

# Glad Tidings

February

2024

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

**FROM THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**LET US GIVE THANKS FOR OUR RELIGION**  
*Strength For Today And Bright Hope For Tomorrow*

*Philippians 4:13*

*I Corinthians 15:19*

## FROM THE PASTORS DESK

As a man, Jesus realized His dependence upon His heavenly Father. In fact, He said that He could of His own self do nothing as He came to do the will of the Father. (John 5:30) Men would forsake Him and leave Him alone in doing this will, but Jesus said concerning this, “And he that sent me is with me: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.” (John 8:29) Jesus even tells His disciples what will happen as He is led away to be crucified for the sins of His people, “Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because the Father is with me.” (John 16:32)

After Jesus speaks these words to His disciples, He begins His High Priestly prayer by praying to the Father that the hour is come and asking to be glorified with the glory He had with that Father before the world began. The Father had not left His Son “alone” until that culminating hour on the cross just before He said “It is finished.” The work of redemption and salvation has been secured through His shedding of blood on the cross. Now, Jesus cries out, “...My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matt. 27:46)

The Father left Jesus “alone” because He alone would finish the work He came to do on earth. Man could not do this work; it took someone who was sinless and always pleased the Father. It took the God-man, Jesus Christ, to offer the perfect sacrifice to the Father that would remove the sins of the people of God as far as the east is from the west. Sin came to a climax on the cross in the death of Jesus. Since He had no sin, how could He die seeing that in the absence of sin there is no death? It is because the sins of all the elect saints were laid on Him. Isaiah said, “All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.” (Isa. 53:6)

Jesus was left “alone” because He “alone” could atone for the sins of God’s people. Jesus trod the winepress of the wrath of God alone at Calvary. Thus His people are saved from the wrath to come which is the second death in the lake of fire. (Rev. 20:14) Jesus did this by Himself. “Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;” (Heb. 1:3)

Just as Jesus Christ saved His people from their sins by Himself, He also created all things, both natural and spiritual alone and by Himself. Paul tells us as he speaks of Christ, “For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth,...” (Col. 1:16) Someone has said that if God had created man on the first day rather than the sixth day, man would have somehow tried to take credit for the creation that followed. The spiritual creation in the new birth is just as sure as the natural creation when the Lord spake and it was done. We are not left to doubt whose work this is: “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)

The Lord finds His people all in the same condition as all are dead in trespasses and sins. It wasn’t Jacob that was seeking the Lord; it was the Lord who was seeking Jacob and found him in a waste howling wilderness. The scripture says, “He found him in a desert land, and in the waste howling wilderness; he led him about, he instructed him, he kept him as the apple of his eye.” (Gen. 32:10) Jacob surely was not a spiritual giant until after the Lord found him and notice then how the Lord dealt with him as Moses goes on to say, “So the LORD alone did lead him, and there was no strange god with him.” (Deut. 32:12) The apostle Paul then says, “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” (Rom. 8:14)

Just before he died, this same Jacob gathered his twelve sons together and commanded and blessed them. He said regarding Judah, “The sceptre shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh come; and unto him shall the gathering of the people be.” (Gen. 49:10) Jesus Christ was to come from the tribe of Judah of which Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. After Jacob commanded his sons, he gathered his feet into the bed and yielded up the ghost and was gathered unto his people. (Gen. 49:33)

Jacob and every other covenant child of God will be gathered “alone” by the Savior of sinners at the last day from the grave and presented to the Father without the loss of one. Why? “I will say to the north, Give up; and to the south, Keep not back: bring my sons from far, and my daughters from the ends of the earth; Even every one that is called by my name: for I have created him for my glory, I have formed him; yea, I have made him.” (Isa. 43:6-7) These children are created for His glory, and He did it alone! (Larry Wise)

**EDITORIAL OFFICE**

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Elder Larry Wise  
12932 Hwy 9 S.  
Randolph, MS 38864

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**ADOPTION**

(Continued)

By Elder Harold Hunt  
Maryville, Tennessee

**Both Adopted and Born**

It is in the nature of children to look like and to sound like their natural parents. I have three daughters, and to some degree or another, they all sound like my wife on the telephone. Sometimes, when I call home, if I know the girls are all there, I have to ask who am I talking to.

That used to be very confusing to one of my sons-in-law, before he became my son-in-law. One day he called to talk to my daughter, and my wife answered the phone.

He said, "Hi, whatcha doin'?" And my wife said, "Watchin' television." Somewhat later in the conversation he said, "Just exactly who is it I am talkin' to?"

It is in the nature of children to look like—to walk like—and sound like their natural parents, and in our old carnal nature, we look like, and walk like, and sound like our great-great-granddaddy Adam. "That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit" John 3:6.

You and I cannot give an adopted child our physical characteristics. We cannot make him look like us, and walk and talk the way we do. But God is not limited the way we are. And right here is when the new birth comes in. The new birth is one part of the adoption. He came "to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons. And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father" Gal.4:5. Because we are sons by choice, we are made sons by birth.

We cannot make that adopted child look like us. He was born of his natural parents, and it is his nature to look like his natural parents. But God adopts his children, who were born of Adam, and he borrows them again to look like him. We are made "partakers of the divine nature" 2 Pet. 1-4, and in spirit we look like our heavenly Father. We look like our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

In Hebrews, chapter one, Paul described the Lord in this way: "Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows" Heb. 1:9. And in the Sermon on the mount the Lord described his children: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled" Matt. 5:6. Do you notice the family resemblance? Did you ever see somebody, who, even if nobody told you, you knew that he had to be such and such a person's son? He was either his son or his brother; he looked just like him.

