Glad Tidings

August

"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.

2022

FROM THE PASTORS DESK

We are told in scripture how we are to serve the Lord. "...If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me." (Matt. 16:24) Jesus said this to His disciples as He taught them of His impending crucifixion in which Peter began to rebuke Him. Jesus told Peter to "Get thee behind me, Satan" for he savoured the things of men and not those of God. Serving the Lord requires self-denial. We cannot indulge self and serve the Lord at the same time.

Peter left his fisherman nets along with Andrew, James and John to follow the Lord, yet he dared rebuke the Lord. When Jesus said that all would be offended because of Him, Peter said that he would never "deny" Him and would go all the way to death with Him. Jesus told him before the cock crow twice, he would "deny" Him thrice. Sure enough, Peter did deny knowing the Lord three times and had to go out and weep bitter tears. (Matt. 26:75) He wasn't denying self when he refused to be identified with His Saviour and so it is with us today.

We see a tremendous display of lack of self-denial in our culture today. Most seem to desire to have their own way regardless of who gets in the way. But what does the scripture say about such behavior? "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Prov. 14:12) Don't choose this way but deny self and choose to follow the Lord as His beloved child and purchased with His precious blood.

Peter did "deny" the Lord but was he banished from the family of God or from being an apostle? No he wasn't. Then what does the scripture mean when it says, Matthew 10:32-33 "Whosoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before my Father which is in heaven. But whosoever shall deny me before men, him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." This I believe is a timely blessing or chastisement for children of God because those who confess Jesus are already dwelling in God. "Whosoever shall confess that Jesus is the Son of God, God dwelleth in him, and he in God." (I John 4:15) To confess is to promise, give thanks, and acknowledge and thus if we fail to acknowledge Jesus He doesn't direct our paths. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Prov. 3:6) No acknowledgment = no direction.

Jesus is our mediator but He will not acknowledge (confess) us before His Father in our wrong-doing. Conversely, if we confess (acknowledge) Him, He will intercede and bless us according to His will. But what about the denial before men? Will He deny us as His child? Absolutely not! The scripture is plain regarding that impossibility. "If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself." (II Tim. 2:13) He cannot deny us as His child before God because that would be to deny Himself as His children are "bone of his bone and flesh of His flesh." To deny one member of His triumphant church would be to deny a part of His body and He cannot do that.

The same writer (Paul) who told Timothy that Jesus could not deny Himself also wrote, "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:" (II Tim. 2:12) If He cannot deny Himself and thus one of His own, this must mean He will deny us His blessings here on earth through our lack of self-denial and disobedience. There are more ways to deny the Lord than doing it verbally as did Peter. If we are a church member and fail to attend church without a valid reason, we are in essence, denying the Lord and in violation of our vows when we took up our cross to follow the Lord.

Natural fathers do not always give their children everything they ask for; neither does our Heavenly Father. Natural fathers do not always know what their children need but not so with God. Why does the Lord withhold (deny) things from His children? "For the LORD God is a sun and shield: the LORD will give grace and glory: no good thing will he withhold from them that walk uprightly." (Psalm 84:11) When we walk in a way that doesn't please God, He will not bless us because we have turned our backs on Him.

The Psalmist writes about what happens to children who forsake God's law. Psalms 89:30-33 "If his children forsake my law, and walk not in my judgments; If they break my statutes, and keep not my commandments; Then will I visit their transgression with the rod, and their iniquity with stripes. Nevertheless my lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer my faithfulness to fail." Notice that He cannot deny Himself; He is so faithful that He will not utterly take away His loving-kindness because that is what drew us to Him. We conclude that we need to be about a continual confession of Jesus before men and avoid any denial that would bring His chastening? (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 2 days 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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******** WHAT WILL WE KNOW IN HEAVEN



By Elder David Wise Starkville, Mississippi (Continued from July) (August 11, 2021)

Lazarus & The Rich Man: In Luke 16:16-31. Jesus gives the account of a rich man and the beggar, Lazarus. Jesus does not introduce this lesson as a parable but as an actual account of two men. He introduces this as a "certain" beggar named Lazarus and a "certain" rich man (v.19-20). This was describing two "certain" men who lived in first-century Jerusalem. Lazarus had a miserable life in this world as a beggar, but when he died, he was carried by angels to Abraham's bosom, which is a picture of heaven. The rich man had a very prosperous and comfortable life on earth, but when he died, he went to hell to be in torment. It's interesting that Jesus says the rich man had a vision of Lazarus in heaven and Abraham (figurative of God) even while he was in hell. He could see both God and Lazarus in heaven. Maybe the divider between heaven and hell is something like one-way glass, where one side can see through, but the other side cannot see through. It appears there is vision through that one-way glass from hell upward into heaven where he could see Lazarus. However, there is no indication that Lazarus had vision into hell. I don't think the children of God will see everyone in hell while we are in heaven. Some people say that they couldn't be happy in heaven if their loved ones are not there. Well, you won't be able to see into hell; you will only be enraptured with the perfect joy of heaven and presence of Jesus Christ, and you will not be disappointed in heaven even if one of your natural family is not among God's elect. You will just have perfect love of the entire spiritual family of God.

