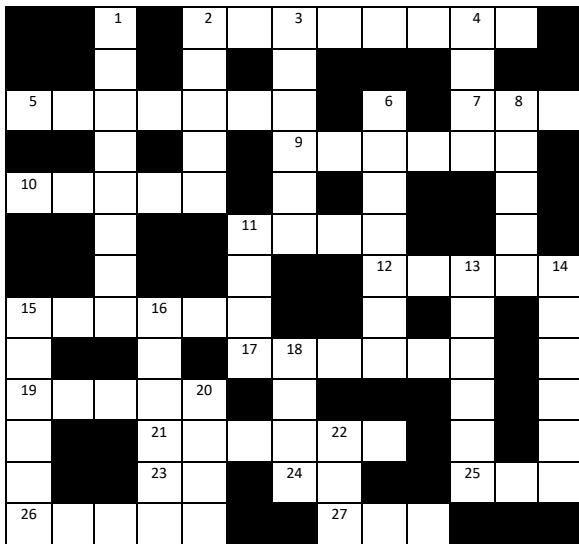
A man went to see his doctor for advice about being cured of snoring. The doctor asked, "Does your snoring disturb your wife?"

The patient replied, "Does it disturb my wife? Why it disturbs the entire congregation." –Source Unknown

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

2. He maketh me to lie down in green ____.
5. Jesus said I go to ____ a place for you.
7. When thou was under the fig tree I ____ thee.
9. In lowliness of mind let each ____ other better than themselves.
10. Jesus was the lion of the ____ of Judah.
11. The wicked husband of the wicked Jezebel.
12. Love your enemies ____ them that curse you.
15. Peter saw a certain ____ descend from heaven as it had been a great sheet.
17. By faith the ____ obtained a good report.
19. The hour cometh and ____ when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God. 2 words.
21. Hear ye ____ must we fetch you water out of this rock?
23. And I will raise ____ up again at the last day.
24. For God ____ loved the world He gave his Son.
25. The color of the heifer offered as a sacrifice.
26. Remember thy Creator in the days of thy ____.
27. I am the ____ the truth and the life.



(Answers on Page 9)

DOWN:

1. We're redeemed with the ____ blood of Jesus.
2. Jesus said I go to prepare a ____ for you.
3. Paul's bodily presence was weak and his ____ contemptible. He came not with excellency of ____.
4. Take thine ____, eat drink and be merry.
6. Israel had to gather ____ instead of straw for brick.
8. We ask and receive not because we ask ____ that we may consume it on our own lusts.
11. Fear him who is ____ to destroy body and soul.
13. This occasion celebrates resurrection of Christ.
14. Take the ____ of faith to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Guards the heart and chest.
15. All is ____ and vexation of spirit said Solomon.
16. We must worship the Lord in ____ and in truth.
18. Satan is a murderer and the father of ____.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOWN:

20. Son of Adam and Eve who replaced Abel.
22. Mind not high things but condescend to men of ____ estate. Not high.

OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES

A mother invited a fairly large group of people over to her house for dinner. She asked her seven year old daughter if she would like to say the blessing? Her daughter told her mother she would not know what to say. The mother said, "Just say what you hear Mommy say."

The daughter bowed her head and said, "Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people over to dinner?"

Teacher: "Now Simon, tell me, do you say your prayers before eating?"

Simon: "No Sir, I don't have to. My Mom is a good cook."

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Elder Robert Payne
February 10, 2020

New and improved?

We live in a time of ever changing products and methods of doing things. Technology has exploded into ever changing products and the public is encouraged to get the newest and most improved products.

Now we find that religion is not immune from these changes. You are not "with it" if you don't have the latest version of the Bible, song books, or on screen songs, minister, church chairs, musical instruments, entertainment for kids, and on and on we go.

The Lord set up his church in simplicity and that for a reason that it does not require constant updating. God didn't ask Noah to make changes to the ark, Moses didn't add to the tabernacle nor Solomon to the temple. His command was to build them according to the pattern I shew thee.