It is in the tendency of God's children to look alike. I am not talking about the color of their eyes, nor the cut of their chin. I am talking about those characteristics which show up in their lives as the result of the Spirit of God living in their hearts. I am talking about that love of God, and for the things of God, which is characteristic of every member of the family of God. I am talking about the expression of their face, when you talk to them about the good things of the Lord.

Did you ever notice, when you are talking to somebody about the Lord and his goodness, that his face may begin to take on color, and sometimes, his eyes begin to fill and run over, and every now and then, his chin begins to tremble. I see a family resemblance there, don't you?

There have been a lot of people, down through the years, who have tried to paint pictures of the Lord. They do not know what he looked like. I know those pictures do not look like the Lord, because, for one thing, they all show him with long hair, and my Bible says, "Doth not even nature itself teach you that if a man have long hair it is a shame unto him" 1 Cor. 11:14. He would never have worn his hair long, and then inspired Paul to say that long hair was a shame to a man. Some of those pictures show him with bare feet. I don't believe the Lord went around barefoot. John said that his "shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose" John 1:27. So he wore shoes. The pictures I

have seen don't look particularly Jewish. According to the flesh, he was "made of the seed of David" Rom. 1:3. "According to the flesh", he was a Jew. Those pictures I have seen look noticeably Caucasian. In his physical appearance the Lord was so typically Jewish, and his appearance was so normal, compared to the Jews of his day, that he could stand before a crowd and preach to them for a long time, and, when, finally, his voice fell silent, he could walk back through the crowd, and they would not know who he was. He looked that much like everybody else.

But I believe we can know a little about what he looked like. I find a verse in Second Corinthians which reads: "But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord" 2 Cor. 3:18. This text teaches that those who behold the glory of the Lord are literally changed into the image of the Lord. What does that mean? It means that those who love the Lord, and consistently look to him for guidance, begin to take on his characteristics.

Once in awhile it happens in nature. You may have seen it. It does not happen often. But once in awhile it happens that when two people are married so long, for many years heart answers to heart, until finally, in their old days, face answers to face. I was away on a trip some time ago, and the folks my wife and I stayed with looked very much alike. My wife can be a little skeptical at times, but even my wife noticed it. After we left, my wife commented about "how much they look alike." Once in a while it happens in nature. For years and years heart answers to heart, until, finally, in their old days, face answers to face.

But while it only happens once in awhile in nature, it happens, as a rule, in our service toward God. The more you follow your Lord, the more you endeavor to serve him, the more you listen to him, and walk in his precepts, the more you look like him.

I don't know a lot about his physical characteristics, but I believe I do know this about him. I believe that when he stood and preached the gospel of his grace, the expression on his face was that same expression I can see in the faces of his children, when they are intently listening and being fed on the gospel message. And I believe that expression is the very expression I will see on the face of my Lord on that good morning, when I see him on that eternal day.

God is not limited as you and I are. We cannot give our adopted children the color of our eyes, nor the cut of our chin. We cannot make them look like us. But in regeneration God makes his children to begin to resemble him. They are made "partakers of the divine nature." They are still human, still mortal, still sinners of Adam's race, but the Spirit of God living in their hearts has its effect, and more and more, they resemble the family of God.

*(Final segment in next issue)*

(From "Anthology of Primitive Baptist Literature" Vol. 1--. Edited by Elder Harold Hunt)

## GOD IS FAITHFUL



By Elder Larry Wise  
Randolph, Mississippi

We are indeed thankful that we depend upon a God that is "faithful" in everything that He does for His children. While others may disappoint us, God never disappoints if we are looking at it in the right perspective. We read in the scriptures that, "There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it." (1 Cor. 10:13). The Lord is a present help in time of trouble and provides a way of escape which of course resides only in Him.

When we have disobeyed our God and have not kept His commandments, He chastises us with the rod of correction, but His faithfulness still remains and He continues to perform that good work in us until the day of the Lord Jesus Christ. "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. My covenant will I not break, nor alter the thing that is gone out of my lips." (Psalms 89:32-34). Just as faithful parents love their children, even when they go astray, so does the Lord continue His love for us as charity suffers long. But even though a woman may forget her sucking child, the Lord will not forget His own. "Can a woman forget her sucking child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me." (Isa. 49:15-16).

We may feel like the Psalmist of old who was made to wonder "Is the mercy of the Lord clean gone forever? Does His promise fail forever more? Hath God forgotten to be gracious?" (Psalm 77:8-9). This is our human weakness but remember God will not suffer us to be tempted (tried) with more than we are able to bear. Jeremiah lamented that his strength and hope had perished from the Lord; however, he searched his memory and recalled something to mind and was made to declare as a result: "Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance and is humbled in me. This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not

consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.” (Lamentation 3:19-23). The faithfulness (security, fidelity) of God cannot fail because He is incapable of failure. Jeremiah still had hope; it had just been misplaced. Each sunrise and each season of the year is a testimony to the faithfulness of God. These will not cease as long as the earth remaineth. The beautiful rainbow after a rain reminds us of His faithfulness and His promises that are in Him Yea, and amen.

We are composed of body, soul, and spirit and Paul writes to the church at Thessalonica in like fashion: “And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (I Thess. 5:23). Then Paul gives them confirmation of this preservation with the statement: “Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it.” (I Thess. 5:24).