While Lazarus could not see down into hell, it is evident that Abraham (figurative of God) can see down into hell. God is speaking with the rich man in hell in Jesus' account. Even in the intense, neverending torment of hell, the wicked are still not repentant of their sins and offenses towards a holy God. The wicked only want an end to their suffering. The rich man requests God to send Lazarus to give him a cool drink of water to ease his torment in the flame of hell (v.24). God answered that there is a "great gulf fixed" between heaven and hell, and no one can pass over that great gulf (v.25-26). Then, this rich man requests God to send Lazarus to his father's house to testify to his five brothers lest they should come to his place of eternal torment in hell (v.27-28). God then affirms that if they will not hear the word of God, Moses and the prophets, they will not repent even if they saw one risen from the dead, i.e. Jesus Christ (v.29-31). Therefore, we see that the wicked in hell have knowledge of their relationships of their former life. He had knowledge of his five natural brothers still on the earth and was even mindful of them in their life on earth. The rich man did not have his past memories or past relationships erased at death, and I believe the same is true for Lazarus and the elect in heaven too. God says that Lazarus endured evil things on earth, but now he is experiencing comfort in heaven (v.25). It appears that Lazarus had a memory of his suffering as a beggar with the dogs licking his sores on earth, and he could now experience the amazing comfort of God in heaven being reminded of the great suffering he endured during his life on earth.

The Transfiguration of Jesus: In Luke 9:28-33, we see the transfiguration of Jesus Christ. While Jesus was praying, he was transfigured before them, and Peter, James, and John saw Jesus talking with Moses and Elijah (v.29-30). Elijah was carried up into heaven with a chariot of fire, so his body must have been glorified when he went into heaven. There are currently only two glorified bodies in heaven, Enoch and Elijah. Moses died as a regular man and his soul is in heaven. Therefore, how did these three men from 1st century Galilee know men that lived

hundreds of years before them? The Holy Spirit revealed to them who these men were. They "knew" them in heaven, even though they did not know them on the earth. If that is true of mortal men seeing spirits in heaven, how much more so will we have perfect knowledge of all the family of God when we get to heaven? That shows how when we get to heaven we shall "know as we are known". We won't have to introduce ourselves to anyone in heaven. There won't be any need for name tags in heaven. We will know all the elect family of God just as intimately as God knows every one of us, which is perfectly.

These men saw Jesus appear in glory, and Jesus spoke with Moses and Elijah about "his decease which he should accomplish at Jerusalem" (v.31). We definitely will know one another in heaven, and we will converse with each other and with Jesus in heaven. Moses and Elijah, men that lived about 600 years apart in this world and went to heaven 1,400 and 800 years before this event were conversing with each other and with Jesus Christ just like 3 best friends. It is just amazing to think about this kind of perfect fellowship with all the saints of God and with Jesus Christ in heaven! When we get to heaven, we will be able to speak with Jesus face to face as a man speaks unto his friend, just like Moses did in the Old Testament (Exod. 33:11). We will not just see Jesus face to face and bow down in worship, but we will also be able to speak to him as a friend, just like Moses and Elijah here speaking with Jesus in glory!

Notice specifically the topic of conversation of these three men. Jesus, Moses, and Elijah "appeared in glory" (they were in heaven) and were discussing Jesus' death on the cross that was still a good bit in the future in this world. Both Moses and Elijah (just like Samuel) had knowledge of an event that had not yet happened on this earth. We sometimes think that there is no break from the worship of God in heaven. That is certainly true, but we also see here two people in heaven speaking to Jesus of an event in the future in time on the earth. Obviously, the decease of Jesus Christ on the cross is and was a common topic of heaven. Jesus' decease is the reason for worship in heaven, that the Lamb was slain for our sins and redeemed us back to God. Therefore, this topic of conversation was not distracting from the worship of the Lamb; it was only adding to it. Also, note that while in heaven Moses and Elijah were still aware of and discussing the physical location of the city of Jerusalem on earth. They knew that Jesus would be crucified at his decease, but when they went to heaven, crucifixion had not even been invented yet as a means of capital punishment. They were speaking of things they had no way of knowing apart from the imparted perfect knowledge of God in heaven.

Marriage and Relationships in Heaven: Will we know our loved ones in heaven? Since scripture is clear that we will "know as we are known", I'm confident we will know all our elect family and loved ones in heaven. We will not need to look them up when we get there, but we will know all the elect perfectly in heaven. However, our natural, earthly relationships of spouse, child, parent, aunt, nephew. etc. will not take precedence in heaven. Our relationship with Jesus Christ will take precedence, and we will love all the rest of the elect family of God perfectly and equally. In our lives here, there are some people that we love more than others. We naturally love our family, our spouse, and our children deeper and closer than complete strangers. God has designed the greatest, deepest love in this world to be the love of a husband and wife. This marital love is deep and special with just that one person to give us a picture of the perfect love that Christ our Husband has for his bride, the church. It is true that there are some people that we love more than others in this world. However, in heaven, our love will not be discriminatory like on earth. We will not love one person more than another in heaven. We will not lose our special, deep love for our spouse in heaven. Instead, our love for our spouse will be elevated to Christ's perfect love, and our love for all the elect will be elevated as well to Christ's perfect love.