As an old preacher once said, if any thing will do, nothing will do as well.

Hebrews 13:8 Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to-day, and forever.

Malachi 3:6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

God does not change himself, his word and not his church. New and improved? I think not.

"This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (Matt. 15:8-9)

CHURECH NEWS

Clear Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Maben, MS will have their meeting on 4th weekend in April, 2020 (Apr. 25-26). Services Saturday, Apr. 25, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Sun. at 10:30 a.m. This is an open meeting. Everyone is invited. Clear Springs is currently without a Pastor.

Everyone is invited to Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS for their meeting the 2nd weekend in April, 2020 (Apr. 10-12). Services Friday night, Apr. 10, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Apr. 11, at 10:30 a.m. followed by lunch. No afternoon service. Concludes on Sunday, Apr. 12, at 10:30 a.m. followed by communion and lunch. Elder Gary Rhodes, AR 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, 2020. The invited preachers are Elder James Isaacs and Elder Mark Quarles. Services will begin Friday night, May 1st, with supper at 6:00 and service at 7:00. Saturday, May 2nd, morning service will be at 10:00, followed by lunch and afternoon service. Sunday, May 3rd, morning service will be at 10:30, followed by lunch and communion service. We look forward to sweet fellowship with our beloved brethren and sisters. If you are unable to attend, please remember us in prayer. Elder Tony Lester is Pastor of Harmony.

Pine Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Ripley, MS invites all to its annual spring meeting beginning Friday April 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm with refreshments to follow. Services on Saturday morning, April 4, at 10:30 am followed by lunch. Dinner will be served at 5:30 pm with worship at 7:00pm. Sunday service at 10:30 with lunch at noon. Elder Ricky Harcrow, Fort Payne, 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.

Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecu, MS invites everyone to their annual communion meeting the 3rd weekend in May, 2020 (May 15-17). Services Friday night, May 15, at 7:00 pm. Services Saturday night, May 16, at 6:30 p.m. preceded by supper at 5:00 p.m. Sunday, May 17, at 10:00 a.m. with Communion followed by lunch. Elder Mark Quarles, Madison, MS is invited minister. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

“Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.” (Acts 17:31)

CHURCH NEWS

New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS has called Elder Rusty Wise, Tupelo, MS to be their Pastor and Elder Wise has accepted. They had been without a Pastor since Elder Grady Camp had to leave for health reasons.

ANNOUNCEMENT

<http://gracealoneradio.net/connect>

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Sulphur Springs Primitive Baptist Church, Caledonia, MS will have its annual meeting the 2nd weekend in April, 2020 (Apr. 10-12). Singing at 7:00 p.m. Friday night, Apr. 10, preceded by supper at 6:00 p.m. Services Sat., Apr. 11, at 10:00 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Elders Bobby Payne, Dwayne Hooven, and David Guttery are scheduled for morning service and Darren Owens and Sam Bryant for afternoon. Concludes on Sun. at 10:30 a.m. Elder Joe Nettles is Pastor of Sulphur Springs.

The 2020 Smoky Mountain Spring Meeting will be held April 6- April 9, 2020, Monday night - Thursday morning (morning, 10 am and night services, 7:00 pm). Evergreen Smoky Mountain Lodge and Convention in Pigeon Forge, TN (same location as last Spring, the property was sold and has new owners)

We will start a little early on Monday evening (approx. 6:30 PM). Tuesday and Wednesday's schedule is for 10:00 am and 7:00 pm. Thursday morning will begin at 9:30 am (a little earlier).

Address and info is as follows,

4010 Parkway

Pigeon Forge, TN 37863...

865-453-1823

Tell them you're with the Smoky Mountain Primitive Baptist Meeting and you will receive a reduced rate, which includes a full breakfast. Contact Elder Ronnie Loudermilk at elderrbl@gmail.com for more details.