Jesus Christ set the perfect example of faithfulness in His obedience to His and our Heavenly Father. We are told in the Hebrew letter to consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus. This was an encouragement to the Hebrew Christians to remain faithful in serving the Lord and not revert to the bondage of the law. They were to consider Jesus “Who was faithful to him that appointed him, as also Moses was faithful in all his house.” (Heb. 3:2) Jesus was appointed to be the Savior of His people and He was faithful to His Father’s will and cried with a loud voice “It is finished” on the cross just before He gave up the ghost. (John 19:30) God the Father was always pleased with His Son as appointed High Priest.

Jesus was God made manifest in the flesh and as God is faithful, so is His Son. The children of God are exhorted as believers in the finished work of Christ to remain true to their commitment to Christ. “Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)” (Heb. 10:23) We have this record of the certainty of the faithfulness of God and His Son: “For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.” (II Cor. 1:20) The certainty of God’s promise helps His children to hold fast the profession (confession) of their faith and not deny Him. He will not deny His children before the Father but He will deny them blessings in this life if they become disobedient and unfaithful.

What if the children of God do not trust and believe in the faithfulness of God? The scripture doesn’t leave us in doubt as Paul writes to Timothy, “If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself.” (II Tim. 2:13). He cannot deny that which is bone of His bone and flesh of His flesh; He cannot deny His own children but will present them holy and without blame before the Father in love after the resurrection. There may be a lot to see and endure before that time of deliverance, but God is faithful to see us through with His all-sufficient grace. May God help us to be faithful to His great name and cause!

### TAKE HEED

By Elder Lee Hanks (Deceased)

Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee. 1 Tim. 4:16

It is necessary for each minister to take heed unto his own deportment. The servant of God should preach by his daily walk if his life is a blessing to the church and to the children of God in general. No matter how loud a man may preach Christ, if he does not exhibit him in his daily life his preaching will be worthless. He should bear His image daily and prove by his daily life that he is a child of God. He should love Jesus and walk in Him. His conversation should be in heaven and of heavenly things. He should be a lover of good men, be honest, truthful, law-abiding, sober and be separate from the world. A godly chaste ministry is a blessing to the church and community where he resides. He should nurse the little lambs and encourage them to follow the Savior. There is but one doctrine. There are doctrines of men and devils that should be shunned. No man should be allowed to occupy the sacred desk who is unsound in doctrine and does not believe and preach the doctrine of grace. The Scriptures teach clearly every phase of the doctrine and we should stop where the Bible stops. The doctrine of grace that brings salvation fills the believing heart with joy and gladness.

A man must experience the truth before he can preach it to others. How beautiful the life of one who preaches the Gospel of peace! What a blessing! In living the gentle, tender, loving, chaste, godly life and contending earnestly for the doctrine of God our Savior, he saves himself gospely and saves the believing obedient hearer from false doctrine and practice, from many sins, snares, traps, pitfalls, and to the love, confidence, and fellowship of the saint and to the sweet communion with Jesus and the saints and has God’s approval. An ungodly, unchaste, heretical ministry is one of the greatest curses ever inflicted upon the church. A true, godly ministry brings sweet love, unity and fellowship among peace-loving saints. Dear servant of God, let us all take heed unto ourselves, to the doctrine and continue to do this. Let us keep under our body and bring it in subjection and never become exalted or jealous, or to feel that we are slighted. Let us live at the feet of our brethren and ever remember that we are servants and not lord over the flock of God. We should endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ and ever overcome evil with good. I love our dear preachers and thank God for them and pray God to raise up others to preach the Gospel.

Lee Hanks

(From “*The Gospel Messenger*”, Sept. 1, 1922)

“...If ye continue in my word, then are ye my disciples indeed;” (John 8:31)

**Food For Thought**  
by Elder Clayton Nowell  
Headland, Alabama



February 6, 2013  
from...ShareTheWord 2-6-13

Dear Ones,

In Romans 5:3, the Spirit led Paul to write, “**And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;**” Now, we shouldn’t just jump into this verse without understanding what else has already been mentioned, so we can appreciate the “**And not only so**” of our verse. Paul has said that by faith we have peace with God, access to grace, and rejoicing in hope through our Lord Jesus Christ. That short list is absolutely tremendous! If we have peace with God, access to grace, and a hope in Christ that causes us to rejoice, then you are blessed beyond measure. So, when we feel to be “too blessed to be stressed,” we can go on our way rejoicing in God’s love for us.

But as wonderful as that is, sometimes life is hard. Sometimes, troubles come in such waves that we think we will surely sink beneath them and go down for the last time. And here is where our “not only so” comes in. These wonderful blessings are not only good for when times are good and we are feeling blessed, but also for when life is hard and when it is difficult to see and feel God’s blessings. And here is a valuable lesson for us to lay hold upon: if God has blessed us with His love and grace, nothing can ever separate us from its glorious fulfillment; and, there is encouragement, strength, and refreshing that can be drawn from every remembrance of what Jesus has done for us. That’s why Paul said, “**but we glory in tribulations also.**” He is not saying that we will go about saying to everyone “I’m so happy that I have these tribulations.” But what he is saying is that God’s mercy and grace are just as good, just as powerful, and just as sure, even though our circumstances are difficult. I have reason to glory and rejoice in the Lord whether times are good or bad! If tribulations are great, that doesn’t change anything about what we have through our Lord Jesus Christ. If anything, it helps us to see Him more clearly.