The Sadducees, who didn't even believe in a resurrection, were tempting Jesus asking if seven brothers died raising up seed to a widowed wife, then whose wife would the woman be in the resurrection? Jesus rebuked them for not knowing the scriptures nor the power of God. "For when they shall rise from the dead, they neither marry, nor are given in marriage; but are as the angels which are in heaven." (Mark 12:25) Jesus declares here that we won't be "married" in heaven, as it appears that the angels are not married in heaven. We will not have a special intimacy and covenant love with just one person in heaven. Instead, we will have the perfect love of Christ for all the elect family of God equally. We will not love our elect spouse any less in heaven. Rather, we will finally be able to love them perfectly, and we can also love all the elect perfectly too the way that Christ perfectly loves his church. On earth, there is one relationship that takes precedence above all others in your life, if you are married - a husband and a wife. In heaven, there is one relationship that takes precedence above all others - Christ our Husband with us as his bride. Therefore, your primary relationship in heaven will not be with our natural, earthly spouse, but your primary relationship in heaven will be with your Husband, Jesus Christ. We will not love our spouse or children any less in heaven, but we will just finally be able to love them perfectly and equally with all our brothers and sisters in the elect family of God. (To be continued)

FAITH—ACRONYM (Adapted from article July 3, 2015)



By Elder Larry Wise Randolph, Mississippi

Focus: Focus is a central point of concentration, and faith is concentrated on looking unto Jesus as the author and finisher of faith. The concentration is to keep our eves on Jesus rather than looking to surrounding circumstances which can result in mortal peril in our lives. Peter illustrates a lack of focus and therefore a lack of faith as he walks on the water to come to Jesus. He does fine until he takes his eyes off Jesus and sees the boisterous waves surrounding him caused by the unseen wind; it is then that he begins to sink and cries out, "Lord, save me." (Matt. 14:30). It is a blessing that we have a compassionate high priest as Jesus responds in a way of deliverance and gently rebukes Peter for his lack of focus (faith). "And immediately Jesus stretched forth his hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" (Matt. 14:31). During the remainder of the year of 2022, may we all focus on Jesus and avoid all the pitfalls that come from taking our eyes off Him. When something is in focus, the image is very clear and distinct. When we focus on Jesus, our walk will be clear and distinct in pleasing the Master because without faith it is impossible to please Him.

Asks: Faith asks the Lord in prayer for the things needed in this life. The failure to ask is a lack of faith because we are told in scripture to ask the Lord. Jesus said, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened." (Matt. 7:7-8). Jesus is talking about asking the Heavenly Father who is much better to His children than any earthly father which possesses only imperfect judgment. James tells us the importance of asking and the reason we don't have, even though we have asked. "...yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." (James 4:2-3). Faith always asks and doesn't demand; we can't demand anything from God. We ask according to the will of God saying as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane, "Not my will but thine be done." □

Insures: Faith insures your mind and conscience that you are indeed God's child because only a born again child of God has faith. Faith indeed is a fruit of the Spirit and it only resides where the Spirit is present. Wherefore, he that has faith and enabled to look up has the Spirit in the heart and soul. The knowledge that we are God's child and heaven bound can be known and insured experimentally by faith and the exercise thereof. Faith works by love and John tells us, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." (I John 3:14). Faith is given in the new birth and is born of God enabling us to overcome the world and obtain great assurance. "For whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith." (I John 5:4)

Trusts: Faith trusts in the Lord to carry through the trials and tribulations that undoubtedly come to the child of God at some time in this life. Solomon gives us the importance of trust in the Lord rather than in self. "Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Prov. 3:5-6). Faith trusts in the Lord and the heart is kept in peace as focus is directed toward the Lord. "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." [(Isa. 26:3). There is a reason that faith trusts in the Lord and the Psalmist explains it in Psalm 36:7: "How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings." (Psalm 36:7). We trust that he has delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver, and in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us. (II Cor. 1:9-20)

Hopes: Faith not only trusts in the Lord but also hopes in the Lord. Indeed hope is linked to faith in Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." Paul mentions the great three that abides as being faith, hope and charity with the greatest being charity. (I Cor. 13:13). Faith hopes in the seemingly impossible as faithful Abraham did when he was promised a child in his old age as Paul tells us in Rom. 4:18: "Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be." (Rom. 4:18). Hope that is seen is not hope and by faith we have a hope (glorious expectation) of seeing the Lord in glory. When that day comes, we will no longer need faith or hope. However, charity will still live on in the unchanging and endless love of God and Jesus Christ.

As the year 2022 continues to unfold, may we all focus on the Lord, ask him for help, insure our souls, trust in Him continually, and hope to the end for the salvation that will one day be revealed in all of us.