“In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah; We have a strong city; salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks.” (Isa. 26:1)

DAILY PRAYER

By Elder Rusty Wise
February 9, 2020

Mark 12:42-44 KJV: And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

What do we offer up to our God? Do we run by the house of God, maybe to get a little refill or to make a showing, or just to say to ourselves "well I've done my part for the week, now I can get on to other things". Or we may even think to ourselves "well I may not have done much but I do more than most".

Jesus declares that this little widow did more than all the rest, she gave all that she had. When we come before the presence of the Lord, do we give all that we have? Do we come with the thought of being there before time, so as not to be rushed, with our focus on him? Do we come with a prayer on our lips that God would bless our efforts? Do we sing from the heart, and make a joyful noise unto the Lord, do we pray as the message is being delivered, that God would speak to our hearts, and fill it with joy and peace? Are we truly thankful once again to be in the public worship with all of the saints? When we leave are our hearts turned to thoughts of when will we be able to gather together again?

The widow gave all that she had in the service of God, what are we withholding that hinders us from serving him? How much of ourselves are we willing to surrender? I pray that we all find the treasure in serving a most wonderful amazing God.

1 All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

Refrain:

I surrender all, I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,
I surrender all.

2 All to Jesus I surrender,
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine;
Let me feel Thy Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine. [Refrain]

3 All to Jesus I surrender
Lord, I give myself to Thee
Fill me with Thy love and power
Let Thy blessing fall on me. [Refrain]

Do your best---Find sweet rest

LITERAL OR FIGURATIVE

(From a sermon by Elder Sonny Pyles)

I have this poem about preachers who would spiritualize everything in the Bible. He that would over spiritualize, doth so because he hath no spiritual eyes. And those that have no spiritual eyes often tell spiritual lies. I had this discussion with an elder, we were discussing election, and he said, "you have to take this lesson either literal or figurative". He wanted to spiritualize a lot more than I wanted to spiritualize and he said to me you've got to take this lesson either entirely literal or entirely figurative. It can't be both. I asked this elder a question and I want to ask this audience the same question I asked him. I understand you folks need rain; we need rain where I live. Now let's suppose right now that it is obvious it is pouring down rain outside. Let us pretend; we may have to pretend a long time but let us pretend. Now suppose I say it is raining cats and dogs. Is that a literal statement or a figurative statement and better be slow in answering? Somebody says why that is figurative. Well, go outside and get soaking wet and come back inside and tell me that it is figuratively raining. Caught on? I don't think some of you have. Let me try again. It is raining cats and dogs. Is that a figurative statement or a literal statement? You say it is figurative. Go outside and get wet, soaking wet like a wet rat and come inside and tell me it is figuratively raining. I have just said to you that it is literally raining but I have used a figure of speech to tell you how much it is raining. You catch that?

Folks quite often tell you a literal truth and use a figure of speech to express it. I saw so and so yesterday and he was drunk as a dog. How many of you have seen any drunk dogs lately? I saw so and so and he was lying, lying like a dog. How many dogs lied to you lately? All that doesn't make any sense but you see what we're doing. My mother used to say drunk as a hoot owl. You seen any drunk hoot owls lately? I've seen a lot of them on the farm; never noticed any of them were drunk. Folks use expressions like that to give you a literal truth. That person was literally drunk but they give you a figure of speech to describe it.

Now let's go back to the 40th chapter of Isaiah. He says, "The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain." Not let's turn to the New Testament. We're going to find in the New Testament that those mountains and hills were used to represent Jewish institutions. We come over to Hebrews chapter twelve and we find where the apostle Paul tells God's people you are not come to that old mountain that burned with fire, with blackness and

with a tempest. You are not come to that mountain that Moses went upon where he received the law of commandments. In other words, you are not come to Mt. Sinai.