Paul continues the thought of glorying in tribulation by saying, “**Knowing that tribulation worketh patience.**” Knowing. What do you know that you need to recall in hard times? Well, some of what we know is that God is all powerful, His mercy endureth

forever, He sent His Son to save His people from their sins, and, He did it! And what Jesus literally accomplished for our eternal good, which shall last forever, and ever, and ever, no trial or burden in this life can ever separate us from it being ours to enjoy in that pure world to come. But, forgetting these things, or having a pity party, or entertaining the temptation to envy how easy someone else may have it right now, will rob you of your joy in the Lord and will sap your strength right out of you. Then, you will also have to deal with the debilitating effect of anger and depression on top of all the other problems. But instead, let those tribulations work patience. Trust in the goodness and mercy of God for strength and encouragement. His grace IS sufficient. He will provide for His children. Whether the tribulation is great or small, trust God and look to Him for all your needs. God didn’t just tell us about His love, He gave His only Son, who suffered tremendously for us. But what He accomplished saved us eternally. Pray for grace to patiently endure.

In the love of Christ,

Elder Clayton Nowell, Pastor, Piney Grove PBC,  
Headland, AL.

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**THE TRUE FAITH AND ORDER**

By Elder Lee Hanks (Deceased)

Primitive Baptists are well united on the fundamental principles of the faith and practice as taught in the Bible, but the trouble is the things the Bible does not teach. They are the little foxes that spoil the vines; the peace and unity of the churches. In order to have unity, all as nearly as possible should speak the same thing.

No matter how corrupt a man may be or how erroneous are his new measures, he can get a following and lead a faction. Hence we need great firmness in the ministry for the old paths which our fathers trod. It is sad indeed that designing men have arisen leading off factions from the true church. Paul said, “Men of your own selves shall arise among you speaking perverse things to draw away disciples after them.” This is true. Men have left us that we loved, who have started up factions, claiming to be Primitive Baptists, and have deceived many. Were we to follow such men and factions, the identity of the Old Baptists would soon cease.

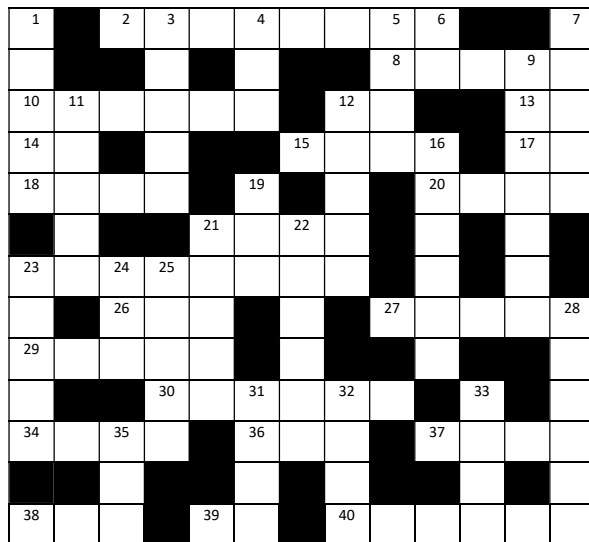
One great error seems prevalent. When one is dismissed from the true church of God, he will join some faction and keep on preaching. Misinformed brethren will recognize him. If one is excluded, he is excluded everywhere. As dearly as we may love brethren, we should not follow them any further than they follow Christ. We need a firm, godly ministry who will stand at the peril of their lives for the true faith and order of the house of God.

(From “*Our Forefathers*,” *Advocate and Messenger*,  
February 1947) via The Primitive Baptist, Oct.2021)

**BIBLE CROSSWORD PUZZLE**

**ACROSS:**

- 2. \_\_\_ in the sight of the Lord is death of the saints.
- 8. Direction angel told Philip to go and found eunuch.
- 10. Jacob \_\_\_ Laban 7 years for Rachel and got Leah.
- 12. For now \_\_\_ see through a glass darkly.
- 13. Laban and Abraham initials.
- 14. Jesus said up \_\_\_ this rock I will build my church.
- 15. Building up yourselves on your \_\_\_ holy faith.
- 17. I \_\_\_ the way, the truth, and the life.
- 18. Let us draw \_\_\_ with a true heart in full assurance.
- 20. If the world \_\_\_ you, ye know that it hated me before.
- 21. Samson \_\_\_ not that the Lord was departed from him.
- 23. An \_\_\_ for an eye and a \_\_\_ for a tooth. 2 words.
- 26. Satan is the prince of the power of the \_\_\_. Breeze.
- 27. They that will be rich fall into temptation and a \_\_\_.
- 29. Joab used 3 of these to kill Absalom in the heart.
- 30. A little \_\_\_ leaveneth the whole lump.



(Answers on Page 9)

- 34. Place in Italy where Paul wrote some epistles.
- 36. Esau came from womb \_\_\_ and hairy all over.
- 37. The Lord is my shepherd I shall not \_\_\_.
- 38. Joseph's coat of many colors was dipped in the blood of a \_\_\_ of a goat his brothers has killed.
- 39. \_\_\_ many as I love I rebuke and chasten.
- 40. Jerusalem from above is the \_\_\_ of us all.

**DOWN:**

- 1. Jesus poured water in a \_\_\_ to wash disciples' feet.
- 3. John the Baptist baptized in the \_\_\_ of Jordan.
- 4. Israel could eat that which parteth the hoof and cheweth the \_\_\_.
- 5. Let us learn to maintain good works for necessary \_\_\_
- 6. Even \_\_\_ must the son of man be lifted up.
- 7. It is a \_\_\_ unto a man for him to have long hair.
- 9. Letter after S. In the \_\_\_ times some shall depart from the faith. 2 answers.
- 11. The last \_\_\_ to be destroyed is death. Not friend.
- 12. Abraham bought the cave of Machpelah in money for what it was \_\_\_ as a burying place.