THE LINES



By Elder Guy Hunt (Deceased)

'The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage." Psalms 16:6

David had a beautiful view of the blessings God had heaped upon him in his travels over life's journey. He did not consider his life to be unpleasant.

Lines are used to draw a straight line from one point to another. I passed by my neighbor last spring and saw he had lines stretched across his garden so he could lay off straight rows to plant his vegetables. I do mine differently. I start at one end and head toward the other. Sometimes my rows are fairly straight and sometimes they are embarrassing, but they are never straight. My rows are the same way our life is, when we walk in ways not pleasing to God. Then the lines of our lives are like dog legs, always embarrassing and a shame to the born again child.

The lines that mark the boundaries of my farm are straight. They go across little brooks of water which causes a tranquil feeling on a hot summer day, through pines and stately oaks, across fertile fields and lush pastures. It is a goodly heritage. It once belonged to my parents and before them, my grandparents, If you awake before sunup, you can hear the sounds of hundreds of different songbirds. You will not go many days without seeing the squirrel, rabbit, quail, fox, opossum and now sometimes a deer. At one time in my childhood we had all manner of wild nuts and berries in the woods. Sitting on the porch on a summer night you would always hear the song of the whip-o-will. I love it. I have lived here most of my 72 years and when I leave, I always want to return.

David was talking about his walk with the Lord in the pleasant places the direction of the Lord had taken him. This was the same thing I believe that the servant of Abraham felt as recorded in the book of Genesis. "And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren." I being in the way. What a pleasant thought. Could we each ask ourselves the question "Am I in the way?" We have been told of the way. "Thus saith the LORD, Stand ye in the ways, and see, and ask for the old paths, where is the good

way, and walk therein, and ye shall find rest for your souls. But they said, We will not walk therein." Jer. 6:16 If the lines we walk are not fallen into pleasant places, then we can truly say we are just too stubborn to follow the commands of God. David's trust was in the Lord. Even in his darkest hour, David wanted to fall into the hand of God for his chastisement, rather than into the hand of his enemies.

David spoke of rivers of pleasure. "How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings. They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures." Ps. 36:7-8

Last evening as I sat in the Little Church where my parents first took me when I was three years old. I began to think of all the pleasant places the line has fallen unto me. I thought of the precious saints who have gone to be with their Lord and the many times I had met together with them. I could hear their voices still. I can remember many of the times I have washed the saints' feet. I think today of the many friends and loved ones among the Lord's people that I have all over the country. Many times as I have attended services, I have left thinking, wouldn't it be wonderful if the rest of life could be spent in such love and tranquility. I have spent my life among many of the Lord's angels here below, those messengers of love among us. The line has fallen in pleasant places. I have a goodly heritage.

Many feel that it is a burden to follow the path the Lord has drawn. But that path is a pleasant path, not a path of burden, when we remember we are the workmanship of God. It has been ordained that we should walk in good works. Eph. 2:10

By faith, we can follow the impression and directions of the Lord. Moses walked the line the Lord gave him. While it has some afflictions, it held greater joy than the wealth of the world. Hebrews 11:24-27 "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible."

We should all pray and desire that the line fall unto us at the right hand of God. "Thou wilt shew me the path of life: in thy presence is fullness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore. Ps. 16:11

In my life I have walked among dignitaries, been in the presence of world leaders, been present in the places of power, but the line that has fallen to me in

(Continued on Page 6)

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS:

- 1. I am the vine and ye are the ____. Limbs
- 5. This woman was taken in adultery in the very
- 7. Other book besides Luke he wrote to Theophilus.
- 8. I have fought a good ____ I have kept the faith.
- 9. Naomi said of Boaz: this man is near of ___ unto us, one of our next kinsman.
- 10. I saw the dead, ___ and great stand before God.13. I have called thee ___ thy name, thou art mine.
- 14. A time to mourn and a time to ____. Waltz
- 18. The one to whom Jesus gave the ____betrayed him.
- 19. Women should themselves in modest apparel.
- 20. O thou of little faith wherefore didst thou
- 21. Ezekiel looked and a hand was sent unto me; and lo, a of a book was therein and letter after k.
- 22. A servant would serve his master forever if his ear was bored through with an ____. English spelling.
- 25. One man of you shall a thousand. Run after.
- 27. As in all die so in Christ shall all be made alive.
- 28. Jesus was buried in Joseph's new .

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33									34			

(Answers on Page 8)

- 31. How ___shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Till seven times?
- 32. ____the flock of God but not for filthy lucre.
- 33. Foxes have holes and birds of the air have
- 34. Jesus is in revelation the bright and morning ___

DOWN:

- 1. Is there no ____in Gilead; is no physician there?
- 2. I will fasten him as a in a sure place. Sharp.
- 3. The zeal of thine house hath ____ me up.
- 4. First 2 letters of color of robe put on Christ.
- 5. Ye have not because you ___ amiss that you may consume it on your own lusts.
- 6. Sarah heard angel's promise of a son from ___door.
- 8. Man is born unto trouble as the sparks upward.
- 10. In thy shall all families of the earth be blessed.
- 11. I must be my Father's business said Jesus.

BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

DOMN.

501111
12. Esau told Jacob to feed him with the same
pottage he had made. Color.
14unto others as ye would have them do to you.
15. God kept Jacob as theof his eye. Fruit.
16. Many are but few are chosen.
17. No man can come to me except my Fatherhim.
18. Theof the city in revelation was of pure gold
22thou persuadest me to be a Christian.
23. I know my redeemer liveth and he will stand at
theday upon the earth.
24. Jesus said that the maid was not dead but just
sleepeth and they laughed him to:
26. A lame man sat at the gate of the temple
Beautiful to askof the people.
27 The first man killed in the Bible by his brother

29. We are God little children and the whole world lieth in wickedness. Preposition.

30. I was shapen in iniquity and in sin did my mother conceive ____.

++++++++ **OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES**

Eli, our 2 and one half year old grandson, had been riding in a child car seat facing backward. Now he was old enough and weighed enough so that the seat was able to be turned so that he was facing forward. With his first ride in this configuration, he said, "Hey, this is fun." He could finally see what was going on ahead rather than what was in the back.—Editor

A little girl was diligently pounding away on her father's word processor. She told him she was writing a story. "What's it about?" he asked. "I don't know," she replied. "I can't read."

***** THE LINES

(Continued from Page 5)

pleasant places has been among the Lord's dear people. Here I have lived, here in these glorious truths I want to spend the remainder of my days. There is not a more pleasant line. It is a goodly heritage.—Guy Hunt

(From "The Pathway Of Truth", November, 2005)

***** **CHURCH NEWS**

Mt. Pisgah Primitive Baptist Church, Duck Hill, MS will be having their annual meeting Aug. 13-14 2022. Services at 10 am on Sat. Aug. 13, with singing and preaching at 10:30. Lunch at 12. Afternoon service will start at 1:30. Sun. at 10:30 with lunch to follow. This is an open meeting and all are invited to attend. Elder Eddie Hollowell is Pastor of Mt. Pisgah

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church, 2871 Highway 363, Mantachie, MS (just off I-22 between Peppertown and Mantachie), for their annual meeting 3rd weekend in August (Aug. 19-21, 2022). Lord willing, Elder Jeff Winfrey from Dawson Springs PBC, Dawson Springs, Kentucky and Elder Neil Honea from Bethlehem PBC, Echola, AL will be our guest preachers. Supper is served Friday night at 6:00 pm with worship service at 7:00 pm. Saturday morning service begins at 10:00 am with lunch at noon, and afternoon service at 1:30 pm. meeting will conclude with a Sunday morning Communion service at 10:30 am then lunch. Please help us be in prayer for this meeting and please come. Contact Pastor, Elder Jackie Smith 901-734-9376 for further information.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Little Flock Primitive Baptist Church, Burnsville, MS the 2nd weekend in August, 2022 (Aug. 12-14). Services Friday night, Aug. 12, at 7:00 p.m. preceded by supper at 6:00 p.m. Saturday night, Aug. 13, at 7:00 p.m. with supper at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, August 14, at 10:30 a.m. Elder Chris McCool, Gordo, AL is invited minister. Elder Jonathan Wise is Pastor of Little Flock.

Everyone is invited to Rector Primitive Baptist Church in Rector, Ar. On the second Sunday weekend in August 2022 for Our Annual Meeting. Friday night August 12th Supper at 6:00 pm with services starting at 7:00 pm. Saturday morning August 13th services at 10:00 am with lunch and service to follow in the afternoon. Sunday morning Aug 14th service at 10:30 am, Lord willing we plan to have an open meeting. We would Love to have everyone come and Worship with us and we desire your prayers for the meeting. Elder Devon Horton, Pastor

Everyone is invited to the meeting at Chewalla Primitive Baptist Church, Potts Camp, MS the 3rd weekend in August, 2022 (Aug. 19-21). Services Friday night, Aug. 19, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20, at 10:30 a.m. with lunch. Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Elder Ronald Lawrence, Goodletsville, TN is invited minister. Elder Jerry Wise is Pastor of Chewalla.

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Antioch Primitive Baptist Church, Oxford, MS the 1st weekend in August, 2022 (Aug. 5-7). Services Friday night, Aug. 5, at 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 6, at 10:30 a.m. with lunch and afternoon services. Sunday, Aug. 7 at 10:30 a.m. Elder Mark Quarles, Madison, MS is invited minister. Elder Jeremy Wise is Pastor of Antioch.

Look up—your redemption draweth nigh.

CHURCH NEWS

Everyone is invited to the annual meeting at Bethany Primitive Baptist Church, Ecru, MS the 2nd weekend in September, 2022 (Sept. 9-11). Services Friday night, Sept. 9, at 7:00 pm. Saturday, Sept. 10, at 10:30 a.m. with lunch Sunday at 10:30 am with lunch to follow. Elder Ricky Harcrow, Fort Payne, Al is invited minister. Elder Larry Wise is Pastor of Bethany.