Those Jewish institutions in the Bible were compared to mountains. Here is Mt. Sinai. Here are the Jewish traditions, legalism and the law that came from Mt. Sinai that they looked upon as something greatly exalted. Here was the Lord Jesus Christ, the carpenter and a little handful of people, of followers, preaching His kingdom to people and to them that was a lowly despised valley. We find that God brought this down and He brings this up and the Lord removed the middle wall of partition between Jew and Gentile so that it made no difference. He brought the Jews down; He exalted the church up. He puts us all on one level, Jew and Gentile; no difference in the sight of God. In Isaiah chapter 40 what you have over here; you have figurative poetic language used to describe what God was literally going to do. . .

I TIMOTHY IV. 1-3
August 20, 1936
 Elder C. H. Cayce (Deceased)

In January, 1935, Brother J. R. Nichols, Booneville, Miss., requested us to write on I Timothy iv. 1-3. Get your Testament and turn to it and read it, as we do not have space to copy it here. The expression "latter times," refers to a later time in the gospel dispensation. Some shall depart from the faith, or from the true doctrine of God. They will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. The seducing spirits are evil spirits which seduce the Lord's children and deceive them, thus leading them away from the truth. And many of the Lord's children give heed to them. Doctrines of devils are doctrines that men and devils invent. Such doctrines are always contrary to the doctrine of God. The teachers of such doctrines speak lies in hypocrisy. They are hypocritical teachers. They teach for hire and divine for money. They make merchandise of the people. They teach for filthy lucre. Papal Rome is evidently clearly brought to view in this, for they forbid their priests to marry, under a great pretense of great purity and sanctity. They command to abstain from meats. With them it is a great sin to eat meat on certain days. This is but Rome's invention. False doctrines are borrowed from Rome. Rome led the way in modern missions. Rome invented sprinkling for baptism. Rome invented the doctrine of infant baptism. Rome invented the doctrine of eternal damnation without water baptism. Rome invented the doctrine that the preacher or priest is an instrument in eternal salvation of sinners. Many of the Lord's children have been deceived by false teachers of the world.

C. H. C.
 (From "Editorial Writings From The Primitive Baptist" by Elder C. H. Cayce)

Question: What or who were the "barbarians" mentioned in the New Testament?

Answer: The New Testament was originally written in Greek, and the Greeks called all other nations but themselves "barbarians" (Rom. 1:14), as the Jews called all other nations Gentiles. Greeks and Barbarians meant the whole human race; just as Jews and Gentiles mean all the race of man. Paul uses "Greeks" the same as "Gentiles." (I Cor. 1:22,24) The Greek word *barbaros* (barbarian) is thought to be imitative, or expressive of the repugnant sound of a foreign language to a Greek. In both the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek New Testament, the original words sometimes rendered "Gentiles" are at other times rendered "nations," "heathen," and "people."

Sylvester Hassell
 (From "Advocate and Messenger", August, 1966)

ANSWERS
BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE
READ RIGHT TO LEFT

- | | |
|----------------|--------------|
| ACROSS; | DOWN: |
| 2. serutsap | 1. suoicerp |
| 5. eraperp | 2. ecalp |
| 7. was | 3. cheeps |
| 9. meetse | 4. esae |
| 10. ebirt | 6. elbbuts |
| 11. baha | 8. ssima |
| 12. sselb | 11. elba |
| 15. lessev | 13. retsae |
| 17. sredle | 14. dleihs |
| 19. siwon | 15. ytinav |
| 21. sleber | 16. tirips |
| 23. ti | 18. seil |
| 24. os | 20. htes |
| 25. der | 22. wol |
| 26. htuoy | |
| 27. yaw | |

PRIDE

There is perhaps no one of our natural passions so hard to subdue as pride. Beat it down, stifle it, mortify it as much as one pleases, it is still alive. Even if I could conceive that I had completely overcome it, I should probably be proud of my humility.

Benjamin Franklin, from his autobiography.

God wisely designed the human body so that we can neither pat our own backs nor kick ourselves too easily.

Guideposts.