**DOWN:**

- 16. Jesus sat down on right hand of the \_\_\_ of God.
- 19. The eunuch was sitting in his cha \_\_\_ t reading Isaiah.
- 21. Evil men and seducers shall wax \_\_\_ and worse.
- 22. Moses saw two men of the Hebrews which \_\_\_ together and asked why they smote one another.
- 23. Ye younger, submit yourselves unto the \_\_\_.
- 24. Eye hath not seen nor \_\_\_ heard neither entered.
- 25. Pilate wrote a \_\_\_ and put it on the cross of Jesus.
- 28. Herod put Peter in prison, intending after \_\_\_ to bring him forth to the people.
- 31. Simeon took baby Jesus up in his \_\_\_.
- 32. Esau's name was also called \_\_\_.
- 33. \_\_\_ me and I shall be clean. Bathe.
- 35. Festus told Paul much learning doth make thee \_\_\_.

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**OUT OF THE MOUTH OF BABES**

Our two grandsons, Isaac and Eli, were staying with us for the day recently. I had come in from the church I pastor, and they were busy annoying one another that sometimes ended in one pounding on the other, sometimes playfully and sometimes more serious. Isaac is 9 years old and Eli four and Isacc had something that Eli wanted. Isaac wouldn't give it to him. Eli got on him in the floor and began hitting him in the head with his hands. Isaac protected his head and said, "That's fine, just go ahead and give me brain damage." We had to intervene to prevent brain damage-ha-ha.. We've told them to turn the other cheek when something doesn't go their way, but they don't seem to have gotten the message as of yet.—

*Editor*

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**Property Laws of a Toddler: Some might say that this is evidence of Original Sin:**

- 1. If I like it, it's mine.
- 2. If it's in my hand, it's mine.
- 3. If I can take it from you, it's mine.
- 4. If I had it a little while ago, it's mine.
- 5. If it's mine, it must never appear to be yours in any way.
- 6. If I'm doing or building something, all the pieces are mine.
- 7. If it looks just like mine, it's mine.
- 8. If I saw it first, it's mine.
- 9. If you are playing with something and you put it down, it automatically becomes mine.
- 10. If it's broken, it's yours.

Source Unknown.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." (Prov. 22:6) This is a general statement but doesn't mean this is true for every child that has good, godly training by mother and father.

**CHURCH NEWS**

Macedonia Primitive Baptist Church, Ackerman, MS will host an open meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in February, 2024 (Feb. 24-25). Services Sat., Feb. 24, at 10:00 am followed by lunch and afternoon services about 1:30 pm. Sunday at 10:30 am. Everyone invited to come and worship. Elder David Wise is Pastor of Macedonia.

The Unity Primitive Baptist Church of Moss Point, MS will host its 2024 Annual Meeting the weekend of February 9-11, 2024. The meeting begins with a light supper at 5:30 p.m. on February 9, 2024 followed by 7:00 p.m. worship service. The meeting continues with worship beginning at 10:00 a.m. February 10<sup>th</sup> followed by lunch and a 2:00 p.m. worship service. The meeting concludes on Sunday, February 11 with a 10:00 a.m. worship service followed by lunch. The guest minister of the meeting is Elder David Crawford, pastor of MacClenny Primitive Baptist Church of MacClenny, FL The church is located at 11500 MS 635, Moss Point, MS, five miles north of the junction of interstate 10 and MS 63 on the southbound side of the highway. Elder Mike Ivery is Pastor of Unity.

Gulf Coast Fellowship Meeting at Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, Bonifay, FL – February 29 – March 2, 2024. Schedule is as follows:

Services: Thursday Supper 5:30 PM, Singing 6:30 PM, Preaching 7:00 PM; Friday Singing 10:00 AM, Preaching 10:30; Lunch 12:00; Singing 1:30 PM, Preaching 2:00 PM; Supper (Fish Fry) 5:30 PM, Singing 6:30 PM Preaching 7:00 PM; Saturday Singing 10:00, Preaching 10:30 AM, Lunch 12:00, Singing 1:30 PM, Preaching 2:00 PM.

Church Address: Bethel Primitive Baptist Church, 1661 Bethel Road, Bonifay, FL 32425.

Accommodations: Holiday Inn Express Bonifay, FL 850-844-0600, King \$154.00, Queen 149.00 plus tax. Quality Inn Chipley, FL 850-638-3996, Rooms \$94.00 plus tax. Contact: Pastor, Elder Donnie McPherson, phone 256-709-3051. Deacon Brother Carlton Wells 850-768-1305. Bro. Michael Stubbs, 850-260-1962.

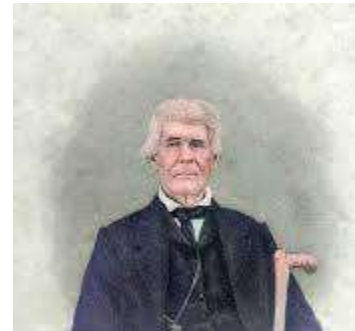
New Hope Primitive Baptist Church 60267 Hatley Rd. Amory, MS plans to host our annual meeting on Saturday March 2, 2024. The morning service will begin at 10:00 a.m. with lunch at noon and afternoon service at 1:30 p.m. This will be an open meeting, so we hope our preacher brethren will prayerfully consider being with us. We are looking forward to a refreshing time of worship and fellowship. Amd hope to see many of you with us.—Elder Tim Cunningham, Pastor of New Hope.

“Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.” (I Pet. 5:2-3)

**CHURCH NEWS****RESPECTED PRIMITIVE BAPTIST MINISTERS FROM THE PAST**

Elder Wilson Thompson was one of those respected ministers and an early pioneer in laboring in the gospel kingdom in the state of Missouri and then in Indiana. He was very active in the early struggles between the Old School and the New School Baptists. He is well known for his autobiography that catalogued his call to the ministry and travels as he was dedicated to evangelism.

Elder Wilson Thompson



(1788-1866)

“I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.” (II Tim. 4:7-8)



The above are some of the brothers in Christ which meet each Tuesday of the week at a café in Ecru, MS to have breakfast and fellowship for an hour or more. They are not all Primitive Baptists. Front to back left row: Elder Calvin Warren, Elder James Hall, Elder Larry Wise, Ed Graham, Steve Coleman, Terry Wise. Right row front to back: Hank Wiesner, Billy Joe Kelley, Dean Browning and Ronnie Hale. We have others attend other than those shown when able.—*Editor*

**GALATIANS IV. 22-31**

October 17, 1935

By Elder C. H. Cayce (Deceased)

Brother S. P. Taylor, formerly of Thomasville, Ga., now at Albany, Ga., requested us in 1930 to write on Gal. iv. 22-31. Our space is so limited that we will not quote the language contained in those verses. Get your Bible and read the chapter. Neither can we write at length. There is much contained in the language, but we will have to do no more than just hint at some of the subject matter.

The two covenants are brought to view. Agar (or Hagar) was a type of the covenant given on Sinai. This covenant gendereth to bondage, and was a type of national Israel, or the Jews, or national Jerusalem, which the apostle says is in bondage with her children. Sarah, the wife of Abraham, the free woman, was a type of the covenant of grace, called in some places the new covenant, because it was brought out and manifested after the covenant of works, or the Sinai covenant.

Ishmael was the son of Hagar, by Abraham. Hagar was a bondmaid of Sarah. She was in bondage. Of course, as she was in bondage, she could not give birth to a free child. Her son was, therefore, born in bondage. And he was born after the flesh. God had before made a promise to Abraham and to Sarah. But Sarah began to doubt the promise ever being fulfilled. So she gave Hagar to Abraham. This is the first record we have of a ladies' effort society to help fulfill a promise He had made. But the effort did not bring about the birth of the promised heir, nor did it help to bring that about.

At the proper and right time Isaac was born unto Abraham and Sarah. Isaac was the promised child. Isaac was the child of promise. "Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise."—Verse 28. Sarah typified the covenant of grace, and Isaac typified all the heirs of promise. "If ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise."—Gal. iv. 29. The children of God were known and embraced in the covenant of grace before the world was. It was and is an everlasting covenant. It does not grow. It is ordered in all things, and sure. Not one has ever been added to it, and not one has ever been, or ever will be, taken away. The promise is sure to all the seed. The efforts of Sarah and Hagar did not help to bring about the birth of the promised heir. Even so, the effort of all the men and women and the societies that have ever been organized have not helped to bring about the birth into the spiritual realm, or into the family of God, one heir of promise, or child of promise.

The human effort in that day resulted in the birth of Ishmael, and not the birth of Isaac, the promised child. So the efforts and labors of the so-called religionists of the day do not, and cannot, and will not, help to bring about the spiritual birth of a single son or daughter of Adam. All they can do by their efforts is to bring about

the birth of an Ishmaelite. Ishmael was a mocker. It is even so in this day, the Ishmaelites are only mockers. And as it was then, even so it is now, "the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free woman." The works of the flesh, the works of men, will not make one an heir of God. "They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of promise are counted for the seed."—Rom. ix. 8. Read several verses there in the Book.

God is the Father of His children, and Jerusalem which is free, and which is above, is the mother. This Jerusalem is the covenant of grace. They were conceived in the covenant, and at "the set time" they are born from above. God foreknew them in that covenant, he is not surprised or taken unawares when one is born into the heavenly family. He has never been put to the necessity of calling for help in order to get one of them brought forth. We could write a lot more on this question, but our space is limited, and we must stop here. May the Lord bless these thoughts to the good of every reader.

C. H. C.

(From "Editorial Writings From The Primitive Baptist", by Elder C. H. Cayce, Vole. 6)

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**WAYS OF LIFE**

- If you want your dreams to come true, don't oversleep.
- The smallest good deed is better than the grandest intention.
- Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important.
- The best vitamin for making friends,,B1.
- The 10 commandments are not multiple choices.
- The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts.
- Minds are like parachutes...they function only when open.
- Ideas won't work unless YOU do.
- One thing you can't recycle is wasted time.
- One who lacks the courage to start has already finished.
- The heaviest thing to carry is a grudge.
- Don't learn safety rules by accident.
- We lie the loudest when we lie to ourselves.
- Jumping to conclusions can be bad exercise.
- A turtle makes progress when it sticks its head out.
- One thing you can give and still keep...is your word.
- A friend walks in when everyone else walks out.
- The pursuit of happiness is the chase of a lifetime!

(From "ITMS", July 2013)



**A SYSTEM THAT WILL NEVER SAVE ANYONE**

Those that preach that God has done all that He intends to do for the sinner in providing a Saviour, and now requires the sinner to make the start, preach a system that will never save a sinner who is enmity against God. The very thing to be done in the start is to change the mind from enmity to friendship, from hatred to love, and the sinner can no more do that than he can create a world.