The following picture shows the presbytery that assembled to ordain Brother Ben Shettles to the office of Elder on June 4, 2022 at New Prospect Primitive Baptist Church, New Albany, MS. Brother Shettles is the one with the beard just behind the flower arrangement, next to pastor, Elder Rusty Wise.



Raleigh Church, Memphis, TN was blessed to have Sister Corinne Hight ask for a home in the church recently. She was baptized on June 12th by Elder Chase Harrison, Pastor, into full fellowship. When Sister Corinne began attending Raleigh Church several months ago, some of her friends asked her why would she wanted to go to a Primitive Baptist church. Her response was, "Because they preach what's in the Bible." She praises God after baptism!



TRIBUTE TO DECEASED PASTOR

Elder Max Ewing passed away suddenly on Dec. 14, 2006 at age 68. In going through some of my old papers I found this tapestry tribute to him from the congregation he pastored at Antioch Primitive Baptist Church, Oxford, MS –*Editor*

BROTHER MAX'S BEAUTIFUL TAPESTRY

Weaving involves the interlocking of two sets of threads, the warp and the weft. The warp are held taut and in parallel order by means of a loom. The weft thread is wound onto spools called bobbins and passed in and out of the warp threads.

The Lord blessed Brother Max with an abundance of golden strands. He used those strands with loving care to weave a tapestry of unequaled beauty and value in our lives.

Bro. Max delighted in reading the scripture, searching out and sharing the truths he found there. The Bible became his loom. He was adamant about reading and following the instructions and teachings of the gospel. Those strands of doctrines became the warp—being held taut and in parallel order to guide our every thought and movement. He taught us that the Bible is never contradictory, that it has a rhythm and parallel order—the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, forming the warp threads of our lives.

The patterns in his tapestry, the colors and designs (the weft) were created and wound around "bobbins" with the skill of his wonderful gift of preaching the truth. The strands of that rich base voice singing praise and honor to God pulled our small voices in and out of the tapestry like a bobbin. The song service gave him such pleasure!

His unabashed expressions of love for his wife guided husbands in and out of the warp of a godly and happy marriage. The delightful stories he told of Pebble's (his wife-Ed) devotion stitched a bright and beautiful pattern for wives to follow.

He used stories about his four children to "tighten" some of the effects of his creation. With pride and thanksgiving, he included their spouses as his own. He wove his treasure of grandchildren into the design to add color and sparkle—delighting in the happenings of their lives. His quiver was filled with children, grandchildren and a great granddaughter.

Bro. Max added depth and texture to the design of his tapestry by encouraging the men of the church to contribute to the prayer service. His pleasure in the monthly dinners at the church, where he enjoyed the nourishment and pleasures of good food and basked in the love that was showered on him, his family, and one another was the highlight of his month.

Bro. Max embraced us in strong strands when our lives were in turmoil, binding us tight and teaching us to trust in the Lord. If we strayed, his gentle counsel

guided us back, or away from harm. He visited us when we were sick or when our hearts ached from losses or disappointments. He never missed a stitch. His comforting prayers are woven throughout the tapestry.

Bro. Max was the one we depended on to put our loved ones to rest when their paths on the earth ended. He comforted us with reminders that they are at HOME now. He never removed their strands from his tapestry.

He was there weaving our strands of happiness into his designs also. He married us, welcomed our babies, celebrated our successes, and joyfully baptized us when we asked for a home in the church.

The heart of the tapestry, the things that hold it together and make it most beautiful, are the abounding blessings of faithful service Bro. Max provided us through the sincere, knowledgeable, and God-given sermons he delivered, revealing and celebrating the Good News our Lord has sent—Sunday after Sunday. Yes, he loved each of us, but his love of the Lord his God with all his heart, and with all his soul, and with all his strength, and with all his mind was awesome and inspiring.

The tapestry, the days Bro. Max Ewing walked with us, will wrap us all our remaining days. It will warm our hearts, protect us, comfort us, and give us hope for the blessed day we will meet him again!

The Congregation of Antioch Primitive Baptist Church

ANSWERS BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE READ RIGHT TO LEFT

ACCORDING TO HIS WILL

By Elder Grady McWhirter (Deceased)

Hebrews 2:8-9 In this lesson we learn the great truth that God put all things under the feet of Jesus, and not one thing was left out. He has all power and will rule over all other powers. This especially teaches that from the beginning God was more powerful than all things of this world, and all things were under subjection to him. Indeed Jesus was God manifest in the flesh, and we can see him as the all powerful one who came down from heaven to do the Father's will. In John 6:44 Jesus says, "I came down from heaven not to do mine own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the Father's will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day."

God chose a people in Christ before the foundation of the world, and he sent his own son to this world to redeem them. Known unto God are his works from the beginning; therefore, it was in his mind all things he desired and purposed to do. If we believe that God is all wise, then we cannot believe that he is dependent upon anything that we (man) may do that would put him under obligation to man to carry out his will. As it is written in Daniel 4:35, "He doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth, and none can stay his hand or say unto him, what doest thou."

Jesus, according to God's will, was made a little lower than the angels, he suffered the death of the cross, he carried out the work the Lord sent him to do. It is also written that he cannot fail or be discouraged.