MATT. 18:15-17

By Elder Floy Gross (Deceased)

Moreover if thy brother shall trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

I think that the above language is so plain that it requires but little explanation or comment. I am convinced that it presents a rule which if faithfully followed, would prevent many and perhaps most troubles between brethren, as well as to effect a cure where differences exist. It is a splendid and safe rule for all church members to follow and much of it can be extended to all human relations; I refer especially to the first part "tell him his fault between thee and him alone". This should be observed not only in the church, but in the home and the community. Notice the instruction is, "between thee and him ALONE". How often is this rule disregarded? That would be difficult to answer, but we know it is disregarded much-much too often because the first thought of almost everyone is to tell "his fault" to someone else first. Gossip often begins with, "so and so did me wrong, but don't you tell" but the friend does tell to some other special one who repeats the story as "so and so told me" or "I heard". I am sure that church members do sometimes gossip, and it is certain that they positively do take sides. I think the Bible teaches that the most common and prevailing sin is failure to bridle the tongue. Only as a last resort should these matters be taken to the church for settlement, but this is sometimes necessary. Then if the brother be judged at fault by the church, and if he will not listen to them, and rectify his error, he must be dealt with by the church. The instruction is clear; he shall be regarded as a heathen man and a publican. When a church fails to do its duty in such matters, it not only violates the commandment of our Lord, but lowers it's (sic) dignity and lays itself open for more serious trouble.

I hope that our readers will study this scripture and meditate upon it very carefully and prayerfully. We know not what time something may come up and we ourselves may be caught off guard and speak without thinking, in plain violation of these gospel steps unless we condition ourselves by careful consideration and review. May the Lord help us to conduct ourselves and keep His house as He has commanded. One of the prevailing sins of humanity is loose and unguarded conversation.

When difficulties arise between individuals it is only natural for others, when they hear about it, to allow

their human emotions, sympathies and prejudices to become involved. These human emotions should never be allowed to hinder our better judgment, and every case should stand on it's (sic) own merits, but this is often not the case. Therefore, when two individuals can settle their difficulties quietly between themselves, others need never know that trouble ever existed, or at least not until after it is all settled and good feeling is restored.

Only as a last resort should the matter be presented to the church, after all else has been done as commanded.

(From "Sovereign Grace", by Elder Floy Gross)

Why We Believe Jesus Rose from the Dead:

If Jesus did not rise from the dead, the Christian faith is a foolish fantasy. However, if the resurrection of Christ did occur, it confirms His life, message, and atoning work. It is the basis of our hope of life beyond the grave. Christ is alive, and the evidence is overwhelming. Here are some of the reasons we can be so sure.

1. Jesus predicted His resurrection (Matt 16:21; Mark 9:9-10; John 2:18-22).

2. The Old Testament prophesied it (Psalm 16:10; compare Acts 2:25-31; 13:33-37).

3. The tomb was empty and the grave clothes vacant. If those who opposed Christ wished to silence His disciples, all they had to do was produce a body, but they could not (John 20:3-9).

4. Many people saw the resurrected Christ. They looked on His face, touched Him, heard His voice, and saw Him eat (Matt. 28:16-20; Luke 24:13-39; John 20:11-29; John 21:1-9; Acts 1:6-11; 1 Cor. 15:3-8).

5. The lives of the disciples were revolutionized. Though they fled and even denied Christ at the time of His arrest, they later feared no one in their proclamation of the risen Christ (Matt 26:56, 69-75).

6. The resurrection was the central message of the early church. The church grew with an unwavering conviction that Christ had risen and was the Lord of the church (Acts 4:33; 5:30-32; Rom. 5:24).

7. Men and women today testify that the power of the risen Christ has transformed their lives. We know that Jesus is alive not only because of the historical and biblical evidence but also because He has miraculously touched our lives.

Kurt E. DeHaan.