The change is not produced by commands, arguments, threats or exhortations. If one were sensible that another hated him he would not think of trying to induce him to love him by *commanding* him to do so, or by arguing the expediency of it, or by threatening him with punishment for his hatred, or by exhorting him to love. The fallacy of all this is apparent to all thinking minds.

While God commands all to love Him, and shows the best of reasons why they should, and threatens those who continue in a state of hatred with everlasting destruction. He seeks not to produce the necessary change by these means. Those who are in the flesh are never exhorted to get into the Spirit. Those who are enmity against Him are never exhorted to change that enmity into love. The natural are never exhorted to become spiritual or to perform spiritual service.

The friendship and love of those who are friends to Jesus and really love Him did not originate with them. Their loving Him is not the cause of Him loving them. The very reverse is true They love Him Because He first loved them. Their friendship did not win His, but His friendship won theirs. They were enmity against Him till He shed abroad His love in their hearts. Thus the enmity was driven out and love was implanted. For this reason Jesus says, "Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you." It is by this means that all who ever become the friends of Jesus are brought into this blessed friendship.—**Elder John R. Daily**. *Zion's Advocate*, 1903

(*Advocate and Messenger*", August 2006)

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**Ten rules for happier living:**

1. Give something away (no strings attached)
2. Do a kindness (and forget it)
3. Spend a few minutes with the aged (their experience is a priceless guidance)
4. Look intently into the face of a baby (and marvel)
5. Laugh often (it's life's lubricant)
6. Give thanks (a thousand times a day is not enough)
7. Pray (or you will lose the way)
8. Work (with vim and vigor)
9. Plan as though you'll live forever (because you will)
10. Live as though you'll die tomorrow (because you will on some tomorrow)

--Source Unknown

**RESOLUTIONS**

Resolved, That I will do whatsoever I think to be most to the glory of God, and my own good, profit, and pleasure, in the whole of my duration; without any consideration of the time, whether now, or never so many myriads of ages hence.

Resolved, to do whatever I think to be my duty, and most for the good and advantage of mankind in general.

Resolved, never to lose one moment of time, but to improve it in the most profitable way I possibly can.

Resolved, to live with all my might, while I do live.

Resolved, never to do any thing, which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.

Resolved, Never to speak evil of any one, so that it shall tend to his dishonour, more or less, upon no account except for some real good.

Resolved, To study the Scriptures so steadily, constantly, and frequently, as that I may find, and plainly perceive, myself to grow in the knowledge of the same.

Quoted in Sanctity of Life, C. Swindoll, Word, 1990, p. 90-91.

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

ACROSS:

2. suoicerp
8. htuos
10. devres
12. ew
13. al
14. no
15. tsom
17. ma
18. raen
20. etah
21. tsiw
23. htooteye
26. ria
27. erans
29. strad
30. nevael
34. emor
36. der
37. tnaw
38. dik
39. sa
40. rehtom

DOWN:

- 1 nosab
3. revir
4. duc
5. sesu
6. os
7. emahs
9. rettalt
11. ymene
12. htrow
16. enorht
19. oir
21. esrow
22. evorts
23. redle
24. rae
25. eltit
28. retsae
31. smra
32. mode
33. hsaw
35. dam

"For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified." This is my resolution for the New Year. Determined can also mean resolve.—*Editor*

**SOW ONLY THE SEED GOD GIVES US**

By Elder A. D. Wood (Deceased)

“Thou shalt not sow thy vineyard with divers seeds: lest the fruit of thy seed which thou hast sown, and the fruit of thy vineyard, be defiled.” (Deut. 22:9)

The Lord has given His people good doctrine, everything that pertains to life and godliness. He would not have His followers to introduce anything new, add to or take from His word, for it is a perfect rule. If any man add unto the word of the Lord or take from it, “God will add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.” (Rev. 22:18)

We are taught to sow the gospel seed. “In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand.” (Eccl. 11:6) and the Bible speaks in other places of sowing thy seed. And what are we to sow? The seed given us, the word of God. Paul says, “As we said before, so say I now again, If any man preach any other gospel unto you than that ye have received, let him be accursed.” (Gal. 1:9) The apostles preached that which was given unto them and we should continue to declare the great truths of God. We are to stand in opposition to untruth and make a godly fight against it in love for our Lawgiver.

Why be such sticklers for the word of God? Why do we want it just like it was given to His people? Because we want to honor our Lawgiver and because His word is a thorough furnisher unto every good work. (II Tim. 3:16,17) “Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.” (I Tim. 4: 15,16)

So there is salvation unto the Lord’s people who take the word of God, meditate upon it and continue in accord with the same. The elders who continue in the word of God will not only save themselves but those who hear them. If divers seeds are sown it will defile the vineyard and create confusion among the Lord’s people. We should examine ourselves daily to see whether we are holding to the faith once delivered unto the saints. There is freedom in knowing and living in the truths of God. Elder A.D. Wood

(From “*Advocate and Messenger*”, 1982)

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**SELF EXAMINATION**

At the end of the year we might do well to examine ourselves. Paul exhorts the church at Corinth to “Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves...” (II Cor. 13:5) Examine means to scrutinize and inspect. If we carefully do this, we might find we come short in many aspects of serving the Lord. I examine myself and see failing and tremendous room for improvement. Things examined under a microscope reveal things unseen to the naked eye. David even had courage to ask the Lord to examine him as he said, “Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; try my reins and my heart.” (Psalm 26:2) Our examination can be faulty but not the Lord’s!—*Editor*

**OCTOBER 19, 1978**

By Elder Fred Bethea

From the booklet “**A Message of Hope**”

Jesus had a very troubled life outwardly, yet within He had peace. His inner peace enabled Him to face the cross without complaining. If we could learn to adjust the inner self to the stress of outward things, perhaps the search for a happy peaceful life would not be so difficult.