When this is preached to the Lord's children, they can see the truth and be assured that he carried out his work then, and he is carrying out his work now. He has forever taken care of the sin debt, and all that the Father gave unto him, he will not lose a one. In Titus 3:5, and II Timothy 1:9, we are taught that our salvation is not according to our works but by grace and according to his purpose.

How wonderful it is to know that God put all things under the feet of Jesus, the one who never fails or gets discouraged. The one who will lose nothing, but raise it again at the last day.

Elder Grady McWhirter Amory, MS (From "The Christian Pathway", April, 1982)

"Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen." (Heb. 13:20-21)

WORK FOR ALL MEMBERS

(Excerpt of sermon by Elder Elzie Spier Jr on Duties of the Officers of the Church)

And as far as the membership is concerned, each of us has a place that we should fill in the service of God. It's really not right for one to unite with the church and then not support the church, members join for the reason that they are burdened and they are encouraged to join the church and when they do they should be punctual; they should be zealous; they should be tremendously interested in the prosperity of the church and its growth and should at all times be willing and ready to give themselves in the service of God.

Now, churches only grow where churches want growth. I feel like that prosperity, and growth, and enthusiasm in a church must first begin in the pulpit. If there's no fire in the pulpit, there'll be no fire in the pews. And so enthusiasm, and discipline and giving of one's self must first be displayed in the pulpit. And then, next, in the deacons, who should be willing and ready to give themselves in the service of God and then in the laity membership. When that begins to happen, the church then begins to be an important factor in our lives. And when it becomes important in our lives then it becomes important to our children. Then it becomes important, possibly, to many that we are associated with and especially to those that have a concern and interest in the Christian perspective here in this world.

And I sometimes try to determine the reason why many churches are cold and unconcerned. I believe, that many times we are so cumbered about and involved in the things of the world that we just don't find the time that we should to give to the cause. But the Bible tells us that we are to "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness and all other things shall be added unto us."

So, when we realize the weight of that one particular scripture and then begin to seek with assurance that God shall give unto us those things He has promised, and then with all diligence and enthusiasm try to organize ourselves in such a way that we will be recognized as a body of people that is striving with diligence to serve God and to be of some import in the community in such a way that we shall affect the lives of other people, then we shall begin to increase just as in the Acts of the Apostles.

Here, these apostles, or these disciples, realized that they must do certain things. As for us, we need to evaluate our perspective as far as our churches are concerned. Let us look at ourselves and see if we are what we should be in the light of God's Word. And then when we begin to see ourselves as we are and see ourselves as we should be according to God's Word, let us then not procrastinate but begin immediately to try to conform with the teachings and the authority of God's Word. (From "The Christian Pathway", April, 1982)

PONDER THIS WHEN TOO BUSY

(The "Foreword" from *Wise Family Chronicles*By Ronnie Wise)

Recently my aunt gave me a couple of relics from my past. They were a pair of reading glasses in a case and a red wallet. They belonged to my grandmother Nora Gilmer Wise, who died of cancer in the summer of 1963.

Aside from all the usual things one carries in a wallet—pictures of her grandchildren as we appeared over twenty years ago, deposit slips, and prescription stubs—was something that caught my eye, a worn and yellowed scrap of newspaper. The scrap contained an old "Dear Abby" article with a headline that read "Show Your Love For Parents While There's Time." The letter to Abby rings as true today as it did those many years ago when it was torn from a newspaper and secreted away in a hidden pocket of a worn red wallet. The letter reads:

DEAR ABBY: I am the most heartbroken person on earth. I always found time to go everywhere else but to see my old gray-haired parents. They sat at home loving me just the same. It is too late now to give them those few hours of happiness I was too busy to give: and now when I go to visit their graves and look at the green grass above them, I wonder if God will ever forgive me for the heartaches I must have caused them. I pray that you will print this, Abby, to tell those who still have their parents to visit them and show their love and respect while there is still time. For it is later than you think

"TOO LATE"

Beatitudes for friends of the aged--Esther Mary Walker

Blessed are they who understand My faltering step and palsied hand. Blessed are they who know that my ears today Must strain to catch the things they say. Blessed are they who seem to know That my eyes are dim and my wits are slow. Blessed are they who looked away When coffee spilled at table today. Blessed are they with a cheery smile Who stop to chat for a little while. Blessed are they who never say, "You've told that story twice today." Blessed are they who know the ways To bring back memories of yesterdays. Blessed are they who make it known That I'm loved, respected and not alone. Blessed are they who know I'm at a loss To find the strength to carry the Cross. Blessed are they who ease the days On my journey home in loving ways.

"CHOSEN TO BE SAINTS"

"Ye are a chosen nation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, chosen of God, and precious." "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord, and the people whom he hath chosen for His own inheritance." These are the generations of Jesus Christ, of whom He says, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you." "Blessed is the man whom the Lord chooseth, and causeth to approach unto Him." "It is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes." "Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy, He saved us, not according to our own works, but according to His own purpose and grace." "We are not our own, but bought with a price, and purged from dead works, to serve the true and living God."