"For whether we live, we live unto the Lord; and whether we die, we die unto the Lord: whether we live therefore, or die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ both died, and rose, and revived, that he might be Lord both of the dead and living." Ro.14:8-9

TABLE

By Elder Rickey Taylor
Booneville, Mississippi

Romans 11:9: "And David saith, Let their table be made a snare, and a trap, and a stumblingblock, and a recompence unto them:"

This verse is originally mentioned in the Psalms 69:22. Here David is speaking through the power of God, prophesying what would happen to National Israel at their rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ when he was here on earth. Paul speaks of this rejection in chapters 10 and 11 of this same book of Romans. While it has nothing to do with their eternal salvation, belief that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God is an important thing to believe about him. In these two chapters Paul speaks of the consequences of rejecting him as God's Son. Though they had the oracles of God, yet the scriptures tell us that they rejected him though he came of their own bloodline. John 1:11.

So they are denied the blessings of the kingdom of God here on earth because of their lack of belief. Notice what David says is their penalty.

Their **table** be made a snare and trap. Table is significant here in the spiritual world for God's kingdom. We have a natural body that needs natural food in order to sustain it. Just as natural so our spiritual bodies need spiritual food to sustain our lives here on earth. In fact the Lord depicts the table as a eating place for our spiritual lives. Luke 22:30: That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom. This eat and drink is not natural eating and drinking, but spiritual. The Lord has prepared for us a table that we may eat in the kingdom of God. When we go to church and hear the preaching of the gospel we are eating at the master's table. When we have a uplifting moment at our homes reading the word of God, we are eating at the master's table. We could go on and on of the examples of eating at the table in the kingdom, but this will suffice to say what we mean.

Israel was denied those blessings. They wanted to keep an old way that was now abolished. Where it was once a way to feel close to God in the days of the Law administration, now it was a snare and a trap to keep them from enjoying the blessings of the new kingdom. To believe that they still needed the temple and the offerings of the blood of animals for their salvation was a trap and snare unto them. Jesus is the Christ, his perfect life was an atonement for their sins. However if you don't believe that, then you can't get the blessings out of it because of your unbelief. Meanwhile the believing Gentiles reap the blessings from the Master's table. Even today national Israel has only a wailing wall in Jerusalem as they hold unto their unbelief of the Lord Jesus Christ.

We have the true church today; we are the spiritual Israel. We have the oracles of God. Let us not be high minded, but fear. We want to preserve our opportunity of eating at the master's table by our due diligence to labor in his kingdom. We must not take for granted that we have been given a glorious blessing to know what Christ accomplished on the cross. Let us not be negligent in our church attendance. In doing good at every opportunity that the Lord gives us. Let's love the church brethren that God has given us, to let them know that we love them and value them as a brother or sister in Christ. Lord give us strength to read our bible and learn more about Jesus and him crucified. Let us eat at the Master's table! For we could lose these blessings if we neglect them. Think about it. If God took away the blessings of close communion with the original people that had the oracles of God. National Israel a people that he brought out of bondage and gave them a land called Canaan. Who for over 1500 years he gave them many blessings, only to have it taken away because of their unbelief. Then he could also take it away from us. I am thankful that I have a little church that preaches Jesus Christ and him crucified. I thank God that I annually get to wash my brethren's feet. To get to hear their voices ring out in praise unto the God that prepared their singing hearts. Oh how I would miss it, if it was suddenly taken away from me! Lord thank you for the table that you prepare for us in your kingdom here on earth.

R.L. Taylor

GRACE

Although out of pure grace God does not impute our sins to us, He nonetheless did not want to do this until complete and ample satisfaction of His law and His righteousness had been made. Since this was impossible for us, God ordained for us, in our place, One who took upon Himself all the punishment we deserve. He fulfilled the law for us. He averted the judgment of God from us and appeased God's wrath. Grace, therefore, costs us nothing, but it cost Another much to get it for us. Grace was purchased with an incalculable, infinite treasure, the Son of God Himself."

Martin Luther, Daily Walk, May 5, 1992.

"Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:" Rom. 3:24

"Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." Rom.5:9

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