Jesus introduced a word to His followers that has gathered the families of God together and explained many things concerning God and His people, this word is FATHER. From the time He said, “I must be about my Father’s business,” until He said, “Father, I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do,” He and the Father were one.

“As many as are led by the spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” The sons of God today may claim the same relationship that Jesus claimed, for He taught us to pray after this manner saying, “Our Father...” This Father-son relationship presents a difficulty for believers; for, it is more difficult to follow a relationship than a fact. Yet this relationship answers some of the great questions of life.

“I go to my Father.” These words of Jesus explained life to Him. It is a statement that explains life to us. It explains the origin of life. I came from my Father. Life is but a preparation for going to the Father. All experiences, good and bad, are a natural part of the path to the Father.

These words of Jesus sustain life. Without them, life would not be worth living. But, when we live by them, life is worthwhile, because, “I go to my Father.”

These words complete life. “Where am I going?” I AM GOING TO THE FATHER. While these words complete life, they also present a great challenge: to live like sons of God going to the Father. The life of a son is a simple, uncomplaining, useful, faithful, trusting, and joyful life.

I trust the simple word, FATHER, may answer many questions for you and give you a renewed hope that better days are ahead under the watchful eye of an ever-loving Father.

(From “*ITMS*”, September 2012)

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**JESUS AS SAVIOR**

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

**MASTER, DO YOU CARE?**

By Elder Rickey Taylor  
Booneville, Mississippi

Mark 4:38: "And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?"

This was a question that the disciples asked the Lord as he lay sleeping in the hinder part of the ship that was in the midst of the sea as the storm was beating violently upon them. Here they were witnessing the ship filling up with water as the waves beat the ship about, and yet the Lord laid slumbering as their fear reached the peak of despair. Master carest thou not that we perish! .Why do you lay so calmly upon your pillow? Then the Lord awoke from the sleep that his body so needed for he was tired from the traveling, preaching and doing miracles that he has shown to his disciples. He arose and simply said "peace be still " and the wind and the sea obeyed him, and there was a great calm that fell upon the sea. The silent calm was broken by the Lord's voice chastising the disciples saying "why are you so fearful, why is it that you have so little faith?" How soon have you forgotten the miracles that you witnessed? However perhaps the most hurtful question they asked was, "Do you not care?"

Certainly, Jesus cared about them! This they would learn in the future, as they carried his word to distance lands and would be delivered from the enemies of God that sought their lives. Yes, Jesus cared!. Sometimes God's children think like this, when the storms of life are raging against them. Oh, does Jesus care that my life is filled with dangerous waves that knocked me down and cause me to forget that he loves us with an everlasting love. Does Jesus care? Yes, he entered into a covenant with God the Father before the foundation of the world to assure that everyone that God loved would be saved to live with him in everlasting glory. Romans 8:28-30.

Did Jesus care? Yes, he did! For he said to the Father when the Father asked if he would do his part in redeeming his children. Yes, I delight to do they will! Psa 40:6-8. "Sacrifice and offering thou didst not desire; mine ears hast thou opened: burnt offering and sin offering hast thou not required. Then said I, Lo, I come: in the volume of the book it is written of me, I delight to do thy will, O my God: yea, thy law is within my heart."

This is God the Son, speaking to God the Father. Sacrificing and offering is referring to the Law of the Old Testament. The blood of bulls and goats could never take away sin. Hebrews 10:4 "For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins". The law of sin and death demanded a perfect sacrifice, the blood of animals could never have taken away sin. It required a sacrifice of a sinless human. Christ is that sacrifice. He would have to come as flesh and blood. Christ foreknowing what would happen to him while on earth. Yet he answers "I delight to do the will! Did Jesus care about our salvation? Yes, it was his delight to suffer and die for us, by offering up his sinless life.

Jesus cares about each and everyone of his children. He cares about our life and happiness while we live here on this side of heaven. When in trouble we should go to him in prayer, to appear before his glorious mercy seat. The words of this hymn has been a source of comfort and strength to many of God's children as the storms of life were raging against them. Read these melodious words and find comfort in them.

"Does Jesus care when my heart is pained too deeply for mirth or song, as the burdens press, and the cares distress. And the way grows weary and long? Does Jesus care when my way is dark with a nameless dread and fear? As the daylight fades into deep night shade. Does he care enough to be near? Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed to resist some temptation strong. When for my deep grief there is no relief, my tears flow all the night long. Does Jesus care when I've said goodbye to the dearest on earth to me. And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks, is it aught to him does he care?"

"Oh yes he cares, I know he cares, his heart is touched with my grief; When the days are weary the long night deary, I know my Savior cares."

Elder R.L. Taylor

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**HILLS AND VALLEYS OF LIFE**

A small girl had been promised the privilege of climbing to a nearby hilltop where her brother enjoyed playing. But when she came within sight of the steep, rough path, she drew back in dismay. "Why, there isn't a smooth spot anywhere. It's all bumpy and stony!" she exclaimed.

"Yes," said her more experienced older brother, "but how else would we ever climb to the top if it wasn't? The stones and bumps are what we step on to get there."

Source Unknown.

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