J.J. Turnipseed (Elder)

Discriminating grace in predestinating ignorant Peter should be conformed to the image of Jesus, choosing him that he should be holy and without blame, before God in love, did not injure the other fisherman, or make their cases any worse. There was not a thing internal or external about Peter to merit his salvation or induce God to save him, if so, it would have been fatal to the doctrine of grace. Grace is the cause of every poor redeemed sinner seeking the Lord, mourning on account of his sins, repenting, praying, and believing in Christ as his Saviour. Grace leads his roving feet to tread the heavenly road.

L.H. (Elder Lee Hanks)

What do the "raven": and the "dove" that went out of the ark represent? The raven that never returned to the ark, but could remain out and feed upon dead carcasses, as their nature is, doubtless represents formal religionists that feed upon the dead doctrines of men. While the "dove" represents the poor convicted soul that could find no rest for the soul of her feet, in the dead doctrines of men, and when she returned the first time. Noah reached out his arms and took her into the ark. How sweetly, when all hopes on fleshly works were gone, Jesus reached out His arms of mercy and took us into sweet union and loving fellowship with Him. When the "dove" went out the second time and returned with the olive leaf (an emblem of peace) in her mouth represents the true minister of the Gospel preaching peace by Jesus Christ.

L.H. (Elder Lee Hanks)

(The three quotes above are from "The Gospel Messenger", April, 1921

"Consider what I say; and the Lord give thee understanding in all things." 2 Tim. 2:7—Editor

THE CHILDREN OF GOD



By Elder Rickey Taylor Booneville, Mississippi

John 8:44: Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

This is what Jesus was saying to those Jews here in the gospel of John. He was telling them why they didn't see that he is the Christ. No one can see that Jesus is the Christ, except God shows it unto them. Though he had done miracles and preached the gospel among them, yet they received him not as the promised Messiah. The very hope of Israel they rejected. Why? Because they were of their father the devil. There was nothing within them that was capable of rejoicing in the fact that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God. The lusts of your father ye will do.

The word lust means desires. Satan has nothing within him that loves God and his righteousness; these particular Jews only had the desires of unrighteousness, a complete enemy to Christ and his kingdom. I am reminded of the story of the Scorpion and the Turtle. The turtle was standing at the edge of the water when he was approached by a scorpion who asked the turtle to let him ride his back across the water to the other side. "You'll sting me if I do," said the turtle. "No I promise you that I will not sting you," said the scorpion. The turtle then carried him on his shell to the other side. When coming to the other side the scorpion climbed down off the turtle, thanked him, and promptly stung him. As the turtle was dying he said, "Why did you do that?" To which the scorpion replied, "because it is in my nature to do so!" These men not only rejected Jesus, they would attempt to make a liar out of him, and eventually put him to death, using the Romans to do it. Why couldn't they just leave it at unbelief? Because it was in their nature to kill him. He was a murderer from the beginning. Just as it was with Cain who could have just left it that his brother's sacrifice was better than the one he offered, but no he had to kill him for it. The fact that Abel was his brother meant nothing to him. He had to have the supremacy over his brother, so he killed him because it was in his nature to do so. I John 3:12 Not as Cain, who was of that wicked one, and slew his brother. And wherefore slew he him? Because his own works were evil, and his brother's righteous.

When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it. Satan deceived Eve when he told her that she would not surely die. It was a lie. Because of this lie he brought death to them and their offspring. I have often wondered why was it that Satan just had to bring unhappiness to Adam and Eve. What was it to him that they were happy and living in a paradise here on earth? Because it is in his nature to be opposed to the good things of God. He also opposes Eden, the church, the kingdom, and the joy of our salvation. He will rob us of any kind of joy that we can get out of it. That is why we need to read, to pray, to read our bibles, and go to church. Satan is our enemy. We are not his children; we are God's children.

But if it were not for the grace of God we would be just like him. We were chosen to be his children before the foundation of the world Ephesians 1:4-5. God loves us with an everlasting love, and will never forsake us. At some time in our lives he has taken our hearts and quickened us to the things of God Ephesians 2:1-2. Jesus tells Nicodemus that we must be born again, which means born from above. It is not of our choosing but it is God's choosing when we are born again. That time has already came for you dear reader; you love God because he first loved you I John 4:19.

Dear reader we are the children of God, and that will never change. Our utmost happiness lies within our serving him and seeking the happiness of the kingdom of God. I pray that we all seek his kingdom while here on earth. We have a godly nature in us, and without God doing so, we would not love the church, preaching, and that sweet hour of prayer. Thank God for his loving kindness to us all!

R.L. Taylor.

Do we do the things God commands in order to be His children or do we obey His commands because we are His children? The scriptures are quite plain, "And he that keepeth his commandments dwelleth in him, and he in him. And hereby we know that he abideth in us, by the Spirit which he hath given us." (I John 3:24) We are already dwelling in God before we keep His commandments. If this were not so, we would have no desire to obey. "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God." (Rom. 8:14) No man or woman ever does anything to be their father's child. He is their father.—Editor

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